

Assiut

Egypt

Positive changes are happening in Assiut. Learn more about how we are 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 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 Assiut continue to strengthen facilities for young people and their families.

For example, through vocational training and skill development projects, hundreds of families now have access to supplementary income. We empower young girls and their families in finding jobs, combatting gender-based violence like female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, which are common practices in Assiut, and striving to create gender equality 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 participating in a workshop on child protection.

Impact in Numbers

647

children focus on climate change in Aflateen-sessions

1,599

children in reading and writing sessions

414

women have financial literacy to invest and save

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, a lack of sufficient resources limits her in barrier-free learning and achieving her dream. Moreover, due to a standard curriculum and the 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 in 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.



Nagwa enjoying her lessons with her fellow classmates.

We Currently Work With 6,161 Sponsored Children in Assiut

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Girls Lead

A lack of education and awareness around gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights, and community building reinforces stereotypes, particularly against girls. This project increases community awareness in supporting young girls and adolescents. Key efforts include promoting parental engagement in advocacy around sexual and reproductive health and gender equality as well as sustainable livelihood opportunities.

540 adolescents have participated in peer-to-peer education about their reproductive rights, helping to reduce the stigma around these conversations and gain community support. The Y-Adapt programme, a game-based curriculum, engages and empowers youth to take action within their communities to adapt to climate change. Boys and men are also expanding their knowledge, advocating for positive masculinities and supporting gender equality initiatives. With growing confidence and self-esteem, more young people are stepping into leadership roles, further amplifying their impact on society.



Girls Lead members participating in a 100 Million Trees initiative.

685

girls have improved agency over their life decisions



Young entrepreneurs showcase their products at local fairs.



Thousands of girls like Donia are financially independent through vocational courses.

Skills to Succeed

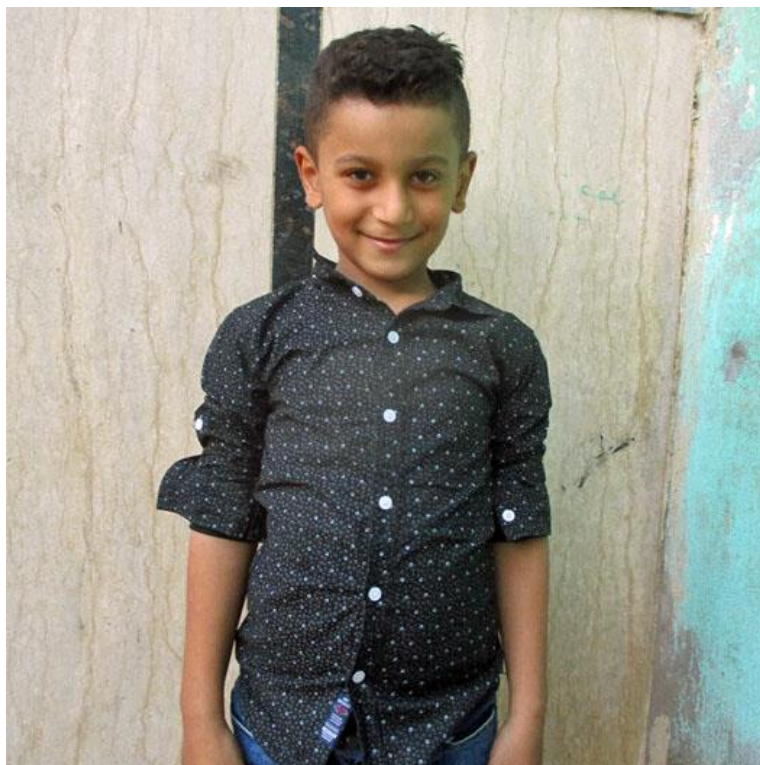
In Assiut, deeply rooted harmful practices and gender biases often limit women's and girls' participation in education and economic activities. This project helps participants achieve self-reliance by providing them with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to pursue decent work, whether in waged or self-employment.

Financial literacy programmes have helped 647 adolescent girls identify their strengths and learn how to invest and save wisely, while career planning sessions have improved their ability to utilize their skills for employment. Additionally, 167 women have gained critical knowledge in business ideation, market research, pricing, and budgeting through Enterprise Your Life sessions, helping them establish their own businesses. Workshops have also empowered young girls to understand the job market, recognise good employers, and set career goals. Young boys are participating in projects aimed at recognising their biases and promoting gender equality in the region.

"Aflateen sessions have inspired me to start my sewing project. Now I will join the clothing department to gain practical knowledge and achieve my dream."

-Donia (16)

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



18,562 children participated in the rollout of peer education in communities and schools.

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

Through our collaborative efforts, parents are challenging the social norms in their households. We will continue our focus on five main topics: gender discrimination, female genital mutilation, early marriage, sexual harassment and girls' leadership.

The inflation rate in Egypt is rising exponentially. We will support the youth with vocational and entrepreneurial skills. Several financial and non-financial institutions have collaborated with us to accelerate the local economy. Additionally, fares and product galleries will provide youth with e-marketing spaces, so they are better linked to the markets. Through mentorship and incubator programmes, the youth will build capacities to be financially independent.

Message from Plan Staff

"With the rise in inflation in Egypt, it is crucial now more than ever to economically empower the youth to engage in employment or entrepreneurship. Our team is working hard to achieve these objectives and enhance the quality of life for our communities."



Israa Abdel Gaber,
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

181

women received
seed funds for a
better income

225

entrepreneurship
projects
supported

1,026

children attend
psychological
social support

540

pupils know
about sexual
health and rights