

Country Profile 2023

WORLD VISION
ARMENIA

World Vision is a humanitarian and development nongovernmental organisation that serves in more than 100 countries around the world to support the well-being of millions of children and their families. World Vision started its operations in Armenia right after the devastating earthquake in 1988 by delivering humanitarian aid. Later, along with the humanitarian support, World Vision started implementing development projects.

During 2000-2023 World Vision Armenia operated in 14 Area Development Programmes and more than 160,000 children throughout the country directly benefitted from the organisation development projects. Starting from October 2023 the organisation implements its programmes in six Area Offices in frames of the new strategy.

World Vision successfully cooperates with major donors and international organisations in Armenia and implements large-scale projects that build the capacity of local institutions and systems and result in policy changes.

As a Christian faith-based organisation, World Vision is positioned to engage and establish trusted relationships with Armenia's faith leaders to exercise their unique role and influence and achieve lasting change while working with impoverished communities and families.

World Vision Armenia's new strategy goal is to contribute to the sustained well-being of 500,000 vulnerable children in Armenia on child and family, community and national levels.

The strategic directions are as follows:

- Safe, fair and empowering environment for boys and girls in Armenia, especially the most vulnerable.
- Resilient and shock responsive communities with inclusive and quality services.
- Sustainable solutions for well-being of children through strategic partnerships.

ESSENTIAL NUMBERS FOR FY23



- WV Armenia strategic regional offices
- Child and family development community centres
- Active projects WVA and partner organisations



54,000 people (26,100 children and 27,900 adults) benefitted from WVA programmes in 2023.



37,162 people benefitted from social assistance programming through community social workers.



71 out of 82 communities in Armenia employ community social worker due to WVA's advocacy efforts.

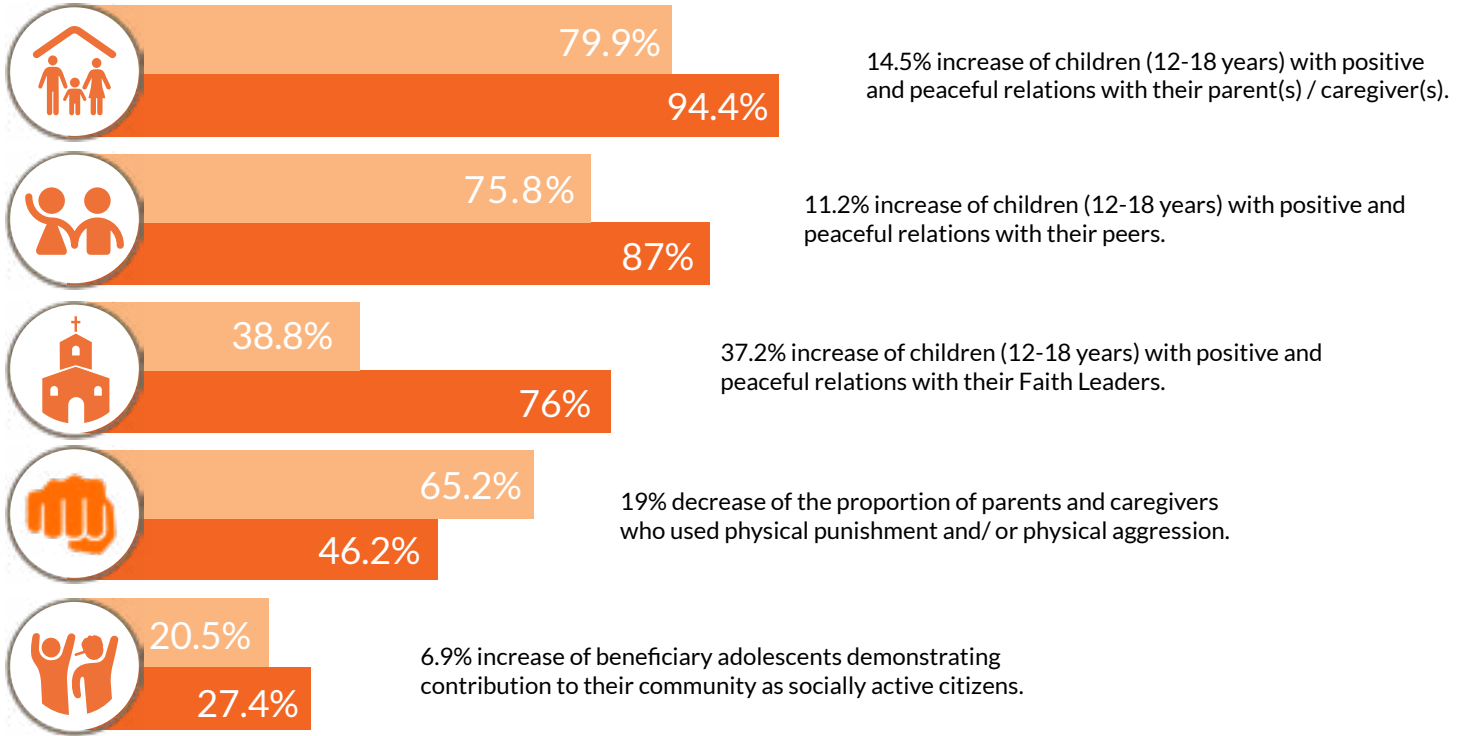


12 policy changes, including :

- Guideline on Supervision for Social Workers adopted and implemented by Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
- Governmental Decrees establishing mandatory trafficking in persons indicators and minimum standards of quality for support services.
- A triage model to enhance migration mechanisms, mobilisation, and registration processes.



Main donors
European Union, USAID, US DoS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Government of Armenia, local corporates and individuals.



FOCUS AREAS



CHILD PROTECTION

World Vision Armenia seeks to empower children, families, communities and partners to prevent and respond to exploitation, neglect, abuse and other forms of violence affecting children, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable. The most vulnerable children (MVC) are at the core of the overall strategy of World Vision Armenia. Comprehensive social work is implemented with identified MVCs and their families according to individual development plans developed based on the professional needs assessment conducted by social workers.



POVERTY REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE

World Vision tackles the multidimensional and nuanced problems of the ultra-poor: food insecurity, poor health, social stigma, limited skills, assets or savings through its 'Poverty reduction and resilience' programme that exercises evidence-based 'Poverty Graduation' approach to empower the ultra-poor to engage with markets and their own communities and graduate from extreme poverty.

The approach targets to:

- Identify the most vulnerable households within a community;
- Enhance their technical and entrepreneurial skills through livelihood training;
- Help families plan their livelihoods and transfer their productive assets;
- Enhance their income generation opportunities through assets/tools provision;
- Help families plan their livelihoods ;
- Enhance their financial literacy skills.



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

The main country objective for World Vision Armenia in youth empowerment is to facilitate the holistic development of young individuals by providing them with comprehensive support, including education, skills training, and mentorship, to empower them to reach their full potential. This involves fostering leadership skills, promoting civic engagement, and encouraging active participation in community activities.

Additionally, World Vision aims at addressing gender disparities, promote social inclusion, and create an environment that enables all youth, including those from marginalized or underrepresented groups, to thrive. The overarching goal is to contribute to building a generation of empowered and socially responsible young leaders who can positively impact their communities and contribute to sustainable development.

FOCUS AREAS



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

World Vision Armenia recognises the big potential and huge underutilised capacity among women for the benefit of communities and the public, in general. Women and women's groups are empowered to participate in local planning and budgeting, are mobilized to obtain skills and access information, networks, economic opportunities and support services. World Vision facilitates support for vulnerable women, particularly displaced individuals, through diverse training initiatives and self-help groups, to enhance their knowledge, equip them with essential skills, and create opportunities that empower them to navigate crisis situations and achieve stable social conditions. Simultaneously, through enhancing women's professional skills, the organization facilitates their economic empowerment. This becomes particularly crucial, given the increased prevalence of women-headed families resulting from the displacement of people from Nagorno Karabakh, enabling their economic resilience.



CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY CENTRES

To support the notion of community-based alternative social services, World Vision established Child and Family Development Community Centres in Armenia. The daycare centres ensure availability of professional services of psychologists, art and speech therapists, social workers and special educators for the most vulnerable children in the community and neighboring areas. Each centre has the capacity to provide services to around 180 children each month thus preventing their possible institutionalisation into residential care facilities.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

From September 2023, since the start of the displacement crisis and first flow of arrivals of forcibly displaced population from Nagorno Karabakh, WV Armenia has immediately established Response teams at National and regional levels aiming at improving the resilience of the displaced families. The first stage of response included the following key areas: assistance to basic needs through distribution of food and non-food items, hygiene kits, provision of psychosocial support, support with winterisation.

The support embarks social work with families, psycho-social support to children in the WV Armenia's community child development centers and schools, psycho-social support to parents, development of community social plans and implementation of social projects with Local Self-Governments, renovation of community hideouts, as well as Psychological First Aid training for local professionals.

Currently WV Armenia Response teams continue the provision of need-based support (both material and psychological) to displaced families aimed at helping these people to overcome the stress and trauma they've experienced through displacement, as well as to contribute to their social integration in host communities.

ADVOCACY AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

In close cooperation with governmental agencies and international and local organisations, World Vision Armenia advocates for the enhancement of the social protection field and provides expert support and assistance to the development and amendment of regulating legislation and national strategies. World Vision Armenia acts as the main force of policy changes and improvements in the fight against human trafficking and exploitation in Armenia, raising issues and gaps as a member of the Anti-trafficking Working Group, alongside state agencies, stakeholders, and leading NGOs. World Vision Armenia has successfully developed and institutionalized mandatory TiP indicators for the Identification Commission of the RA and first responders, as well as minimum standards of quality of services provided to the victims. To ensure quality care and services for the victims of human trafficking and exploitation, World Vision Armenia advocated for the incorporation of tools on victim-centered and trauma-informed approaches for law enforcement officials that will be used in their work with victims of any crime.

Also, World Vision Armenia has developed and institutionalized a guideline on Supervision for social workers and an Individual Social Assistance program tool for the enhancement of case management and provision of personalized, targeted, and effective social work and assistance.



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