

World Vision began its work in Albania in 1999, responding to the Kosovo refugee crisis, and for over 25 years, we have remained dedicated to supporting vulnerable children, youth, and families. Our mission is to serve the most at-risk children in Albania, addressing the complex challenges they face, including deprivation, abuse, discrimination, and the effects of disasters, all of which impact their well-being and ability to live life to the fullest.

Our technical approaches, focused on Education and Life Skills, Social Inclusion, and Livelihoods, lie at the heart of our efforts. These approaches form part of a holistic and integrated strategy that prioritises empowerment, community engagement, and sustainable development. At the core of our work is the empowerment of children, adolescents, and communities to become active agents of change.

Through models such as IMPACT+ for youth development, Child Protection & Advocacy (CP&A) for child well-being, and Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) for community mobilisation, along with enabling approaches like Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, Disaster Risk Reduction, Faith in Development, Advocacy, and Environmental Stewardship & Climate Action, we address the multifaceted challenges faced by communities.

Throughout 2024, World Vision Albania was present in 21 Albanian municipalities. Collaborating with a network of 75 nationwide partners, WVA's initiatives positively impacted 28,873 children via its diverse programming.

# ESSENTIAL NUMBERS FOR FY 2024



20 projects



8,243 registered children



75 nationwide partners



with disabilities (66 girls and 118 boys) received 5,433 hours specialised services (in centre and home)



36,125 people reached, of which 28,873 children



165

mothers received information on the importance of dietary diversity



1186

children and adolescents' part of IMPACT groups



60%

of beneficiaries reached were the most vulnerable children



US \$3,313,100

annual budget from WVI Funding, Institutional Donors, Local Private Funding



### **Donors**

World Vision, European Union, GIZ, PONT, UNDP, UNICEF, US Government

## 25 YEARS OF IMPACT IN ALBANIA

The year 2024 marked the 25th celebration of the presence of World Vision in Albania. Over the past 25 years, World Vision Albania has been at the forefront of improving lives and encouraging development across 31 municipalities. With a dedicated commitment to our mission, we've significantly impacted communities, mainly focusing on the most vulnerable children.

In 25 years, we have reached 167,809 individuals across various projects, including 121,411 children and 69,956 adults.

# **PRIORITY SECTORS**

### EDUCATION, LIFE SKILLS, AND RESILIENCE FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS



World Vision Albania empowers children and adolescents to thrive, preparing them for life's challenges and nurturing their potential as agents of transformation in their communities. IMPACT+ is World Vision Albania's transformative adolescents' program that empowers adolescents as they transition into adulthood. Through weekly club meetings and Community Service-Learning Projects (CSLP) that serve as practical learning experience, adolescents develop Competency (skills & knowledge), Character (identity & empowerment), and Contribution (active citizenship). By working collaboratively with schools, municipalities, and communities, we ensure that key actors, such as teachers and local authorities, have the capacity to support the most vulnerable children to reach their potential.

In 2024, 1,186 children and adolescents from 59 IMPACT+ groups were actively engaged in the IMPACT+ groups, where they received training on a wide range of topics including environmental and climate change awareness, advocacy and civil participation, community involvement, technology, critical thinking, and creativity. These sessions were designed to equip the youth with essential life skills and knowledge, fostering their ability to become leaders and advocates for positive change.

### CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION



World Vision Albania's approach ensures that children grow up in safe and protective environments, empowering families and communities to safeguard their well-being. Through the Child Protection & Advocacy (CP&A) Model, we mobilise local communities, strengthen child protection systems, and address the root causes of violence against children. Collaborating with key stakeholders, including local governments, families, and community leaders, we create sustainable, evidence-driven strategies to strengthen child safety and promote their well-being.

At the family level, our Celebrating Families model supports parents and caregivers in building nurturing relationships, strengthening children's social-emotional development and spiritual growth.

Integrated services at the local level ensure that the most vulnerable children and families receive essential support, particularly those in remote areas.

In 2024, we prioritized supporting families, protecting vulnerable groups, and strengthening local social care services. We provided direct assistance to families and children in need, improved support systems for children with disabilities, and built community awareness around child protection and gender-based violence. Collaborating with local partners and communities enhanced our impact, creating safer, healthier environments where children, parents, and vulnerable groups could receive essential care.

112 parents participated in positive parenting capacity-building events in the Celebrating Families model and Positive Parenting curriculum modules. 41 child protection professionals underwent training on case management, the preventive mechanisms for violence, trafficking, and social issues, and the referral mechanisms for cases of domestic violence and human trafficking.

### LIVELIHOODS & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



World Vision Albania's Livelihood approach aims to empower families through sustainable economic solutions, enabling them to transition from surviving to thriving. By improving agricultural production, financial literacy, and market access, we increase income and resilience, ensuring families can provide better opportunities for their children.

Our programs promote environmental stewardship, climate resilience, sustainable resource management, and disaster preparedness, ensuring that vulnerable communities are equipped to face environmental challenges.

During 2024, 446 children and adolescents trained in biodiversity management; implemented 8 community initiatives benefiting 1,368 students, including promotion of biodiversity using technology, the digital model "Voice of Nature"; expedition in the protected area, documentation of specific potentials; planting flowers and trees, environmental clean-up and waste collection and setting up biodiversity corners. 165 mothers received information on the importance of dietary diversity, the nutritional value of various food items (including those from their livestock and gardens), and how to create balanced meals.

### WE CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Policy improvement**

World Vision Albania contributed to the National Social Protection Strategy 2024–2030 and its accompanying Action Plan in 2024. The recommendations were formally adopted, focusing on improved support for vulnerable children, both girls and boys and the development of integrated, accessible social service models.

From the early stages, WVA participated in technical workshops and offered key input, including:

- conducting feasibility assessments before expanding or establishing new social services;
- defining measurable indicators for municipalities on service provision, spending, staffing, and impact;
- strengthening the capacity and number of social care professionals;
- ensuring data protection in the digitalisation of social care services.

### **ENOUGH Campaign**

In 2024, World Vision Albania launched the ENOUGH Campaign, part of World Vision's global initiative to ensure every child has enough food to thrive. While the global campaign focuses on ending hunger, in Albania the emphasis is on improving nutrition, promoting healthy diets, and supporting local food systems.

The campaign aims to:

- Raise awareness about the importance of good nutrition for children and youth.
- Encourage dietary diversity and the consumption of local, seasonal, and organic products.
- Inspire families, children, and young people to adopt healthier eating habits.

## THEMATIC FOCUS

#### **ADVOCACY**



Advocacy is at the heart of World Vision Albania's work, helping to ensure that every child can thrive. We empower children and young people to raise their voices, stand up for their rights, and become agents of positive change in their communities.

At the local level, we use the Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) approach to strengthen public services. Through CVA, children and community members learn about their rights and work together to influence local decisions, especially around municipal budgets, making services more transparent and responsive.

Our advocacy focuses on putting children at the centre, supporting them as confident advocates from the local to the global stage and backing child-led initiatives and movements that drive real change. Advocacy is both a strategy and a responsibility—engaging decision-makers, influencing policies, and addressing social norms that hinder justice and child well-being.

#### **GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**



World Vision Albania has worked towards progressing the systematic integration of gender equality and social inclusion within and across our programming sectors. Recognising gender-based discrimination and exclusion as important conditions hindering the further development of young people's life skills, confidence and the self-efficacy aspects, WVA has provided opportunities for children, adolescents and communities to advocate for advancing peaceful and inclusive societies and institutions.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**



As part of our stewardship World Vision Albania is committed to integrate and mainstream climate action activities in our programs. We strive to address the root causes of environmental degradation and climate change, in an effort to contribute to positive outcomes for the most vulnerable and the natural environment.