

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Addis Ababa. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted.

This past year, hundreds of women and men improved their financial literacy, helping them to save their money and invest in their futures.

More than 600 young people also took part in workshops to identify their goals. Through vocational training, youth now have the skills they need to support themselves as they enter adulthood.

And young children are growing up healthy and supported thanks to nutritious foods, clean water, and early education.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Addis Ababa.



360

Women created village savings and loans groups



166

Young people completed vocational training



400

People learned about reproductive health



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN ETHIOPIA

Hear from Bereket about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

“During COVID-19, our school was closed. I tried to study alone at home but it was hard. Plan International shared important messages about the pandemic through the radio and provided soaps, sanitizers, and hand-washing facilities. I would like to thank Plan International for the support provided for me and my friends.”

CASE STORY: STAYING IN SCHOOL



NAME: WUDNESH

AGE: 16 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: WATCHING TV

"We used to suffer during menstruation. It was common to use pieces of cloth. However, with the support of Plan International, we began using reusable sanitary pads. And with the new menstrual hygiene room, we are now properly managing our periods at school."

Meet Wudnesh

Like your sponsored child, Wudnesh has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Wudnesh is completing grade 8 at school, and is among the top of her class. She's taking charge of her future by taking charge of her body, and is no longer missing out on her lessons because of her period.

Improved Schools, Brighter Futures

A lack of classrooms at Wudnesh's school meant many students crowded into rooms without enough desks and chairs. Girls and boys also shared the same toilets, which left little privacy or dignity for girls to manage their periods while at school.

Plan International constructed three fully-furnished school blocks. Principals and teachers also took part in training on school management, helping to improve conditions for children like Wudnesh.

And new gender-friendly latrines, including a menstrual hygiene management room, has ensured girls have safe spaces.

Safe and Sanitary

Wudnesh's school also received reusable sanitary pads for students. And new sewing machines are giving girls the skills they need to make more sanitary pads.

To go with the latrines, clean water and hand-washing stations were also installed. A water, sanitation and hygiene club is helping students learn more about the importance of hand-washing with soap to stay healthy.

Girls like Wudnesh can now safely and hygienically manage their menstruation and stay in school, helping them open the door to a brighter future.



Wudnesh studying for her exams

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 3,689 CHILDREN IN ADDIS ABABA

OUR PROJECTS IN ADDIS ABABA NAME ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



HEALTHY BEGINNINGS



Young children in Addis Ababa can now learn and play in safe and inclusive pre-schools

Less than half of young children in Ethiopia are enrolled in pre-school. Early education is crucial for children to develop a strong foundation of social, emotional, and physical skills so they can thrive.

Through community outreach, 165 young children are now attending early childhood education centres. And 210 new chairs at the pre-school is ensuring all children who attend can comfortably learn and play with their peers. New toilet facilities, including gender-friendly and disability-friendly toilets, is also making schools more inclusive spaces.

To ensure young children can grow up healthy and strong, 184 malnourished girls and boys received nutrition supports. And with training on growing vegetables and raising poultry, families are better able to provide nutritious foods to their children. Direct access to safe water at 17 households is also reducing the risk of water-borne diseases.

SAFER CITIES



Around one in four women have experienced physical violence on public transport in Addis Ababa. Fear of harm, coupled with restrictive gender norms, prevents girls and women from playing an active role in their communities.

To help girls and women feel safer in public, 15 new solar street lights have been installed in critical areas. And 239 young people took part in training on social accountability, so they can collaborate with local authorities on improving services. 400 community members also learned more about gender equality, social cohesion, and violence prevention.

A further 200 youth improved their knowledge on their economic rights and safe work conditions. Seven youth business groups also received training and financial support, helping to strengthen their businesses.



“We had a poultry business, but lost our chickens due to a lack of supplies. During this time, we took part in the business skills training organised by Plan; we received start-up capital to buy more chickens. This saved our business, and improved our family’s well-being.”

- Wubit (38) from Addis Ababa

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



35%

Of people do not have access to safe water



66%

Of girls and young women have experienced violence in their lives



60%

Of young children are not enrolled in pre-school



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- Girls and young women regularly experience violence in their communities. We will continue to promote gender equality and empower girls to stand up for their rights.
- We will also improve access to sexual and reproductive health education so young people can make informed decisions about their lives and bodies.
- The importance of early education is not well understood. We will encourage parents to enrol their young children in pre-school, and ensure all children have safe and inclusive environments to learn and thrive.
- Youth unemployment rates remain high. We will provide vocational training and support youth to develop their business skills so they can support themselves.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Addis Ababa.



"I would like to express my gratitude to you on behalf of Plan International. Many children and their families in Addis Ababa have benefited from our projects. We were able to achieve many significant results due to your continuous support. Thank you!"

Mahder Alebachew

Programme Area Manager, Addis Ababa

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS