

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This past year, more than 1,000 families received financial support to purchase nutritious foods for their families. Drought-resistant seeds are helping people adapt to climate change while earning an income.

Girls and boys also learned about their bodies and their rights, helping them avoid early pregnancies and say no to child marriage. And over 350 young women and men gained technical and vocational skills so they can get a good job and open the door to a brighter future.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Oromia.



6,416

Households supported with drought-resistant seeds



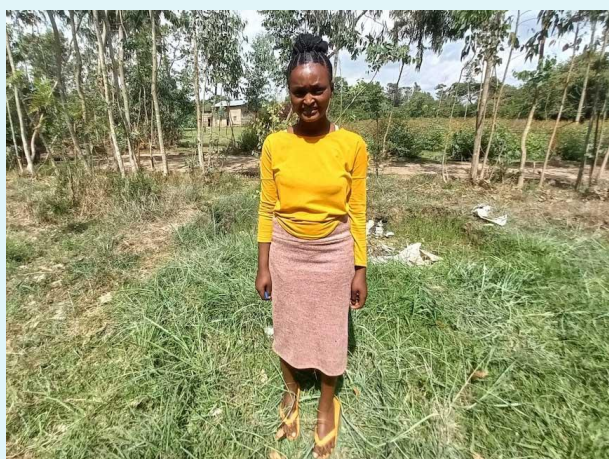
24

Teachers trained on early childhood education



67

Girls received menstrual hygiene supplies



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 8,957 CHILDREN IN OROMIA

OUR PROJECTS IN OROMIA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



Menstrual hygiene kits with reusable sanitary pads help girls stay in school

MY BODY MY FUTURE



Youth in Oromia lack access to sexual and reproductive health education. Without this knowledge, early and unwanted pregnancies occur, often leading to school dropouts and child marriage.

Through sport, peer to peer workshops, and other training sessions, 94 young people learned more about their bodies. Topics on sexual health, gender equality, and the harms of child marriage will help empower youth to make informed decisions about their lives,

Four new girls' clubs at primary schools are also helping girls take charge of their bodies and gain leadership skills. By learning more about their rights and the impacts of teenage pregnancy and early marriage, girls are able to stay in school and open the door to a brighter future.

YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



More than three in five young people are unemployed in Oromia. Poor quality education and a lack of vocational training leaves youth unable to get a good job.

Two schools received 50 computers, helping to ensure students gain crucial technical and digital skills for their futures. And 18 teachers improved their skills on managing and teaching information technology.

More than 230 young people took part in agricultural training. Youth gained skills on raising poultry, making honey, and growing crops such as avocados and bananas.

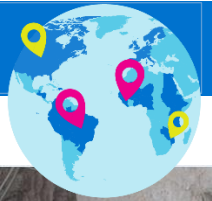
An additional 36 young women and 85 young men completed entrepreneurship training, giving them the skills they need to start their own business and support themselves.



"Before I joined this group, I was jobless and dependant on my family. I completed high school, but couldn't afford university. I'm very happy to have completed the business skills training. With my seed money, I have started growing avocados, and my future is bright."

- Naima (24) from Oromia

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



35%

Of young children are malnourished



48%

Of girls are married before the age of 18



84%

Of children are not enrolled in pre-school



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

- Early marriage, female genital mutilation, and domestic violence all continue to prevent girls from reaching their full potential in Oromia. We will continue to promote gender equality and empower girls to stand up for their rights.
- The importance of early education is not well understood. We will raise awareness amongst parents and support pre-schools with quality materials so young children can learn and play in safe and inclusive environments.
- We will also support parents with the knowledge they need to provide nutritious foods to their children.
- Around 77% of young people are unemployed. We will ensure youth gain the technical and vocational skills they need to get a good job or start their own business.

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



“Thanks to your support, progress and changes have been made in the lives of children. In the coming year, we will work to reach more children and youth for their education and health. We are very grateful for your continued support of children in Oromia!”

Mekonnen Dilbo

Programme Area Manager, Oromia

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