



# 2015 Annual Report



*Mandy Gillen, Serve Afghanistan's Executive Director.*

## Executive Director's Message

We started 2015 with the situation in Afghanistan looking very unpredictable. We had questions: How would the security situation be? Would projects be able to continue as planned? Would it be possible to travel to the regions to effectively monitor and provide expertise to projects? Would expatriate staff be able to stay in country?

I am delighted to report that the year has exceeded our expectations. We have been able to continue all projects and programmes and travel extensively in and out of regions. Work has continued almost as normal.

There have been endless challenges but I am so proud of our Afghan

and expatriate staff, not just their hard work but their vision for Serve and for Afghanistan: for work among the visually and hearing impaired and other disabled people, for minority language work, for literacy, for livelihood improvement for the poor.

Thank you for your interest and support for Serve Afghanistan, our purpose and us as individuals. We appreciate it and hope you will enjoy reading about our work. Do contact us if you need more information.

Best Wishes,

Mandy Gillen  
Executive Director

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## Our Purpose

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Our purpose is to express God's love and bring hope by serving the peoples of Afghanistan, especially the needy and marginalised, addressing personal, social, and environmental needs.

## Our Work

From 1972, we have worked for and alongside Afghans to empower and aid those displaced by war. Our journey has been a challenging and rewarding one.

Today, we work in community development and empower people with disabilities by emphasizing inclusion, capacity building, advocacy, and sustainability in the Central, Eastern and Southern regions of Afghanistan.



*An EMAD student participates in her inclusive class.*

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# Inclusive Communities

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Serve believes in the value of every individual. In our work with communities, we advocate for full and active participation of all peoples, especially disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, such that they can achieve their full potential in life.

## Hope and Poetry

After losing his vision in a rocket explosion during the war between Afghans and Russians, Mujahid in Kandahar dealt with many difficulties, from economic stressors to poor care. Mujahid found comfort in composing poetry and dreamt of a day when he would be able to write down his own poems.

Mujahid was surprised to learn that there was a way he could read and write. Through the assistance of Serve's facilitators for the visually impaired and hard work, Mujahid is now able to read and write in braille, including his own poetry. Furthermore, through Serve and his community's encouragement, Mujahid was able to start his own small business to support his family.



*Mujahid, second from right, can write his own poetry in Braille now.*



*Girls in KCDP's inclusive education programme.*

## Kandahar Community Development Project (KCDP)

KCDP focuses on empowering inclusive communities such that they can make better informed decisions to help their own poor and disadvantaged groups in Southern Afghanistan. Through mobilising and training men and women community groups, members are better equipped to solve their community problems.

Community groups are beginning to address gender barriers faced in the community. Some successes this year include a girls' school being relocated closer to the community, and a ladies' park being set up after much advocacy at the mayor's office.

We also advocate for people with disabilities (PwD) to be included in mainstream schools. We support inclusive education by training government school teachers in braille and Afghan Sign Language. Parents of children with disabilities (CwDs) also meet regularly to provide support to one another and discuss ways of better supporting and communicating with CwDs.

**559** Direct Beneficiaries

**2598** Indirect Beneficiaries

**10** New Community Groups

**17** Teachers trained in inclusive education languages



*Students learn to read and write Pashai, a minority language.*

## Eastern Region Community Development Project (ERCDP)

ERCDP utilises a multi-pronged approach consisting of the following components: Development of a sustainable animal husbandry system for poor and vulnerable families, literacy courses for adults in Pashto and Pashai, the development of the Pashai language through Pashai primer classes, a pilot Multilingual Education (MLE) programme for Pashai children,

the publishing of Pashai books and reading materials, and the establishment of Self Help Groups (SHGs) with a group savings and loan system for small businesses.

The Pashai are an ethnic minority group living predominantly in Eastern Afghanistan. More than 80% of them had been illiterate in both Pashto and Pashai. The oral form of Pashai has been in use for more than 2000 years--it was only in 2003 that Pashai alphabet development began. Serve is working on developing a Pashai dictionary, such that the people can learn to read and write in their own mother tongue.

**12081** Direct Beneficiaries

**15295** Indirect Beneficiaries

**12** New Self Help Groups

**10** New Pashai Preschool Classes

## Central Region Community Development Project (CRCDP)

CRCDP has come a long way in advocating for women's rights and participation in the community. Women now meet together regularly and support one another in self-help groups. The groups are also trained in participatory learning methods, which help them identify and prioritise needs in the community.

Local shuras (leadership councils) have also been mobilised to act on community's prioritised needs. Some examples of recent projects initiated by the community include a community nursery, kitchen garden, building of bridges, roads

**3185** Direct Beneficiaries

**14959** Indirect Beneficiaries

**12** New Women SHGs

**10** Shuras mobilised

and water pumps.

CRCDP further builds on communities' capabilities through training in the following areas: literacy, savings and loan programmes, small business management, animal husbandry, leadership development, communication, conflict resolution, advocacy, gender equality, Birth Life Saving Skills (BLISS), Water, Sanitation and Feminine Hygiene (WASH).

*Women and men participate in CRCDP's animal husbandry programme.*



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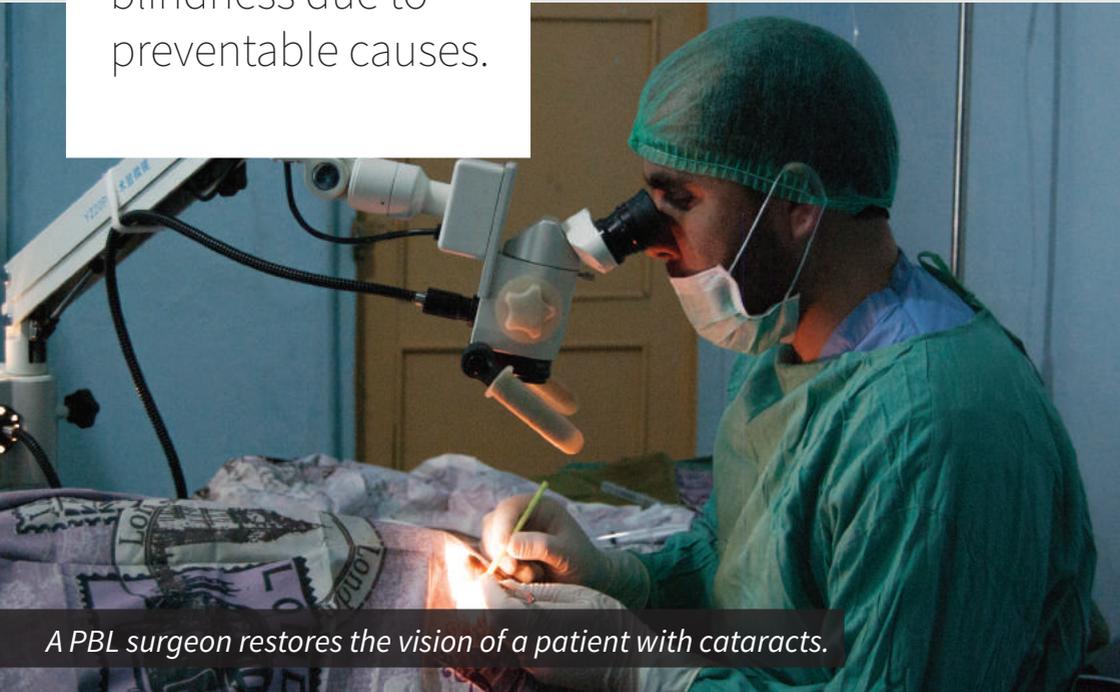
# A Vision Fulfilled

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Serve's Prevention of Blindness programme (PBL) began in 2000 as a response to the huge need seen in communities and its members who suffered from blindness due to preventable causes.

## PBL 2000-2015

At the end of 2015, Serve Afghanistan closed the Prevention of Blindness (PBL) programme. Through all the years PBL stayed focused on its vision to contribute to the reduction of blindness, especially in underserved areas of Afghanistan through providing comprehensive eye care services, building capacity in primary eye care for local community members, school teachers and medical staff, being involved in on-going advocacy and task force partnerships to support strengthening of national eye health system.



*A PBL surgeon restores the vision of a patient with cataracts.*



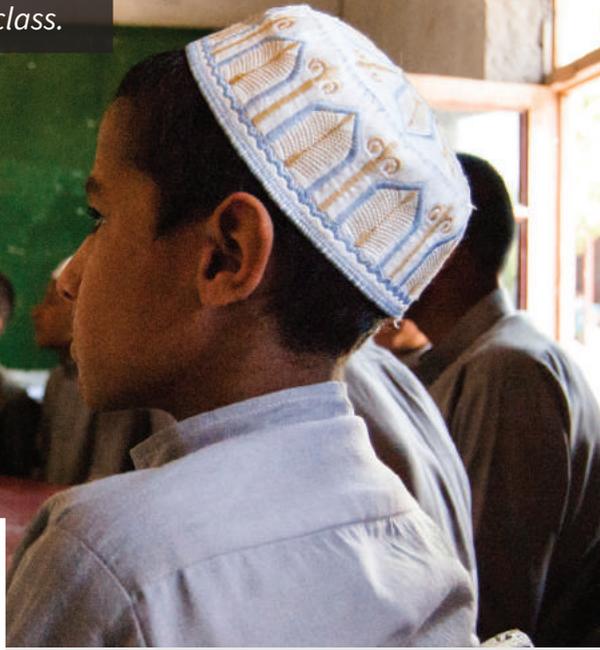
*A PBL doctor checks the eyes of a young patient.*

At the end of the programme, we ask ourselves: Did we achieve our goal, did we contribute to the vision to reduce blindness in Afghanistan? Figures and numbers are not always indicative. But for now, what remains are the many lives who were changed because they received their vision back through a surgery, students who did well in school because of the provision of glasses and they can read the lessons, teachers and local community members applying their newly learned skills, capacity built in the national eye health care system and primary eye health became a topic in daily talks and lives. To see most of the PBL staff serving their country in their trained core capacity and applying their skills even when the programme closed,

reiterates the fact that we indeed contributed and still contribute to the goal.

Of course, we did not do this on our own. We met people along the way that set out with us towards this common goal. Through PBL, our organisation had the privilege to meet and work with many motivated people. We are also very thankful to our stakeholders, partners, and donors who supported us through all these years. We are honored to have been entrusted with this work and to see a glimpse of a vision becoming true.

*A student with disability learns in his class.*



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## **Inclusive Education**

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Serve believes that every child has the right to receive quality education in their schools. We advocate for systems that meet the learning needs of children from diverse backgrounds particularly children with disabilities.

Through the advocacy of Serve and partnering NGOs, the Ministry of Education recently passed the Inclusive and Child-Friendly Education Policy in Afghanistan in 2014. Serve continues to lead in the implementation of the policy in the Central and Eastern regions.

Our work in inclusive education includes developing the Afghan Sign Language (AFSL), printing of quality Braille books, awareness, advocacy, and teacher training to support the hearing- and visually- impaired for inclusive education so that children and people with disabilities are empowered.

## Enabling and Mobilising Afghan Disabled (EMAD)

EMAD aims to strengthen and empower people with disabilities (PwD) towards full participation in every aspect of life. We believe in community-based rehabilitation- where we create awareness and advocate for inclusion and social integration of PwDs in their communities. We facilitate the mobility of PwDs through providing training, developing the Afghan Sign Language (AFSL) and producing quality braille learning materials and resources.

EMAD believes in a holistic approach- hence, we network frequently with schools, teachers and principals, community leaders,

**34364** Direct Beneficiaries

**3649** Indirect Beneficiaries

**296** CwD in inclusive classes

**155** Teachers trained in IE and braille

government officials, other NGOs, disabled peoples organizations (DPOs) to advocate for the rights and inclusion of PwDs. The result is PwDs having opportunities for education and higher education- from the pre-school to university levels.



*EMAD students with hearing impairments attend inclusive classes.*



*Students learn at the SHIP school.*

## Serve Hearing Impaired Project (SHIP)

This year was a significant year for SHIP- 176 hearing impaired students in our special hearing impaired school had been selected, handed over and integrated into two identified government schools. It was a major transition for many. All the teachers, students, and administrators in these two schools were trained in inclusive education and disability

awareness. In addition, an Inclusive Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) was also established in each school to facilitate quality learning of our hearing impaired students.

SHIP continues to raise awareness in communities about the needs, challenges and rights of PwDs. A special school for the hearing impaired and special classes in government schools continue to serve those not yet in inclusive classes. A training centre also supports the continual development of the Afghan Sign Language (AFSL).

**13705** Direct Beneficiaries

**63420** Indirect Beneficiaries

**176** CwD integrated into government school

**210** CwD attended government schools

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# Our Partners

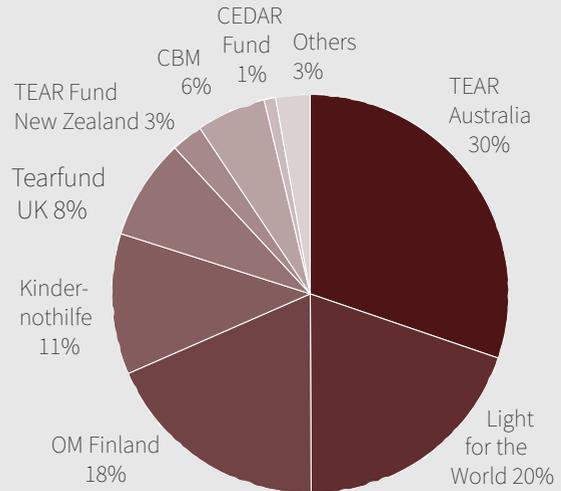
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We are able to work due to the generosity of our international partners, from private donor organisations to foundations and individuals. Thank you for your partnership in our work to serve the peoples of Afghanistan.

## 2015 Donor Partners

CBM	TEAR Fund New Zealand
CEDAR Fund	Tearfund UK
Kindernothilfe	Other trusts and funds
Light for the World	
OM Finland	
TEAR Australia	

## Donor Income



*Young students with intellectual disabilities participate in our programme.*

*A student signs the word “smile” in her class.*



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# Annual Appeal

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Your partnership and donations will make a valuable difference in the lives of the under-served children with disabilities in the education system of Afghanistan.

## Donate to Educate

This year, we are looking for donors and partners to support inclusive education through the printing of braille books, development of sign language, teacher training, and the support of education of children with disabilities.

To find out more on how you can give to the work and how your donation will make a difference, email us at [donorrelations@serveafghanistan.org](mailto:donorrelations@serveafghanistan.org).



*A student learns math from his resource teacher.*

# Finances

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 Dec

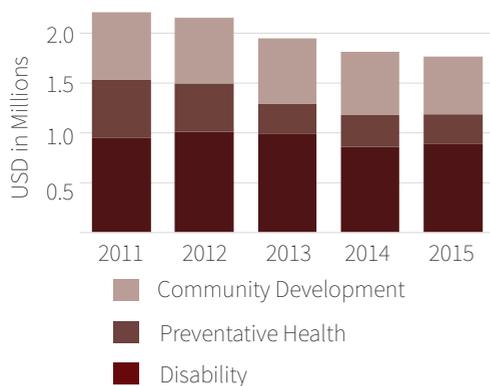
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>in USD</b>	<b>in USD</b>
<i>From Generated Funds:</i>		
Donations - Individuals	11,139	11,668
Bank Interest	6,494	4,302
<i>From Charitable Activities:</i>		
Donations - Organisations	1,605,187	1,738,611
<i>Donations - In Kind</i>		
Sales	5,778	14,879
<i>Other Incoming Resources:</i>		
Other Income	37,011	37,653
Profit/(Loss) on sale of fixed assets	(14,315)	(835)
Currency gain/(Loss)	(46,671)	(44,760)
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>1,604,623</b>	<b>1,761,518</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>		
<i>Charitable Expenditure:</i>		
Mainstreaming people with disabilities	867,861	843,730
Preventative health	280,850	308,853
Community development	563,855	625,504
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>1,712,566</b>	<b>1,778,087</b>
<i>Governance Costs</i>	52,998	31,663
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>1,765,564</b>	<b>1,809,750</b>
<b>Net Incoming /(Outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>(160,941)</b>	<b>(48,232)</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2015	1,216,046	1,264,278
<b>Balances brought forward at 31 Dec 2015</b>	<b>1,055,105</b>	<b>1,216,046</b>

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2015 in USD</b>	<b>2014 in USD</b>
<b>Fixed Assets:</b>		
Tangible Assets	24,362	48,505
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stock	-	9,360
Debtors	12,997	22,617
Cash at bank and in hand	1,532,593	1,737,783
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>		
Creditors	514,847	602,219
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>1,030,743</b>	<b>1,167,541</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,055,105</b>	<b>1,216,046</b>

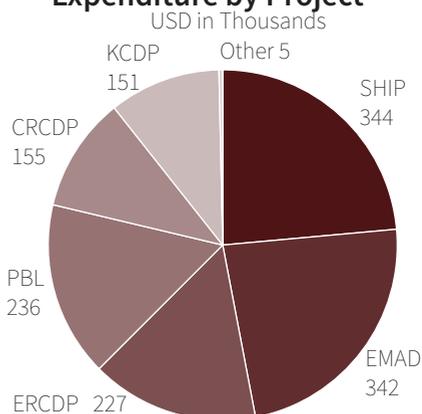
## Represented by

General Fund	180,608	275,303
Designated Assets Fund	11,122	10,955
Other Designated Funds	354,880	315,280
Restricted Funds	495,255	576,958
Restricted Assets Funds	13,240	37,550
	<b>1,055,105</b>	<b>1,216,046</b>

## Expenditure by Activity



## Expenditure by Project



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## Work With Us

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We are looking for dedicated people of all backgrounds, professions, expertise and skills to join our team and projects in and out of Afghanistan.

## Join Our Team

Be part of a dynamic and diverse multicultural team, and join us in our work and projects in Afghanistan. Put your talents, gifts, experience, knowledge and skills to rewarding use.

We are looking for partners with expertise to join us in the following areas: finance, operations, public relations, education, disability, community development, sign language development, linguistics, and security.

Start a conversation with us regarding the positions available at Serve Afghanistan. Reach out to us at [\*\*personnel@serveafghanistan.org\*\*](mailto:personnel@serveafghanistan.org).

*Culverts and streets were constructed by community groups in Kandahar.*



*A community fruit tree nursery established by CRCDP self-help groups.*



## Donations

Donations may be forwarded to the following accounts:

### Account Details:

Account Name: Serve Afghanistan  
Bank Name: HSBC Bank PLC  
Address: 2 Queens Road,  
Aberdeen, AB15 4ZT, UK

### For British Pound Sterling:

Account Number: 71167359  
UK Sort Code: 400125  
SWIFT Code: MIDLGB22

### For US Dollars:

Account Number: 39207152  
IBAN: GB02MIDL40051539207152  
SWIFT Code: MIDLBG22

## Donate Today

Your contribution will make a significant difference in the lives of individuals and communities of Afghanistan.

### For Euros:

IBAN: GB95MIDL40051570894796  
Account Number: 70894796  
BIC Code: MIDLBG22

## Board of Trustees

Raymond Cooper, Board Chair

Steve Aisthorpe

Stephen Brown

Karen Coats

Andrew Dipper

Grace How

Peter Fitzgerald

## Connect with Us

[www.serveafghanistan.org](http://www.serveafghanistan.org)

[info@serveafghanistan.org](mailto:info@serveafghanistan.org)

### Afghanistan Address

P.O. Box 4015

Karte Char

Kabul, Afghanistan

### UK Address

48 Frieth Road

Marlow

Buckinghamshire

SL7 2QU, UK

### Registrations

Afghanistan Ministry of Economy NGO Number: 50

UK Charity Registration Number: 1105086

UK Company Registration Number: 4759091

A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales.