



World Vision International Jerusalem - West Bank - Gaza Early Childhood Development Overview of World Vision's Programmes

World Vision's Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme aims to support mothers during pregnancy and continue to support children (along with their caregivers) until they reach the age of six so they achieve their full potential. The programme's goal is to promote children's development and improve their early learning abilities in secure and stimulating environments.

This holistic ECD approach, implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health, encompasses two project models that serve children of varying age groups. Moreover, World Vision assists these ministries in developing pertinent national policies and technical tools.



ECD programmes implemented in eight out of 11 governorates of the West Bank



22,000 children reached (2022)



159 public kindergartens and pre-school classes supported (2019 - 2022)



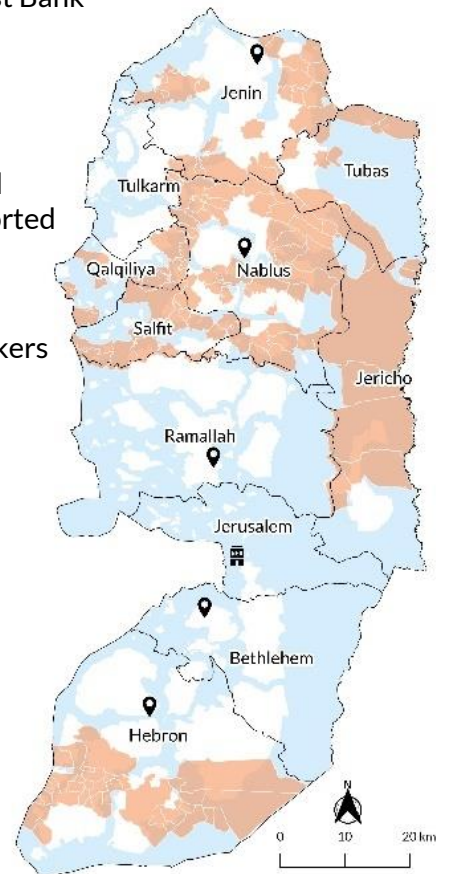
138 Community Health Workers equipped and supported



100 health clinics supported



US\$1M (2022) funded by World Vision



LEGEND

- Areas of Operations (FY23)
- National Office
- Zonal Offices
- Oslo Area C

A Critical Window of Opportunity

Early childhood experiences have a profound impact on brain development, which serves as the foundation for all subsequent learning, behaviour, and health outcomes. 80% of the brain develops in the first three years of life, but this development can be interrupted if a child is poorly nourished and nurtured, if she/he is not stimulated properly, or if she/he is not protected from violence. A UNICEF's report from 2022 found that only 25% of Palestinian children aged three to six years take part in early childhood education programs. Additionally, a 2020 baseline study conducted by World Vision revealed that merely 62% of all Palestinian children under six years of age are on track developmentally in all domains.



Go Baby Go

Building a Strong Foundation for Children During Their First 1,000+ Days of Life

Our model, *Go Baby Go*, aims to build a strong foundation for children during their first 1,000+ days of life. It emphasizes enhancing knowledge, skills, and resilience-promoting parenting behaviours to aid caregivers in fulfilling their roles as primary educators and protectors. *Go Baby Go* also provides caregivers with planning and self-care strategies to promote autonomy and well-being at the family and community levels.

Our approach is implemented at three levels:

▶ Household Level

Community Health Workers (CHWs) provide support to caregivers and families through home visits, which includes providing psychological first aid to caregivers and offering guidance to mothers, fathers, and other family members to encourage age-appropriate development of young children through home-based activities.



▶ Community Level

Primary caregivers participate in skill-based learning sessions that concentrate on introducing and identifying their role as caregivers, along with developing active skills for promoting holistic child development.

▶ Health Clinic Level

Our approach focuses on supporting the sustainable provision of high-quality ECD services by providing Maternal and Child Health clinics with the essential tools to enhance service quality and establish a more child-friendly environment, especially in relation to breastfeeding.



Go Baby Go is built on evidence-based parenting programme approaches and content, using behaviour change communication, appreciative inquiry and positive deviance approaches so that caregivers learn to build on existing knowledge about child-rearing and can leverage their strengths and assets as a community to enable their children to have the best possible start in life.



Learning Roots

Preparing Young Children to the Transition to School

Our project model, Learning Roots, is a play-based learning approach that fosters the comprehensive development of children aged three to six years. It establishes the groundwork for successful transitions to primary school and lifelong learning. This evidence-based model promotes a curriculum that focuses on developmental domains such as motor skills, literacy, numeracy, life skills, and others. Through this project model, World Vision supports 50% of all public kindergartens and pre-school classes in the West Bank so they can meet quality learning standards.

Our approach has three objectives:

▶ **To strengthen the quality of teaching at the local ECD centres and creating safe, playful learning environments by:**

- Training teachers and supervisors on the evidence-based curriculum
- Rehabilitating classrooms, health units, and safe play areas.
- Providing furniture and learning materials.
- Supporting the establishment of new kindergartens.



▶ **To engage parents and caregivers and strengthen their capacity to provide nurturing care by:**

- Raising their awareness about the importance of ECD.
- Enhancing their competencies to support the social and emotional development of their young children, as well as early reading and numeracy skills, through play.

▶ **To develop systems to foster sustainable support for children by collaborating with local and national networks by:**

- 15 Kindergarten Supervisors became experts and trainers of Learning Root pedagogy.
- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding between World Vision and the Ministry of Education.
- Advocacy and technical support to the Ministry of Education to strengthen and improve the national policy framework.

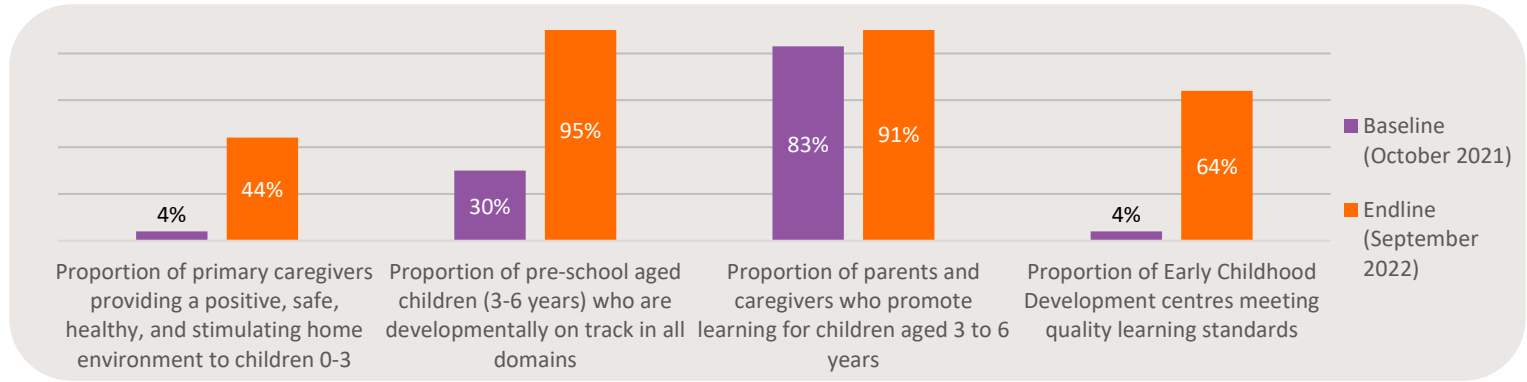


The Learning Roots model is built on prevailing peer-reviewed evidence from research and best practice. It draws on the recommendations from the Lancet series (2007 and 2011) on ECD, as well as from best practices identified through World Vision Field Offices and peer agencies.

Results and Impact

To measure our impact, World Vision conducts annual baseline and endline studies. In 2022:

- For Go Baby Go, World Vision monitored the parenting knowledge of 1,637 caregivers.
- For Learning Roots, World Vision monitored development indicators for 400 children and parenting knowledge of 400 caregivers using the Save the Children International Development and Early Learning Assessment (IDELA) child assessment tool. This tool measure age-appropriate social-emotional, motor, emergent literacy, and emergent numeracy skills. It also assesses the learning environment for children at home, including family's wellbeing and its impact on early development of children, the caregivers' child rearing practices and knowledge related to child protection issues. For the baseline and endline surveys, World Vision also measured the quality of services provided by 25 kindergartens against quality standards.



About World Vision

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

World Vision started operating in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza in 1975. Since then, the organization has been devoted to supporting Palestinian children by nurturing them, building their resilience, and instilling hope. By integrating development, relief, and advocacy programs, World

Vision ensures that children, especially the most vulnerable, are protected within their families and communities. The organization also focuses on equipping them with the necessary skills and resilience to lead healthy lives.

World Vision JWG has developed one of the most extensive community-based presences among organizations operating in the West Bank, with 91 dedicated staff and an annual budget of \$11 million for 2023. In 2021, our programs directly benefited over 233,000 individuals, including 169,000 children residing in 150 villages across the West Bank.



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