

# ANNUAL UPDATE

# CHINA

## YUNNAN



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

Yunnan Province is a mountainous and ethnically diverse part of China. Though most young people here are in school, many are learning in less-than-ideal conditions, and aren't sure what to do after they graduate. This year, with your support, we worked to improve the resources of 4 rural primary schools in Yunnan, benefitting 96 teachers and 1,614 students. 8,355 girls discussed setting goals for their futures, excitedly discovering the infinite possibilities before them.



**16,040**

Young people learned more life skills



**17,566**

Teens imagined possible career paths



**12**

Schools participated in menstruation and dignity campaigns

**“THIS YEAR, TEENS IN RURAL YUNNAN HAVE GAINED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS, THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT.”**

Pu Xiaoxiao, Programme Coordinator, Yunnan





**“AS YOUNG WOMEN, WE CAN ALSO SET OUR OWN AMBITIOUS GOALS. COME ON, GIRLS!” – XIAOCHEN (15) FROM YUNNAN**

**17,566 teenagers took part in our career planning guidance activity.**

**In 2022, just over 5% of young adults in Yunnan province were unemployed.** That number might not sound huge, but in a region home to some 47 million people, that’s more than 2.3 million job-seeking people!

## What Do I Want To Be When I Grow Up?

In addition to high unemployment statistics, girls are at a disadvantage when it comes to imagining their futures in Yunnan. Today, many young women – like 15 year old Xiaochen – describe a culture in which girls are raised to believe they are not able to pursue the same careers as men. Additionally, most schools in the area don’t offer career guidance, leaving young graduates unsure of what to do next.

This year, we worked with 8,355 girls and 9,211 boys in Yunnan to envision a future packed with possibilities. Together, trained teachers facilitated engaging activities about career exploration, self-knowledge and goal setting. Girls were especially encouraged to think big.

## Prepared for Post-Grad

Knowing that many students leaving school in Yunnan aren’t sure how to access employment, we held a few simulated job fairs for local students. There, the soon-to-be-grads practised job hunting and expressing their interests to potential employers. We also introduced students to women who are examples of outstanding female leadership.

These role models participated in Q&As with students, offering living examples of powerful working womanhood to thousands of girls.



*More than 8,350 girls set goals for ambitious careers.*

# OUR PROJECTS IN YUNNAN ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



“We finally have new desks and chairs,” 11-year-old Xiaohua happily reports. “We are all very happy.”

## MY SCHOOL RULES



**4 schools in rural Yunnan needed support.** Last year, we learned that four schools in this area were in need of some support. Teachers had less-than-stellar living conditions on-campus, and classrooms had a shortage of desks, chairs and books. This year and with your support, we collaborated with these schools to improve learning for all students.

Today, 1,614 students are learning in classrooms equipped with everything they'd asked for, from books and chairs to electronic whiteboards and disinfection cabinets. 96 teachers in total benefitted from this project, including 48 who enrolled in gender equality and child protection trainings.

## WE ARE CHAMPIONS



**In Yunnan, many girls believe that menstruation is something to be ashamed of.** Plan International's Champions of Change project is intended to nurture the confidence and dignity of young people around the world.

This year, 2,986 children were reached by our Champions of Change programme, where they practised leadership skills and maturity as they had open conversations about menstruation and gender. An additional 3,376 children and 602 college students interacted with awareness campaigns about menstrual health, including a trivia contest and a period story-sharing activity.

“Since learning from Plan about menstrual hygiene, I understand my body better. Slowly, I am not feeling ashamed about menstruation anymore.”

- Hong (13) from Yunnan



# 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 Yunnan.

- Many parents in Yunnan need support in the development of their young children. With your help, we will support caregivers with workshops about gender-sensitive early parenting skills.
- Teenagers in rural Yunnan are more likely to drop out of school. Next year, we will collaborate with local teens to discuss future planning, the importance of education, and vocational skills.
- Children in Yunnan are vulnerable to violent discipline at home and in school. We will continue to discuss positive parenting and non-violent discipline to caregivers and educators.

Thank you for your continued support.



“Thank you for your unwavering support and trust in our work.”

**Ren Shuiquin**  
Programme Unit 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



**APRIL**

**2,896**

children discuss menstrual hygiene



**MAY**

**54**

child social welfare workers receive additional training



**NOVEMBER**

**21**

teachers compete in Youth Life Skills Teaching contest



**DECEMBER**

**3,376**

children create flyers about teen health

