



Impact Report

2023



Sahar

EDUCATION FOR AFGHAN GIRLS

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Introduction

In the wake of unprecedented challenges and transformative shifts in Afghanistan's socio-political landscape, Sahar Education emerges as a beacon of hope and resilience. As we navigate the complexities of a post-2021 era marked by the Taliban's takeover, Sahar Education steadfastly continues its mission to empower women and girls through education.

This Impact Report for 2023 unveils the organization's unwavering commitment to providing underground education, demonstrating the indomitable spirit that has defined Sahar's journey since its inception in 2009.

Before the Taliban's resurgence, Sahar Education was at the forefront of positive change in Afghanistan. From constructing schools for girls to operating teacher training centers and offering women's empowerment classes, the organization played a pivotal role in shaping a brighter future for Afghan women and girls. The abrupt shift in the country's dynamics necessitated a strategic pivot, leading Sahar to adapt its approach while staying true to its core values.

This report delves into the transformative initiatives undertaken by Sahar Education in 2023, highlighting the impact of its underground education programs on the lives of women and girls in Afghanistan. Against a backdrop of adversity, Sahar's resilience shines through, illustrating the power of education as a catalyst for change, empowerment, and sustainable development.

Join us on this journey through the pages of Sahar Education's 2023 Impact Report, where the stories of courage, perseverance, and the enduring pursuit of knowledge paint a vivid picture of hope in the face of uncertainty.



Sahar Education's Transformation

OUR BEGINNINGS

Sahar began as Journey with an Afghan School, a group founded to build bridges of understanding between the U.S. and Afghanistan for peace and cooperation in 2001. Through 2021, Sahar expanded: building schools, and computer centers, and managing teacher training programs in Northern Afghanistan. Sahar became a stand-alone non-profit in 2009 in order to expand and continue our efforts.

Sahar has worked in this war zone for over two decades to increase the status of girls and women in Afghanistan through education, enabling them to participate actively in the social, political, and economic arenas in their communities.

Sahar approaches girls' education from multiple levels because we know that it takes a holistic approach to create real change. We work with partners in the U.S. and on the ground in Afghanistan to create safe learning spaces and, deliver educational and vocational training programs, and women empowerment and health workshops. These projects bolster local economies and strengthen communities, as well as fortify bonds between Afghanistan and the West.

OUR UPDATED MISSION

After the Taliban banned formal education for girls above 6th grade, Sahar is finding innovative ways to promote girls' access to education in Afghanistan. It is now more important than ever to show up for girls' education in Afghanistan in any capacity possible.

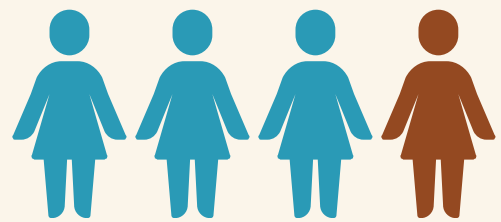
“Sahar partners with grassroots, locally-based organizations to create educational opportunities and safe learning spaces for girls and women in Afghanistan, empowering and inspiring children and their families to build peaceful, thriving communities.”

Sahar's 2023 Goals

After the harsh upheaval of 2021, Sahar began limited underground programs in 2022.

In 2023, Sahar was determined to expand existing programs and find new partners to serve more people within the communities.

1 Find partners to reinstate past successful workshops and new underground courses.



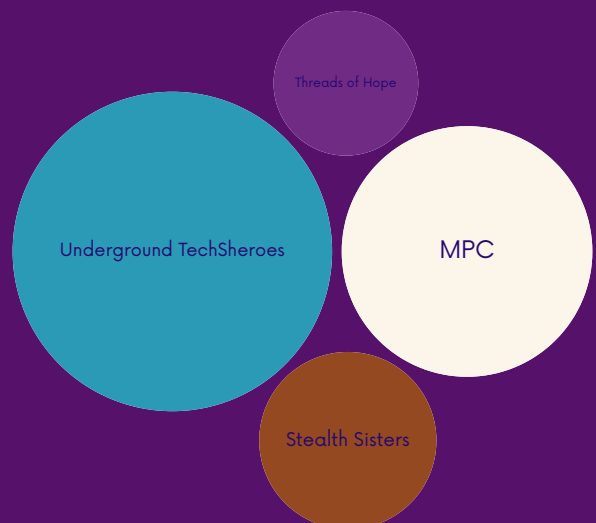
3 Partners implemented 4 programs

2 Bring awareness to the plight of Afghan girls under the Taliban



Increased social media followers and media attention

3 Empower girls and women to stand up for their rights and dreams



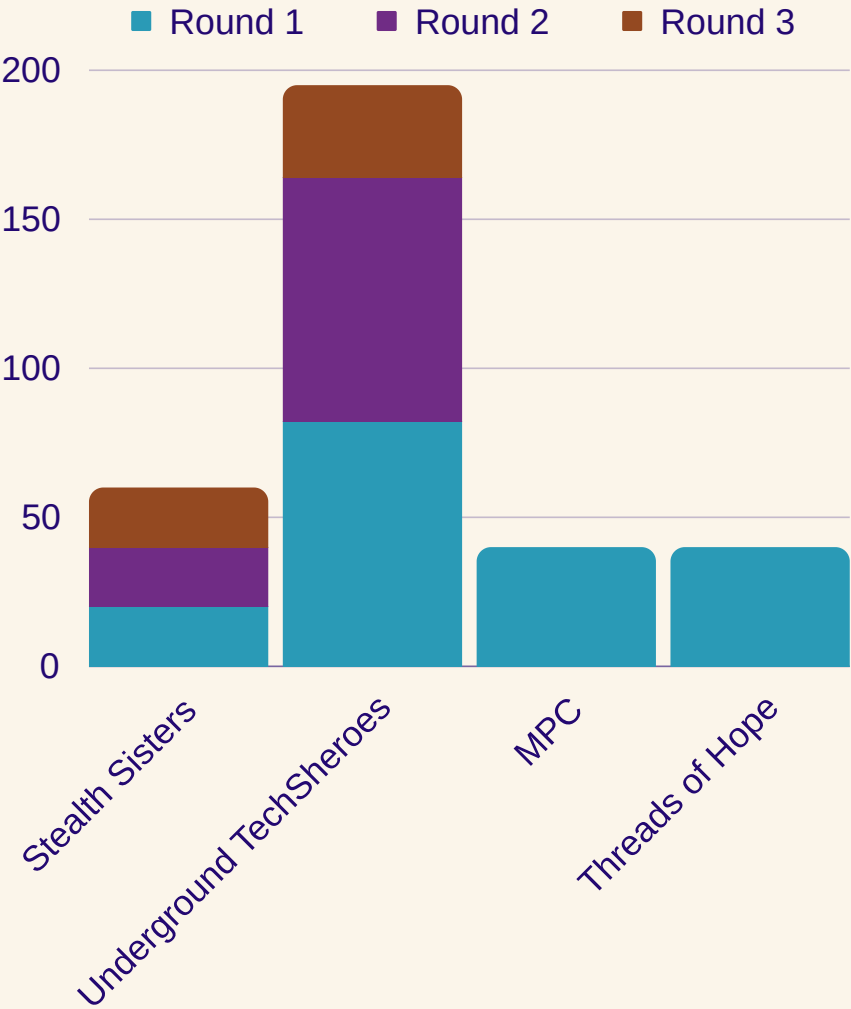
Strategy for Sustainable Change

To create sustainable change within the community despite the current Taliban regime, Sahar programs focus on empowering students to follow their own dreams and find creative solutions to the challenges they face.

PROJECTS	DETAILS	OUTCOME
Stealth Sisters	English, Computer Skills and Women's Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empowering girls to start home businesses,• Ensuring students have computer skills to pursue further learning
Underground TechSheroes	IT, Coding and Women's Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enabling girls to pursue office and IT jobs, apply for further education• Building community and confidence
Men as Partners in Change	English, Fatherhood and Caregiving, Mental Health and trauma, Physical Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating allies for women's rights and preventing future domestic violence• Gaining confidence in English language
Threads of Hope	Tailoring, Literacy, Women's Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educating older women on health topics and enabling them to navigate society• Enabling women to support their families financially

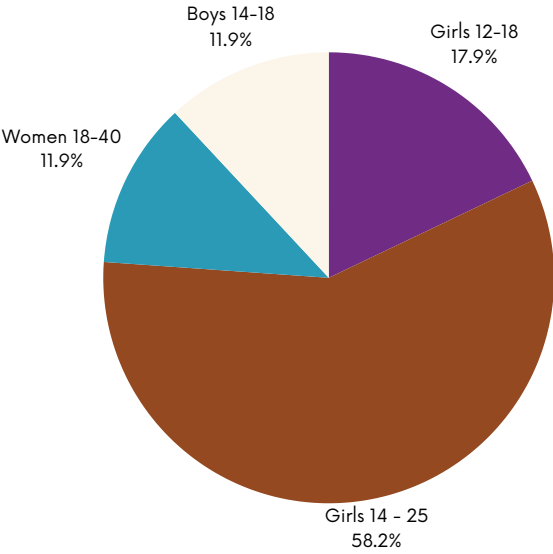
Sahar is taking a grassroots approach to education to ensure programs are impactful to our students. We focus on providing skills-based training that enfolds women’s empowerment curricula at every stage. Participants learn about mental health, domestic violence, the dangers of child marriage, the importance of education, their rights, and the value of human rights. Students engage in debate and discourse which is necessary to develop strong opinions and feelings of self-confidence.

2023 PROGRAM ENROLLMENT



95.3%

Graduation success rate
in 2023



New Students enrolled in 2023

219.7%

Increase in program spending year over year

\$110,824

Approved for Afghan programs in 2023



Acknowledgements

Thank you to all those who worked together to make 2023 an impactful year for Sahar Education.

To our donors, sponsors, and board; we could not serve Afghan girls without your support and ongoing encouragement.

To our Afghan partners, your tireless dedication to education and empowerment of young women is inspirational and without your bravery none of our work would be possible.



**We thank you for your
continued support of our
programs.**

Sahar Education

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