

## YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This past year, hundreds of young people gained the skills and knowledge they need to confidently enter adulthood. Through training sessions on sexual and reproductive health, youth can now take charge of their bodies. And farming and entrepreneurship skills mean they can earn a good living for years to come.

Children are also able to grow up safe and protected. 1,769 children now have birth certificates, helping them claim their rights. And 226 children can access safe water, freeing them from the risk of deadly diseases.

**Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Soe.**



# 200

Girls learned about menstrual hygiene management



# 432

Families now have access to clean water



# 153

Young people empowered on gender equality in agriculture



## COVID-19'S IMPACT IN INDONESIA

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

"I was so scared during the pandemic. I couldn't meet my friends and my school was closed. Plan International was always there to help us avoid COVID-19. They distributed hygiene kits and learning at home kits. We are back in school and still practicing the hygiene tips they taught us."

# CASE STORY: RETURNING TO SCHOOL



**NAME: MIRA**

**AGE: 15 YEARS OLD**

**HOBBY: DANCING**

"I can now continue my education and pursue my dreams. My parents are not worried about having to afford school equipment, and my younger siblings can follow in my footsteps. I've rejoined the school dancing group and can perform traditional dances with my school friends."

## Meet Mira

**Like your sponsored child, Mira has been empowered by Plan International to change her life.** Mira comes from a large family – she is the seventh of nine children! Her five older siblings all dropped out of school to get married. Mira dropped out too, because her family couldn't afford the school fees. But she always wanted to continue her education.

## Overcoming Barriers

**Mira used to take part in school competitions, and she would do really well.** As she got older, her school had mandatory computer lessons and an exam that had to be passed before she could move to the next grade.

For Mira's parents, a laptop was a luxury item they could not afford. And during the pandemic, Mira was needed at home to help her family with household chores.

To help Mira return to school, Plan International worked with her school and the local government to provide laptops and computers for all students to use.

## Dreaming Big

Now that Mira can use the school computer, she is quickly catching up on her lessons and is thriving at school. She's rejoined her school dance group and is excited to forge a path forward for her younger siblings.

More than 83 other children in Mira's community also dropped out of school. Back to school campaigns are raising awareness among families on the importance of education for their children.

Financial support and extra lessons are helping girls and boys return to the classroom and open the door to a brighter future.



*Mira is happy to be back in school*

**WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 13,857 CHILDREN IN SOE**



# OUR PROJECTS IN SOE ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



Hundreds of young people are earning a good living and protecting the environment through organic farming

## GREEN SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE



**Many young people in Indonesia leave the country to look for work elsewhere.** Climate change is having a negative impact on the agricultural sector, forcing youth to leave their family farms in search of a living.

Green skills are critical both for adapting to climate change and providing a good income. 122 young women and 110 young men have now completed eco-friendly training, learning more about green farming techniques.

And another 157 youth can make organic fertilizer and pesticides, helping to improve their crops and reduce the harms of dangerous chemicals on the environment.

Young people also took part in entrepreneurship sessions, helping them to run their own business and invest in their farms. Through 35 youth farming groups, young farmers are now able to sell organic produce at local markets.

## TAKING CHARGE OF OUR BODIES



**There were 43 cases of unintended pregnancy amongst teenaged girls in Soe last year.** And more than 80 cases of violence against girls and women were reported.

Through football, 240 girls have gained confidence and are now more aware of their rights. They learned about their sexual and reproductive health and feel empowered to raise their voices against child marriage in their communities.

84 young people took part in training sessions to become peer educators. These youth have led events with more than 600 other children, sharing their knowledge on gender equality and sexual health.

Children and young people are now able to stand up for their rights and make informed decisions about their bodies.



“I didn’t know about child marriage prevention, and I was in a bad relationship. Thanks to Plan, I took part in the Girls Football project and learnt how to manage my sexual health and prepare for a better future.”

**- Diana, 15, from Soe**

# YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



## FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



40%

Of people do not have access to safe water



25%

Of students drop out of high school



32%

Of children under 5 are stunted



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

-Teenage pregnancy rates remain high. We will increase sexual and reproductive health education access so youth can make informed decisions about their bodies.

-More than 3,000 children in Soe don't have a birth certificate, which is crucial in order to demand their rights. We will work with local governments and families to ensure all children are counted and protected.

-For many families, it takes more than 30 minutes to access safe water. We will support communities in building clean water infrastructure.

-1 in 4 students drop out of school. We will continue to improve schools to bring children back to the classroom so they can dream big for their futures.

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



"Your support brings joy to the children of Soe. Thank you! With your support, we will continue our work on improving education, health and accessible water for children and families."

**Muhammad Thamrin**  
Programme Area Manager, Soe

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