

World Vision Afghanistan Annual Report FY21

One year of fulfilling Our Promise to children and their families

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This annual report provides an overview of the work done by World Vision Afghanistan (WVA) from October 2020 to September 2021.

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A warm thank you to all World Vision Afghanistan staff who have contributed to this report.



National Director's Message

Never give up on your hopes and dreams!

Greetings!

I am pleased to share with you the FY21 Annual Report for World Vision Afghanistan where we acknowledge challenges, highlight achievements and celebrate impacts.

As I look back over 2021 and our experience as a humanitarian organisation working in one of the most challenging contexts in the world, I am reminded of this powerful quote by Martin Luther King, Jr., 'We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.'

HOPE is what we held on to as we pushed through 2021. It is something that I heard our staff speaking about and sharing with others as they themselves endured the year's many challenges. It is their dedication and commitment that has continued to strengthen me. We believe in the hope for Afghanistan: for the children and their families to live dignified, prosperous and thriving lives.

Throughout 2021, we did not only endure the brutal effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, from office closures to the loss of our loved ones, but we also saw how sustained conflicts, prolonged droughts, economic collapse, displacements and massive food insecurity have increased the vulnerabilities of the children and people we serve. We managed to continue our operations in difficult-to-reach regions in the western provinces of Afghanistan (Herat, Badghis and Ghor), immediately focusing on life-saving activities to respond to the massive humanitarian crises, such as hunger and malnutrition.

World Vision in Afghanistan has managed to work in 3,061 villages in 46 districts spread over four north-western provinces in sectors such as food and livelihoods, health and nutrition, education,

water and sanitation, as well as protection. We are made up of approximately 500 people, whose commitment and dedication have been exemplary, not only to the World Vision Partnership but also to the world.

Together with donors, sponsors, government representatives, local authorities and Afghan communities, World Vision Afghanistan reached 770,780 people in 2021, including women and girls. Our achievements included:

- 770,780 people benefited directly from World Vision Afghanistan's services
- 286,215 people reached with COVID-19 risk reduction interventions
- 120,421 people provided with cash and voucher assistance.

World Vision would like to thank all of you for your trust, support and consistent engagement throughout our journey to serve the most vulnerable in Afghanistan. YOU have made it possible!

The children of Afghanistan need us more than ever, and we must stand with them. Afghanistan has become the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, and 2022 could be another challenging year for us. But let us continue to light the fire of HOPE in our hearts – for this beautiful country and its people!

Our commitment to Afghanistan's children is unequivocal and our aim is to see that the rights of each and every one of them are realised and protected.

Asuntha Charles
National Director
World Vision Afghanistan





Who we are

Our Call and Aspiration: We are committed to inspiring hope and creating a better future for Afghan girls and boys, their families, and their communities.

Our Goal: Improved survival and well-being of Afghan girls and boys, building the foundations for a better future for them, their families, and their communities. In response to the urgent needs of girls and boys, our sectorial focus is:

- Maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) – especially benefiting girls and boys under 5
- Education – with a primary emphasis on the reading and writing skills of primary age and out of school children, especially girls
- Child Protection – to empower girls and boys, families, communities, government and others to prevent and respond to exploitation, neglect, abuse, and other forms of violence, especially affecting girls
- Livelihoods – that enable families to feed and provide for their girls' and boys' needs, particularly as related to their health and education.

Our Promise: Our strategy is a promise to the world's most vulnerable boys and girls that we will relentlessly pursue our vision for them – life in all its fullness. And our prayer for every heart is the will to make it so.



Where we work

Our programming targets four provinces – Herat, Ghor, Badghis and Faryab (new location since 2021). In these locations, our programming integrates WASH, health and nutrition, protection, education, food security and livelihoods and, where feasible, crosscutting programming, including faith and development and cash and voucher distribution.



FY21 at a glance

Our staff

- 239 regular staff (74% male and 26% female)
- 132 stipend staff (58% male and 42% female)
- 9 international staff (67% male and 33% female)
- 1,165 daily workers (65% male and 35% female)

Programmes and partners

- 770,780 people (308,793 children and 461,987 adults) directly benefited from our work
- 30 Projects/Grants
- 28 Funding Partners (including donors and World Vision Support Offices)



People reached in FY21 by sector



WASH

163,283 people

79,129 children
84,154 adults



Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition

271,869 people

96,679 children
175,190 adults



Education

26,186 people

10,512 children
15,674 adults



Child Protection

20,369 people

6,020 children
14,349 adults



Livelihoods and Food Security

159,122 people

87,671 children
71,451 adults



Faith and Development

129,251 people

28,782 children
101,169 adults



Humanitarian Emergency Response

331,777 people

152,618 children
179,159 adults



COVID-19 Response

286,215 people

131,659 children
154,556 adults

Number of people supported

770,780 people (308,793 children and 461,987 adults) directly benefited from our work

Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition

that benefits girls and boys under 5.



5,090 pregnant and lactating women

received care and treatment from World Vision supported facilities



8,369 women

enrolled in family health houses



475 deliveries

attended to by skilled birth attendants



13,079 people

accessed care and treatment from World Vision supported nutrition interventions



1,176 women

completed 4th antenatal care visit through World Vision supported health facilities



687 mothers

received postnatal care services for newborn babies



965 people

received outreach care through family health action groups



124,366 people

accessed health services through World Vision supported facilities and outreaches



19,072 people

learnt about appropriate health and nutrition practices through information education sessions at supported facilities



7,989 children under 5

received care and treatment for malnutrition from World Vision supported facilities



63,654 people received nutrition services



244 health workers

received health and nutrition training by World Vision



Impact:

- Prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) reduced from 9.5% to 6.9% across World Vision supported communities
- Improved adoption of appropriate maternal and neonatal hygiene practices such as exclusive breastfeeding for children under 6 months increased from 17% to 90.5% across World Vision supported lactating mothers
- Integrated behavioral change promoted by WASH and nutrition interventions contributed towards reduction in prevalence of under-5 acute diarrhea from 34% to 31%

Partners:

- UNICEF
- WHO

Core project models/approaches:

- IMAM
- Infant Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IYCF-E)
- Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams
- Family Health Houses (FHH)

Community structure strengthened:

- Family Health Action Groups

Naqeeb, 2, has been struggling with chronic malnutrition since birth. 'We were happy with the gift of Almighty Allah,' says Naqeeb's father, Habibullah. But saving Naqeeb's life was a challenge for them. Insecurity and conflict drove Habibullah's family from their home in Badghis to an IDP settlement in Herat. They immediately experienced a lack of enough healthy food. Naqeeb's mother says that when she was pregnant, it was really tough for her to get enough vitamin and energy from the food they could afford.

Naqeeb weighed only 7.5 kgs, but after he received treatment from World Vision's Mobile Health and Nutrition Team, he weighed over 9 kgs. According to Habibullah, Naqeeb is now a normal child. 'We could not afford to buy nutritious food or provide the necessary medical care for our child, so I greatly appreciate World Vision's help in treating my child.'

Education

with an emphasis on reading and writing skills for primary school age and out of school children – especially girls.



Over 10,000 children received learning kits through community based education (CBE) support to vulnerable communities



1,217 children attended ECD learning opportunities



42 early childhood development (ECD) spaces established, fully supported with trained community ECD facilitators



700 CBE schools established and provided learning opportunities to over 10,500 children facilitated by 694 trained teachers recruited with support from World Vision



600 girls completed accelerated learning classes (ALC) and received primary education certificates



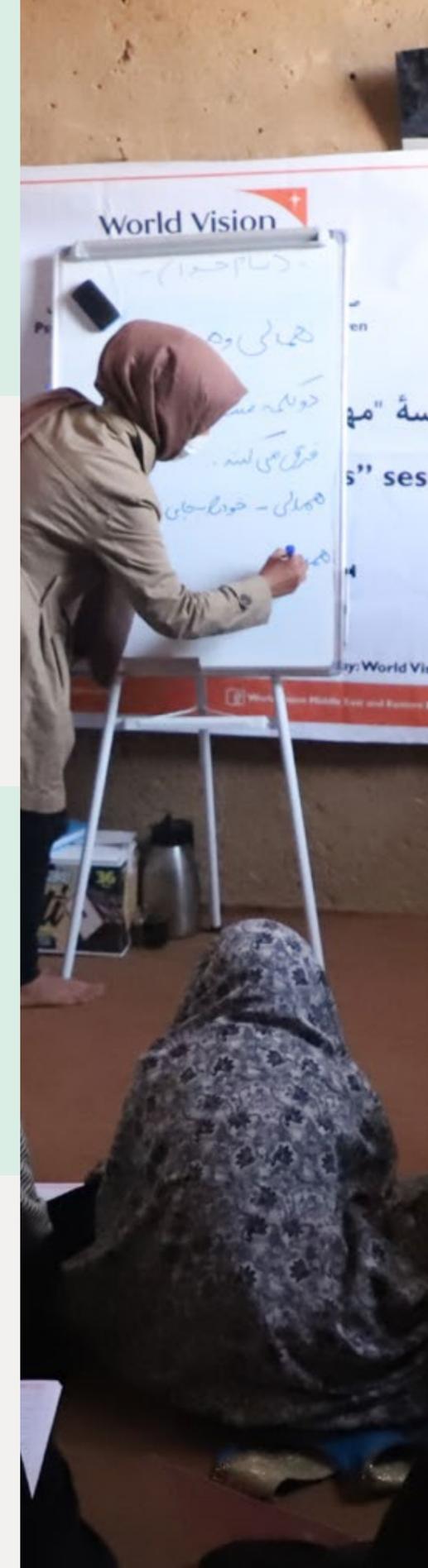
36 local female teachers trained in teaching methodology and life skills



700 School management shura (SMS) established to support management of schools



300 girls received vocational knowledge and skills through World Vision trainings – of these, 33% generated income from the skills acquired





Asma, 6, is one of the students in the early childhood development (ECD) centres in Herat. They did not have any kindergartens in their area before and children were sent far away to be educated. 'We were worried for our children's safety because of accidents and kidnapping,' says Asma's mother. World Vision established an ECD class in the area where Asma lives.

She is very interested in her class. 'This is a very nice class; our teacher is very kind,' says Asma. In this class they learn the alphabet, numbers and social life skills. 'First, I brush my teeth, then wash my face and hands and then we have our breakfast. After that, I wear my uniform and leave for my class,' Asma says happily.

Impact:

- Over 10,500 children accessed learning opportunities through World Vision supported CBE interventions
- Increased retention and learning opportunities for girls who participated in ALC which provides girls with an opportunity to catch up on lost schooling years
- IDELA assessment score >75%

Core project models/approaches:

- Early childhood development
- Community based education
- WASH in Schools
- Community WASH
- Child, early and forced marriage (CEFM)
- Accelerated learning classes

Community structures strengthened:

- 42 ECD management committees
- 700 School management shura

Livelihoods and Food Security

that enables families to feed and provide for their girls' and boys' needs, particularly related to their health and education.



44,737 people

provided with livelihood support (vocational skills training, agricultural input support)



40 farmers

(including 26 women) provided with greenhouses



50 metric tons

of improved wheat seed for 1,000 farmers



12 Government staff members

from Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development trained in farming as a business (FaaB) approach



62 CBDRM committees

(gender inclusive) established and trained in disaster risk reduction



55 gardens

planted with 25,000 pistachio and apple fruit saplings in Badghis province as long-term initiatives to improve household food security and incomes

Cash Programming



120,421 people

provided with cash assistance



US\$1,140,866 cash/vouchers

distributed to support household food security



83,888 people

provided with in-kind food assistance



47,808 farmers

trained in agricultural practices/ technologies



40 hectares of land

planted with fruit trees as part of climate change mitigation in Ghor Province



Impact:

- Improved agricultural productivity for over 1,500 farmers
- Percentage of people practising appropriate crop protection procedures improved from 5% to 98.9% across World Vision supported households
- Food security status improved for nearly 29,000 households across World Vision supported communities in Herat, Ghor, and Badghis provinces
- Over 90% of families reported not adopting negative coping strategies, which included sending their children to work

Partners:

- Organization for Sustainable Aid in Afghanistan (OSAA)
- Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA)
- Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD)

Core project models/approaches:

- Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)
- Farming as a business (FaaB)
- Community based disaster risk management (CBDRM)
- Fragile Context Programming Approach (FCPA)

Community structures strengthened:

- Community development councils (CDCs)
- 62 Community based disaster risk management structures

To support her children, Gulsoom, 45, went to the neighbours to work to make some money. Her husband died in an accident 10 years ago and she had to raise her children by herself. With her low income, the education of her children is a priority for her. 'My children should study to have a better future,' she says hopefully. But COVID-19 made her situation more difficult when her source of income was suddenly shut down. 'I had to sell some house appliance items,' she says.

In a situation where Gulsoom was frustrated with everything, her family was verified as one of the vulnerable households affected by COVID-19 and selected for unconditional cash distribution under an FCPA project funded by World Vision Canada. 'This was a great support in the right time. With this money, I can buy food such as rice, flour and oil for my children,' she says with a hopeful smile.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

that benefits schools and communities with latrines, handwashing facilities, and clean drinking water.



11,039 children

across World Vision supported schools accessed safe drinking water and sanitation facilities



11,392 children

accessed basic handwashing facilities at World Vision supported education facilities



34 water systems

rehabilitated and constructed (27 are solar-powered systems)



163,283 people

living in emergency settings accessed basic hygiene items



1,451 people

(including 640 children) accessed household sanitation facilities



38,579 people

(including 17,532 children) accessed a basic drinking water source across World Vision supported communities



1,708 people

(including 748 children) provided with household handwashing facilities

'Water means life, health and food,' says Abdul Shokor, 13, from Badghis. He used to fetch water for drinking and house chores from a stream far from his house. 'If there is no water, there is no product and no food on the table,' Shokor explains. Life was hard for him until under the Australia Afghanistan Community Resilience Scheme project, World Vision Afghanistan established the Abdullah Khan irrigation water canal in their village. With this project, approximately four villages and 350 households (2,450 people) benefited from the water canal. Moreover, 100ha of agricultural land gained access to water. 'This water flows to agriculture lands. We do cultivation and irrigate the lands. We sell our products such as potatoes, carrots, onions, and can then buy other food,' says Shokor happily.



Impact:

- Access to safe drinking water increased from 30% to 72% in World Vision supported communities, leveraging on solar-powered initiatives
- Positive behavioral change reflected after the hygiene promotion program with number of people knowing at least 3 of the 5 critical times to wash hands increasing from 28% to 74%

Partners:

- Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
- Ministry of Education
- Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development
- Department of Environment
- Department of Public Health

Core project models/approaches:

- Integrated WASH:
 - WASH in schools
 - WASH in health care facilities
 - Community WASH
- Priority areas:
 - Water supply and quality
 - Sanitation and hygiene
 - Governance and finance
 - Water Security and Resilience
- WASH in Islam (Faith engagements)
- Fragile Context Programming Approach (FCPA)

Community structure strengthened:

- 24 community development councils
- Community shura (elders)
- Faith institutions
- 34 water management committees
- WASH hygiene promotion groups

Child Protection

to empower girls and boys, families, communities, government, and other partners to prevent and respond to exploitation, neglect, abuse, and other forms of violence, especially affecting girls.



4,518 street children

accessed care and treatment from health clinics



600 street children

accessed tutorial classes and 709 hygiene kits were distributed



16 child and youth clubs

established provided peer-to-peer support to children and youth



1,986 children

attended World Vision supported child friendly spaces where they accessed life skills information



2,599 children

benefited from age and gender-sensitive psychosocial support activities



1,725 children

participated in structured life skills enhancement sessions



240 faith leaders

and other community leaders were trained for MHPSS, psychological first aid (PFA), child protection and referrals, and 1,650 people completed MHPSS skills building sessions



2,104 children

and their parents received counselling services and 1,139 children acquired life skills through life skill sessions led by trained facilitators



160 teachers

across 50 faith schools received child protection knowledge and skills through awareness and skills building sessions



2,689 community members

learnt about MHPSS, PFA, child protection and referral systems



36 psychosocial supporters

received child protection related training



246 children

referred to International Assistance Mission (IAM) and Herat Regional Hospital received advanced care and treatment

Impact:

- Proportion of children and adolescents who reported having experienced any physical violence in the past 12 months reduced from 94.7% to 76%
- An increase in the proportion of girls and boys who report that they feel a strong positive connection to their primary caregiver from 0% to 20%

Partners:

- Faith institutions
- Child Protection Action Network (CPAN)

Core project models/approaches:

- Celebrating Families Curriculum (CFC)
- WASH in schools
- WASH-UP (Community WASH using Sesame Street TV Characters)
- Child Protection Advocacy (CPA)
- MHPSS

Community structures strengthened:

- Community development councils
- Faith leaders/institutions



Nazanin, 35, together with her 7 children, makes 4 kgs of yarn from wool every two or three days, earning US\$0.50c to US\$1 per day. 'Everything is expensive and the income is very low,' Nazanin complains.

Nazanin and her children had been waiting a long time for her husband to return from where he was working. 'But then they brought his dead body back to us,' she explains. Since then, they have experienced hunger, misery and destruction.

World Vision staff and Arbab Zia, head of their area, reached out to Nazanin as she met all the criteria required to receive a shelter. World Vision Afghanistan built a fully equipped shelter on the land her husband had bought for them. 'We are very happy with World Vision, the engineers and Arbab Zia. They have given our lives new hope,' she says gratefully.

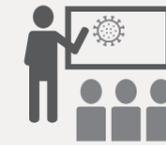
Faith and Development

engagement with faith leaders and faith-based institutions.



Over 129,000 people

reached in collaboration with 2,031 faith leaders to disseminate COVID-19 risk reduction behaviour change information and education



567 male faith leaders

received gender and CC-4-PC and COVID-19 training



3 provincial faith leaders' forums

were established in Herat, Ghor and Badghis provinces



429 children

participated in CC-4-PC and gender awareness sessions



1,151 female faith leaders

teachers and CDC members received gender and community change for protecting children (CC-4-PC) and COVID-19 training



2,031 faith leaders

collaborated with World Vision to disseminate COVID-19 risk reduction behavior change information and education





Azimdad participated in awareness sessions on child protection, positive coping mechanisms and positive parenting held by World Vision Afghanistan's Community Engagement Team in Herat. He shares the impact of these sessions on his life: 'I always humiliated and insulted my children because I did not know about their rights. I seriously ordered a duty or studying, and in case of procrastination, I would beat them. I never was sympathetic to them.' However, his children were always inattentive and in anxiety.

After Azimdad participated in these sessions, a lot has changed. 'I walk in my life; I have kindness, compassion and good behaviour towards my children. We are very happy,' he explains. Because of his friendly attitude, his children are very happy and study more than in the past. 'We all thank the organisers of this program,' Azimdad says appreciatively.

Impact:

- Violence against children has decreased in the communities where World Vision implemented faith and development interventions.
- 13 cases of child, early and forced marriage cases were resolved by the trained faith leaders.
- Increased levels of knowledge, changes in attitude, practice, and awareness of the community increased regarding CC-4-PC and gender-related issues.

Core project models/approaches:

- Community Change for Protecting Children (CC-4-PC)
- Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM)
- WASH in Islam



Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs (HEA)

Afghanistan Drought and Flood Response



Emergency Health and Nutrition



633 medical personnel

provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) in health facilities



30 health facilities

assisted



1,196 Community Health Workers

(CHWs) trained to provide community-based services

Emergency Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)



231,886 people

learnt preventive behaviour on hand and respiratory hygiene and isolation



15 WASH facilities

constructed or rehabilitated



Emergency Child Protection



13,503 children

supported with child protection services



US\$1,140,866 in cash/vouchers

distributed to support families meet mitigation needs



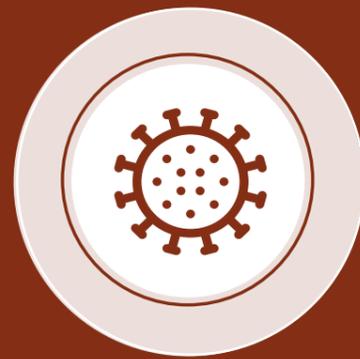
104,565 people

received cash and voucher assistance

Emergency Livelihood assistance



COVID-19 Emergency Response



Overview

On March 9, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic. World Vision Afghanistan immediately streamlined its COVID-19 response design, focusing on prevention, awareness, and protection, to complement ongoing operations and create new access points in areas with high needs and low or no access.

Total Reach: 286,215

Children: 131,659
Adults: 154,556

Intervention

In coordination with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Vision strategically implemented interventions focused on health, WASH and protection with an emphasis on screening,

awareness campaigns, and increased hygiene promotion efforts. This was done through adding COVID-19 programmatic measures to existing health facilities, and by setting up new Mobile Health Teams, specifically for the screening and referral of community members, the distribution of hygiene kits, assisting government efforts to isolate suspected cases, expanding general community health messaging, and capacity building for health care staff to mitigate and manage exposure.

Strategic Response Objectives

In line with the COVID-19 Multi-Sector Humanitarian Country Plan, the response has supported the following objectives:

1. Risk communication and community engagement
2. Surveillance, rapid response teams, and case investigation
3. Infection prevention and control.



231,886 people

reached (direct and indirect) with preventative behaviour messaging



286,215 community members

provided with COVID-19 preventive materials



109,027 comprehensive hygiene kits

distributed



13,017 handwashing supplies

(soap, detergent, buckets) and 3,490 cleaning kits distributed



113,225 IEC materials

printed and distributed



1,196 CHWs

trained to provide community-based services



35,735 face masks

distributed (including to health facilities, health workers, and caregivers)



30 community-level public handwashing stations

established or maintained



15,285 glove sets

distributed (including to health facilities, health workers, and caregivers)



8,997 people

(children and their families) reached through IEC PSS materials



3 quarantine or isolation spaces

supported – rehabilitated or set up



81 people

provided transportation support through drivers, vehicles for patients, specimen analysis

Advocacy

A close-up photograph of a woman wearing a white baseball cap with the World Vision logo and a white surgical face mask. She is holding a microphone to her mouth, suggesting she is speaking or recording. She is wearing a yellow headscarf and a patterned shawl. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green grass and a clear sky.

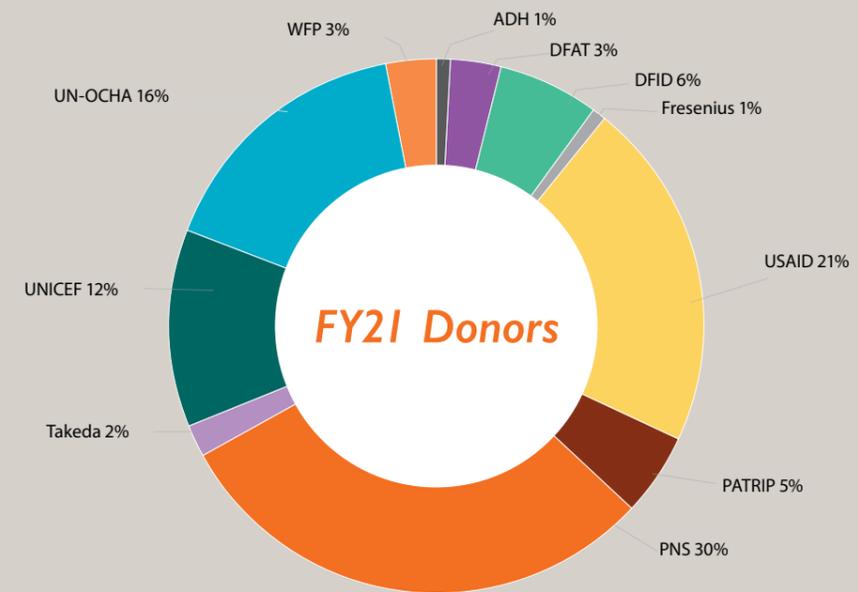
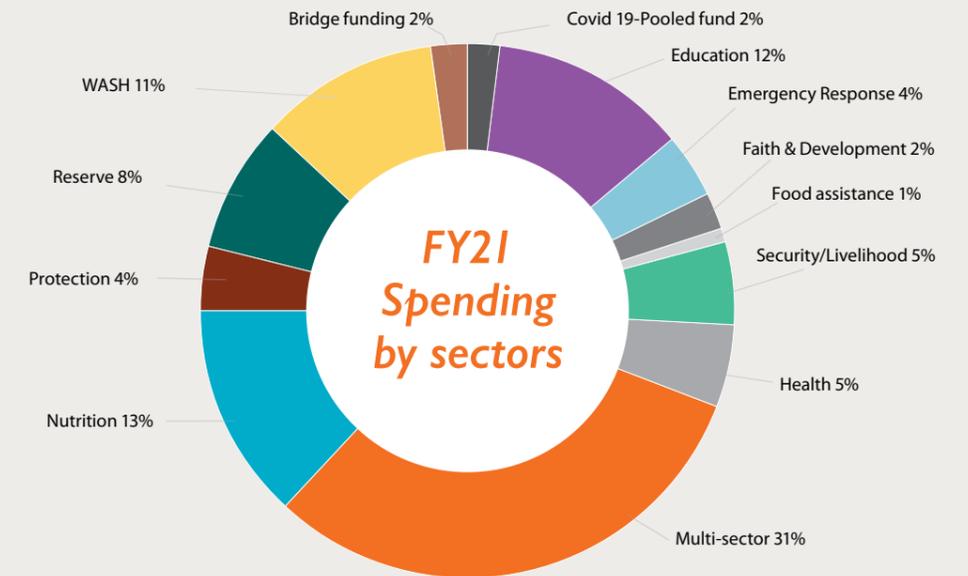
9.7 million children are benefiting from World Vision's participation in strategic advocacy initiatives

In 2021, an estimated 35 million people were in need of a social safety net, including an estimated 18.5 million children (53%). Of these, 9.7 million children required urgent humanitarian assistance (Afghanistan HNO 2021). World Vision Afghanistan has confronted this challenge through engagement with a number of different organisations, including the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief & development (ACBAR) which engages in the international aid fora on Afghanistan. ACBAR is a national, independent, non-government organisation (NGO) with core activities centralised around information sharing, coordination, advocacy with NGO members, the government, UN, donors and wider civil society. World Vision has also engaged with BAAG, an advocacy group in the UK connected to NGOs and other humanitarian actors in Afghanistan, and InterAction USA, where World Vision US (as a member) actively lobbied government to issue the General Licenses (GL 14,15 & 19) that helped to ease the crippling effect of sanctions and pave the way for humanitarian assistance. Furthermore, through the NY NGO Group, World Vision contributed to the UN Security Council Resolution 2615 which was passed last December for the easing of sanctions to assist with the Afghanistan humanitarian response. Advocacy groups worked closely with World Vision Afghanistan (risk/compliance) and the World Vision US legal section to make a case to both the US Government and the UN on easing sanctions.

FY21 Budget Allocation

COVID-19 Funding Matrix:

Donor Funding: US\$1,594,986 @90%
Match Funding: US\$1,594,986 @10%
Total COVID-19 Field Budget: US\$1,594,986



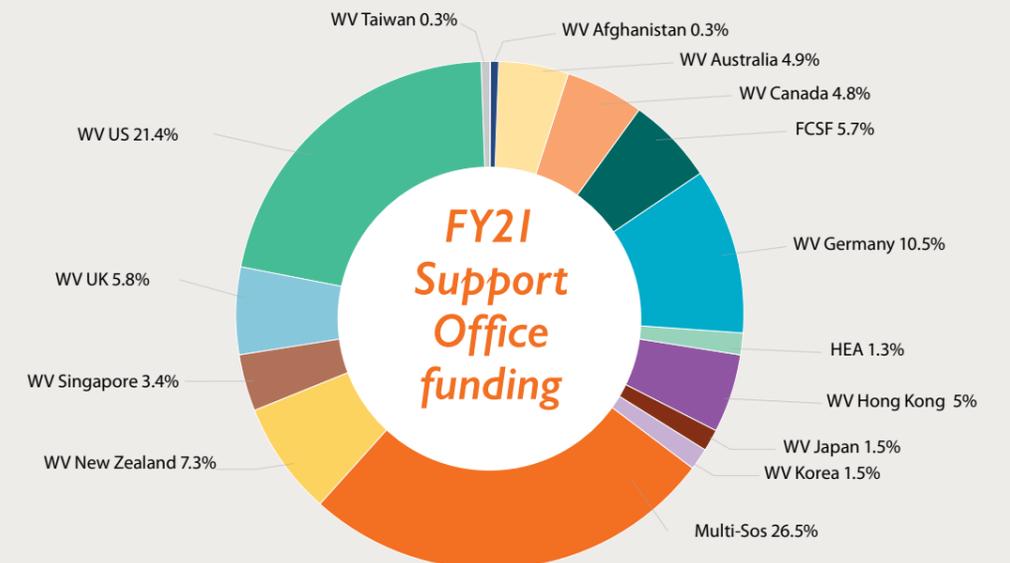
Total Fiscal Year 2021 Expenditures: US\$12,246,673 including contributions from World Vision support offices.
Note: the financial figures include both cash, and the cash value of gifts-in-kind (GIK) funding.

World Vision support offices active in partnership with World Vision Afghanistan

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| • WV United States | • WV Canada | • WV Ireland |
| • WV Germany | • WV Korea | • WV Taiwan |
| • WV Australia | • WV Austria | • WV Japan |
| • WV Hong Kong | • WV Singapore | • WV Spain |
| • WV New Zealand | • WV Afghanistan | • WV Netherlands |
| • WV United Kingdom | • WV Finland | |
| • World Vision International | • WV France | |

Funding Partners/Donors:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------|
| • Participating National Societies (PNS) | • Fresenius (Germany) | • UNICEF |
| • World Food Programme | • USAID (US Government) | • UNOCHA |
| • PATRIIP | • DFAT (Australian Government) | |
| • ADH (Aktion Deutschland Hilft) | • DFID (UK Government) | |
| | • Takeda (Japan) | |





World Vision

AFGHANISTAN

*Thank you for
making it possible.*

World Vision is a global relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

www.wvi.org/afghanistan

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