

## COUNTRY FACTSHEET

## ARMENIA

## ABOUT WORLD VISION ARMENIA

World Vision has been working in Armenia since 1988, when it initially provided emergency aid to people affected by the devastating "Spitak" earthquake. Since then, World Vision's projects have transitioned beyond meeting the demands of crisis situations to promoting the spiritual and physical transformation of 190 communities in six regions of Armenia.

Children Benefited:

184,139

ARMENIA

Children live in poverty:

320,000

Children under 5:

220,000

Programme Areas:

190

Children in Country:

760,000

## PRIORITY ISSUES



Health



Education



Child Protection



Youth Empowerment



Emergency



Love of God &amp; Neighbours

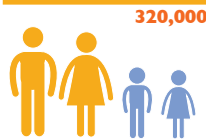
## IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH

Advocacy efforts have led to significant changes in healthcare access for the most vulnerable in Armenia. Thanks, in part, to World Vision's efforts the number of women who applied for free maternal healthcare increased from 69.4 per cent in 2010 to 83 per cent in 2013. Likewise, the number of parents who applied for health care access for their children also increased, from 43 per cent in 2010 to 67.7 per cent in 2013.

## FAST FACTS



Only **1 in 3** children of pre-primary school age are **enrolled in education** (UNICEF, 2013)



**320,000** children live in **poverty** (Armenia's National Statistical Service (RA-NSS))



Only **1 in 3** babies under 6-months-old are **exclusively breastfed** (UNICEF, 2013)

## WHAT WE DO



Thousands of baby girls are not born each year in Armenia where cultural traditions make having male offspring more desirable. Photo by Narine Ohanyan, World Vision.

## IMPROVING EDUCATION

In addition to supporting student and parent councils to improve school management and encourage the participation of children in the decision-making process, World Vision partners with schools and kindergartens to ensure that children have appropriate learning environments; working with institutions to install necessary heating and water systems, refurbish sanitary facilities and establish computer classes to make sure children are educated for life. Through World Vision's work, the number of parents and caregivers who were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the education their children receive rose by 5.1 per cent between 2011 and 2013.

## PUTTING CHRIST AT THE CENTER

World Vision contributes to the restitution and growth of spiritual values among Armenian people through Christian education and support provided to the Church. In partnership with the Armenian Apostolic Church, World Vision has facilitated the translation, publication and distribution of Christian educational materials for school children throughout Armenia, making Christian education available for children attending Sunday school classes at religious institutions and/or those students who study "religion" in their schools across the country.

## GIVING CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES A VOICE

World Vision aims to empower communities to influence the quality, efficiency and accountability of public services by strengthening the relationship between citizens and the local government through educating and empowering communities to voice their concerns.

## ADVOCATING FOR INCLUSION

In Armenia, there are 23 Special Educational Institutions for children, attended by about 2,800 children; about half of whom do not return home during the week. World Vision continues to advocate for inclusive education in all schools in Armenia on the basis that all children are equal and should have equal education. To date, there are about 85 inclusive schools across Armenia.



**LEARN MORE:** [www.wvi.org/armenia](http://www.wvi.org/armenia)

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## FAST FACTS



**70 per cent** of children experience violent discipline (UNICEF, 2013)



**100,000 girls** will potentially be killed through **sex-selective abortion** before 2060 (UNFPA, 2010)



**12,000 children** are living with **disabilities** (UNICEF, 2012)



**194,000 youth** are not in **education, employed** or in **training** (ILOSTAT, 2013)

## BUILDING TOMORROW'S FUTURE TODAY

The youth unemployment rate in Armenia, which averages 40 per cent or more, threatens the future of the country. Youth who can't find viable employment often postpone life decisions or leave the country. World Vision works with youth, empowering them to share their struggles and suggestions with leaders as well as providing appropriate job training. More than 1,200 youth received vocational opportunities or professional orientations, improving their chances to find employment.

## PROTECTING CHILDREN BEFORE THEY ARE BORN

Each year, more than 1,400 girls are not born in Armenia due to sex-selective abortions. Many families continue to see male offspring as more valuable and girls as a burden. World Vision works with the government and other authorities to educate families on the importance and value of women in society, as well as advocating for policies and procedures, to help ensure baby girls are born.

