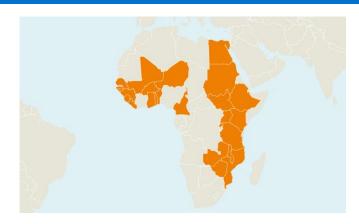


# ANNUAL UPDATE SUDAN WHITE NILE





Together with your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in White Nile. Learn more about the valuable ways we work with children and communities.

Key projects focused on the humanitarian needs in Sudan. This year, childhood development projects and gender rights advocacy were two key initiatives. Through these projects, communities were better able to access education and address concerns about children's rights, gender-based violence, and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

As a result, youth and their families have a more secure future—even during times of instability.



989

Children learnt with outdoor activities, music, and sports



1,200

Menstrual pads distributed to students



600

Safe delivery kits provided to pregnant women

## "THANKS TO PLAN FOR CARING ABOUT US GIRLS AND GIVING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE OUR EDUCATION."

Haifa, 16-year-old Sponsored Child



#### **EDUCATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE**



**NAME: ZAHRA** 

**AGE: 13 YEARS OLD** 

DREAMS TO BE: A TEACHER

"I JOINED THE ALP CENTRE. WE HOPE TO EXPAND TO OTHER GIRLS IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES, WE HOPE TO CREATE A NETWORK FOR GIRLS."

#### **Meet Zahra**

Like the child you sponsor, Zahra is making steps towards achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself. Early marriage is common in Zahra's community, and she left school early in order to marry and live with her husband. Yet, through the Alternative Learning Programme (ALP), Zahra continues her education.

#### **Accessing educational resources**

Gender inequality, harmful social norms, and a shortage of educational materials affected Zahra's education. Because girls and women are expected to manage the housework, there are few chances for them to join social activities or take on professional work, and they have limited power in decision-making.

Zahra was encouraged to register at the ALP centre, established by Plan in 2022. Here, she has access to books and educational materials, and a space to make friends.

The ALP facilitator linked her with the local primary school. In addition, the local health authority facilitator provided her with information about personal hygiene, family planning, and gender equality.

#### **Changing minds, changing futures**

Plan conducted informational sessions on early marriage and the consequences— especially when girls drop out of school. By providing information, youth and men also gain awareness. Discussions with Zahra's husband led to him committing to her education.

Zahra now goes to the ALP centre regularly and joined the village youth club, where she helps raise awareness about early marriage and encourages community members to value girls' education. She advises girls not to marry early, and to enrol in the alternative education in order to gain more knowledge and skills and prepare for a better future.



Zahra and other girls access educational materials

#### **OUR PROJECTS IN WHITE NILE ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE**



Forty Mothers' Groups formed, providing support and nutritional information to other parents.





#### A HEALTHY START



Early childhood development is vital to helping students achieve their dreams. Yet, with little access to education, healthcare, and nutrition services, many children in White Nile struggle. This year, it was key that children were able to learn and grow.

As a result, 989 children benefitted from improved educational initiatives, gaining knowledge through music, outdoor activities, arts, and sports. Pupils also learnt about personal hygiene, germs, and water and food safety. In addition, children accessed nutrition services and 411 children were treated for severe acute malnutrition.

Eleven outpatient therapeutic centres were established, and three health facilities were improved with supplies and medical equipment. Staff and volunteers received additional training on infection prevention and nutrition training for babies and small children.

#### **PROTECTING GIRLS**

Many girls in White Nile are at risk of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), early marriage, and leaving school. It is key to ensure girls are protected from gender-based violence and have access to inclusive, quality education.

This year, 1,075 people benefitted from awareness-raising on the importance of girls' education and the effects of harmful practices. Teachers learnt about child rights and protection and the negative effects of FGM. Eighty members of Mothers' Associations learnt about advocacy and protection issues as well as available protection services.

In addition, menstrual hygiene management kits, a new latrine, and three new classrooms helped girl students learn.

"Plan has increased capacities, skills, and opportunities for girls so they can be able to understand the negative impact of FGM and determine their own future choices."

- Zainab (17) from White Nile

#### YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



The best is yet to come—and together we will continue to work for a brighter future for the children in White Nile.

- To address high rates of malnutrition, we will focus on improving the wellbeing and development of children through early childhood care services.
- · More than 1.1 million—20%—of young people in Sudan are unemployed. We will support vulnerable young people, particularly young women, to be able to lead in the economic, social, and civic areas of their communities.
- Many girls still lack access to school. We will continue to advocate for girls' education, and support communities with learning environments that are safe and protective.

Thank you for your continued support.



"Thanks for your contributions. Children are enjoying better education and access to health and nutrition services and more girls were free from FGM and early marriage."

**Eltayeb Izzeldin**Programme Area Manager

#### THE PLAN EFFECT



Your sponsorship commitment becomes long-term change—providing help for self-help. We involve children at the centre of all projects, bringing effective and sustainable solutions to families and communities. With Plan's Effect, your commitment helps empower communities to transform their lives and futures.

### THE LAST 12 MONTHS





2

Water sources rehabilitated

#### **APRIL**



4

School latrines constructed

#### **SEPTEMBER**



20

Midwives attended health training

#### **NOVEMBER**



10

Parent and Teacher
Associations restructured