

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

Southern Ghana is home to 13.6 million people, the majority of whom are subsistence farmers. As the effects of climate change increase, rainfall is becoming unpredictable: either too much or too little threatens the livelihood's of millions of people.

Since Plan has become involved in Southern Ghana, 80% of residents now have access to safe drinking water (up from 48%). 204 teachers have improved their pedagogies through trainings, resulting in 100% of sponsored children graduating from primary school.

Your continued sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Southern Ghana.



8316

Youth accessed gender-friendly school sanitation facilities



484

Children learned about safety and advocacy



315

Young people received support to create enterprises

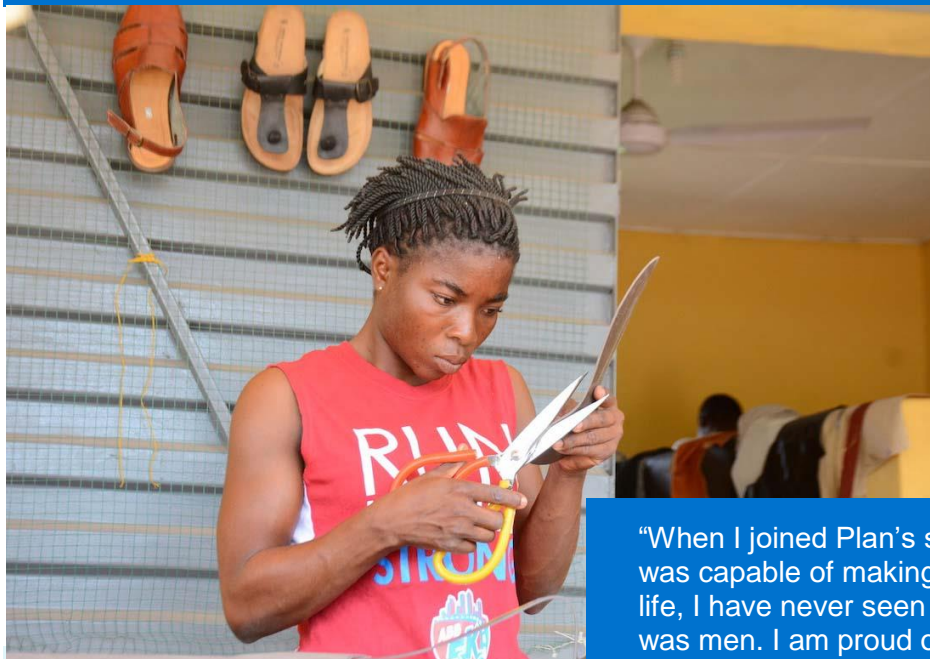


COVID-19'S IMPACT IN GHANA

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

"Plan International came to the aid of our community by providing e-learning facilities and PPE. General community sensitisations raised our awareness on what COVID-19 is and safety protocols. The result was that nobody from my community contracted the disease."

CASE STORY: A BOLD STEP FORWARD



NAME: SHINE

AGE: 18 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: COOKING

"When I joined Plan's skills training, I wanted to see whether I was capable of making shoes as a woman because, all my life, I have never seen a woman in shoe production; all I saw was men. I am proud of myself. I feel empowered to take this further and confident to practise at home."

Meet Shine

Like your sponsored child, Shine has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. 18-year-old Shine lives on a compound in Ghana with her family of seven and two other families. Though she graduated from secondary school, her grades put her future plans into question.

Knowledge Is Power

Shine watched her former classmates continue their studies in faraway communities while she stayed at home.

Shine's parents, a petty trader and a peasant farmer, enlisted their eldest and only daughter in an apprenticeship as a dressmaker. After a month, Shine resigned from her study: It just wasn't right for her.

Once a year, Plan International offers skills training sessions to sponsored youth in Ghana. There, in a session on making footwear, Shine began to feel like she was finding her path. Plan supported Shine – the only girl pursuing shoemaking – by connecting her with a local business where she could apprentice.

Finding My Way

After Shine's initial lessons in shoemaking, Plan provided her with basic tools to continue pursuing her newfound trade. Plan also facilitated Shine's enrolment in a certification course on shoemaking.

With her new abilities, Shine has become financially independent from her parents. Soon, she will join one of Plan's Village Savings and Loans groups, where she hopes to use her funds to open her own shoe business. Today, she makes shoes for men and children, but tomorrow, the sky's the limit. "This was a big step for me," says Shine.



Shine with an instructor at the training shop.

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 15,364 CHILDREN IN SOUTHERN GHANA

OUR PROJECTS IN SOUTHERN GHANA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



It takes a village to dismantle gender inequality. This year, hundreds of community members supported one another and defied stereotypes through leadership and play.

SAFER TOGETHER



Children in Southern Ghana report not being supported at school and at home. With sky-high numbers of violent discipline and a lack of sanitation on school grounds, children are given few opportunities to feel safe and build confidence.

Plan International collaborated with 428 children to form 15 Children's Clubs, support networks that address children's rights. 3,642 community members of all ages learned more about the protection of children through engaging multimedia performances.

10 communities in Southern Ghana benefitted from the installation of sanitation services, which will reach 22,231 residents. 399 students and 25 teachers will benefit from the construction of a gender-inclusive latrine at their schools.

CONSENT COUNTS



5% of young people in Ghana report feeling unable to say no to unwanted sexual advances. Simultaneously, 90% of children in Ghana report physically or psychologically violent discipline at home.

This year, Plan International worked to encourage the agency and build the confidence of children and young people around Southern Ghana. 685 teenagers learned more about sexual health and reproductive rights through playing football. 2,306 men and boys dismantled gender-based stereotypes by learning about menstruation.

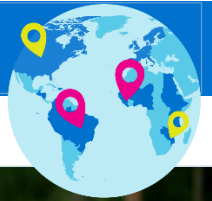


28 girls received trainings to become leaders in their communities. 20 girls became representatives on Southern Ghana's Youth Advisory Board, building public speaking skills with topics like domestic abuse and teen pregnancy.

"From our sensitisation, I have learned that my sexual protection lies in my own hands and no other person has the power to decide for me on my sexual activity or marriage. Thank you, Plan, for creating this awareness in me."

- Forgive, 17 from Southern Ghana

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



94%

Of children ages 1-14
experience violent
discipline



28%

Of teens in Ghana
consider health services
“not responsive”



72%

Of children do not feel
supported in their learning



Your support helps children to stand up for their futures.

- 95% of households in Southern Ghana do not have lavatories. We will support the implementation of community-led sanitation projects to reduce this number.
- 72% of young learners do not feel adequately supported in their schooling. We will offer training to local teachers to improve learner-centred, inclusive educations.
- Many young people in Southern Ghana report feeling unsafe or unsupported in their sexual health. We will strengthen youth peer educators in sexual health.
- Teen pregnancy continues to increase in girls ages 10-14. We will support the formation of youth groups to educate their peers about sexual health and reproductive rights.

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



“On behalf of all the children whose lives have been touched through your support, I thank you for your continued commitment to the improvement of their lives. With your support, we have been able to facilitate the return of many vulnerable children to school.”

Sulemana Hor Gbana
Programme Area Manager, S.Ghana

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