



**FY23**

IRAQ

**IMPACT  
REPORT**

World Vision



# Letter from our Response Director

I am pleased to share our World Vision Iraq Annual FY23 Report, covering October 2022 to September 2023.

World Vision Iraq programming in FY23 has successfully reached 104,409 people in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Duhok, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din, Ninewa, and Anbar, with half of them being children. Our support to vulnerable communities encompassed various areas, including WASH, Livelihoods, Climate Resilience, Education and Child Protection, Empowerment and Social Inclusion, Health/MHPSS Food Assistance (via cash-based programming), Faith and Development and Advocacy.

Five years after the end of the conflict, we are seeing progress and positive developments led by the government of Iraq and the civil society sector. Iraq is on the path of rehabilitation and recovery, transitioning from humanitarian response to long-term and sustainable development. However, last year also brought new challenges, such as climate change and lack of income opportunities, while overall funding for Iraq's humanitarian response declined.

In response to these challenges, we adapted our program interventions to address short-term emergency relief, medium-term recovery assistance, and long-term sustainability. Sharing the vision of Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus, WV Iraq has been assisting communities to recover more sustainably from various shocks and disasters, building on resilience and reintegration, economic and climate justice, and system strengthening while continually addressing hunger and basic needs.

We cannot predict what next year will bring in this fast-evolving world. Still, we know that our commitment to Iraq remains unwavering.

It is our privilege as well as our responsibility to support the children of Iraq so they can recover their confidence that this land will sustain their children for generations to come.

**Larisa Klepac**  
Response Director  
World Vision Iraq





A young boy on a bike in the golden fields of Hamdaniyah, the Safe Return Project, Ninewa, Iraq

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# FY23

AT A GLANCE



**51 National staff**  
**4 International staff**  
**1 Secondment**  
**161 Casual staff**  
**1 Consultant**

**104,409 Individuals**  
**directly benefited**  
**from our work**

**11 Projects**  
**5 Donors**



Enas, 37, the Women Empowerment and Climate Resilience project in Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.  
Photo: Shayan Nuradeen



The daughter of a project participant showing us produce from her family's field, the Safe Return Project, Ninewa, Iraq

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# WE ARE WORLD VISION IRAQ

World Vision Iraq began as a response to the humanitarian emergency caused by the onset of conflict in 2014. Since then, we have been assisting and working with internally displaced persons, host communities, and Syrian refugees, helping children survive and then thrive as part of healthy communities.

Over the past year, we have reached 59,168 people and 45,241 children with a variety of interventions enabling child protection, livelihoods, climate resilience, improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) access, mental health, and education. We have also integrated cross-cutting themes into our programming, such as women's empowerment, social inclusion, and social cohesion. We remain committed to the principle of accountability for the most affected populations as we seek to support them in improving their lives.

World Vision Iraq is now transitioning through the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus (HDPN) with the focus on resilience and recovery by addressing the root causes of fragility and vulnerability, enabling us even better to keep children and their families at the heart of our interventions. This is achieved through continuous context monitoring and employing agile programme design and management. The focus is increasingly on resilience - of children, families, and whole communities - in the face of climate change, and promoting disaster reduction, adaptation, protection, education, and peacebuilding.

World Vision Iraq seeks to expand its operations in order to assist as many Iraqis as possible as they seek to recover sustainable wellbeing in the wake of conflict and in the face of new challenges. To do this, we are actively seeking new operational contexts beyond our existing projects in Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Ninewa, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din, adding new projects in Anbar for the first time in 2023.



- WW IRAQ OPERATION AREAS WITH OFFICES
- WW IRAQ OPERATION AREAS WITHOUT OFFICES
- NO WW IRAQ INTERVENTION



Daughter of a participant  
of Water, Sanitation, and  
Hygiene rehabilitation  
project, Kirkuk, Iraq,  
2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# OVERVIEW OF IRAQI PRIORITY SECTORS

Mahir, a participant of the Safe Return Project, an initiative of the Australian Aid and implemented by World Vision Iraq on behalf of the Australian Government, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

34,455  
People reached

# WASH



Kamal\*, 13, used the WASH facilities at his school newly rehabilitated by World Vision Iraq with funding from the Visser Family Foundation, Tooz, Salah al-Din, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Malak Sherwan Zain al Abdin

World Vision Iraq's WASH programme is guided by the Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Business Plan and the country's strategy that identify water, sanitation, and hygiene as an essential prerequisite for child well-being. The programme is providing interventions aimed at increasing sustainable access to safe water, dignified sanitation and improved hygiene practices for vulnerable communities and children living with poverty. In FY23 interventions mainly focused on improving access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for children, women and people living with disabilities in schools, healthcare facilities and households, restoration of basic water infrastructure, sustainable water quality monitoring, sustainable hygiene education and Menstrual Hygiene Management promotion in schools and communities, water scarcity mitigation, empowerment of women in WASH entrepreneurship, and empowerment of local government actors and community structures to facilitate the sustainable delivery of quality WASH services.



# 8,093

## People reached

World Vision Iraq's initiatives aim to address the root causes of food and livelihood insecurity while developing the self-sufficiency of vulnerable people and lifting them out of poverty. Our interventions in Iraq encompass a variety of activities, including providing economic security, generating income opportunities, enhancing the interconnected networks of production, distribution, and consumption, developing technical skills, coaching, and vocational training, increasing job opportunities, developing climate resilience, and supporting businesses. Collaborating with UNDP, World Vision Australia, and World Vision Germany, in the fiscal year 2023, World Vision Iraq supported 8,093 individuals across Ninewa, Anbar, Salah Al-Din, and Kirkuk governorates: 3,921 women, 3,217 men, 516 boys and 539 girls.

The primary beneficiaries of our efforts are internally displaced persons, host communities, and returnees. Notably, World Vision Iraq facilitated business and agricultural training sessions alongside providing financial aid and cash assistance, enabling individuals to establish their own enterprises. Through these multifaceted interventions, we aim to empower communities, including women, children, and youths, to achieve sustainable livelihoods and resilience within challenging circumstances.

Jassim, 28, from Hatra and a father of three, participating in a World Vision Iraq project, implemented in partnership with UNDP Iraq and with funding from BMZ and KFW. Hatra, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Omar Shams

# LIVELIHOODS

# 1,683

## People reached

The primary objective of World Vision Iraq's Climate Resilience programming is to enhance the adaptive capacity and resilience of communities in the face of the adverse impacts of climate change by addressing the root causes of vulnerability. World Vision Iraq plays its part in efforts to address climate change impacts through implementing climate smart business processes and programmes, resilience programming and advocacy. In FY23 the program provided interventions including capacity building programmes to increase the knowledge of rural agricultural communities in efficient irrigation, gender sensitive climate smart agriculture techniques, water conservation techniques, drought management, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), agroforestry and climate advocacy.

In addition, in order to enhance climate adaptation, awareness, and to improve agricultural productivity in areas highly impacted by drought and where both water and food resources are at risk, World Vision Iraq has implemented FMNR and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) approaches and employed new efficient water use technologies, hydroponic systems, and Response Drip Irrigation systems.

Iedela, 59, is a participant of the Safe Return Project, an Australian Aid initiative implemented by World Vision Iraq on behalf of the Australian Government, Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# CLIMATE RESILIENCE

# 20,813

People reached

The safety of both adults and children is of the highest priority to World Vision Iraq. World Vision Iraq has been successful in improving people's lives by consistently working closely with government and community stakeholders. In the area of protection, World Vision Iraq has implemented various initiatives that have yielded significant results. We have provided crucial case management services, established child protection communities, and conducted comprehensive training programmes for government staff on protection and case management. In the educational sector, World Vision Iraq has exerted a sustained effort over several years to improve the learning outcomes of children. The catch-up programme has been particularly successful, demonstrating an impressive 81% improvement in reading and writing skills among children who were initially struggling. World Vision has actively supported schools by providing essential educational materials and undertaking school rehabilitation. By enhancing the capacity of government staff and teachers through specialised training in general and subject-specific pedagogy in particular, World Vision Iraq has contributed to the overall quality of education in the Iraq.

World Vision actively participates in coordination meetings led by the government and humanitarian agencies. Through our involvement, we ensure that our interventions align with broader strategies and maximise our impact on the ground. Additionally, World Vision Iraq takes a leadership role by co-chairing the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse network meeting in Iraq.

Maha\*, 12, a participant of the Catch Up Classes to strengthen skills in Arabic Language as part of the Japan Platform project, Mosul, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# EDUCATION & CHILD PROTECTION

# 14,361

## People reached

In 2023, we prioritized empowerment, equality and social inclusion considerations in our interventions, despite the government's restriction on using the term "Gender" in Iraq. World Vision Iraq remained committed to promoting equal rights, opportunities, and participation for women and girls in all aspects of life, including education, health, decision-making, and economic empowerment. Additionally, we have focused on ensuring that vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and displaced populations, have equal access to services, resources, and decision-making processes.

World Vision Iraq actively engaged communities and individuals in its decision-making processes, program design, and implementation to ensure their voices were heard and their needs were addressed. We also prioritized addressing and mitigating violence against women, discrimination, and other forms of harm that disproportionately affected certain groups during emergencies and conflict-affected areas. Through data collection and analysis, we have monitored the impact of our interventions and informed evidence-based programming. World Vision Iraq's GESI interventions were particularly noticeable in Kirkuk City, Mosul, Hamdaniyah and in overall interventions in Iraq.

Joza, 62, is a participant of the Safe Return Project, an Australian Aid initiative implemented by World Vision Iraq on behalf of the Australian Aid Government, Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# EMPOWERMENT & SOCIAL INCLUSION



# MHPSS

Zainab, 45, is a participant of the Safe Return Project that is an Australian Aid initiative implemented by World Vision Iraq on behalf of the Australian Aid Government, Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.


Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

## 4,803

### People reached

World Vision Iraq implemented a layered and holistic MHPSS approach addressing the specific needs of Iraqi children and families affected by conflict and disaster.

In FY23, we have reached 4,803 people, addressing the unique mental health needs of women, girls, men, and boys. We have conducted 365 Group Problem Management Plus (GPM+) sessions, benefiting individuals in Hamdaniyah district, West Mosul, and East Mosul; offered 145 single booster sessions and provided individual counseling to 633 individuals from Ninewa and Anbar. We also conducted 280 psychoeducation sessions, trained 30 Primary Health Care Unit staff, and did awareness sessions on mental health with our target communities.



Buthaina, 57, lives with her mother in the heart of Hamdaniyah. She was part of Women's Economic Empowerment and Resilience Project, Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.

Photo: Shayan Nuradeen

# 28,804

## People reached

World Vision Iraq has dedicated the past nine years to living out our Christian faith and vision, providing unwavering support to vulnerable children and communities regardless of their religious, racial, or ethnic backgrounds.

In FY23, World Vision Iraq continued to champion a Faith and Development strategy, significantly shaping the country's path toward peace, social cohesion, stability, and inclusive development. Recognizing the importance of religious beliefs and identities in Iraqi communities, World Vision Iraq diligently fostered understanding among faith leaders, striving for genuine collaboration to enhance child well-being in fragile contexts like Iraq. Throughout FY23, World Vision Iraq launched initiatives to strengthen community cohesion and address challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic on child well-being. These efforts included engaging diverse religious and ethnic groups in interfaith dialogue sessions, envisioning a harmonious future for Iraqi children and their communities. World Vision Iraq remained committed to expanding Faith and Development programming, partnering with various faith leaders to raise awareness on critical issues such as child well-being, peacebuilding, Do No Harm, and social cohesion.

# FAITH & DEVELOPMENT



**Malak, 10, is a participant of the catch up classes to strenghten skills in Arabic language as part of the Japan Platform Project, Mosul, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.**

**Photo: Shayan Nuradeen**

# OUR NATIONAL IMPACT NUMBERS

# FY23

**1,357  
women**  
empowered through  
different programming

**12,540  
people**   
reached through hygiene  
promotion awareness by  
hygiene promoters and  
faith leaders

**10,575  
people**  
reached through SGBV  
outreach and awareness-raising  
activities through SGBV  
outreach and awareness-raising  
activities

**7,649  
people**   
with improved access to better  
maintained and managed public  
WASH services across 22 public  
facilities

**4,383  
people**   
provided with child protection  
awareness-raising activities by Child  
Protection Committees (CPCs)

**4,200  
students**   
benefited from student kits, teaching  
and learning materials including  
school equipment (e.g. desks)

**4,230  
individuals**   
reached by community awareness  
campaigns on mental health stigma  
and psychosocial impacts related to  
former association with ISIL

**1,231  
farmers**   
trained on new smart agricultural  
practices

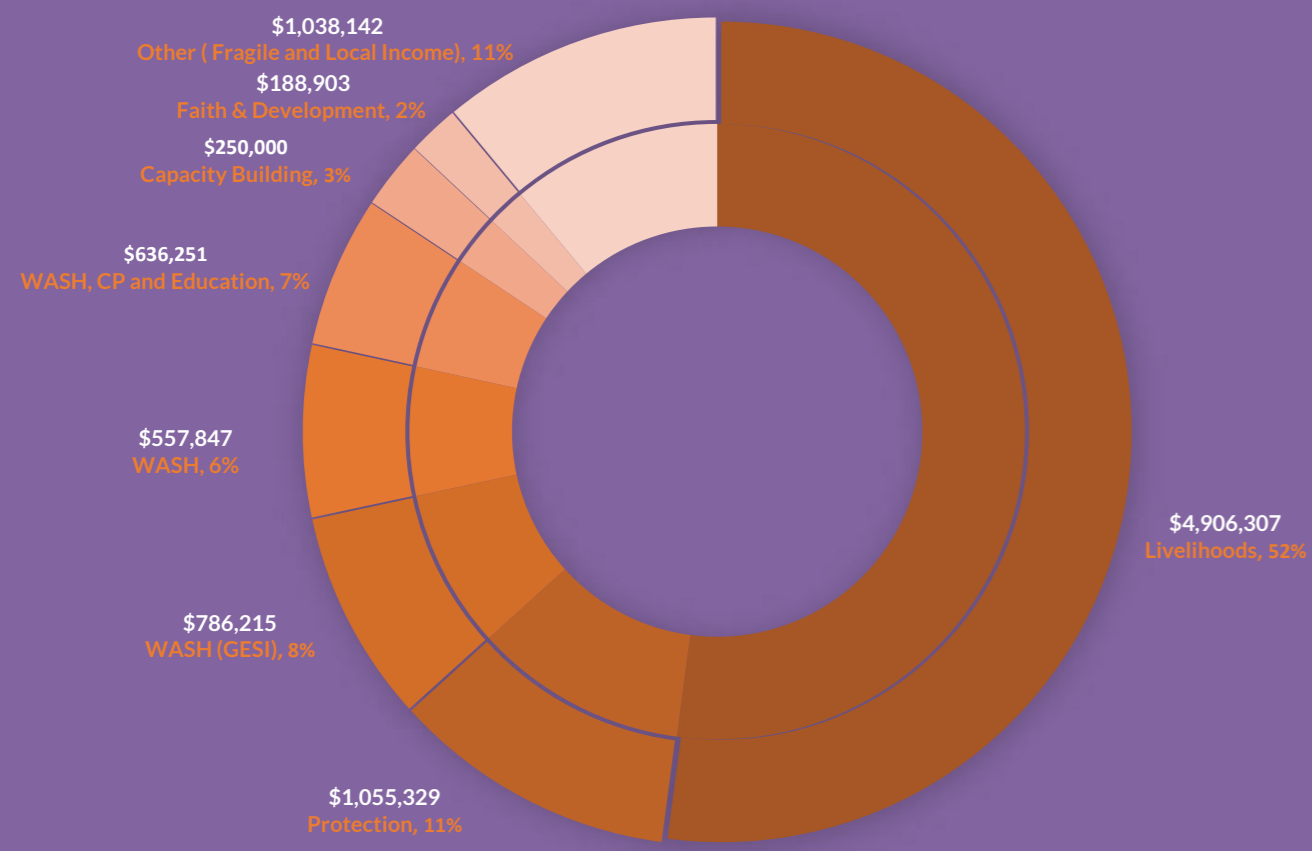
**60 persons  
living with  
disabilities**  
aided through the construction and  
refurbishment of WASH facilities in their  
household



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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## Total Approved Income By Sector (Cash in USD)



Sector	Approved Income, USD	Approved Income, %
Livelihoods	\$ 4,906,307	52%
Protection	\$ 1,055,329	11%
WASH (GESI)	\$ 786,215	8%
WASH, CP and Education	\$ 636,251	7%
WASH	\$ 557,847	6%
Capacity Building	\$ 250,000	3%
Faith and Development	\$ 188,903	2%
Other (Fragile and Local Income)	\$ 1,038,142	11%
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$ 9,418,994</b>	<b>100%</b>
GIK Income	\$ 4,006	
<b>Total Cash + Non-Cash</b>	<b>\$ 9,423,000</b>	

## World Vision Iraq Funding by Sector FY23

# OUR PARTNERS

In line with our Global Strategy and Our Promise, World Vision Iraq collaborates and partners with various stakeholders, including the Government of Iraq (GOI) and Kurdistan Region Government (KRG) ministries, institutions and departments including, local authorities in all the areas in which we operate. World Vision Iraq is grateful for the funding as well as all forms of support received from all our partners.

## World Vision Support Offices:

WV Australia, WV Germany, WV Japan, WV Taiwan, WV US


## Government, Multilateral Institutions and Private sector donors:



Visser Family Gift (VRF)

## National and Local Partners:

Al Mesalla, Ajial Association, Ankawa Humanitarian Committee, Harkar, Rozh Society Organization, Sheyaw



Mays\* is 16 and is living with disabilities in her lower extremities. World Vision Iraq in partnership with Rozh Society rehabilitated her house and WASH facilities to make them more accessible for her, Kirkuk, Iraq.

Photo: Ahmed Lateef Abed

# IMPACT STORY

# Little Mays'\* journey through pain ends in triumph

*Sometimes the hardest journeys and most difficult trials can test one's endurance, patience, and even end up in triumph. For Mays\*, this was precisely the case, even though it was very early on in her life.*

*In 2018, when little Mays was only eleven years old, she was bedridden for seven months after a surgical intervention to her lower extremity. Her parents and a kind neighbour helped her out during those challenging months, keeping her company and tending to her needs.*

*Soon after, Mays\* began to suffer from sores on her body due to her prolonged stay in bed. However, the loving care of her family and neighbors eventually helped her recover, and the sores eventually healed.*

*It was not an easy journey, but for Mays, the moment she entered the surgical room was marked as a victory for her. Mays shared, "The moment I was most proud of was when I underwent the surgical operation. I was afraid. I was feeling fearful inside. The first time I opened my eyes (after the surgery), I saw my mom and dad. I was feeling pain then." This was one of the three operations that Mays underwent in her young life.*

*When Mays was born in 2007, she was a chubby baby and she looked like any other healthy child. But even back then, her mother, Rabab\*, noticed that her child was crying often. She did not realize the reason at that time. She took her to several doctors, but to no avail. When Mays grew older and started learning to walk, Rabab noticed that her little child was walking with a limp. Rabab took Mays to a doctor in her city. The doctor referred her to a hospital in Erbil, 96 kilometers away from Kirkuk where they lived.*

*In Erbil, the hospital asked Rabab for 12 million IQD (US\$9,219) in order to treat her daughter. Rabab said, "Our situation was poor. How could I get the money? I could barely collect one or two million IQD (US\$568 to US\$1,536.5). I did not have that amount. If I were to go to a private hospital, it was going to be 25 million IQD (US\$19,206). Where would I have gotten the money? Then the doctor told me that Mays would either live or be paralyzed (if she underwent the surgical operation). I said then that it was better to walk with a limp than to be paralyzed. It is difficult to be paralysed."*

*Rabab continued, "For the surgical operation in 2008, the doctor didn't charge us the surgery cost but only the treatment cost. Mays' uncle and brother helped us with the cost of the treatment. Mays is now doing better than before. Her hip bone was protruding in the past, but now it is better. Thanks for everything."*

*Mays today is sixteen. She already missed three years of schooling because of the surgical operations she had. She leans on Saba, her elder sister's shoulder, as she walks to school. Saba helps Mays with her toilet visits at school. Meanwhile at home, these days, Mays feels she can, most of the time, do her toilet visits without the help of Saba.*

*This change came into Mays and her family's lives as World Vision Iraq, in partnership with a local organization working for persons living with disabilities, Rozh Society, and with funding from World Vision Taiwan, helped rehabilitate the Water, Hygiene and Sanitation facilities in her home. Mays shared, "They remodeled the bathroom, the toilet, the shower, and the doors. I can go to the bathroom on my own now. Before, the toilet and the bathroom were very old, but now, they are better than before. My sister still helps me but less nowadays."*

*Rabab also shared, "Our home was very old. Before, we covered the windows with plastic sheets or wood panels and the doors barely closed. But now there is a change."*

*Mays today is in the first year of secondary school. She loves history class. She likes the teacher of history class because she helps the students and is kind to them. She loves knitting socks and when she finishes a piece, she gifts it to the art teacher or to her siblings.*

*Mays dreams of becoming a doctor one day and Rabab also has dreams for her daughter. She dreams that Mays will finish her studies and be able to build a stable life for herself.*

*According to unofficial reports by relevant government departments, as of 2023, there are 1.5 million people living with a disability in Iraq. Among these, 470,000 are children aged between one and fourteen. The main three causes of disability among people are consequences of conflict, remnants of war, birth defects, and accidents of old age.*

*World Vision Iraq, in partnership with Rozh Society and with funding from World Vision Taiwan, has been intervening within households to help the most vulnerable people living with disability. Through this project, we have helped 60 households (469 individuals) in Kirkuk and Hawija with the rehabilitation of accessible water, hygiene, and sanitation facilities at their homes in order to ease their daily lives.*

*\*Names are changed to protect identities*

# TESTIMONIES

*"I wish that as a woman, I have had this training thirty years ago. Now, my husband and I are like friends. My number one supporter is my family. Women are schools who raise generations and if women are educated, the whole society benefits."*

Rabiah, 51, Kirkuk, Iraq

*"The desertification affected us a lot. Many of the wells that we built in the past dried out and water levels in the wells have decreased. In the last three years, production has been weak. Four years ago, the rain was strong, so it was a blessing. We have been fighting (the effects of climate change on farming) by, for example, digging deeper wells. But now, I have learned from World Vision Iraq to save water by using water distillation systems. Through this, we irrigate more areas and use less water. We have learned a lot from the training."*

Haitham, 50, Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq

*"Our feelings towards school have changed and our desire to attend has strengthened. Thank you for what you have given us. Our bathrooms have become much better. It helped us overcome water shortages in the sanitary ware. The school has become safer and more comfortable for us."*

Kamal\*, 13, Tooz, Salah al-Din, Iraq

*"At the beginning of the project, I faced challenges. There was low demand at my store. But later, I started to promote the business on Facebook and now I have my own clients. My income has increased by 40%. Before, I couldn't spend on my family, but now I can. My mother has chronic diseases and (before) I couldn't provide treatment for her, but now I can."*

Amna, 23, Hatra, Ninewa, Iraq

*"Before, I didn't know how to read or write, and I dropped out of school. But then, my uncle told me to complete the studies until the sixth grade (of primary school) and then to drop out. But then, when the organization came, I decided to complete my studies until the third year of secondary school and to enter the teacher's institute and become a math teacher. I hope I will complete (my studies) and become a teacher. I like to teach. Before, when my father would be away at work, I would only send him a voice message when I needed something, but now I would text him. My writing is not perfect but he understands me."*

Aamr\*, 12, Mosul, Iraq

*"It was very nice; I needed financial support. They announced offering financial grant and I benefited from it. Through this, I got tools and supplies that I could work with. For example, one of the tools is Jackhammer. This tool is only available outside of my town. I benefited from it (Jackhammer) a lot. My income after this project has increased by 10%."*

Jassim, 28, Hatra, Ninewa, Iraq

*"After being accepted for a 20-day cash for work, I look forward to opening my own business as World Vision Iraq awards me the grant."*

Thamer, 30, Anbar, Iraq

*"They helped me a lot. The ground of the house was not cemented, and they cemented it for me. They installed a western toilet, a shower, and completed the installation of pipelines. In addition, they provided me with a wheelchair."*

Hussein, 43, Kirkuk, Iraq

Our vision for every child, life  
in all its fullness.  
Our prayer for every heart,  
the will to make it so.

Contact Us

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Cover Photo: Amani, the daughter of the Safe Return project participant in  
Hamdaniyah, Ninewa, Iraq, 2023.  
Photo: Shayan Nuradeen