

Let Girls' Thrive in Afghanistan

FY19 Annual Report

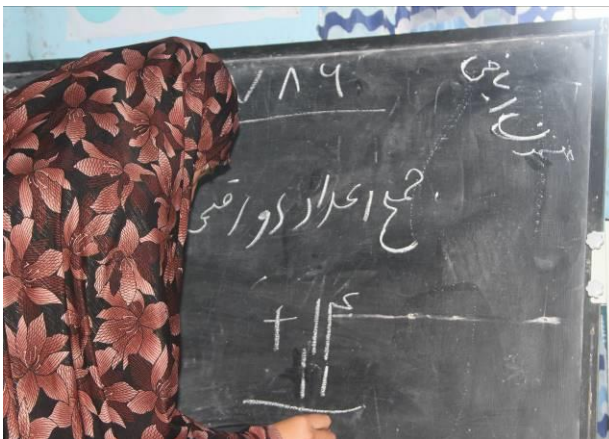
Project Profile

Programme Goal	Addressing the root causes of child marriages for impoverished rural, girls	
Programme Outcomes	#1	Providing basic primary school numeracy and literacy skills for girls who have never enrolled
	#2	Vocational training for girls and boys
	#3	Life skills education for boys and girls and community members against early and forced marriages
Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries	TOTAL	8,850

Programme Impact

Progress in Access to Education for Girls

- 150 school girls aged 10 to 15 were selected and the Accelerated Learning Centres in 5 targeted areas were established. With 30 girls (10-15 years old) in each ALC
- Establishment of communities to support enrolment and attendance of girls in school allowing their girls to attend the classes and participate in the monthly and quarterly discussions and meetings.
- Enhanced Vocational skills education in progress, finalizing the vocational skills training materials and topics



Progress in Advocacy and Support against Child early and forced marriages

- 235 community members (160 men and 75 women) attended the meetings on girl's education and harmful effects of Child and Early Forced Marriage (CEFM).



From Dreams to Reality

For most of Sajida's life the prospect of school seemed impossibly distant, but today it's close enough. "I never expected that village girls would one day go to school. I feel so honoured and happy that we have the chance to study and learn something!" Most of the girls have never known what the future could feel like in their own hands and it could be tangible and bright.

Sajida attends classes every day where she's learning to read and write. "I am learning the alphabet and numbers and I enjoy the poems I've just learnt," said Sajida . Age doesn't bother her in the least. "I don't care how old I am. I just care about my future and being an educated girl who can have a future and choices."

According to tradition, girls in the village are generally prohibited from spending much time outside of the home. Which is why present classes seem a valuable opportunity that the girls didn't dare to hope for. As Sajida says, "it's a great chance to meet and sit together in class, to share our knowledge and experiences and...help each other with daily lessons."

Sajida's teacher says that Sajida is one of her best students. "She is very active in class and such an eager learner. Getting an education used to seem like just a dream for these girls, which is why they are now so dedicated in class and do their best to make the most of every second."

Since getting her parents' permission to join classes, Sajida has decided she wants to work hard to become a teacher, "to teach others and serve my village and my people," she says. With determination and sufficient resources, Sajida could very well be the first of a generation of rural girls who help to build new, more equitable communities in Afghanistan.