

## Kassala

### Sudan

**Positive changes are happening in Kassala. 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 in Kassala since 1990. We work in 11 communities in Kassala, four of which have some of the highest rates of malnutrition in the state.

Since April 2023, armed conflict in Sudan has led to widespread food insecurity and severely limited access to healthcare, which has worsened outbreaks of normally-treatable diseases like malaria, cholera and dengue fever.

This year, with your support, we have distributed 1,500 water, sanitation and hygiene kits to families in need, making consistent handwashing easier. 2,084 new mothers safely gave birth with the help of 20 midwives who had strengthened their skills with extra training.



5,498 pupils in Sudan have new school supplies.

**"I participated in Plan's literacy programme with my mother, helping 35 women learn to read and write."**

– Halimaalsadia (13)



### Impact in Numbers

**1,890**

**pregnant women have received financial aid**

**28,000**

**people tuned in to radio programmes about girls' rights**

**1,500**

**young people practising leadership skills**

# Girls Can Do Anything



**NAME:**

**Rogaia**

**AGE:**

**6 years old**

**DREAMS TO BE:**

**A teacher**

**“My mum and aunt learned how to do cosmetics and henna. Now my family can buy the things we need.”**



## **Meet Rogaia**

**Like many girls in Kassala, Rogaia is defying gender inequality on her way to a brighter future.**

From lessons in child safety to vocational training workshops, six-year-old Rogaia and her family are developing greater financial security, supporting empowered women and helping a determined young student pursue her dreams.

## **Gender Norms Keep Girls Down**

In Sudan, many girls do not complete their education. Early dropouts often lead to child marriages, in which wives are expected not to work in order to take care of the home. The result is that many women in Sudan lack financial independence, which can increase a woman's vulnerability to instances of abuse.

Research has shown that a child enrolled in pre-school is more likely to graduate from university and earn higher wages. Plan International has been working with families in Rogaia's community to raise awareness about the importance of early childhood education, particularly for girls, as well as the dangers of child marriage and female genital mutilation.

## **My Mum Is A Role Model**

In addition to learning more about the importance of keeping little Rogaia in school, the student's mum and aunt were connected to Plan's vocational training workshops, where they were improved their skills in henna and cosmetics.

Today, Rogaia's mum and aunt are stepping into powerful roles as providers for their families. 'Before, art was their favourite hobby,' Rogaia tells us. 'Now, they're practising their work and helping our family at the same time.'



Rogaia wants to be a teacher when she grows up.

**We Currently Work With 9,801 Sponsored Children In Kassala**



# Projects That Support Lasting Change

## We Are Resilient

**Ongoing political violence threatens the health of mothers and children.**

As of April 2024, more than 17 million people in Sudan were experiencing acute food insecurity due to the violence and upheavals within the country.

With your support, we have been working with communities in Kassala to make sure that families have access to nutrition, healthcare, sanitation and financial security in times of crisis. In collaboration with local and national government, we are working with at-risk children and families to distribute humanitarian cash transfers to 22,220 households.

In addition to this material aid, our partners in Kassala are working closely with sponsored families to ensure that they get the psychological support that they need, and that they have someone to speak to when they have questions or feedback.



Local mums meet to discuss their families' needs.

# 22,220

**families received  
emergency financial aid**



1,500 young people joined activist groups to raise awareness about girls' rights.



Rufaida, age 18, is working to make a difference for girls in her community.

## You Can Count On Me

**15% of girls in Sudan are married before their 15th birthday.**

Since 2022, we have been working with community members of all ages in Kassala to empower young women, foster literacy, train teachers and facilitate critical conversations about child marriage and female genital mutilation.

To date, 750 young women have joined Village Savings & Loans groups, where they build financial independence through learning business skills and jump-starting their own small enterprises. 60 Champions of Change groups have been formed, in which 1,500 adolescents – including 750 young women – practise building leadership skills through becoming powerful activists and peer educators. In addition to producing 13 radio programmes about girls' rights, we also worked with local organisations to co-ordinate two in-person meetings about equality and gender-based violence.

**“My goal is to ensure that every girl in my community has the power to make her own decisions.”**

– Rufaida (18) from Kassala

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



48,194 mums in Sudan know more about family nutrition and healthcare.

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

- 151,785 students have stopped going to school due to the ongoing political conflict in Sudan. We will make accessible alternative learning environments accessible so that students can continue learning.
- 22% of students have dropped out of school entirely, limiting their job opportunities. We will offer vocational training to teens who are not in school to improve their chances of finding work.
- Many people in Sudan do not have access to healthcare. We will support healthy families by bringing health services to Sponsored communities for screenings and treatment.

## Message From the Community

"Plan has played an instrumental role in helping our community with activities in education, health and awareness-raising about harmful practices like early marriage, especially for girls."



Zeinab,  
Community  
Volunteer,  
Kassala

## 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

60

young people  
have new  
vocational skills

925

girls received  
menstrual  
hygiene kits

50

teachers are  
trained to offer  
psychosocial

5,498

students have  
new school  
supplies