

ANNUAL UPDATE

TANZANIA

IFAKARA



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

This past year, key projects focused on protecting children from violence and gender-based discrimination. For example, The Lead Participation Project raised awareness of children's rights, while community events educated thousands of people on the negative gender norms that contribute to gender-based violence and inequality.

As a result of these initiatives, children—and their families—have a brighter future.



1,234

Adults learned about gender-based violence



899

Caregivers participated in parenting dialogues



884

Children benefited from child protection desks in schools

“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 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 IFAKARA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



New Village Savings & Loan Associations enhanced household income, enabling families to invest in their children's educational futures.

RAISING AWARENESS



Many people in Ifakara lack information about children's rights. Insufficient coordination between child protection sectors mean that many children and young people do not attend school, or experience violence or gender discrimination.

The Lead Participation Project raises awareness of children's rights, empowering both adults and children with resources and knowledge to transform their community. For example, 899 community members participated in parenting dialogue sessions, in cooperation with district social development leaders. In addition, 68 child protection desks were established in schools, and 260 junior council representatives were trained on child protection measures.

Finally, 20 young people were supported with vocational training, enabling them to learn marketable skills for a future of economic independence.



PROTECTING CHILDREN

Raising awareness of gender stereotypes and gender-based violence is key to empowering communities. This year, 16 days of community meetings and awareness-raising campaigns educated 5,365 people on the negative gender norms that contribute to gender-based violence and inequality.

In addition, 891 children received scholastic materials as well as insurance cards to improve their access to health care. Celebrations for the International Women's Day, with a focus on technology for gender equality, inspired 1,000 women and young girls, who gained confidence, knowledge and skills for a brighter future.

"I learned about gender equality and child protection through clubs at my school. By focusing on this year's theme of innovation and technology for gender equality, I am inspired to start developing my business idea." - **Kandara (17) from Ifakara**



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 Ifakara.

- Children often experience violence or abuse on the way to school. This year, we will focus on protecting girls from sexual abuse when walking to school.
- 35% of children reported incidents of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect in the past year. We will continue to advocate for stronger child protection systems, and conduct parenting education to address violence prevention.
- Women's economic empowerment will be a key initiative this year, with vocational training for young people to pursue wage employment or start their own businesses.

Thank you for your continued support.



“Many children and families have benefited from our projects. In the upcoming year, we'll provide greater assistance to children in need of protection.”

Emmanuel Asaph
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



40

Young people participated in Savings and Loan groups

APRIL



260

Junior council representatives learned about child protection

SEPTEMBER



8

Children with disabilities received supportive equipment

OCTOBER



49

Children celebrated International Day of the Girl