



Save the Children

AFGHANISTAN COUNTRY OFFICE FACT SHEET

Save the Children has worked in Afghanistan since 1976. We work closely with society at all levels. We cooperate with children, parents, teachers, village councils, religious leaders, Ministries and the civil society. Our way of working with people and communities has enabled us to deliver lasting change to the lives of millions of children in the country. We implement programs both directly and through local partners. Save the Children has dedicated a partnership team helping to build the capacity of civil society and local NGOs.

OUR REACH

In 2016, Save the Children (SCI) worked in 12 out of 34 provinces and implemented 38 projects. A total of 5 projects in 9 provinces were implemented through partnership with 10 local NGOs. SCI reached 8.3 million beneficiaries of which 2.4 million were directly reached and 5.9 million reached indirectly. We reached 49.5% females and 41.4% children out of the total direct coverage. Half of the total children reached were girls. These achievements were realized from a total investment of US\$ 24.7 M.

OUR WORK

Survive

Health & Nutrition

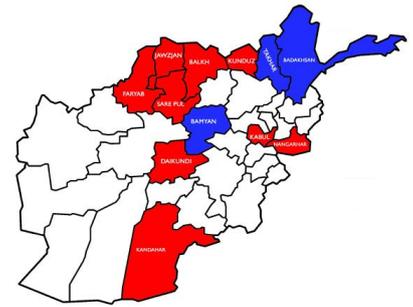
The total population reached was 6,619,227 broken down at 1,764,387 direct and 4,854,840 indirect beneficiaries, 42% of which were children and half of it were girls. A total of 326,187 cases of malaria, pneumonia, acute malnutrition and diarrhea were treated.

Save the Children Afghanistan contributed significantly to advancing the “Survive” breakthrough in 2016 through the delivery and increase in access and quality of primary health and nutrition care services. The range of interventions included: responding to acute health humanitarian needs, capacity building of facility and community based health workers, supporting static and mobile health teams, provision of community midwifery and nursing education, community based maternal and newborn care operational research, and training of religious leaders. A total of 1,764,387 people received support through primary health and nutrition care services provided directly by Save the Children supported health facilities and community based interventions in 10 provinces of Afghanistan. The supported health clinics treated 133,323 cases of pneumonia, 143,891 cases of diarrhea and 939 cases of malaria for under-five year.

Improving Nutrition for Mothers, Newborns and Children (INMNC) project, focused on capacity building of health facilities and community based health workers. A total of 15,306 health workers were trained, 84% of which were community based and the rest from health facilities. Total of 451,306 pregnant and lactating women received counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and 48,034 children under five were treated for severe acute malnutrition. In Kunduz province, which covers a greater geographical coverage of the health programs, immunization outreach activities were banned by Armed Opposition Groups (AOGs) in some areas. This limited access of eligible children to the immunization services. To address such constraint, the CO continues to work closely with Provincial Health Directorate through: 1. Promote community awareness on the importance of immunization, with support from local media and community networks; 2. Recruit staff for National Immunization Days (NIDs) in consultation with local communities;

3. Gain support from religious leaders trained by Save the Children to improving access.

Program Impact Areas



Education: Total coverage was 1,022,620 with 319,128 directly and 703,492 indirectly reached.



Health and Nutrition: The total reach was 6,619,227 out of which 1,764,387 was direct and 4,854,840 indirect. A total of 49% directly reached beneficiaries were children.



Protection: Total coverage was 58,982 with 30,964 directly and 28,018 indirectly reached.



Humanitarian: The total reach was 1,818,592 out of which 960,279 was direct and 858,313 was indirect.



LEARN

SCI played significant roles in influencing policy and legislation improvements in the areas of education, nutrition and child rights governance. For the first time in Afghanistan, the concept of Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) was introduced at the policy level with the Ministry of Education. SCI, together with MoE and key ECCD actors, drafted the first ever National Pre-School Education Curriculum.

EDUCATION

We reached 319,128 students broken down to 161,061 girls and 158,067 boys. The projects implemented were, Step towards Afghan Girl Education Success (STAGES), Community Based Education, Let's Write for Afghan Children and School Based Disaster Risk Reduction. These focused on providing access to education facilities, developing reading culture among children and protecting children against disasters by establishing Community Based Education (CBE) and Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) classes, supporting formal schools to improve WASH facilities, renovation of school buildings, constructing boundary walls and implementing the school Health and Nutrition (SHN) program. We implement Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) through establishment of 400 ECCD classes.

A Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF) was developed and approved by Ministry of Education (MoE). School Based Disaster Risk Reduction (SBDRR) related key messages were incorporated in school curricula from grade one to six; incorporating these in three textbooks from each grade (Dari/Pashtu, Social science and science subjects), in close consultation with the MoE. In order to develop a reading culture among children from age 4-15 years, we published 80 titles story books in Dari and Pashtu languages. A total 454,163 copies of books were printed and distributed to 5,959 reading corners to provide access to 120,000 children. Books were written by Afghan writers, teachers and children and reviewed by an independent committee from the MoE and Ministry of Communication and Culture. The major challenges faced in the implementation of the education programme in remote areas were, insecurity and finding qualified teachers especially female teachers. We continued to build strong relationships with local communities and government authorities and these have significantly helped in mitigating security risks.

CHILD PROTECTION & CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE

Child Protection sector has been working with children, parents, communities, service providers, formal and Informal systems to prevent and respond towards violence against children. SCI has been supporting in the cluster approach both at national and local levels. Child Protection Sector has strengthened efforts on cross-thematic work and also has contributed in emergency responses.

Total reach: 58,982 with 30,964 direct and 28,018 indirect, reached with 95% children and 57% of these are girls.

Under Child Rights Governance (CRG), strengthening of national and community systems for child rights are being done. We support the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (MoLSAMD) in capacitating central, provincial and district level staff on Child Rights and Child Protection issues. We advocate for the formulation and enactment of the National Child Act with other organizations. SCI has formulated strategies with partners to strengthen the CRG specific interventions.

BE PROTECTED

The CO strengthened its programming around Child Protection with the second phase of two projects. We conducted 'Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey on child protection issues and the report findings were utilized by CO, ARO and SC Sweden. The report was used for advocacy at the Brussels conference and with the Swedish government to stop sending back Afghan children seeking asylum in Europe.

The CO supported 120 Community Based Child Protection Networks (CBCPN) with 1,200 members in 120 villages. These CBCPNs had linkages with 8 District Child Protection Action Networks (DCAN) and 4 Child Protection Action Networks (CPAN) at provincial level. These networks are under MoLSAMD. We directly reached 16,954 girls, 12,403 boys, 1,607 community members and 800 teachers from 40 schools. Indirectly we reached 9,920 girls, 7,358 boys, 10,740 community members. We

played a role in facilitating the Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) Cluster and Gender Based Violence (GBV) sub-cluster. We continued to build capacity of staff and partners on project management, MEAL, reporting writing and DRR.



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HUMANITARIAN

The total reach was 1,818,592 broken down to 960,279 direct and 858,313 indirect. A total of 34% directly reached were children and 46% of these were girls. NFIs were provided to 85,186 of which 51% were male and the rest female. A total of 715,378 individuals (246,764 children) benefited from disaster risk reduction, building resilience and preparedness. Under FSL projects, we implemented cash based intervention, supplementary feeding, safe and clean water and hygiene promotion activities. A total of 159,715 individuals (2,3791 children) were reached.

OUR DONORS

- DFATD - Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
- Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)
- Nederlandse Postcode Loterij
- ECHO - European Commission of Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection
- DFID - Department for International Development
- OFDA - Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
- UNOCHA - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- EC - European Commission
- SIDA - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Member pooled funding,
- UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund
- UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
- World Food Programme
- SC Italy
- Royal Netherlands Embassy
- DIBP - Department of Immigration & Border Protection, Australia

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