

Your Annual update from china

We wanted to share some exciting progress made possible in Ningxia, thanks to you!

Through investing in child protection initiatives, the awareness of child rights has been increased in the region. The population in Ningxia have increased their capacity in dealing with issues related to child protection. These initiatives have targeted children, parents and teachers to ensure that awareness of child rights is integrated into education both at home and in schools.

We are also allowing more children to learn through reading by implementing our books e-management project in schools. This initiative has helped in increasing the availability of books in the region. Children now have more access to reading materials, which has improved their capability of independent reading and re-vitalized the reading atmosphere for the youth in Ningxia.

These are just a few of the incredible achievements accomplished in Ningxia. We couldn't be more grateful to you for making them happen. We know you will enjoy reading on to see more of the ways your generosity is changing the lives of children, like your sponsored child, across this region.



"I like joining activities in the Children's Haoy Home. I can now play with other children and read, as well as making papercutting arts, which is my favourite. I love this place!"

Li, 11 sponsored child from Ningxia

Our impact

9 SCHOOLS TRAINED
TO REDUCE DISASTER
RISK

20 CHILDREN
DEVELOPMENT
NETWORKS
ESTABLISHED

50 COMMUNITIES
LAUNCHED FAMILY
EDUCATION
ACTIVITIES

WE GAVE **1036**
STUDENTS
HANDBOOKS
ABOUT EMPLOYMENT
PREPARATION

32 TEACHERS
RECEIVED TEACHING
MATERIALS FOR
BUILDING LIFE SKILLS

Life for children in Ningxia

Ningxia is a region full of rich and vibrant cultural history. One longstanding traditional custom is the Lantern Festival which is marked by the hanging up of colourful lanterns. A Coloured Lantern Association has been established to help refresh the festival with new lantern models and designs and other inspired decorations. Different art including clay sculpture, paper cutting and embroidery play a large part in community customs.

Children in the region face many barriers to development. Caregivers are often uneducated and lack knowledge of children's health and nutrition. School curriculums do not provide information on living skills, which leaves young people lack skills for self-protection and survival.

The region is also vulnerable to disasters yet many people still lack awareness of disaster risk prevention. Children are not equipped with the capability to safeguard their rights during the context of a disaster or emergency. This problem is worsened amongst girls and other marginalized children in minority.

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SEMI-HUMID

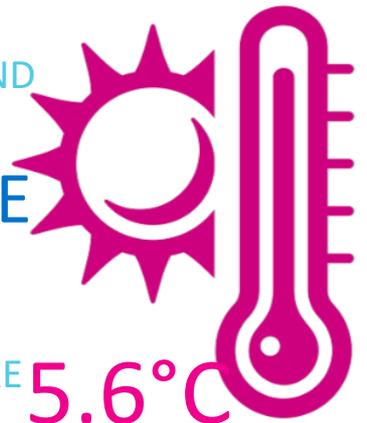
CLIMATE

WITH

AN AVERAGE

TEMPERATURE

OF



5.6°C

26%

OF CHILDREN ARE
EXPERIENCING NEGLECT

14%

OF CHILDREN HAVE
STUNTED GROWTH

30%

OF POPULATION LACK
ACCESS TO SANITARY TOILETS



WE STARTED WORKING IN NINGXIA
IN

2008



POPULATION

6,817,90

Investing in Education

Around 31,000 caregivers in Ningxia lack the knowledge and skills for effective early childhood rearing and education. If the children at preschools do not receive gender-sensitive education, that will put our girls at a greater disadvantage early on in life.

To combat these issues and ensure that children grow up learning in nurturing environments, Plan International implemented early child care and development projects. Comprehensive training courses on family education were given to parents. Through these sessions, caregivers were taught how to build a healthy learning environment for their children at home to ensure their fullest potential can be achieved.

Our programme also targeted to improve literacy by integrating reading activities in daily lives. Parents were given tools to promote reading at home and learned about the importance of doing so.

This project was supported by many local organisations to ensure that our activities can reach as many people as possible.



Students learn about their rights during training in Child Protection.

Reducing Harm to Children

The population in Ningxia is not aware of the causes of campus bullying and the negative impacts of gender-based violence, the teachers also lack the awareness of these incidents. Children are not equipped with self-protection knowledge when confronting with potential harm.

In partnership with the Ningxia Charity Promotion Association and local education departments, we worked to promote a non-violent environment for children and a social atmosphere that respects and cares for children.

“This is the first time I participate in children activities that go beyond the content of textbooks. I feel fresh and increase my enthusiasm for learning. Child protection activities are really useful and have enhanced our self-protection awareness”.

Ma, 12, sponsored child from Ningxia

Teachers have learned knowledge on measures to increase child protection practices and foster social gender awareness. Children were also involved in activities that taught them how to respect their fellow peers, through the lens of gender equality. Together, these training sessions contributed to creating a safe learning atmosphere for all.



We promote an inclusive school environment for all children

Your Support is Changing Lives

With your support, we will continue to ensure that children's rights are respected and they are able to thrive.

Amazing improvements have been made in Ningxia over the past year! Investing in gender equality through the Girls and Science Technology Project will help us discover more opportunities for girls in Ningxia while also breaking down harmful stereotypes.

We want to give boys and girls the tools to work toward financial independence. Giving young people life-skills-oriented training, especially on financial literacy and career path planning, will give them the confidence in thriving when they transit into young adulthood.

Focusing on early child care and development will continue to be our priority next year. Nurturing young people from the early developmental stages of their lives is key to mitigating obstacles they may face in the future as they begin attending school and building social relationships.

These are just some of the many ways your kindness will continue to touch the lives of your sponsored child and other children in Ningxia. Thank you!



Message

from **Chang Peilian**

Programme Area Manager, Ningxia

"I want to thank you for your support to children in Ningxia. Children, parents and partners have taken an active part in the activities of various projects. I hope that you will continue to support our work and make more children, especially girls, benefit and have a good development in life".

