

# ASCHIANA ORGANIZATION

## Afghanistan's Children- A New Approach

### Narrative Report

<b>Project:</b>	<b>Continued long-term reading programs for conflict/post conflict situations in Kabul, Herat and Mazar- E -Sharif provinces of Afghanistan</b>
<b>Project Location:</b> <b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Kabul, Herat, Mazar e Sharif and Paktya</b>
<b>Reporting Date:</b>	<b>2015-2017</b>
<b>Reported by:</b> <b>Manager" ASCHIANA</b>	<b>Nazar Mohammad Nazar " Program</b>

### 1.1-Project Background:

According to the CIA World Fact Book, only 28 percent of the population in Afghanistan over the age of 15 can read. Without education, illiteracy can become a perpetuated cycle of poverty that continues for generations. IDP (internally displaced people) children are routinely denied access to formal schools, children are only remains in the street to work and in distance from education system. There is no proper referral mechanism in place to treat and to rehab these children and to refer them back to the communities as a normal and a social person.

In Afghanistan there are confliction rates among the children which is unfortunately increasing year by year, there is not proper solution from the government side. The children conflict with the law is big problem once the child send to the JRC (Juvenile rehab center) there is no proper rehab activities and even no proper educational activities for them. ASCHIANA started the Mobile library activities in 2014 through the IBBY funding and the children conflict with the law are encouraged for education and put ways to rehab not only the children conflict with the law but also a large number of children working on the streets and to work with their families as well. ASCHIANA Started Mobile libraries in 4 provinces as



Kabul, Mazar, Hirat and Paktya to decrease the rate of illiteracy and aware the children and the elder of the communities and the parent for the importance of education and children rights.

ASCHIANA started this initiative efforts through training reading assistants, library assistants and storytellers and providing reading materials via the mobile libraries. Mostly through the last project now learnt the basic reading and writing but the important thing is about their awareness regarding the importance of education for their children. The children also have a very low literacy level so they too are not able to read and having no idea to go to school so by having reading assistants and storytellers read to them it will stimulate their interest in books and encourage them to read.

ASCHIANA through the last three years ( 2015-2017) continued its efforts to work with the different group of populations in Afghanistan to address them and raised their capacities in regard to the importance of education and reading and making friendship with books.

Through the implementation of different periods of AFBBY ASCHIANA covered many children, adults , community elders and other stakeholders.

### **Types of Activities:**

AFBBY in Afghanistan has implemented different activities in order to increase the child literature in Afghanistan.

The main important activities in the Afghanistan through AFBBY are as

- Making the capacity of the children both adults and children to read the books.
- Awareness regarding the importance of education and book reading
- To built capacities of the existing libraries in formal schools under proper curriculum of Ministry of education.
- capacity building workshops for youths and community elders to increase their capacity about the importance of reading , and basic education.
- workshops for youth on active reading and active listening
- writing stories through children about their life stories
- Encouraging children to read through group story telling .
- working with schools, orphanages, kindergarten, rehab centres about the importance of reading books.
- workshops of reading events or reading aloud day.
- establishing of libraries in different schools, orphanages etc
- Establishing of libraries through bicycles run by youths.



### **Locations Covered:**

**The below locations are covered in all the provinces targeted in the project.**

- Schools
- Community councils
- Orphanages
- ASCHIANA Day Care centres
- JRC's ( Juvenile Rehab Centres
- IDP camps ( Internal Displaced People)
- Kinder Gardens
- Private schools
- vocational training skills centre for youths

### **Impact of the project activities on the targeted populations:**

1. Child literature increase in the locations to some extent where children are encouraged towards education.
2. Capacity of the people increased regarding the importance of education.
3. People are enough aware about the reading importance and effectiveness.
4. Children are motivated to read and this encouraged
5. most of the people are enough understand to find the solutions of the problems through books to respect the children rights and protection.
6. Children rights and Children protection are increased
7. Youth committees are established and strengthened and they worked voluntarily in IDP camps to educate initial group of children.
8. Peer educators are trained among the IDP camps to work voluntarily with their people
9. Schools are facilitated with books according to their needs
10. Children literature are increased among the schools as different committees are developed to conduct reading events among themselves
11. The adults are now enough aware they are including children and youths in their important meetings when they talk about the education
12. 1200 of children are reintegrated back to schools through the efforts of AFBBY team in IDP camps through the reported period.
13. Today we have small libraries in different IDP's and in schools and the children are happily and interestingly using them.



14. Mobile libraries are organized through bicycles in different location carrying books in boxes.
15. Children are encouraged to write different articles and stories with pictures
16. The youths are established a committee by the name of Child literature home in Kabul.

### **Total Number of Beneficiaries through the implementation period 2014-2016**

#### **1. Youths and children:**

Total Number of beneficiary covered during the reporting period in all provinces where the project is implementing, Kabul, Mazar, Herat and Gardiz. 2015-2017

#### **Figures: 1.1**

No	Provinces	Boys Number	Girls Number	Total
1	Kabul Provinces	12002	8750	20752
2	Mazar e Sharif Provinces	5400	3800	9200
3	Herat Provinces	5000	4350	9350
4	Gardiz Provinces	4300	2450	6750
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>26702</b>	<b>19350</b>	<b>46052</b>

#### **2. Parents and family members: 2015-2017**

The families of the children and youths who are in camps, in schools and in kinder gardens are given awareness workshops and sessions to understand the children rights and built their capacities to promote the reading in their respected homes.



**Figures: 1.2**

No	Provinces	Mothers	Fathers	Total
1	Kabul Provinces	3000	6005	9005
2	Mazar e Sharif Provinces	2100	2800	4900
3	Herat Provinces	2600	2350	4950
4	Gardiz Provinces	490	2300	2790
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>8190</b>	<b>13455</b>	<b>21645</b>

### 3. Community Elders:T

The community elders play a vital and important role in all the communities in afghan communities as they are the decision makers in the location and people are giving much respect to them, during the implementation period we always encouraged these elders ( including Mulah's , representatives, teachers, religious leaders , social workers etc.). we provided different awareness workshops in order to understand the importance of education and to know the image and effectiveness of reading the books. The AFBBY team participated regularly in the community councils meetings and workshops and spread information about he libraries and the promotion of AFBBY in Afghanistan in terms of reading.

Participants of local workshops training

**Figure1.3**

No	Provinces	Male	Female	Total
1	Kabul Provinces	500	150	650
2	Mazar e Sharif Provinces	200	80	280
3	Herat Provinces	220	140	360



4	Gardiz Provinces	200	0	200
Grand Total		1120	370	1490

### Problems:

- Insecure conditions in the country is an obstacle to implement sometimes the activities in some locations.
- As most of the beneficiaries are IDP's and because of their changing places also most of the books are losing
- Low level of the understanding and education of the people
- Sometimes.
- although we did many awareness sessions with adults and children about safe book keeping but still this is a huge problem to aware them and to increase their understanding.

### Future Planning:

1. To conduct capacity building trainings to different stakeholders in order to increase the child literature in the country formally.
2. To workshops for youths in order to become good listeners and active readers.
3. To organize libraries in far away locations where there is no schools at all.
4. To prepare the mobile libraries to the adults where they can use the books to better protect their children and to provide them their rights.
5. To provide share experience opportunities to some youths abroad the countries to see the library and books reading efforts to others.
6. To link the Youth teams with the Youth parliament on National level trough making their capacities in different levels and activities.



photos:











