

Lembata Indonesia

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

Plan International has been a proud partner of communities on the island of Lembata, Indonesia since 2006. The vast majority of Lembata's 151 distinct villages are rural and depend on agriculture for food and income.

Lembata is on the front lines of climate change: rising sea levels make communities vulnerable to natural disasters, ranging from floods to storms and landslides. Still, many villages lack the appropriate infrastructure or disaster preparedness to withstand such events.

This year, with your help, we've worked with community members of all ages to share vital information about disaster preparedness. Today, 6,947 Sponsored families have emergency kits at the ready, and know what to do in the event of a natural disaster.

"My friends and I are trained in first aid, and I now have an emergency kit at home." – Bunga (12) from Lembata



More than 38% of Lembata's population is under 18.

Impact in Numbers

4,457 people are drinking cleaner water

3,231 children know more about their rights

6,947 local families now have disaster preparedness kits

Clean Water Changes Lives



NAME:

Tri

AGE:

12 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

A teacher

“I don’t worry about being late to school anymore, because I don’t have to spend my mornings collecting water.”



Meet Tri

Like many children in Indonesia, Tri is breaking down barriers to completing her education.

For years, Tri and her friends would have to walk long distances to fetch water for their families, sometimes even twice a day. A new water system has opened up hours of free time for the student.

An Obstacle to Education

Tri is the youngest of four children. After her father died in 2020, she stepped into the role of helping her mother. Tri would wake up extra early before school, walking as far as two kilometers to collect cans of clean drinking water from the nearest spring.

Walking alone in the dark was scary. “Houses in our village are located far from one another.” Tri explained. Gender-based violence, including sexual violence, is a serious concern in Indonesia, and Tri would try to protect herself by going with friends to collect water as often as possible. Still, the lengthy chore meant that Tri was often late to school. For a student who would like to become a teacher someday, the cost of falling behind could be high.

“I Don’t Worry Anymore”

One of Plan’s key projects in Indonesia is to help communities improve their infrastructure. We work with community members to install a new water system and water tanks, meaning that children are safer, healthier and learning more than before.

Today, Tri only has to walk 15 meters to pick up water. “I’m so happy,” she tells us. “I have so much more time to study and play.” Best of all, the new water tank means that Tri is no longer late to school, keeping this determined student on the path to pursuing her dream.



Not having clean drinking water trickles down into other significant social issues.

We Work With 8,780 Sponsored Children In Lembata

Projects That Support Lasting Change

My Future is Bright

Close to 12% of babies in Lembata have stunted growth due to malnutrition.

We are collaborating with Pos Pelayanan Terpadu (Posyandu, for short), a local health clinic and community centre, to connect with parents and ensure the continued growth of Lembata's next generation.

Once a month, Plan International, Posyandu and caregivers in five communities across Lembata meet to discuss topics like infant nutrition, early childhood development, non-violent discipline and immunisation. There, 78 pregnant women and new mums discuss topics like fair division of gender roles in the home, as well as pre-natal and post-natal nutrition.

15 community members have become trained facilitators in topics related to parenting and the prevention of malnutrition. Today, these leaders have connected to 979 expecting parents and parents of young children.



A trained facilitator speaks to local mums about early childhood development.

15

**healthcare workers know
how to treat malnutrition**



Community members of all ages are now better prepared for natural disasters.



Ida, a sponsored child, tells us, "Today, I feel more able to react in emergencies."

Ready for Anything

Close to 7,000 families in Lembata are better prepared for natural disasters.

Lembata is home to four volcanoes, and an archipelago of thousands of islands which is very vulnerable to the effects of volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and climate change-related natural disasters, like floods, droughts and landslides. Many young people in Lembata have told us that they don't know much about climate change, and numerous communities, including local schools, have rundown infrastructure that could collapse in the wake of extreme climate events.

With your help, 87 young people, including 45 young women, are now empowered peer educators about disaster preparedness and climate change. In addition to sharing information across five communities in Lembata, these youth leaders also spoke to local government leaders, advocating for more resources to go toward infrastructure development and emergency response plans.

"I keep my important documents and emergency supplies, like a first aid kit, in my new disaster preparedness bag."

— Ida (14) from Lembata

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Girls in Lembata are learning about health and leadership through football.

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

Lembata is vulnerable to natural disasters, including volcanic eruptions and drought. We will work with 5 local schools to improve their resilience in the event of such disruptions.

Teen pregnancy remains high in Lembata. In our gender-inclusive football programme, we will foster judgement-free conversations about sexual health and rights.

Child malnutrition remains high in Lembata. We will support the local government as it implements new resources to prevent nutrition-related developmental delays for the next generation.

Message from Plan Staff

"We are keeping our commitment to children and families in Lembata through disaster resilience, making children safer from violence and helping everyone have access to clean water. Thank you for supporting the dreams of Sponsored children in Lembata."



Erlina Dangu,
Programme Area
Manager,
Lembata

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

25

new peer
educators in
sexual health

19

new mums know
more about
nutrition

10

new child safety
committees were
formed

125

adolescents
discussed girls'
rights