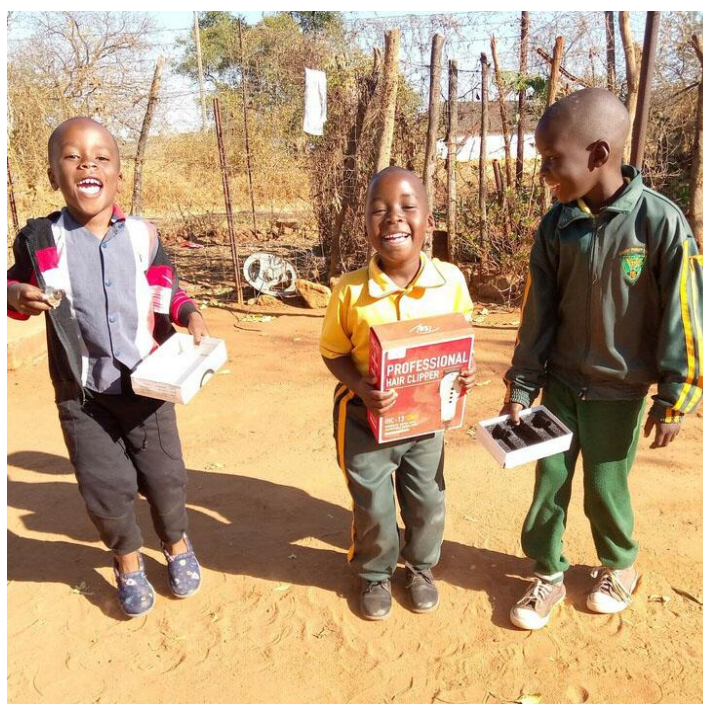
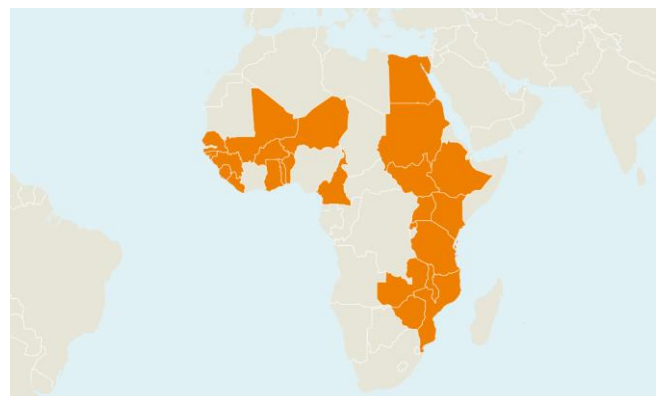


ANNUAL UPDATE

ZIMBABWE

HARARE



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

More than 2 million people live in Harare, and unemployment rates in this region can soar sky-high. Here, just 39% of eligible students are enrolled in upper secondary school. The last year has been particularly challenging in Harare: a wave of cholera has swept across Zimbabwe, and Harare is the hardest-hit area in the country. This year, our projects in Harare have focused on growing sustainable sources of food and water, providing vocational training to young people and making it easier for children to continue studying.



1,713

girls were tutored in reading, writing and maths



4,000

people now have access to clean water



98

girls who had dropped out of school returned to their studies

“THE MONEY EARNED FROM PLANS’ FARMING PROJECT AT OUR SCHOOL PAYS FOR MANY CHILDRENS SCHOOL FEES.”

Thandekile, 16 years old, Sponsored Child





NAME: NEO

AGE: 17 YEARS OLD

DREAMS TO BE: A DOCTOR

“OUR BUSINESS IS GROWING. SOON, WE WILL BE OUR DISTRICT'S POWERHOUSE. I IMAGINE A FUTURE WHERE WE IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL OF OUR NEIGHBOURS.”

Meet Neo

Like the child you sponsor, Neo is taking steps toward achieving her goals and becoming a role model.

When Neo's school exam scores threatened the future of her education, a vocational training course in leather skills offered a safety net.

At Risk of Dropping Out

17-year-old Neo is the daughter of subsistence farmers and the older sister of a primary school student. She loves to play volleyball and dreams of being a doctor. When Neo took her school exams, she was disappointed to see that her scores were not as high as they needed to be for her to complete her education.

For girls in Zimbabwe, this poses a high risk: In Neo's community, unemployment and substance abuse are high among young people, which can be life-threatening. This is particularly worrisome for women and girls, who often struggle to become financially independent, getting married or pregnant at a young age and dropping out of school.

Developing A Safety Net

Neo is one of ten girls in her community to participate in Plan International's five week-long leather product-making workshop, which provided materials, business management lessons and seed funding to start their own small enterprises. Today, Neo describes being more self-assured than ever. Neo and a few of her friends, also young women, earn money for their families selling their leather goods to the community, and are even talking about expanding their business. Neo plans to return to school with wind in her sails: she has a newfound sense of confidence and a back-up plan for the future.



No matter what happens, Neo knows she'll be okay.

OUR PROJECTS IN HARARE ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



Thanks to your support, young people in Harare have improved their vocational skills and 4,000 people have clean drinking water.

MY FUTURE IS BRIGHT



The COVID-19 pandemic was a setback to young women fighting for equality in Harare.

In Zimbabwe, unemployment rates are high among young people, three-quarters of whom do not have the requisite professional skills to find work. This year, 218 young people in Harare, including 144 women, participated in vocational skills workshops, learning trades like hairdressing, baking, dressmaking and welding.

An additional 50 men and women learned about financial management, while 60 adults practised their lobbying and advocacy skills. 120 community members joined Village Savings and Loans groups, where they discuss budgeting, entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

STRONGER TOGETHER



The people of Harare are vulnerable to natural disasters and poverty. This year, 4,000 people – including 2,080 girls and 120 women – now have access to clean drinking water due to new boreholes. The boreholes serve a useful dual purpose: in addition to helping families stay healthy, they also act as a vital backbone to new sustainable school and community gardens.

By providing the gardens with a steady stream of drip irrigation, the boreholes address both climate change and health. 50 households now have access to boreholes and drip irrigation, and Harare is now home to 1 new community garden and 2 plots of land designated for growing mushrooms.

“Through Plan, my mum learns how to bring money home, and our family now has fresh vegetables regularly.”

- Gilbert (13) from Harare



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 Harare.

- The ongoing cholera outbreak has hit Harare harder than any other province in Zimbabwe. With your support, we will collaborate with 8 local schools to teach 10,000 children about health and clean water.
- At least 76% of young people in Harare do not have the skills to be self-employed. We will continue to provide vocational skills and financial literacy trainings to young people in Harare.
- 36% or more of teenage girls in Harare drop out of school due to unplanned pregnancies. We will facilitate gender-inclusive sexual health education courses to keep all students learning.

Thank you for your continued support.



“The past year has been difficult due to the economy and cholera outbreak. With your support, we have been able to change the lives of many vulnerable girls and women.”

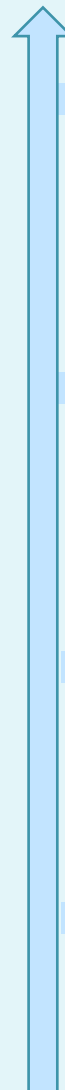
Danmore Shonhai
Programme Area Manager

THE PLAN EFFECT



Your sponsorship commitment is turned into effective 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



JANUARY



60

young people were trained in advocacy and lobbying

MARCH



120

young people learned how to run a business

APRIL



82

young women joined Village Savings & Loans groups

SEPTEMBER



15

youth groups receive seed funding to start small businesses