

Annual Update

Shaanxi China

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

For example, Nurturing the Future is a programme engaging parents and education centres with knowledge and resources to provide gender-equal early childhood care. Through another initiative, young people with hearing, mental and physical disabilities are supported with social and career activities to strengthen their skills and help them access better job opportunities.

In keeping with the Chinese government's new Personal Information Protection Law (PIP-Law), Plan has paused the collection of data of Chinese citizens, especially under the age of 14 (sensitive data). We expect to resume once guidelines of the PIP-Law are introduced. Until then, we continue with projects and programmes to ensure ongoing support, engagement and empowerment for communities in Shaanxi.





Children in Shaanxi.

Impact in Numbers

1,421

College students received life skills training

2,800

Parents learned about early child-hood education

2,648

College students learned about gender equality

Building Resilience Through Sports



"Joining a football club has made me pay more attention to my physical health."

- Yaoyao, 16 years old



Building Children's Resilience Through Sports is a programme to enhance students' mental and physical health, challenge gender stereotypes and provide a place for young people to play and lead.

The right to play

Due to the unbalanced economic development among regions in China, many schools in rural areas cannot access quality sports education. And due to gender stereotypes, girls are more likely to be left out of sports such as football and basketball.

Through the Building Children's Resilience programme, children in rural areas are better able to develop their physical health and leadership skills. Project activities aim to engage students and bring transformative changes among young people, their families, schools and communities—and to strengthen adolescents' friendship, cohesion and inclusion.

The project provides training and sports equipment for 35 physical education teachers from ten partner schools. As a result, more than 200 girls participated in coaching sessions on football and gender equality, and five girls' football clubs were established.

Engaging girls

Teachers and parents trained on gender equality and supported the establishment of girls' competitive football clubs. Through the project, 70% of physical education teachers, parents and students reported a stronger knowledge on gender equality.

Yaoyao, age 16, says joining a football club has increased attention on physical health. "These habits not only help me perform better on the football field, but also make me healthier and more active in my daily life."



Girls learn about their rights, health and equality in football clubs.

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Investing in the Future

Young people with disabilities have better access to careers and friendship.

Youth with disabilities often face employment difficulties. A lack of peer communication and social support adds to the challenge. This year, we provided different forms of social and career support for young people with hearing, mental and physical disabilities.

Eight career activities included workshops on making coffee, baking and handcrafting, with over 100 young people participating. Through social activities, participants met new friends and established social support networks.

In addition, interest group activities engaged 92 young people with bead making and illustration. These participants could then sell their handicrafts at outdoor stalls in order to earn money, gain self-esteem and see their value through creativity and work.



Young people with disabilities had the opportunity to experience different careers.

106

young people participated in the project



Children learning in a Child Centred Development centre.

Reading activities help children learn and grow.

Nurturing the Future

Children are getting quality care and encouragement.

Children in rural areas often lack access to early childhood development. The project Nurturing the Future supports parents, caregivers and education centres with gendersensitive care and stimulation for children.

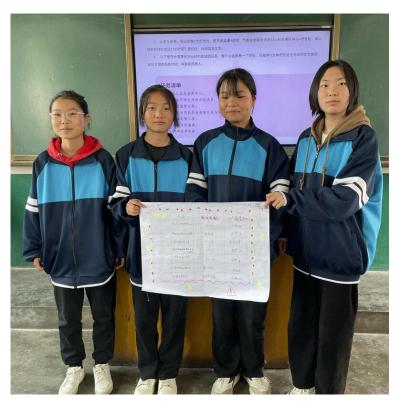
Through reading, crafts and games, participants learned about child protection, handwashing and summer safety. These activities teach children how to protect themselves, foster an understanding of gender equality, cultivate an interest in reading, and help develop good health and hygiene habits. More than 13,000 children took part.

A local women's group carried out a series of family education events, with activities for preschool teachers, parents, and volunteers. This helped parents learn about early childhood care and the importance of gender equality.

"In our kindergarten, my teacher showed us many great figures, and I understand that we girls can be an astronaut or a police officer if we like and if we want."

—Yiyi, 6 years old

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Young people participating in a life skills workshop.

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

Girls in Shaanxi have little information on menstrual health. In the coming year, we will conduct training on menstrual health education in schools so young women can manage their menstrual health with confidence.

Bullying is prevalent in schools. We will provide teachers and school personnel with resources to prevent bullying, and to address and respond to violence in schools.

Young people lack adequate skills for entering the labour market. We will support youth with vocational skills, life skills and employment preparation so they can better access quality work or entrepreneurial opportunities.

Message from Plan Staff

"Over the past year, we have continued to innovate our approach to the projects, established connections with more partners, implemented programmes such as child protection, in-patient social work, and life skills training, and expanded Plan's local influence."



Wang Shaoping, **Programme Unit** Manager, Shaanxi

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

3,000

Young people participated in life skills training

Youth with 175 disabilities gained

Preschool teachers received training

Adults attended life skills training