

## Cairo

### Egypt

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

Due to the ongoing conflicts and instability in Sudan and the Gaza Strip, Egypt is becoming a significant destination for refugees from the neighbouring regions. It is extremely crucial to protect and support human rights through migration, however, it is still causing significant pressure on the country's limited resources. Amid these challenges, communities in Cairo continue to strengthen facilities for young people and their families.

For example, through Aflateen and Aflatoun sessions, children and teens receive education support that has not only improved the school retention rate, but also developed self-confidence and self-esteem among these young communities. Many such initiatives empower the youth in finding jobs, eliminating gender-based violence like FGM and child marriage, and striving to create gender equality and balance in the region.

**"Attending the Champions of Change sessions helped me understand gender issues and challenge the practice of female genital mutilation in my community." -Salsabil (14)**



Children and youth are the future of our societies.

### Impact in Numbers

**198**

**Youth empowered by sessions on entrepreneurship**

**548**

**Caregivers learned more about positive parenting**

**179**

**Children in Aflateen sessions for self-development**

# I Draw The Future Myself



**NAME:**

**Nagwa**

**AGE:**

**13 years old**

**DREAMS TO BE:**

**A dentist**

**“I want to become a dentist to make my parents proud, and I’m grateful for the support that has helped me regain my confidence and take the first steps towards my dream.”**



## Meet Nagwa

**Like many children in Egypt, Nagwa is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.**

Nagwa lives in Cairo with her parents and siblings. Her favourite hobby is drawing. She goes to preparatory school where she excels in her studies, especially in Maths and History. Since Nagwa wants to be a dentist, she wants to get better at science. While she has the aptitude for the subject, the lack of sufficient resource limit her in barrier-free learning and achieving her dream. Moreover, due to a standard curriculum and limited capacities of her schoolteachers, Nagwa and her peers often lack age-appropriate skills in reading and writing. To mend this gap, Nagwa had to resort to online videos to assist her in basic education.

## Learning made fun!

Nagwa’s mother voiced her child’s struggles. We strive to remove the barriers so children can dream as big as they want to. Therefore, Plan designed various education assistive services, including a reading and writing programme to support the children with easy, fun and accessible education. Like many children from her community, Nagwa too enrolled in our education programmes.

## Onward and upward

Beside her regular school, Nagwa attends Plan’s community development sessions. By mid-year, she had already made progress in her education – especially science – bringing her one step closer to her dream. These sessions work to strengthen girls’ and young women’s agency over their life decisions through access to and control over resources. Our development workshops have helped 405 students like Nagwa to not only excel in education and improve the school retention rate, but also to gain self-confidence and improve their self-esteem.



Pyramids stand the test of time because they have strong foundations; the same goes for children!

**We Currently Work With 2,138 Sponsored Children in Cairo**



# Projects That Support Lasting Change

## Steps Towards Safer Lives

**Children are one of the most marginalised groups in our society.** A lack of knowledge and skills often prevent the children, youth and caregivers to recognise and adopt practices that protect this group from violence.

Programmes like Aflatoun develop awareness and skills in children. Aflatoun supports 335 young people by equipping them with life skills for the future, like saving and investing money. Young children develop writing and reading skills to improve the school retention rate. Moreover, we support parents and caregivers with positive parenting and discipline to enable them to build trust and rapport within their families and recognise how gender norms influence their children throughout their lives.

Additionally, our disability awareness workshops have spread information among 615 participants about various kinds of disabilities and the rights of children with disabilities.



Reading and writing sessions empower young girls to bridge gaps in their education.

# 2,281

**parents learned about child protection and education**



Aflatoun sessions empower children with various skills.

## Skills to Succeed

**Lack of marketable skills, knowledge and confidence has limited the income opportunities among the youth in Cairo.** It restricts them from improving their life circumstances. Moreover, young girls face gender-based disparity and social norms restrict them from making independent life decisions.

To address these challenges, our project Aflatoun sessions empower women in building technical and entrepreneurial skills. They also get access to social and financial education through career planning sessions, which helps them manage their economic conditions.

We organise awareness seminars on gender equality. In addition, we collaborate with the private sector to create job and business opportunities. This last year, we were able to create this empowering environment for 198 participants. After all, through gender equality, can we collectively grow!



Fatma is attending career planning and savings group sessions.

**“I was only focused on saving, but through the financial planning workshop, I learned how to make investments and business decisions that will make me and my money grow!” -Fatma (35)**

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



We create safe spaces for critical reflection, action-based learning and adaptive thinking among young girls.

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

This year, we will address the unemployment rate in Cairo. Through our economic empowerment project, we will ensure that women are financially independent and have access to healthy and safe work environments.

Preventing and responding to gender-based violence will remain our utmost priority. We will enhance children's capacity to advocate for their rights and support them in reducing the risks of violence and abuse.

We will build capacities of families and communities, alongside positive media representation, to support the youth in becoming drivers of change.

## Message from Plan Staff

"Over the last year, we had a great impact on our youth through health programmes, awareness on climate change and environment protection, and numerous other workshops. Now, we are able to aim for better life for the communities in Cairo."



Emad Gad,  
Programme Unit  
Manager, Cairo

## 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

210

Youth advocates  
for environment  
protection

128

Women learned  
about gender  
equality

615

Spoke about the  
needs of children  
with disabilities

405

Children took  
part in reading  
workshops