

Homa Bay

Kenya

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

A national survey shows Kenya is making steady progress in reducing gender-based violence. In Homa Bay County, communities are working to address this issue by forming children's rights clubs, safe spaces, and peer-learning groups to protect and support their children. We collaborate with various stakeholders, from local communities to the national government, to advocate for sustainable, long-term change and development.

Climate change is impacting the region's economic development. Through education and awareness initiatives, communities are adopting climate-resilient farming techniques to boost yields and meet basic needs. Skill development and training opportunities are helping young people access employment, contributing to the local economy's growth.

"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)



Families are working together to protect children.

Impact in Numbers

60

**health workers
trained in youth-
friendly services**

532

**youth sensitised
about gender
equality**

38

**farmers apply
climate-resilient
practices**

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 9,185 Sponsored Children in Homa Bay

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Safer Together

Vulnerable groups in Homa Bay face more exclusion and violence than in the rest of the country.

Last year, our Girls' Takeover event empowered 19 young girls by providing leadership opportunities and involving them in influential roles within the county. They addressed issues such as school fee support, the provision of sanitary pads, and strengthening their participation in decision-making.

Furthermore, Plan International supported 188 secondary school students with scholarships. We also provided 38 children with disabilities with corrective and mobility assistance devices. Additionally, we sensitised 283 community members on inclusive education for children with disabilities, so they can interact and socialise meaningfully with their peers. Our intersectional approach makes equitable access to education possible for every child.



Distributing assistive devices facilitates inclusive education.

350

Young women's financial skills enhanced



Training in basket-making for Gir Akwaya group members.



Cash transfers diversified the sources of income in Homa Bay.

Improving families' livelihood

34% is the poverty rate in Homa Bay, with almost 23% of the population facing food insecurity.

To tackle this crisis and ensure that families have the capacity to take care of their basic needs, this project empowers the youth with training in income-generating activities and entrepreneurial skills. 116 participants gained skills in product development and marketing so they could develop practical business plans. We also raised awareness among the local youth about Kenyan national funds that could support their businesses. Moreover, 62 young people were supported financially so they could take courses ranging from dressmaking to engineering.

Cash transfers have supported 636 households. By investing the money in income-generating assets, these families are now able to better take care of their children's education and nutrition.

"Plan supported our self-help group with watermelon seeds. In the last season, the yield helped me pay the school fees for my two daughters."

-Peterson, 46

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Champions of Change gender dialogue sessions.

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

It remains our utmost priority to strengthen resources for the youth to ensure the prevention of gender-based violence. We will develop workshops to create awareness of such violence and strengthen safe reporting mechanisms.

It is crucial to empower young girls to take leadership and advocacy positions. We will ensure the active participation of girls at all levels of governance, from local to national.

Disaster-related crises continue to plague the development in Kenya. We will conduct advocacy meetings with institutions on budget allocation and investment in disaster risk reduction.

Message from Plan Staff

"The children in Homa Bay increasingly enjoy safe and supportive environments within their homes, schools and communities at large in relation to their rights, promising them a better future. Thank you for your support."



Douglas Ongoro,
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

188

students
supported with
school fees

965

farmers received
seeds for income
diversification

384

parents
sensitised on
gender-based

359

people trained on
inclusive
education