

AFGHANISTAN

Ravaged by decades of bitter war and devastated by natural disasters, Afghanistan is, without a doubt, a difficult place to live. And, the odds are even more against you if you are a woman or a child.

World Vision began working in Afghanistan in 2001, providing emergency relief to those who had been directly affected by a devastating drought as well as supporting those whose livelihoods had been destroyed during the conflict. More than a decade later, World Vision's programmes have transitioned from immediate assistance to long-term development, focusing on: health, education, livelihoods and protection of the most vulnerable children.

Afghanistan has one of the highest infant and maternal mortality rates in the world. World Vision works with families, communities and health workers to promote basic health for well-being and survival; with a special focus on children under 5 and women of childbearing age. Since 2004, World Vision has trained more than 350 midwives to care for pregnant women and their babies, before, during and after birth. Better WASH facilities within Health Care Facilities has been a key element of this work.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

The WASH programme in Afghanistan aims to increase access to clean water, improved sanitation, and positive hygiene practices in communities, schools and health care facilities. In the last year,

World Vision Afghanistan WASH projects have constructed 6 solar-powered drinking water networks, 1 innovative solar-powered reverse osmosis water treatment system, and rehabilitated 14 damaged wells.

Children, who are often absent from class to collect water, are now able to attend school. 13,142 community members and 1073 school children now have access to clean, safe drinking water. Moreover, the programme has helped families to construct 74 latrines and 450 hand washing stations in 15 targeted villages.



People we
work with
59,574

Technical
staff

8

FY17/ FY18
budget

US\$717,877

BADGHIS INTEGRATED WASH PROJECT

This project has responded to the need for safe drinking water, sanitation and improved hygiene practices in 14 communities each year in Badghis Province since December 2016. In 2017:

- 13,142 people were provided with clean safe drinking water through the construction of six solar-powered drinking water networks, one solar-powered reverse osmosis water treatment system, and the rehabilitation of 14 damaged wells in communities. Fee collection mechanisms are in place to ensure the sustainability of the systems.
- 1073 school children were provided with clean safe drinking water through the construction of a solar-powered drinking water network in one school.
- WV Afghanistan conducted Community Led Total Sanitation in 13 communities in order to end open defecation. As a result, 74 household latrines have been constructed and 13 communities have been certified as 'Open Defecation Free'.
- WV Afghanistan rehabilitated latrine blocks in two schools, including the provision of disability- inclusive and menstrual hygiene facilities, benefiting 1073 male and 1006 female high school students.
- WV Afghanistan rehabilitated a latrine block in 1 health care facility, benefiting 80 patients per day (approximately 29,200 patient visits per year), including those with disabilities.
- 22,178 have participated in hygiene promotion activities in 14 communities and two schools.
- WV Afghanistan worked with 15 Mullahs to share key hygiene messages from the Islamic perspective with their communities during Friday prayers.

SESAME STREET WASH UP! PROJECT

In partnership with Sesame Workshop, WV has been working in a Herat Street Children Centre and 14 Early Childhood Centres to implement the a children's hygiene education program called WASH UP!

The WASH UP! initiative aims to reduce the number of children under the age of five who are dying or suffering from preventable and treatable diseases by providing access to meaningful hygiene and sanitation education through the Sesame Street muppets.

The following topics are covered:

- Washing hands with soap and water before meals and after using the toilet.
- Using safe toilets to defecate, and wearing sandals to the toilet.
- Drinking clean water to stay hydrated and healthy.

So far, 300 children in Herat Street Children Centre and 420 children in 14 Early Childhood Centres in Ghor, Badghis and Herat Provinces have participated in the programme.

SOLAR POWERED REVERSE OSMOSIS WATER TREATMENT

In many parts of Afghanistan, groundwater salinity levels significantly exceed WHO maximum thresholds. In response, WV piloted a solar-powered reverse osmosis (RO) unit with ultrafiltration to enable access to clean drinking water. This is the first community-managed RO unit in Afghanistan. As a result:

- The system produces 4,300 litres of clean drinking water per hour
- 750 households now have access to clean, safe drinking water
- WV trained local technicians to operate and maintain the system
- The community is collecting user fees of US\$0.07 per 20 litre jerry can, with a total annual profit potential of US\$34,975
- WV combines the system with groundwater recharge activities in order to support the sustainability of groundwater resources.

PROJECT	LOCATION	DONOR	DURATION	BENEFICIARIES	BUDGET (USD)
Badghis Integrated WASH Project	Badghis Province	US and NZ private donors	December 2016 - ongoing	21,024 per year	\$704,603
Safe Drinking Water for Afghan Families Project	Herat Province	Proctor & Gamble	February – July 2018	38,250	\$227,040
Sesame Street WASH UP! Project	Herat, Ghor and Badghis Provinces	NZ private donors	October 2016 - ongoing	720 children	\$36,234
Multi-Province WASH in Health Care Facilities Assessment	Herat, Ghor and Badghis Provinces	US private donors, Emory University (research contribution)	April 2018	NA	\$50,000