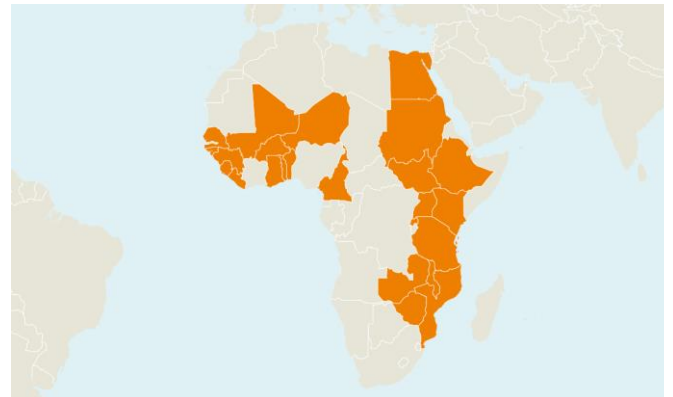


ANNUAL UPDATE

TANZANIA

MWANZA



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

This past year, key projects focused on protecting children from violence and improving their access to education. For example, the Protection from Violence Project supports girls and young women with greater protection against harmful practices. In addition, school leaders in Mwanza are empowered to ensure an inclusive environment for all children to learn. As a result of these initiatives, students—and their families—have a brighter future.



1,535

Young people formed 58 Youth Savings and Loan Associations



1,654

Students participated in child protection desks in schools



74

Preschool teachers learned about early childhood development

“PLAN PROVIDES COMMUNITY HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPORT. THIS ALLOWS ME TO ATTEND SCHOOL WITHOUT MISSING.”

Advertina, 17-year-old Sponsored Child





NAME: YASINTA
AGE: 12 YEARS OLD
DREAMS TO BE: A DOCTOR

“I FEEL VERY LUCKY AS I HAVE THE CHANCE TO TALK TO MY PEERS AND BRING ATTENTION TO A CRITICAL ISSUE THAT HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.”

Meet Yasinta

Like the child you sponsor, Yasinta is making steps towards achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself.

Because of her outstanding academic performance, her respect towards teachers and pupils, and her ability to educate others about gender issues, Yasinta was elected to help lead her community in the fight against abuse.

Developing a System of Support

Child abuse, violence against children and child marriage are pressing concerns in Yasinta's community. Gender desks in schools, supported by Plan, help to safeguard children from harm and facilitate the report of abusive situations.

Yasinta was one of the students elected to help form a child protection gender desk for pupils who attend school, and a council for out-of-school children. With such measures in place, young advocates help children address instances of violence. Council members are also able to provide education to their fellow students on issues of abuse. As Yasinta says, “Many children face the challenges of abuse and violence but they feel ashamed or unable to report.”

Creating Change in Her Community

Through her participation in the programme, Yasinta has grown and gained confidence. She knows that many children are subjected to violence and suffer mentally, physically and academically. At the same time, she's taking that knowledge and using it to influence her community to take a stand against abuse.

“This opportunity has given me the courage to stand up and prevent such acts from happening again to my fellow children,” she says. Through her advocacy, Yasinta is creating change in her community so other children can live in safety.



Yasinta is a leader in her community

OUR PROJECTS IN MWANZA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



The project strengthens social structures and civil society, empowering community leaders and parents to prevent violence against women and children.

PROTECTING GIRLS FROM VIOLENCE



Girls in Mwanza need—and deserve—greater protection from gender-based violence. As poverty and insufficient reporting methods impact children's safety, it was important to improve the economic conditions and safety systems.

The Protection from Violence Project supports girls and young women with greater protection against harmful practices. Duty bearers were trained on child rights and protection, to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to excel in their roles in protecting children. In addition, 37 primary and secondary schools formed child protection desks, enabling schools to efficiently report abuse cases.

To address concerns of poverty, more than 200 adults in the community formed 12 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA). The VSLA approach enhances household income and provides financial support to families seeking to invest in their children's futures.

EDUCATION FOR ALL



This year, the Mwanza community strengthened their ability to provide quality education to primary school students. Through educational initiatives, school management committees and the local government are empowered to ensure there is a safe, inclusive environment for children to learn.

This year, 74 pre-primary teachers were trained on early childhood development, impacting 5,550 pupils. In addition, over 300 school management committee members learned development planning with a focus on gender and inclusion. Eight schools implemented a meal programme for over 400 children with special needs, and 66 children with disabilities were supported with resources such as wheelchairs and hearing aids so they can attend school.

“Plan trained us on how to develop the school’s improvement plan that is inclusive and child-friendly. After the training, I knew my roles and I have supported my community’s school development plan.” - **Leticia (29) from Mwanza**



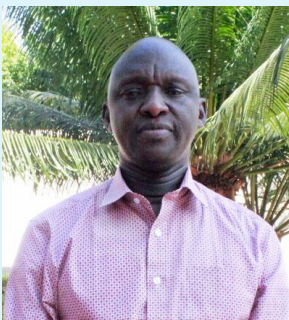
YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



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

- Reading ability and comprehension are low in Mwanza. This year, we will support 74 pre- and primary school teachers with in-school training.
- Violence against children remains a critical issue. We will continue to advocate for stronger child protection systems, and educate parents on violence prevention.
- Many schools lack sufficient water or washing facilities. This year, we will focus on the rehabilitation of school toilets and availability of water in school latrines in four schools.

Thank you for your continued support.



“Your support changed the lives of numerous children. I want to express our gratitude for your dedication to supporting our initiatives and making them a success.”

Majani Rwambali
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



FEBRUARY



62

Duty bearers trained on child protection in schools

MAY



66

Children with disabilities received assistive products

SEPTEMBER



333

School leaders trained on inclusion

NOVEMBER



40

Community leaders trained on child protection