

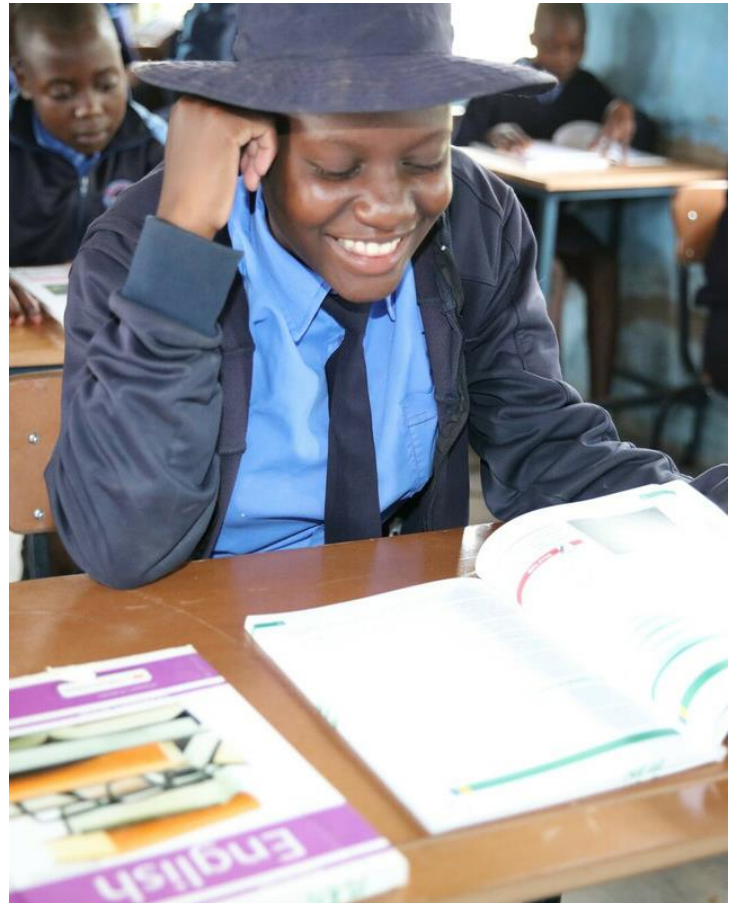
Chiredzi Zimbabwe

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

The climate crisis and weak infrastructure in Chiredzi have caused food insecurity, leading to malnutrition, particularly among children. Harmful practices like child marriage and gender-based violence also limit young girls' access to health care, job opportunities, and education.

Plan partnered with the community and government to enhance food security in Chiredzi through economic initiatives, providing 250 market stall owners with refrigerators.

We also supported girls' education by introducing confidence-building activities, enabling 12 girls to conduct research on school dropout causes and use the findings to improve secondary education completion rates.



Young girls studying in a school in Chiredzi.

"The fish project has improved our health and helps us pay our school fees."

Lisa, 11, Sponsored Child



Impact in Numbers

1,400

people trained in
gender violence
prevention

620

people trained in
food and income
security

40

paralegals trained
in school dropout
cases

Kick Start To A Healthy Life



NAME:

Beauty

AGE:

17 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

A teacher

“Our diet has improved a lot as we are now able to have three meals a day. I have also been called many times by different areas to train them in fish farming.”



Meet Beauty

Beauty, a 17-year-old girl from Chiredzi, lives with her eight siblings and parents. In her free time, she enjoys fishing.

Due to Chiredzi's dry climate, Beauty's family relies on subsistence farming, which produces low yields with limited nutritional value, resulting in an unbalanced diet.

Nutritional challenges

Limited farming methods and a lack of resources mean that Beauty's family and others in similar situations often struggle to make ends meet and obtain nutritious food, which leads to poor school performance and higher dropout rates in Chiredzi.

Additionally, the rise in gender-based violence and child rights violations, disproportionately affecting girls, exacerbates these issues by further increasing dropout rates and perpetuating a cycle of illiteracy in the community.

Starting a Healthy Life

Plan developed a multi-layered garden for Beauty and other children, featuring fish farming, fruits, and vegetables. It also functions as a learning centre for studying and outdoor family activities for children.

Beauty's family now enjoys fresh produce, and her brothers have returned to school. They now harvest fish for extra income and mentor others in their community for greater self-sufficiency.



Beauty and other sponsored children harvesting vegetables.

We Work With 5,760 Sponsored Children in Chiredzi

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Empowering Communities

In Chiredzi, urban vulnerabilities—such as limited health, social and economic infrastructures—combined with climate crises like the El Niño drought, have left urban populations highly vulnerable to food insecurity.

In collaboration with the community and government, Plan aims to improve food security and build strong, lasting resilience to better handle challenges in Chiredzi. As part of our initiatives, 300 families received broilers and starter packs, which included chickens, feed, chemicals, feeders, and drinkers. They also received basic training covering management, disease prevention and control, market linkages, gender equality, and child protection to help them better support their families.

95% of our urban resilience-building participants are women. This focus helps empower them in household food consumption decisions and addresses their specific needs, such as access to sanitary products.



Training programmes about women empowerment in Chiredzi.

120

**families received starter kits
for making detergents**



Champions of Change club from a school in Chiredzi.



Lorraine, 18, from Chiredzi.

Supporting Girls' Education

Long school distances, early marriages and teenage pregnancies have played a major role in limiting girls' access to education in Chiredzi.

Through our community and government partnerships, Plan helped girls stay in school, advance to higher education levels, and complete secondary education. Our long-term goal is to ensure girls feel confident, safe, and protected in all settings.

Over 1,000 girls and boys participated in our Champions of Change club activities in Chiredzi. After gaining access to secure boarding facilities, the attendance rate for girls in schools improved from 73% to 100%.

Additionally, as girls grew in confidence, the percentage of girls participating in social activities at school increased from 5.8% to 93%.

“Thanks to confidence-building activities, I gained the confidence to participate in Junior MP competitions.”
Lorraine, 18, from Chiredzi

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Training programmes for women empowerment in Chiredzi.

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

In Chiredzi, people have limited access to clean water and sanitary facilities leading to higher health risks. Next year, Plan will collaborate with the community to strengthen water, sanitation, and hygiene services in homes and schools.

Climate change such as the El Niño drought and limited economic opportunities have contributed to rising food insecurity in Chiredzi. Next year, Plan will support comprehensive food aid programmes that help families better provide for themselves.

In Chiredzi, many children are malnourished due to limited access to nutritious food. Next year, Plan will support programmes that improve children's nutrition.

Message from Plan Staff

"With your support, we have achieved significant milestones in improving the welfare of vulnerable children, especially girls and young women, along with their families and communities. We deeply appreciate your partnership and the trust you have placed in us."



Track Murauzi,
Programme Area
Manager,
Chiredzi.

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

600 people trained in savings methods

5 boreholes drilled for access to safe water

1,760 learners trained in crop production skills

22 youth enterprises exhibited at the Business Expo