

Kilifi

Kenya

Positive changes are happening in Kilifi. 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 Kilifi, it affects food and job security, impacting the lives of young children and members of vulnerable communities. Through climate-led initiatives, we build resilience among local families to sustain them through the changes like support with cash transfers, school meal programmes, and introducing new agricultural techniques.

For the youth, we work in the realms of sexual and reproductive rights education and job creation. In the past year, the Young Health Programme adopted peer-to-peer education to empower young people with tools to make informed health decisions in their schools and communities. By ensuring a comprehensive approach in tackling various issues in the community, we support holistic growth and development.

"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)



Cash transfer programmes improve school retention.

Impact in Numbers

42

**primary schools in
school meal
programme**

145

**parents know
menstrual hygiene
management**

194

**students retained
through mentorship
and scholarships**

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 7,611 Sponsored Children in Kilifi

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Knowledge is Power

Early marriage forces one in seven girls to drop out of school in Kilifi.

Lack of access to contraceptives and education on sexual and reproductive rights has also led to a rise in teenage pregnancy. Through our project, 217 girls have received mentorship to make informed choices about their sexual health. Additionally, the project supported them to access secondary education by providing assistance for the school fees. Our initiative is aimed at challenging the local gender norms that limit young girls' access to education.

With members of the community, we raised awareness of child protection by dispersing knowledge about managing online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

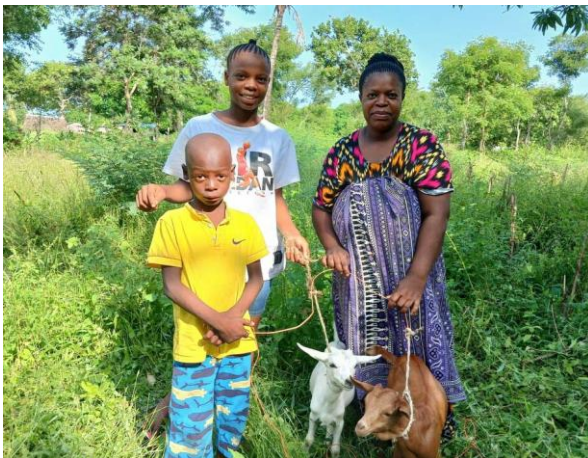
Plan also held workshops with local families to sensitise them against harmful cultural norms and practices. Sustainable change begins when the entire community is involved.



Teachers receive training on teaching life skills.

290

People sensitised about harmful norms and practices



Grace and her children with the goats they bought through the cash transfer programme.



Fatuma on her okra farm.

Feeding the Future

67% of households in Kilifi County are affected by food insecurity, increasing children's vulnerability.

The climate crisis impedes agricultural growth, making food production scarce. The lack of climate-resistant technologies in farming, high costs of supplies, and insufficient financial support further worsen the situation.

Through our project, we enhance household resilience to the impacts of drought and climate change. We use cash transfers and school meal programmes, promote sanitation, and improve food production through advanced techniques. These efforts help students stay enrolled in school and continue their education. We also support communities in diversifying their income sources with sustainable practices, such as providing high-value cashew nut and mango seedlings. By viewing agriculture as a lucrative livelihood venture, community-led climate change initiatives ensure nutritious food for every household.

"Plan's cash transfer enabled me to buy two goats. Now, I am making enough profit to afford three meals a day and send my children to school."

-Fatuma (36)

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



A student using the new handwashing facilities at her school.

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

The statistics related to gender equality in the country are steadily improving. But our work in Kilifi is not nearly done. In the coming year, tackling malnutrition and food insecurity will continue to be a priority. By introducing climate resilient farming techniques in schools and local communities, we will continue to bring food security and improve school retention and household incomes in the region.

We will work with communities to create space for intergenerational dialogues, reduce the stigma and demystify harmful cultural norms and practices.

We aim to improve the enrolment rate in schools through scholarships and vocational training.

Message from Plan Staff

"Our work is guided by a simple yet powerful belief: every child deserves the chance to thrive, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, or background. With this as our compass, in 2024, we have transformed the lives of children and communities through many interventions with your support."



Onesmus Kyalo Muiya,
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

3,782

**households
received cash
support**

3

**modern
classrooms
constructed**

1,523

**students
accessed mobile
health clinics**

4,346

**menstrual
hygiene kits
distributed**