

## Kwale

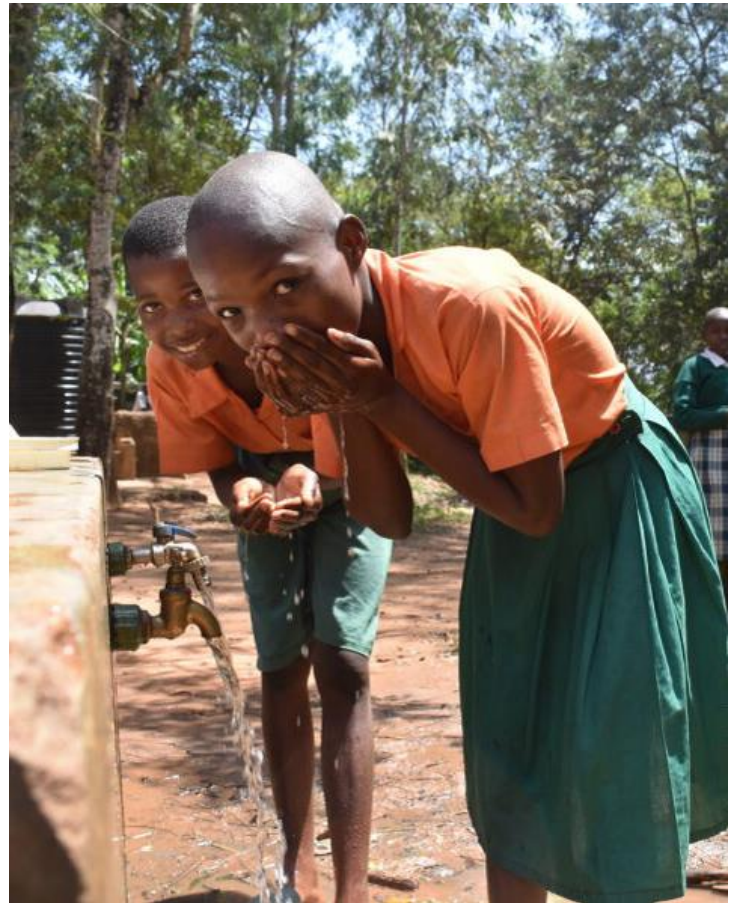
## Kenya

**Positive changes are happening in Kwale. Learn more about how we are supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equality-driven work.**

The climate crisis affects ecosystems around the world. In the coastal county of Kwale, it affects food and job security, impacting the lives of children and members of vulnerable communities. Through climate change awareness initiatives, we build resilience among local families to sustain them through changes in the climate. For example, by supporting cash transfers and school meal programmes, introducing new agricultural techniques, and expanding the local market with sustainable locally available products like seaweed and mangrove seedlings.

In addition, we partner with institutions to introduce policies that are child-friendly and gender-inclusive. Through peer groups, child rights clubs, and safe spaces, we ensure that the youth have a seat at the table where decisions pertaining to their lives are made!

**"As a teen mother I felt like a burden and an outcast. Plan's training enabled me to pursue dressmaking and earn an income to support my family." -Nancy (17)**



47% of households in Kenya have access to potable water.

## Impact in Numbers

24

girls empowered in leadership and advocacy training

22

committee members trained in crisis management

92

youth received scholarships for school fees

# Supporting Education Through Nutrition



**NAME:**

**Tina**

**AGE:**

**10 years old**

**DREAMS TO BE:**

**An Engineer**

**“I am focused on achieving my dreams. I can make healthy choices due to Plan’s training in the school meal programme.”**



## **Meet Tina**

**Like many girls in Kenya, Tina is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.**

After her parents separated, Tina and her elder brothers went to live with their grandmother. The majority of Tina’s community relies on agriculture for sustenance. However, her village has been experiencing prolonged droughts leading to poor crop production, affecting nutrition and health of children and their family members. Threatened by this climate crisis, Tina’s school couldn’t sustain their free school meal programme. The nutritional wellbeing of the children was affected, leading to weak academic performance and a high drop-out rate.

## **Food for All**

Last year, among five other schools in the region, Tina’s school benefitted from Plan International’s school meal programme. With the introduction of smart agriculture techniques, water harvesting, and solar-powered pumping technology, the school started producing vegetables to supplement their programme. Like her peers, Tina too developed skills on kitchen gardening through workshops and skill training.

## **From School to Home**

Tina applied her new farming skills at home, starting a kitchen garden with her family’s support. The garden’s production is improving, providing nutritious vegetables and generating extra income by selling excess produce. This programme has improved food security for many other families like Tina’s. Her school expanded their farm, selling excess produce to fund school supplies, supporting students’ education. School drop-out rates have reduced, as children now have access to meals, enhancing their learning and growth.



Tina and her mother working on their farm.

**We Work With 7,794 Sponsored Children in Kwale**



# Projects That Support Lasting Change

## Safer Together

**A lack of gender-responsive policies leads to gender inequality in Kenyan communities.** It seeps down into social norms and continues the cycle of gender-based violence.

Through leadership and advocacy workshops, we empower young girls with life skills like self-awareness and self-acceptance, which enables them to be active citizens in both private and public spaces. As a result of this training, 22 girls have made significant impact in their communities. They engaged directly with county leaders on the provision of free sanitary pads in all schools and affirmative action on scholarships for girls. Furthermore, by engaging in peer-to-peer interaction, the young girls shared their knowledge and inspired 440 other girls to embrace their voices.

Additionally, 724 young men can now challenge gender-based violence. Through intergenerational dialogues and discussions with families, we are continuously challenging harmful societal and gender norms in Kwale.



Young advocates participate in leadership training session.

**1,200**  
**fathers engaged in**  
**intergenerational dialogues**



School children attending to their crops in school.



Climate-led technologies help create food security in Kwale.

## Climate Change Adaptation

**The climate crisis continues to affect nearly 5.4 million Kenyans every year.** Nutrition is a basic necessity, and food insecurity is a threat for children in Kwale. Through our Climate Change Mitigation project, we reduce the impact of disasters on most vulnerable groups. The project promotes disaster prevention and resilience, education, and hygiene.

Last year, we supported school meal programmes to provide students with improved access to essential nutrition, combatting malnutrition and rising school drop-out rates. The project also enhanced students' academic performance. School subsidies were distributed to keep children from vulnerable households enrolled. Moreover, we provided water harvesting tanks to schools affected by droughts, so the students had access to clean drinking water. 459 households also received conditional cash transfers that supported them in income-generating activities like buying and caring for livestock.

**“Kitchen garden farming at school and home has improved my life. It has reduced my families’ reliance on market vegetables and given us access to nutritious food.”**

**-Umazi, 14-year-old Sponsored Child**

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Children participating in one of Plan International's activities in Kwale.

## Together, we're working to create a more just world.

In the coming year, tackling malnutrition and food insecurity will continue to be our utmost priority. By introducing climate resilient farming technologies in schools and local communities, we will continue to bring food security, improve school retention, and support income-generating activities in the region.

We will engage with the coastal communities to market seaweed products and mangrove seedlings to improve earnings and promote climate-conscious business decisions.

Through capacity training of communities and provision of life-saving commodities, we will minimise the impact of natural disaster on girls and young women.

## Message from Plan Staff

"Through Plan's projects, there is increasing parental support for the adolescents in matters of reproductive rights and gender equality. Especially from the male parents who are now more aware of the menstrual hygiene needs of their daughters. Thank you for sponsoring a child in Kwale."



Albert Mlamba,  
Programme Unit  
Manager

## The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

## Progress in Numbers

549

children benefit  
from cash  
transfers

21

staff trained in  
gender equality

15

religious leaders  
discussed gender  
equality

19

staff in gender  
transformative  
programmes