

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

Children were better able to access their right to education. Student enrolment increased, performance improved, and more children progressed from primary to secondary school. In addition, community members advocated against child marriage, helping to ensure that more girls can attend school.

Training sessions helped 37 schools improve learning environments for children with disabilities. In addition, 97 children are supported with hearing or mobility aids so they can more easily attend school and succeed.

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



74

Teachers learned about inclusive education



122

Youth gained vocational training



720

Footballers raised gender-based violence awareness



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN TANZANIA

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

"I thank Plan for educating us on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Plan supported our schools with hand-washing facilities like buckets, soaps, and hand sanitisers. We conveyed this knowledge to other people in the area. I am grateful these measures helped us minimize the spread of COVID-19."

CASE STORY: AIDING FAMILY EMPOWERMENT



NAME: SIWEMA

AGE: 8

HOBBY: SINGING

"I am now happy that I have my chair, I can move without hurting my grandmother. After school I go to play, sing and do homework with fellow pupils."

Meet Siwema

Like your sponsored child, Siwema has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Eight-year-old Siwema lives with her grandmother. She likes school and singing. Siwema was born with a walking disability and depends on her grandmother's support, who carried Siwema to and from school on her back every day for over a year.

As a result, her grandmother experienced debilitating chest and leg pain—but it was the only way Siwema could get to school.

Facing Disability Discrimination

In Tanzania, children, especially girls, with disabilities experience exclusion and injustices as a result of their disability and gender. They are less likely to go to school and are often considered a burden on the family because they are seen as non-productive members of society.

As part of initiatives on inclusive education, Plan International provided 100 wheelchairs to children with disabilities. The result was life-changing for Siwema and her grandmother. Now, Siwema can attend school more comfortably and participate more easily.

Creating Changes

Empowering people with disabilities is key to fulfilling their right to an education and a life free from discrimination—and helps them to achieve their dreams. Now Siwema can attend school and her grandmother is better able to care for herself and her granddaughter.

Siwema's grandmother shares how their family has benefitted: "I thank Plan for supporting my granddaughter. She now actively attends school, and I have also regained my physical well-being since I struggled a lot to carry her on my back. Now I believe she will achieve her dreams, as she aspires to become a teacher."



Siwema and her classmates

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 5,055 CHILDREN IN MWANZA

OUR PROJECTS IN MWANZA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



More than 4,000 children learned about their rights to live healthy lives free from gender-based violence.

PROTECTING THE GIRLS OF MWANZA



Gender-based violence is a serious issue in Mwanza. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is widely practiced. In some areas of Mwanza, the rate is 40%. In addition, Tanzania has one of the highest rates of child marriage.

In coordination with development partners, the project protected at-risk girls from FGM and child marriage. Using a rights-based approach to advocacy, we helped foster a supportive environment for girls, and involve boys and men in challenging harmful practices and creating a healthy future.

As a result, more than 200 community leaders established and strengthened child protection structures. Religious leaders committed to advocate against child marriage and FGM, and parents participated in the National Symposium of FGM, advocating for zero tolerance to this harmful practice. In addition, 4,074 children formed school-based clubs, where they learned about children's rights and the dangers of harmful practices, like child marriage and FGM.

SAVING FOR A GOOD FUTURE



Most youth entering the labour market in Mwanza lack the skills and education to succeed. Many begin small businesses out of necessity, but struggle with the lack of capital, mentorship, and training.

The project, A Working Future empowers youth, especially young women, to gain economic independence through Village Savings and Loan (VSLA) participation, and with training and resources needed to develop thriving small businesses.

As a result, VSLA membership increased to 1,535 youth members, including 79 with disabilities. Young people gained vocational training and entrepreneurial skills, with mentorship and coaching support on financial record-keeping, marketing, and business management.



"This has diversified my career opportunities. From the beginning when my parents died, and with my hearing problem, I wondered how I could survive, I was very scared and uncertain about the future. This project has given me so much more hope than I could imagine."

- Neema, 23, from Mwanza

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



62%

Of those living in rural Mwanza lack access to safe drinking water



27%

Of female pupils in Tanzania complete lower secondary education



46%

Of women in Tanzania experienced physical violence



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

We will continue to provide skills to young people in areas of vocational training entrepreneurship and apprenticeships.

We will continue to support teachers with training, helping them improve student literacy, numeracy, and life skills.

We will increase community awareness of the dangers of child marriage and Female Genital Mutilation.

We will work to help more families access healthcare services through government health facilities.

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



“Your contribution made changes in the lives of many children. On behalf of them, I extend heartfelt appreciation for your commitment to support our programmes and make the interventions we are doing a smashing success.”

Majani Rwambali
Programme Area Manager, Mwanza

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