

Piura

Peru

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

In Piura, heavy rains have caused flooding, infrastructure damage, and a rise in water-borne diseases, impacting vulnerable groups like girls and young women. Gender stereotypes and resistance to integrated sexual education limit young people's awareness of their rights, increasing their risk of violence and restricting access to education and career opportunities.

Plan, in collaboration with the community, supports initiatives addressing gender-based violence and inequalities that affect young people's economic opportunities, especially for young women. As part of these efforts, 232 out-of-school youth participated in an entrepreneurship training programme, creating business plans. Furthermore, 17 specialized services for teenagers were introduced in health centres to enhance their overall care.

"Plan's activities have strengthened my knowledge, enabling me to advise classmates on violence protection and menstruation."

- Fernanda, 12, Sponsored Child



Girls at the emotional attention sessions.

Impact in Numbers

640

**young people
trained in technical
education**

876

**parents trained in
positive parenting
practices**

58

**young people
received funding for
startups**

Advocating for Gender Equality



NAME:

Lisbeth

AGE:

14 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

A lawyer

“In 5 years, I see myself finishing my law degree, and in 15 years, I see myself practicing law, helping more women achieve equality and justice.”



Meet Lisbeth

Like many children in Peru, Lisbeth is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.

Lisbeth, a 14-year-old aspiring lawyer from Cusco, has been involved with Plan International since she was six. Currently, Lisbeth shines as a peer educator in Plan's Decide without Violence project. Here, she empowers her peers with knowledge and strategies to prevent violence and teenage pregnancy, to make a meaningful impact in her community.

Challenging Gender Stereotypes

In Lisbeth's community, violence against women and practices like forced or child marriages are often seen as normal. Challenging these norms is difficult, as both society and even the girls themselves may accept them without recognizing the long-term consequences.

Lisbeth believes the key to addressing this issue is changing families' and young girls' perspectives on gender. "I believe we can achieve equality faster by teaching young people that women are not objects and that we have the same opportunities as men," she says.

Saying No to Violence

Through Plan's Decide without Violence initiative, children and young people learn about their sexual and reproductive rights and how to prevent violence.

As a peer educator, Lisbeth has seen how this project helps families and children reject violence. The leadership training has empowered her to speak out against violence and support other women, making a significant impact in her community.



Lisbeth leading a meeting for her peers.

We Currently Work With 14,262 Sponsored Children in Piura

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Building Safer Communities

In Piura, widespread poverty and the reliance on informal family and community resolutions for violence leave victims without crucial support.

In collaboration with Plan, the community supported girls and teenagers in making informed and autonomous decisions, growing up free from violence, and understanding their sexual and reproductive rights.

Through our initiatives, 56 girls and young women designed and implemented community projects, using creative mediums such as cinema, sports, and dance to advocate for girls' rights. Additionally, 124 community service authorities were trained on child protection mechanisms and reporting cases of violence using the TCuido 365 App.

As a result, more children and young girls are aware of gender-based violence and its associated risks. Young girls and women now feel more empowered to make decisions about their lives.



Girls participating in mixed-gender sports activities.

1,204
children and youth trained
to identify violent situations



Delivery of material and equipment to a school for students' technical training.

Empowering Women

In Piura, limited educational resources for soft and technical skills, combined with an economic crisis worsened by weather events, have restricted employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for young people.

Through our initiatives, young people, especially women, can better access diverse employment opportunities by developing their soft, entrepreneurial, and technical skills, attending vocational guidance, and participating in workshops on life planning.

As a result, 1,702 young people – 787 women and 915 men – who have completed secondary school have enhanced their soft and technical skills for entrepreneurship, employability, and vocational orientation as part of their life projects.

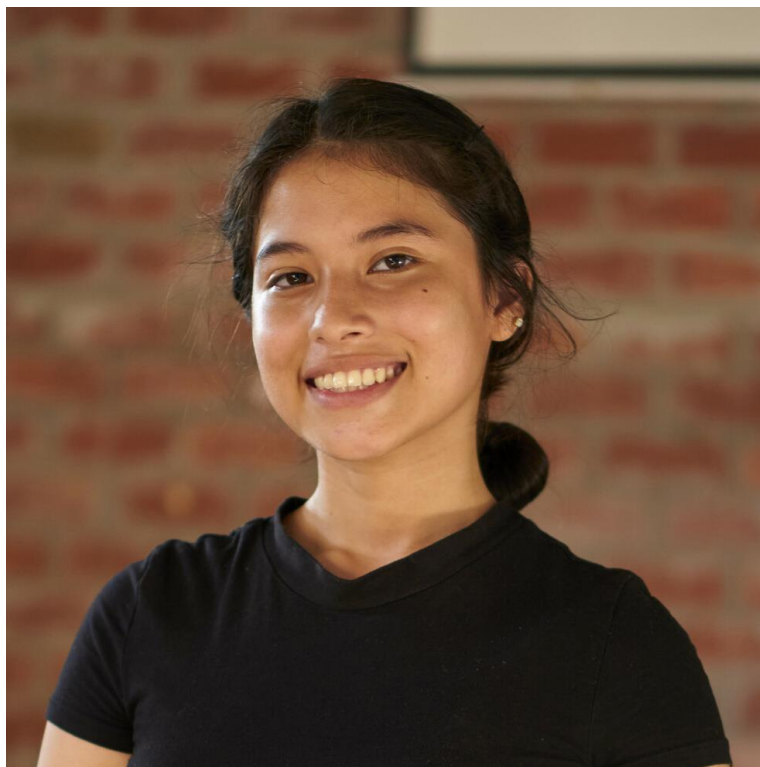


Maria opened her own small business.

“Thanks to Plan and my teacher, I have my business selling snacks, which helps me cover my school expenses such as copies and other supplies.”

-Maria, 16, from Piura

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



A young participant of Plan's gender equality programme.

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

In Piura, 77% of violence cases involve girls. Next year, Plan will develop training programmes to help children and young people identify and avoid risks and advocate for a violence-free environment.

Fewer than 40% of young people pursue higher education, which limits their job prospects. Next year, Plan will support youth, especially women, by offering vocational and technical training to improve their employment skills.

Gender stereotypes and conservative opposition to inclusivity have worsened inequality. Next year, Plan will support educational spaces to promote equality and violence-free interactions for the youth.

Message from Plan Staff

"We reaffirm our commitment to advancing children's rights and gender equality, aiming to benefit more girls and boys in the Piura region. We will work closely with authorities and community leaders to ensure these improvements are sustainable over time."



Edwin Helguero,
Programme Unit
Manager, Piura

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

1,107 young women
trained in soft
skills

690 teenagers trained
in violence
prevention

1 virtual job fair for
universities and
technical schools

5 local authorities
funded youth
startups