

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This year, children in Geita were better able to access their right to a quality education. In fact, 28 children were supported with housing closer to school, reducing the distance they had to travel each day.

More students were supported to return to school as a result of dialogue and community awareness sessions.

In addition, 100 children were supported with wheelchairs to facilitate their mobility and access to school. As a result, they are able to attend and remain in school.

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



1600

Community leaders learned about violence prevention



165

Teachers gained skills on teaching reading, writing, and math



1405

Students learned about children's rights



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 the 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 no 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 with her classmates

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 7,737 CHILDREN IN GEITA

OUR PROJECTS IN GEITA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



PROMOTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS



Child labour is a problem in Tanzania. In many families with impoverished circumstances, children do not go to school, but work in mining or fishing sectors instead.

Because poverty is a main driver in child labour, we helped empower more than 4,515 people to increase their household income through savings and loan groups. The community members benefitted from social funds mobilised in group savings, and as a result, 67 children have been supported with school materials from these social funds.

Child protection committees were equipped with skills and resources to better identify violations of children's rights and manage the cases.

Mr. Mafwele, a 40-year-old parent of three, was finding it difficult to support his family during a period of illness. He received training on entrepreneurship, then joined a Village Savings and Loan Association where he has been able to access funds for his small business and has access to health care for himself and his family. He says, "Due to the saving education I have received, family saving has increased, and my children are protected from going to fishing areas to find work."

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY

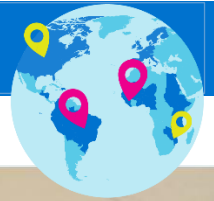


Improving gender equality is a priority for the community in Geita, where men are given more opportunities to participate in economic activities, go to school, and own resources. Rigid gender roles place women in a lower status.

As a result of community dialogue and advocacy, action plans were developed to strengthen opportunities for women and girls. These activities addressed barriers to education such as child marriage and early pregnancy, gender-insensitive school environments, school-related gender-based violence, and lack of access to education. As a result, community leaders, teachers, parents, and youth learned the dangers of discriminatory practices and stereotypes which culminate in gender-based violence and discrimination. Together, they developed action plans for addressing gender inequality.



"My gratitude to Plan International for organising this training for us, we have never received this kind of training on child protection and gender-based violence. We have understood that child protection is the responsibility of every one of us in the community."
- Mellab, 29, from Geita



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



46%

Of women in Tanzania experienced physical or sexual violence



40%

Of women in Geita cannot read and write



46%

Lack access to safe water



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

More than 22% of girls in Tanzania have given birth by age 18. We will continue to collaborate with government organisations to reduce child marriage and early pregnancy.

We will support health service providers with resources to better serve young people.

We will advocate for quality education, with the construction of classrooms, latrines, and water to help girls stay in school.

We will build the capacity of young people on youth Savings and Loan Associations as a means to develop income-generating activities.

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



“I would like to thank our donors. All that we achieved this year is due to their financial support. I would like to congratulate and thank the regional, district, and community governments and Geita Programme Unit Staff for their support and partnership.”

Adolf Kaindoa
Programme Area Manager, Geita