



THE AFGHAN LIVELIHOODS AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE DELIVERY (LEAD) PROJECT

2025 Project Summary

The Afghan Livelihoods and Education Assistance Delivery (LEAD) project, funded by the Hilary and Galen Weston Foundation and implemented by War Child Canada, progressed into full-scale implementation in 2025 in Nangarhar Province. Building on the strong foundations established in 2024, the project delivered integrated livelihoods and education support to vulnerable women, youth, and out-of-school children from returnee and host communities.

Throughout 2025, the project focused on expanding access to economic opportunities and education, directly supporting women and youth facing poverty, food insecurity, and gender-based barriers, while also strengthening access to schooling for children, particularly girls.

During the reporting period, War Child Canada successfully operationalized activities across six target areas. Key implementation milestones included deployment of field teams, completion of market assessments, and formal coordination with government stakeholders, including the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation.

Significant progress was made under the livelihoods component. A total of 250 women completed Business Development Services (BDS) training, gaining skills in business planning, financial literacy, marketing, and bookkeeping. In parallel, 50 male youth completed six-month vocational training programs in trades such as tailoring and mobile phone repair, complemented by functional literacy and numeracy training. In the following year, an additional 250 women and 50 men will be receiving the same support.

The education component also achieved substantial results. 1,000 out-of-school girls were re-enrolled in schools and received education kits. In response to increasing needs among returnee populations, the project plans to expand its support to an additional 1,000 children in the following year. School Improvement Plans for 6 schools were finalized, including upgrades to infrastructure and learning environments such as solar systems, classrooms, furniture, and educational materials.

Community engagement remained strong throughout the year. Beneficiary selection processes prioritized the most vulnerable households, and local stakeholders expressed high levels of satisfaction with the project particularly noting the uniqueness of livelihood-focused support for women in the region.

Overall, 2025 marked a year of full implementation and tangible results, demonstrating meaningful progress toward improving livelihoods, enhancing self-reliance, and increasing access to education for vulnerable populations. The project is well-positioned to scale its impact further in 2026.





Key Targets and Results for 2025

Activity	Results (2025)
Market assessment & stakeholder coordination	100% completion
BDS training for women and female youth	250 females
Vocational training for youth	50 male youth
Enrollment of out-of-school children	1,000 girls
Sensitization of parents and caregivers to support children's education	41 (26 females, 15 males)



Naadir once struggled to find work as a day labourer in Afghanistan. Through War Child's literacy and vocational training program, he's learned to sew and gained the confidence to launch a small business in his village.

He's learned basic literacy skills and business

"I was previously illiterate, but now I can read and write, which helps me solve my own day-to-day problems and communicate more effectively."