# **Annual Update**



# Inhambane

# Mozambique

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

This year, young people accessed vocational training, financial education and entrepreneurial support through the Bright Future project. They learned marketable skills in agricultural techniques and trained on Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) to save and invest in their income-generating activities—and their economic independence.

In addition, the Growing Together project supported the community in strengthening a current Early Childhood Development (ECD) initiative. Building on the existing success, educators trained on student-centred teaching techniques and integrated the use of local content in schools.



Early Childhood Development is key for children.

#### "Early Childhood Development helps our communities build classrooms to enrol our younger siblings."

– Rosa (12)



### **Impact in Numbers**

180

youth trained on income-generating activities

1,615

pupils benefited from improved classrooms

102

preschool teachers trained on gendersensitive education

### **Flora's Dream to Serve Her Community**

NAME: Flora AGE: 11 years old DREAMS TO BE: A nurse

> "I am very happy to be in this programme because my life has changed a lot for the better."

#### **Meet Flora**

Like many girls in Mozambique, Flora is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.

Eleven-year-old Flora comes from a family of farmers who grow crops like vegetables, peanuts and maize for their consumption, selling the surplus to buy other supplies for the family. Her favourite hobby is to think about cooking. When she is older, she wants to be able to prepare nice food for her parents and siblings.

#### To Dream of Making a Difference

Most people in Flora's community have difficulty accessing health care because they live far away from healthcare centres. Transportation is rare where Flora lives, so she must walk about 18 kilometres to access these services.

The distance affects her own healthcare needs as well as those of friends and family. Flora has witnessed situations where her relatives were unable to visit the health centre due to the distance.

Flora's biggest dream is to become a nurse, so she can assist children in her community who are in need of health care services.

#### Her Rights, Her Future

Through the Champions of Change programme, Flora learned about sexual and reproductive health and rights. The knowledge and leadership opportunities she accessed are already helping her to make informed choices about her future—so she can pursue her dreams and make a difference in her community.

Flora says the programme inspired her to know more about her rights and her health. "I am now more focused on studying to become a nurse," she says, "thanks to the sessions about our rights."



Flora dreams of becoming a nurse and serving in her community.

### We Work With 6,549 Sponsored Children in Inhambane

# **Projects That Support Lasting Change**

### **Investing in Early Education**

# Early Childhood Education is key to preparing pupils for formal education.

The Growing Together project trained 736 parents and teachers on the use of student-centred teaching techniques to improve pupils' skills in literacy and mathematics. Educators learned methods to improve language, maths, and writing skills through games, songs and play.

In addition, 189 teachers and school principals were supported in developing the use of local content in schools. School leaders believe this will provide a holistic education that values both cultural and academic aspects, promoting quality learning opportunities for pupils.

As the project developed, it was noticed that children who attended Early Childhood Development centres had developed good communication and social skills, and had success in primary school—which further encouraged parents and the community.



Preparing pupils for the transition to formal school is a pillar of the project.

**1,615** children were enrolled in preschool



Beekeeping was traditionally a job for men. Now, young women are learning the trade.



Marta says that saving is "a key message for success".

## **Skills to Succeed**

The Bright Future project empowers young people through vocational training and financial education.

This year, the project trained nine groups of 180 youth in Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA). Young people gained marketable skills, connected with financial and mentoring opportunities, and gained access to incomegenerating resources. The young entrepreneurs were also equipped with kits to start their businesses.

New buildings provided space for agricultural activities: the project supported the construction of a shelter for processing cassava, as well as a greenhouse and place for raising chickens and pigs.

The youth participating in the project didn't only learn marketable skills for the future—they also gained confidence about their future careers.

"After the training, I started doing small savings so that I can develop a small business." —Marta (17)

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



With quality education, girls like Joana have the tools to succeed.

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

In the coming year, we will advocate for quality education. Teachers will train on learner-centred methods that enhance pupils' skills.

We will promote and support savings groups for out-ofschool adolescents and vouth.

Teachers, health and social workers will have resources to provide adolescent sexual and reproductive health rights education, information and services.

Strengthening existing community-based structures, including parenting and health groups, will help address the rates of early marriage and its consequences.

#### Message from Plan Staff

"We will continue to promote inclusive and quality education, improve protection for girls and focus on the needs and vulnerabilities of adolescent girls at risk or affected by early and forced marriages next year. Thank you."



Damião Mungoi, **Programme** Area Manager, Inhambane

#### **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**

preschoolers transitioned to primary school

189

school leaders used local content in schools

60

854

families benefited from farming tools

youth attended

Change sessions

**Champions of**