



IMPACT+

Today there are over 1.2 billion adolescents worldwide; approximately 90% of them live in developing countries where they make up a large proportion of the population.¹ They face challenging environments, risks of violence and mental health issues, and internal and external pressures due to conflict, climate, and displacement.

Adolescence is also a period of growth, opportunity, and engagement. IMPACT+ is World Vision’s evidence-based model that fosters the skills, behaviours, and attitudes necessary for participation in social, civic, and economic life. World Vision has been building evidence of the impact and effectiveness of IMPACT+ since 2014, and it has become our flagship approach for adolescent well-being, building life skills, developmental assets, active citizenship, and peaceful relationships.

Components of IMPACT+

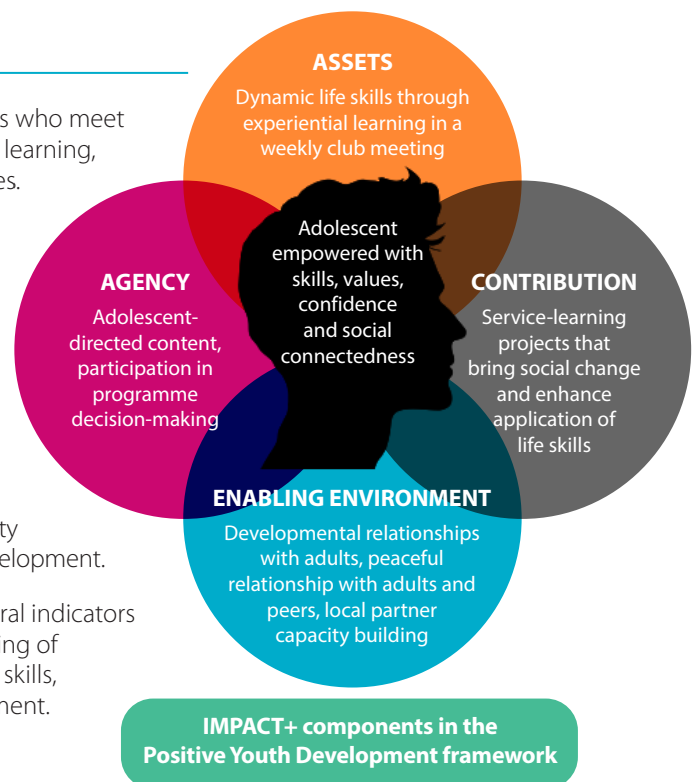
IMPACT+ Club Meetings: IMPACT+ Clubs are groups of adolescents who meet weekly to have fun and learn dynamic life skills through experiential learning, which allows for the transformation of character, attitudes, and values.

Community Service-Learning Projects: These projects are a key learning tool and aim to bring social change to the community and apply skills to consolidate new behaviours and life skills.

Agency and Participation: IMPACT+ design promotes and builds adolescents’ agency and meaningful participation in decisions affecting their lives.

Enabling Environment: IMPACT+ emphasises relationships with adults and peers as foundational to developing assets and to their voice being recognised and valued by the community. Partner capacity building is central to ensure the sustainability of Positive Youth Development.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning: Each programme has several indicators and mechanisms to ensure quality of implementation and the tracking of satisfaction and active participation, measures of well-being and life skills, and healthy behaviours, measures of adolescents’ enabling environment.



Results

World Vision began pilot testing IMPACT+ in 2014 and continues to build evidence on its effectiveness to achieve cross-sectoral outcomes for adolescent development and well-being.

Social and emotional learning: Qualitative evaluation analysis has shown IMPACT+ led to increased confidence, communication and social skills, healthy relationships, and commitment to learning.²

¹ *Adolescent Health: Impact.* www.who.int (Retrieved February 2024.)

² Child Protection Technical Programme Evaluation. World Vision Cambodia. 2021.

Civic engagement: Participants who had been involved in the programming were found to be more likely to vote in elections (90% compared to 75%) and reported higher rates of volunteering (91% compared to 75%) than those who had not participated in this programming.³

Citizenship and leadership competency: IMPACT+ has been shown to increase active citizenship by 12% and leadership competency by 14%.⁴

Hope for the future: IMPACT+ increases hope for the future; adolescents who indicated an optimistic outlook for the future increased from 20% at baseline to 74% at endline.⁵

Protective skills and participation: Implementation of IMPACT+ in a systems approach to child protection led to an 11% decrease in experiences of violence and a 34% increase in participation in local government decision-making on protection.⁶

Where we work



Programme Examples

World Vision has implemented IMPACT+ clubs in 30 countries and continues to grow. The examples below show the contextualised application of the model in three regions.

Burundi: In 2022-2023, World Vision Burundi opened 222 IMPACT+ Clubs, reaching 6,994 adolescents. The programme is targeted for in-school adolescents to enhance life skills, citizenship, and school retention, as well as out-of-school adolescents, combining IMPACT+ with savings groups and employment training and opportunities for adolescents who will not return to school.

Sri Lanka: In 2022-2023, World Vision Sri Lanka trained 1,463 IMPACT+ club leaders and opened over 1,356 clubs, mostly in schools, reaching 28,695 adolescent club members. These clubs implemented almost 2,000 service-learning projects in their communities, including awareness raising on violence against children, climate action such as tree planting and waste management, community safety projects, and caring for marginalised community members.

Albania: World Vision Albania has been implementing IMPACT+ clubs since 2015. More than 150 clubs, with 300 trained club leaders and over 3,000 active participants, were supported between 2019 and 2022. The clubs implemented 542 service-learning projects on themes including violence prevention, social inclusion of children with disabilities, democratic and civic engagement, and environmental action. The programme also created "calming spaces" within schools that helped adolescents cope with stress after the 2019 earthquake and the COVID-19 pandemic.

³ A study of the long-term effects of IMPACT clubs, conducted by World Vision's partner organisation in Romania, New Horizons Foundation.

⁴ IMPACT+ pilot evaluation in Armenia, 2018.

⁵ IMPACT+ pilot evaluation in Armenia, 2018.

⁶ Child Protection Technical Programme Evaluation. World Vision Cambodia. 2021.