

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE FROM KENYA

We wanted to share some exciting progress made possible in Kenya thanks to support from you!

Kenya is vulnerable to floods, which affects many families living through farming. Early marriage and pregnancies and a lack of school completion are common among girls. They are unable to gain the education and skills they need to get a good job or start their own business.

Throughout fiscal year 2020, with the help of your sponsorship, we were able to help children attend school and access educational opportunities. We were also able to strengthen community-based child protection systems to help respond to and prevent child abuse. Community leaders were equipped with skills on farming business and establishment of village saving and loans groups to enhance financial sustainability.

We are grateful to you for making these changes possible. We know you will enjoy reading on to see how your generosity is changing the lives of children, like your sponsored child, across this region.



OUR IMPACT

24,780 CHILDREN IN KENYA
RECEIVED SUPPLIES IN
DISASTER-AFFECTED AREAS

22,535 CHILDREN IN KENYA
BENEFITTED FROM IMPROVED
LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

2,200 ORANGE AND MANGO
TREES PLANTED IN KILIFI AS
CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

182 PARENTS IN BONDO
ADOPTED GOOD PARENTING
PRACTICES

PLAN INTERNATIONAL COVID-19 RESPONSE



COVID-19 is having devastating impacts all over the world. It is not only a health emergency, it is an education and protection emergency. Since girls are often worse affected during a crisis, Plan International is putting them at the heart of our response and long-term outlook. We have scaled up healthcare systems, food security, access to clean water, handwashing and awareness campaigns, and keep education in children's lives via radio broadcasts.

STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Drought has created a cycle of food insecurity, starvation, and reliance on emergency relief. At the same time, Kilifi experiences worse and more frequent flooding.



FARMERS' GROUPS DEVELOPED CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE WATER USAGE METHODS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

Our Community Resilience programme taught environmental conservation to 810 children. This led to the establishment of fruit tree orchards and wood lots in ten schools. Club members then shared the environmental messaging with peers, reaching another 4,650 children. These activities are used as teaching opportunities for other students and parents to learn about the benefit of planting to manage environmental degradation.

The club members and patrons were trained on rainwater conservation. Two schools established farm ponds and installed irrigation drips for orchards and vegetable gardens.

26 community leaders acquired skills on farming business initiatives like poultry, beekeeping, and horticulture as well as establishment of village saving and loans groups to build a culture of joint saving.

BIRTH REGISTRATION PROJECT

A birth certificate is necessary for children to exercise their rights to education, healthcare and other services. Since 36% of children aren't registered at birth, the government cannot adequately plan for children's services. In Kwale, we helped local and national government to raise awareness of the importance of registering children immediately, and to enrol those unregistered.

As a result, 20 forums registered 600 children, who received birth certificates and are now accounted for in county and national development plans. We helped train 43 community health workers at the local level. Newborns will be easily registered at birth, whether they're born in hospital or at home. These efforts enabled parents to ensure their children can access essential rights and services.

"I was happy when my father told me that Plan International helped me get a birth certificate. I can now continue my studies like other children."

Amina, 10, sponsored child



PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Extreme poverty in Homa Bay means many families are unable to meet basic needs such as food, clothing and medical expenses. The rights of many children, especially



CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY GIRLS, BECAME MORE AWARE OF THEIR RIGHTS AND HOW TO REPORT VIOLATIONS AND ABUSE

girls, are violated with child abuse and neglect, discriminatory cultural attitudes, and child marriages. Some children are made to work, others abandoned. Our child protection project educates both children and adults on children's rights, and helps address the poverty that impacts their ability to lead healthy lives.

We collaborated with the department of children's services to provide educational sessions for children. Adults participated in workshops on positive discipline and parenting, which included peer learning.

To address poverty, we established village savings and loans associations. The associations mean they can meet their children's basic needs, including school fees. At the end of the year, they can access savings, which are re-invested in their businesses or used to take care of family needs.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

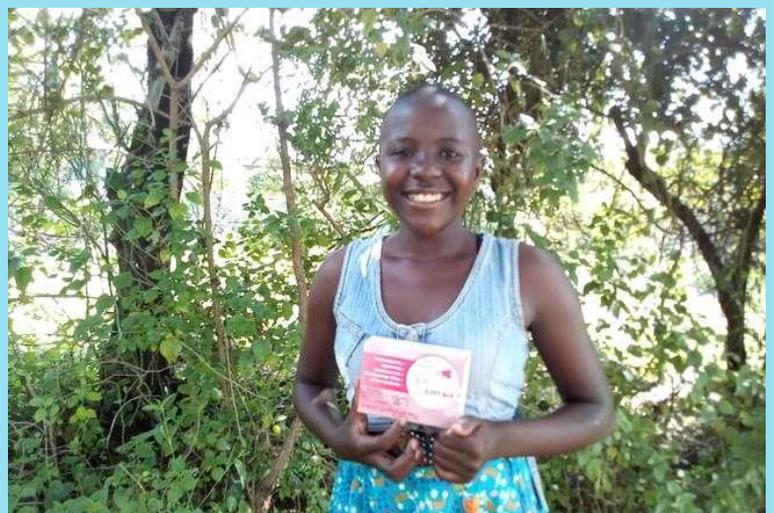
Access to information and resources for sexual and reproductive health is vital. In Bondo, this can be a challenge, especially for adolescents and young adults.

Our Health Programme provides adolescents with knowledge and resources on sexual and reproductive health. This helps youth understand their rights, and enables them to make informed decisions about their health.

Health workers from six facilities learned how to provide youth-friendly services, discussing contraceptive choices, menstrual hygiene management, and providing counselling and mentorship. The training emphasised the need to have safe, private facilities for adolescents and youth to access health services.

Health care volunteers were trained in community outreach and then conducted home visits to pregnant teenagers, referring them to health facilities.

Trained youth peer educators organised learning sessions in colleges and schools, creating awareness of adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights.



120 YOUTH LEARNED HOW TO DELIVER PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION ON MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT

YOUR SUPPORT IS CHANGING LIVES

With your support, we will continue to protect children's rights so they are able to thrive.

In the coming year, we will continue to work with the children, families and partners across Kenya:

-  Helping youth develop marketable skills and train them for quality employment. We will help with enterprise development, financial literacy, community banking and agribusiness initiatives.
-  Supporting students by paying school fees and mentoring them for success in secondary school and transition to higher education.
-  Helping sponsored families apply a sustainable climate-smart approach for increased household income. Direct financial support will initiate the efforts. We will also undertake contingency planning for disaster response.
-  Holding informational sessions on preventing and reporting child abuse cases, and help children participate in community forums and primary school clubs.
-  Strengthening sexual reproductive health services for adolescents and youth. We will reach out to girls and boys with information on sexual and reproductive health, enabling them to stay safe and healthy.
-  Helping girls take a leading role in dealing with all forms of discrimination against girls and women.

These are just some of the many ways your kindness will continue to touch the life of your sponsored child and other children. We would not be able to do this without supporters like you!

MESSAGE FROM **HARRIET OSIMBO OMUSEBE** Programme Area Manager, Kwale



"Our work has enabled children, youth and community members to step up their responsibilities in ensuring children and girls achieve their rights. The families are now more aware of their primary duty in child protection because of your support. Thank you so much for sponsoring a child in Kwale!"

MESSAGE FROM **SAMMY NGOMO** Programme Area Manager, Homa Bay



"Our projects have enhanced participation of children, their families and other key stakeholders towards realisation of children rights. We are hopeful this will bring lasting impact in their lives. We wish to convey our gratitude to you for sponsoring a child in Homa Bay."

MESSAGE FROM **ALBERT MLAMBA** Programme Area Manager, Kilifi



"Your continued confidence in and support for our work has enabled us to implement projects that make important contributions and positively impact the lives of children and youth, enabling them to attain their desired goals in life. Thank you so much for sponsoring a child in Kilifi!"

MESSAGE FROM **DOUGLAS ONGORO** Programme Area Manager, Bondo



"Our interventions in child protection and resilience have transformed access and security of child rights. We shall continue to advance the rights of all children and support girls to access equal opportunities. We thank you so much for sponsoring a child in Bondo."

