

## YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

In Bondo, climate-related disasters are common. This year, 37% of Plan's target communities in Bondo established effective disaster preparedness strategies. Through Plan's efforts in Bondo over the years, children's safety in schools has risen considerably.

This year, 2,362 individuals in Bondo received adaptive farming supplies, from seeds to pipes, that radically increased their crop yields. Meanwhile, 36 boys and 34 men were educated about menstrual hygiene as part of an effort to fight gender discrimination.

We know the best is yet to come and your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Bondo.



# 950

Girls learned about Menstrual Hygiene



# 331

Youth were funded to attend secondary school



# 692

People were registered and received birth certificates



## COVID-19'S IMPACT IN KENYA

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

"My parents lost their jobs due to COVID-19. It was a bad experience. Through Plan International, my parents received some money which helped us to buy food. I still use the reusable masks provided through Plan International."

# CASE STORY: CHILD SPONSORSHIP TRANSFORMING LIVES



**NAME: SWALEHE**

**AGE: 31 YEARS OLD**

**HOBBY: MENTORSHIP**

"After university, I was given an opportunity to work with Plan International as an intern in 2015. I am currently working as a project assistant in Kwale. It is exciting to work with Plan International because the organisation has nurtured me to become a better person."

## Meet Swalehe

Like your sponsored child, Swalehe has been empowered by Plan International to change his life. In 1998, Swalehe was a sponsored child of Plan International living in Kwale. Today, he is a community leader, a dedicated mentor, and a valued employee of Plan.

## Education Opening Up Doors

In Kwale, just 29% of primary school students continue their education to secondary school. When Swalehe was a student, Plan built classrooms at his school and provided vital learning resources to children in Kwale. During school holidays, Plan worked to keep children engaged in their education, offering encouragement and mentorship.

Swalehe was a dedicated student. After graduating with high marks, Swalehe pursued development studies in university. In 2015, Swalehe reconnected with Plan, no longer a sponsored child but an intern. By the next year, he was an employee. During those years, Swalehe built on what he learned in the classroom with the coaching of Plan's staff, exploring project design, facilitation, and community mobilisation.

## Skills To Succeed

Today, Swalehe assists with Plan's coastal livelihoods and environmental management projects in Kwale. In a mark of his financial stability, Swalehe bought his parents a home, so they no longer have to worry about their basic needs.

Swalehe's experience with Plan has made him a passionate advocate for mentoring young people, and many children in Kwale view him as a role model. Reflecting on his commitment to mentorship, Swalehe says, "I hope I can influence children to become better adults in the future."



*Swalehe distributing food to his community.*

**WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 1,966 CHILDREN IN BONDO**



# OUR PROJECTS IN BONDO ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



## SUSTAINABILITY



**Climate change is a risk to the agricultural economy of Bondo.** Drought and flooding over the past several years threatens the livelihood of 80% of Bondo's residents.

This year, 1,846 families received training and seeds to begin adaptive farming – new methods better suited to a changing climate. The participating farmers reported an average increase of 240 kilograms per household, reducing food insecurity and opening the possibility of additional income through sales.

316 young people learned valuable lessons about horticulture, aided by the use of water pumps, pipes and seeds. Of this group, 144 women are now self-employed.

In another approach to combating climate change, 58 disaster champions devised early warning systems and risk analysis. They then passed on their skills to another 210 county residents.

Protection came in many forms – from drought-tolerant farming to continuing education for girls.

## STAYING HEALTHY AND HAPPY



**76% of children in Bondo have experienced some form of violence.** Through workshops, resources and collaborations with county leaders, Plan worked to make Bondo safer for all children.

42 local officials considered which parts of Bondo were “hot spots” for child abuse, while 692 residents of all ages received birth certificates. The document will provide proof of citizenship, which both promotes safety and allows access to education.

When fees got in the way of continuing education, Plan covered the costs for 331 at-risk students. We also purchased assistive devices like wheelchairs and orthopaedic boots for 42 children.



“Girls in my school received two packs of sanitary pads and two panties which has increased our self-esteem as girls. Having sanitary pads encourages us to attend school, even when menstruating.”

- **Celestine, 15 from Bondo**

# YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



## FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



**54%**

Of sexually active women in Kenya want access to contraceptives



**10%**

Of people in Kenya are unemployed



**65%**

Of youth in Kenya are entering the job market without adequate skills



**Your support helps children to stand up for their futures.**

- For the last four years, Kenya has been experiencing a drought. We will continue our work training local communities in Climate Smart agriculture.
- 45% of young people in Bondo are married as children. We will continue our work with International Day of the Girl and Day of the African Child to empower young girls.
- Tens of thousands of children do not have access to secondary school education. We will continue to pay necessary fees for vulnerable children so that they may stay in school.
- 76% of children in Bondo have experienced some form of violence. We will continue to educate parents about positive parenting approaches.

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



“Our work in the last year has enabled communities to cope with the challenges of COVID-19 by providing emergency cash transfer support, hand washing kits and COVID-19 prevention information. Thank you for sponsoring a child in Bondo.”

**David Mwamkita**  
Programme Area Manager, Bondo

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