



CAPACITY STATEMENT EDUCATION

Context

The Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) in Somalia remains significantly low. The Joint Review of the Education Sector Report of 2023 estimates that only 31 per cent of the 2.4 million children of school going age are in school. Of these, 28 per cent are girls. This is a drop from 2022, where the Multisectoral Needs Assessment put the overall school enrolment at 48 per cent. While statistics are not available, the school enrolment among displaced communities is even lower.

In 2024, an estimated 3.6 million and 4.9 million school aged children in Somalia will not have access to formal education. Furthermore, nearly 2.4 million children of school-going age will require humanitarian assistance to stay in school. This significantly low enrollment and high dropouts in Somalia can largely be attributed to the financial burden of sending a child to school. This is particularly impacting displaced communities in a significant and disproportionate manner.

World Vision's Aspiration for Children's Education

World Vision believes in every child's right to a quality, safe, inclusive and transformational education that empowers children for life. In Somalia, World Vision is collaborating with like-minded partners to ensure that children have access to quality education and equipping them with essential skills for the future. This collaboration extends to the ministries of Education at both federal and state levels, as well as local community groups and education committees.

World Vision is a key partner of the Ministry of Education, and our staff provide technical support for statewide education activities such as Early Grade Reading Assessments (EGRA). As an active participant of the national and regional level education coordination mechanisms, World Vision has contributed to the formulation of policies that shape the well-being of children and teachers. During the COVID-19 period, World Vision led the formulation of the joint framework for mental health and psychosocial support for children and teachers.

We continue to improve children's access to literacy and numeracy skills, working alongside our partners in the education sector. Our work includes providing technical capacity support for the development and reviewing of strategic plans to improve children's educational outcomes. Working with our partners, we have improved learning experiences through the provision of furniture and rooms in which to learn, as well as teaching, educational, and recreational materials.

With an existing presence in Somaliland, Puntland and Southwest State and Jubaland, World Vision has successfully implemented education programs tailored to the challenging operating environment, specifically addressing the needs of children impacted by conflict and climate change. These, extend to both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities.

Our education programs cover range of activities, including teacher training, providing school furniture, offering incentives to teachers, construction and rehabilitation of classrooms, establishing school reading clubs, assessment of learning outcomes, providing children with essential learning materials like textbooks. Additionally, we prioritise the provision of water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in schools to ensure a conducive learning environment.

Our Proven Approaches

Our integrated holistic model leverages our work in all sectors to ensure children have the best possible chance to build a strong foundation for the future. Our current education interventions have been designed to also integrate child protection to address cultural barriers that affect the school enrolment of children, especially girls. World Vision's engagement of faith leaders through the Channels of Hope Child Protection [CoHCP] is one of our unique approaches. Unlock Literacy program for Primary School (ages 6–12) children¹. The Unlock Literacy approach emphasises on outside of the classroom literacy

¹ <https://www.wvi.org/publications/report/education/unlock-literacy-brief>

development and encourages parents to be actively involved in the process. Activities are designed to foster a reading culture among children. World Vision has successfully implemented the Unlock Literacy program to improve reading outcomes for children, and among our promising initiative is the introduction and promotion of reading clubs across 21 schools, benefiting nearly 3,500 children, in the north-eastern state of Puntland.

Central to the success of these clubs is the active participation of children, teachers, parents, and caregivers. Teachers are trained to facilitate, while parents are equipped with tools and the encouragement to read with their children at home, whilst the children have reading buddies.

Teachers have also been trained to integrate five core reading skills into their curricula, while parents receive guidance on supporting their children's reading development outside of school through reading awareness workshops and home-based reading activities.

Unlock Literacy implements activities that engage everyone, regardless of their own literacy levels, in simple tasks to promote children's reading skills and language development.

Ensuring that communities have access to a variety of reading materials is an essential part of Unlock Literacy, but in most communities, the only print material children typically see is a school textbook. Therefore, we work with partners to create and stock each of the 21 villages with engaging and child-friendly print materials. This increases children's exposure to print beyond school textbooks, fostering a love for reading within their communities.



A Whole School Approach

A comprehensive and coordinated strategy that involves all members of a school community, including students, teachers, administrators, staff, and parents, in addressing a particular issue or achieving a specific goal. It recognises that schools are not only places of academic learning but also environments where social, emotional, and physical development takes place. This approach aims to create a supportive and inclusive school culture that promotes the well-being and success of all students. World Vision is currently implementing this in Puntland state, across 21 schools, through the support of IrishAid.



Digital Attendance Tracking Mobile Application - Education Innovation

In Puntland state, north-eastern Somalia, World Vision has spearheaded innovations in the education sector, such as the Digital Attendance App (DAA). DAA is an ongoing pilot in collaboration with the Somalia Response Innovation Lab (RIL) and the Puntland Ministry of Education in 21 primary schools.

DAA is a web and mobile tool designed to monitor daily school attendance of children. The monitoring system provides insights on children who remain out of school. It helps World Vision and other stakeholders in the education sector to monitor school dropout rates, including reasons for absenteeism and non-attendance. By generating realtime reports, the application supports informed programming and decision-making.

Following a successful pilot phase, together with partners, future plans are to integrate the Digital attendance Tracking App with the government's Education Management Information System (EMIS), ensuring seamless interoperability between the two systems.

Through our education programmes we aim to:

- Ensure that all boys and girls, including those with disabilities and from marginalised groups, have access to nurturing care and quality education opportunities.
- Equip parents in their role as the primary educators and protectors, hence supporting children's holistic development
- Empower communities to actively contribute to children's learning both inside and outside of formal schooling, and to hold governments accountable for their policy commitments on education.
- Recognise and support effective teaching as paramount in ensuring children receive quality education.
- Foster a safe and supportive environment, recognising that eliminating all forms of violence within and around schools is key to achieving equitable education for all.
- Collaborate with the government and donors to strengthen the education system. Key to this is adequate and consistent funding, and support policies that will ensure sustainable education opportunities for all.





Quick highlights of what we were able to achieve in 2023



2 temporary learning spaces and **34** classrooms constructed.



102 teachers supported with incentives of **US\$100** per teacher per month.



80 Community Education Committees trained on Governance.



3,700 children enrolled in structured learning institutions including, Child Friendly Spaces.



21 schools supported with scholastic materials.



2,849 caregivers reached with education promotion messages and reading awareness sessions.



932 children enrolled across **6** Child Friendly Spaces supported by World Vision.



1,150 school girls supported with Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits.



3,700 reached with VitaMeal.

A huge thank you to our Donors and Partners



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