

Powered by Equality.

Beauty (kneeling) and Eucabeth, in Kenya's Kwale County, tend to their kale seedlings in their 4-K Club garden, where they're learning sustainable-farming techniques. (See page 22.)

Until
we are all
equal



Playtime: Primary students outside the school Plan International built in their community in Cambodia

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View our collection of project impact reports.



Access our comprehensive three-year impact indicator trend report.



Read the downloadable 2024 Annual Report FlippingBook.



Watch the mini-docs our Embedded Storytellers created for this report.





LEFT: Children dancing and learning as part of the LEARN Plus program in Tanzania. (See page 30.) **ABOVE:** Boys in Plan's sponsorship program harvest calabash gourds in Bangladesh. (Read about the Plan Effect on page 6.)

Bridging divides, building futures: how investing in girls transforms communities



Lindsay Glassco



Hon. Rona Ambrose

As we enter 2025, the world seems at once more fragmented and more interconnected than ever. Economic challenges and protracted crises are testing our resilience and resolve. In moments like these, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and overlook how meaningful progress is made – not through dramatic leaps but through steady, thoughtful actions that build a better future. This is the heart of our work and the reason we remain confident in the impact we can create, especially for girls.

In 2024, Plan International Canada partnered with community volunteers, local organizations, private-sector leaders and governments to transform lives across 54 countries. Together, we reached 7 million people, including 1.6 million girls, through 128 innovative projects. As global crises intensified, our humanitarian response grew by 156%; we delivered \$50 million in emergency aid to 2.4 million people, including 600,000 girls, across 17 countries.

Amid these challenges, one solution stands out: investing in girls. Research shows that educating girls not only fuels economic growth but also fosters social stability. In Burkina Faso, our \$16.6 million accelerated-learning program enabled 129,613 students – 69,382 of them girls – to catch up on schooling missed due to conflict and displacement. (See page 28.)

None of this progress would be possible without the generosity of everyday Canadians. Together with the more than 200,000 Canadians who contribute to our mission – including almost 103,000 child sponsors – we're working alongside communities to foster lasting change.

We take our responsibility seriously, whether we're delivering impactful programs, evaluating outcomes or managing funds. Despite rising operational costs in Canada and globally, we're proud to report that 83 cents of every donated dollar continues to support programs for children and communities. (See page 44.)

All of our work is guided by a distinguished board of directors. This year, we extend special thanks to Paula Sahyoun, our first youth board member, and Leigh Turner, who completed their terms on our board, for their steadfast leadership during complex times.

As we look ahead, we remain unwavering in our belief that together, we can create lasting change for girls. With strategic leadership and measurable results, we are building a future in which every child can – and will – thrive. Thank you for standing with us.

Lindsay Glassco
President & CEO, Plan International Canada

Hon. Rona Ambrose
Board Chair, Plan International Canada

Our impact

Plan International Canada is a member of a global organization dedicated to advancing children’s rights and equality for girls. This was the collective impact of Plan’s 1,421 active projects in 83 countries in 2024.

Plan International GLOBAL

43 million

children, including 23.3 million girls, were reached by Plan International’s work.

PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

18.8 million

children and adults were reached through gender-sensitive child-protection programs.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

15.5 million

children and adults, including 3.2 million girls, were helped through our work with communities experiencing crises.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

4.6 million

children and adults gained skills and had opportunities for youth employment and entrepreneurship.

HEALTH

32 million

children and adults were reached by our sexual and reproductive health and rights work.

EDUCATION

17.8 million

children and adults received inclusive quality education.

EDUCATION

5.3 million

girls received better access to education.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

1 million

sponsors supported 1.2 million children in 14,520 communities around the world.

Plan International CANADA

7 million

people, including 3.1 million children (1.6 million girls), were reached by Plan International Canada’s work.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE & RESILIENCE

2.4 million

children and adults, including 645,000 girls, were reached by Plan International Canada’s humanitarian-response work.

EDUCATION

249,460

children and adults, including 113,460 girls, received inclusive quality education.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

130,410

children were supported by 102,930 sponsors in Canada.

HEALTH

3.9 million

people, including 2.2 million women and girls, received health care and information.

PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

357,780

people, including 55,750 girls and 191,500 women, were protected from harm, such as abuse and exploitation.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

224,790

youths in Canada, including 201,180 girls, advocated for children’s rights and equality for girls around the world.

GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

61,430

Gifts of Hope were purchased by ethical givers, supporting 60 projects and reaching 4.7 million people (2.3 million children).

Read our
three-year impact
indicator trend
report.





The Power of the Plan Effect

Child Sponsorship creates bigger, community-wide changes.

When children are sponsored through Plan International, something remarkable begins to unfold – a journey that leads to what we call “the Plan Effect.”

“Think of it like dropping a stone in a pond – the ripples spread out far beyond the initial splash,” explains Mary Anne Perta, senior manager of Child Sponsorship at Plan International Canada. “Using sponsorship funds, we sit down with local leaders and families to design programs their community needs.”

This long-term commitment leads to remarkable changes over time. Take Kilifi County, Kenya, where we can see this in action. In this drought-stricken area, where 65% of people lack access to healthy food, Plan International serves 10,749 sponsored children. Sponsorship funds support community needs through cash transfers to families, school meal programs and innovative agricultural solutions like rainwater collection and solar-powered water pumps.

Thanks to Plan’s deep connections there, we’ve secured larger grants and partnerships.

Last year, we launched COSME, an \$18.7 million climate-resilience project, in Kilifi County with the Government of Canada, the Jane Goodall Foundation and Cascadia Seaweed. (See page 20.) This builds on a previous Government of Canada-funded education and child-protection project called Tuliinde Tusome.

Since Plan began working in Kilifi in 1995, 80% of schools have been improved and tens of thousands of families now have access to health centres and water. The impact also reaches individual people, like Nancy, a former sponsored child who’s now 18. During a village visit, Plan staff noticed her hearing impairment and helped her get hearing aids. “When I learned that Plan could help me, it was like I was born again,” says Nancy. “I’m playing, studying and enjoying life.”

This is the Plan Effect: a powerful combination of community-led development, a trusted local presence and the ability to leverage initial support into broader positive change and impact. It starts with sponsorship, but it deepens over time, creating lasting improvements that span generations.

Caroline, from Kilifi County, walks her granddaughters to school, carrying forward her family’s dedication to education that began when her daughters – two of whom were sponsored children – received support from Plan.

**Last year,
102,930
Canadian
sponsors
supported
130,410
sponsored
children
(80,854 girls)
globally.**

The Plan Effect in action

How Child Sponsorship created lasting change for a Kenyan family and their community

In the cool morning air of Kilifi County, Kenya, Caroline cradles her granddaughter Trishia as her daughter Elizabeth (below) pours porridge into cups. In their yard, three chickens scratch beneath young mango trees – both signs of a transformation that began with Child Sponsorship and grew to change their entire community.

“Before Child Sponsorship came to the community, my five daughters couldn’t afford the school fees to take their exams. They stayed home, and their grades suffered,” Caroline recalls. Plan provided school supplies and period products and paid fees for all of her girls, even the three who weren’t sponsored. Plan also built classrooms, installed water taps and improved latrines at their school. “Before, we’d dig a shallow hole with three big stones around it,” Caroline explains. “Plan helped us think bigger.”



As the community grew more self-sufficient, Plan started to transition its sponsorship program to other communities in need. As parting gifts, sponsored children, including Caroline’s youngest daughter, Brenda, received funds to purchase chickens and mango seedlings. “They’re like my children,” Caroline says of the chickens with a laugh.

Today, as Caroline walks her grandchildren past the improved community facilities, she sees the Plan Effect in action – how one program’s support sparked changes that keep growing. Her three oldest daughters completed school and now work. And through her involvement with Plan’s COSME project, Caroline is helping nurture the next wave of transformation. (See her story on page 21.)

Every morning routine carries the quiet triumph of dreams realized through perseverance and support.

Donor Spotlight



PUTTING OTHERS FIRST

Meet the couple who started backing girls not because it’s easy but because it’s the right thing to do.

When the going gets tough, Karen Digby and Michael Weisnagel get kind. They know that these past few years have been hard on everyone, and they are no strangers to tough times, job loss and the loss of loved ones. Yet despite all that, on a cold November night in 2022, they started sponsoring a girl for the first time.

“You choose to pick yourself up, be positive and find a way to help others,” says Karen, explaining the reasons they made the life-changing choice to sponsor Amudia, a 13-year-old girl in Ghana.

“We all live in this world equally but not in equal situations,” says Michael. “You can’t live in a bubble and ignore everyone else out there.”

They hope for a future in which all girls are seen, loved and honoured. “We do what we can to help Amudia become as much as she can be,” says Michael.

“Girls should have equal access to education to not only better themselves but also their communities,” says Karen.

Even when they have to stretch themselves to support Amudia, it’s worth it. “I feel honoured that I am part of her life,” says Karen. “She will always be our priority.”

Measuring our impact

Key findings from our 2024 *Changing Lives* report on how sponsorship works

Improvements for sponsored children compared to 2018:

- Serious health problems in the past 12 months: from 7% to **3.4%**
- Regularly go to school: from 90% to **94%**
- Have had their birth registered: from 90% to **91.5%**
- Can access improved sanitation: from 54% to **61%**

Sponsorship communities compared to non-sponsorship areas:

- In Uganda, adolescents’ self-reported health was **19%** better.
- In Bangladesh, **9%** more adolescents know where to report harm to children (91% versus 82%).
- In Ecuador, **6%** more Indigenous girls attend secondary school (67% versus 61%).

News & events

Plan International Canada's 2024 highlights, milestones and key moments



Breakthrough in Ghana

Ghana's Ministry of Education received the prestigious GovTech Prize for Education Services at the World Government Summit for its innovative outcomes-based education model. The ministry works alongside the World Bank on this initiative. Our partnership with the Jacobs Foundation and Instiglio supports implementation across several regions, with funding tied to measurable student outcomes, demonstrating a results-driven, scalable model for development.

Leadership spotlight

Our CEO, Lindsay Glassco, was honoured with the 2024 Women of Influence Lifetime Achievement Award and recognized by the Women's Executive Network for her leadership in the social-impact sector and advancing girls' equality.

FRESH FACES

We welcomed two inspiring new Celebrated Ambassadors (CAs): journalist **Farah Nasser** and Olympic bobsledder **Cynthia Appiah**. CAs volunteer their time and platforms to advocate for girls' rights worldwide. Farah brings her storytelling skills and passion for equality, while Cynthia's barrier-breaking career inspires girls to chase their dreams.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

The mini-doc *Salma*, created through our Embedded Storytellers program by Nigerian filmmakers Ike Nnaebue and Aimalohi Ojeamiren, was selected for New York's Imagine This Women's International Film Festival.



DONOR LOVE SOARS

A representative survey of 14,000 donors rated us **8.4** out of 10 – our highest score ever! We're committed to exceptional donor experiences and value feedback. Together with our donors, we're building a more equal world.

We're thrilled to have been named a Greater Toronto 2024 TOP EMPLOYER by *The Globe and Mail*! Our exceptional HR programs and forward-thinking workplace culture stood out among the GTA's leading organizations.



We applaud our Plan Colombia colleagues for their advocacy of “They Are Girls, Not Wives,” a law ensuring no one under 18 is married. Last year, our project in Bangladesh, which has one of the world’s highest early and forced marriage rates, prevented 12,000 child marriages. (See page 38.)

Bringing care to remote communities in the Philippines

With funding from Global Affairs Canada and the support of Canadian donors, we’ve launched an innovative \$8 million initiative in remote Philippine communities to help address the barriers to health care that women and girls face, bringing essential services to underserved regions. The GRASP project (Gender-Responsive Systems Approach to Universal Health Care) is being implemented with the University of Montreal International Health Unit.

READING TIME

The \$15 million Refugee Education and Development (READ) partnership between Plan International and Global Affairs Canada empowers refugee-led organizations in Cameroon and Niger to deliver education in conflict-affected regions. Through direct funding and advocacy networks, READ helps strengthen these local organizations’ capacity to support displaced learners.



\$343 million

worth of new program grants were signed this year – our highest number ever! This reflects continued confidence in Plan Canada’s expertise in delivering real impact for children.

Climate voices

At the UN Climate Summit (COP28) in Dubai, Plan Canada demonstrated how climate crises intensify global hunger, especially for women and girls. We highlighted ways to address both hunger and climate issues: school meals using local ingredients, climate-resilient farming methods and the provision of cash to vulnerable households for the purchase of local food. These approaches help communities while protecting their land. We also amplified youth voices calling for climate action.



Eureka Fellowship for Youth Changemakers

“Our future depends on healthy people, a healthy society and a healthy planet, which is why AstraZeneca Canada and Plan International Canada created the Eureka Fellowship to amplify the voices of young Canadians driving sustainable global change,” says Gaby Bourbara, president of AstraZeneca Canada. Among the 13 young people who have been selected is Kimia Shafighi, CEO of the clean-tech start-up Biocene.



Plan International created safe spaces in Guatemala for adolescent girls to talk about issues affecting them.

WE WILL CREATE A WORLD WHERE EVERY CHILD IS POWERED BY EQUALITY.

We believe every child deserves equal access to basic human rights, like education, health care and protection from violence. No matter where they live. No matter their age. No matter their gender. No matter what. Research shows that investing in girls is among the most powerful ways to reduce poverty and build peaceful communities. It's not just right – it's smart. When girls complete their education, they can earn higher incomes and provide for their families, lifting entire generations out of poverty. Countries with higher rates of girls' education have lower levels of conflict and violence. When we invest in girls today, we unlock immediate and lasting benefits, creating conditions for all young people to thrive side by side, which builds a more secure, stable and prosperous world for everyone.

Until We Are All Equal

Learn more
about who we
are, our work
and our impact.



Driving global change

Innovation and action: Plan International Canada's
top 5 impacts transforming communities in 2024



Health

908,660

insecticide-treated mosquito nets were distributed to 1,635,585 people in Guinea and Zimbabwe to prevent malaria; 3,020 lives of children under the age of five were saved. (See page 12.)



Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment

2,898 women in Ghana landed jobs in green businesses and soya cultivation. (See page 32.)



Humanitarian Response & Resilience

408,000 people in need received over 13,000 metric tons of food. (See page 18.)

THE POWER OF INTEGRATION DRIVES IMPACT

► Our projects often deliver multiple types of support to communities, integrating our five areas of expertise. For reporting purposes, each project is classified under its primary focus area, though many projects include elements that span multiple categories.

RIGHT: On the border between India and Nepal, Plan set up a program to prevent child and human trafficking and offer assistance to girls at risk.
BELOW: Children learn how to care for the environment, including planting trees, in a 4-K Club in Kenya.



Protection From Violence

12,000


marriages were prevented for girls under the age of 18 in Bangladesh. (See page 38.)



Education

33,918

out-of-school girls were enrolled in school. (See page 26.)



A teen washes her hands at a water station before heading to class in Zimbabwe. Clean water and access to toilets, especially during menstruation, are crucial for keeping girls healthy and in school.

Health

43.7%
of our program
expenditures supported
health initiatives.

34 PROJECTS

- 16 in West & Central Africa
- 8 in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa
- 6 in the Americas
- 4 in Asia Pacific

OUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED

783,020 girls and 759,610 boys.

Safety nets 908,660

insecticide-treated mosquito nets were distributed to 1,635,585 people in Guinea and Zimbabwe to prevent malaria, a deadly disease in their communities; 3,020 lives of children under the age of five were saved.

“

Right now, families are making impossible choices – between buying food or life-saving medicine. Without access to basic health care, treatable illnesses become catastrophic, weakening not just bodies but entire communities. But we know how to break this cycle. When communities gain access to quality health care and nutrition, they build foundations for generations of health and possibility.”

—Dr. Tanjina Mirza, chief programs officer, Plan International Canada

NET GAINS
Community members in Zimbabwe distributed insecticide-treated mosquito nets door to door.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: THE GLOBAL FUND

A partnership for improving health

Plan International Canada and the Global Fund's partnership shows how collaboration can drive lasting change in global health.

For 14 years, Plan International Canada and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have worked together to combat diseases that disproportionately affect women, girls, LGBTQ+ communities, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in underserved communities experiencing poverty. From 2021 to 2023, we reached over 25 million people, including an estimated 7.7 million girls and 5.1 million women, through 15 projects in 12 countries.

RETHINKING MALARIA PREVENTION

Picture a community in Zimbabwe with 1,000 people. In 2010, 49 of them would get malaria. Fast-forward to 2022 and only nine people were infected. This progress reflects the impact that the Global Fund and partners like Plan International deliver by strengthening health systems in communities.

Before they had access to insecticide-treated mosquito nets, families relied on traditional mosquito-repelling methods such as burning zumbani-tree leaves or using mosquito coils. But things changed when community health workers started going door to door bringing nets to people's homes, especially to vulnerable groups like children under five and pregnant women. They didn't just drop off the nets; they sat down with families and showed them how to use them properly and in some cases even put up the nets to ensure they were used each night.

The impact has been significant. From 2021 to 2023, Plan International Zimbabwe distributed more than 3 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets, protecting more than 5.4 million people. This is especially important because malaria hits children and pregnant women the hardest – in fact, in Africa, nearly eight out of 10 people who die from malaria are young children. We also partner with ministries of health to provide medicines that protect children under five and pregnant women against malaria during the critical rainy season.

In Guinea, Plan's advocacy efforts helped



change the methodology by which the National Malaria Control Program distributes mosquito nets to ensure that the nets reach the people who are most vulnerable to malaria. In 2022, we distributed 784,382 nets, reaching more than 1.4 million people.

In Cameroon, we've addressed the physical barriers to accessing health services. Take 32-year-old Suzanne's story: She once faced a 30-kilometre journey to the nearest clinic to get medical care for a family member who had malaria. Now she's one of 3,790 trained community health workers who conduct malaria-prevention training and provide basic care and malaria treatment.

BRINGING CARE TO COMMUNITIES

In Zimbabwe, we're helping protect young women from HIV, reaching 181,774 adolescent girls and young women from 2018 to 2023. Research has shown that girls who stay in school are much

BOTTOM: Suzanne participated in health training to share information about anti-malaria treatments in her community.

TOP: We worked with religious leaders like Bangoura Moustapha in Guinea to raise awareness in their communities about HIV, TB and malaria. Watch our mini-doc on our work with Moustapha.



HEALTH

less likely to get HIV, so we ensure that they can continue their education by paying their tuition. We also built boarding facilities close to eight schools in areas where HIV rates are high. These safe living quarters for girls mean they don't have to make long, dangerous walks to school or stay in unsafe housing situations.

In Guinea, where people in remote areas often struggle to access health services such as HIV testing, we came up with the creative solution of bringing medical care to them. Think of it as clinics on wheels: These mobile screening vans travelled to remote villages where 56,671 people had HIV tests between 2021 and 2023. The mobile teams also provided referrals for follow-up care.

ENGAGING MEN AS HEALTH ALLIES

"In Senegal, men are stepping up to protect their families' health through a program called Husbands Club," explains Célia Bossard, a gender equality and inclusion advisor at Plan Canada.

Between 2021 and 2023, more than 5,500 men and 412 traditional and religious leaders learned how to better support the health of their wives and children. Men's knowledge of how HIV is transmitted improved from 83% to 95%, and their knowledge about how TB is transmitted jumped from 62% to 86%. The number of men who supported their wives in making their own health care decisions grew from 66% to 75%.

A global health partnership

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is the world's largest funder of the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Since 2002, it has spent US\$5 billion annually to support local experts and health systems in more than 100 countries. Plan International Canada is the only Canadian non-profit that supports the implementation of Global Fund grants. We work alongside community partners to support the strengthening of national health systems in underserved communities.

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

The numbers tell the story

● Movement against malaria (2021–2023)

21,018,420 people

received 11,676,900 insecticide-treated mosquito nets across Guinea, Liberia, Zimbabwe and Senegal.

1,201,599 malaria cases

were treated at the community level in Cameroon, Guinea and Liberia.

1,438,949 suspected malaria cases

were tested in Cameroon, Guinea and Liberia.

With an investment of \$290 million for 2024–2026, our work with the Global Fund continues to make a big impact in Benin, Cameroon, El Salvador, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

● Success in Zimbabwe (2021–2023)

3,037,923 mosquito nets

were distributed, reaching 5,468,261 people and saving more than 4,575 lives.

181,774 adolescent girls and young women

were reached through HIV-prevention services from 2018 to 2023. (TARGET: 178,722)

53,211 participants,

including adolescents and their parents, attended Parent-Child Communication sessions (between 2018 and 2023) that facilitated open discussions about HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and safe-sex practices. (TARGET: 48,949)

82% reduction in

malaria cases between 2010 and 2022

● Success in Guinea (2021–2023)

71,606 people were reached with HIV-prevention services. (TARGET: 55,657)

57,728 cases of TB

were identified. (TARGET: 53,410)

10,181 people

living with HIV and TB received treatment. (TARGET: 12,252)

56,671 people were

screened for HIV/AIDS and, if positive, referred for care. (TARGET: 50,093)

We receive grants from the Global Fund in three-year tranches. This report includes data from the 2018–2020 and 2021–2023 funding periods. This 2024 Annual Report covers activities from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

Impact updates & highlights



ABOVE: Shirley from Ghana participates in a Plan-led global youth-advocacy project. LEFT: Part of the Generations in Dialogue project, Seila and her mom shared their changing menstrual experiences in Cambodia.



“In a world of crisis, conflict and climate change, we’ve found that adolescents, especially girls, are the blind spot. The health system forgets about them after the age of four or five, only to reconnect when they face an unwanted or unplanned pregnancy.”

—Chris Armstrong,
director of health, Plan
International Canada

Last year, we invested **\$93.5 million** in 34 projects, reaching **3,899,830** people: **783,020 girls, 759,610 boys, 1,423,300 women** and **933,910 men**. Our work is concentrated in West and Central Africa and is focused on sexual and reproductive health as well as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV prevention and treatment.

► A Plan first

We launched the **Young Women & Girls Health Action Fund**, a groundbreaking initiative to transform adolescent girls’ health in underserved communities. Operating like a mutual fund for health, the Health Action Fund allows donors to invest in initiatives that address a range of issues, from early and forced marriage to life-threatening diseases. It offers a powerful 10x matching structure for donors: Every \$10,000 contributed generates \$110,000 of impact. The fund will co-finance health initiatives through \$160 million from Global Affairs Canada and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, plus \$16 million in private donations. This \$176 million investment will improve health services and reach more than 1.5 million adolescent girls and young women.

► Project spotlight: VUMA

In Tanzania’s Katavi region, where one in three women (34%) experiences pregnancy before turning 19, the **VUMA** project (Adolescent Girls’ Health and Rights) is helping girls transform their lives. This \$17 million project, funded by the Government of Canada and Canadian supporters, tackles the sexual and reproductive health and rights of girls and young women. Prioritizing girls both in and out of school, the project also focuses on violence prevention, menstrual health, financial empowerment and building life skills. Launched in 2022, VUMA is on track to help 147,615 girls ages 10–24 by 2030 – 80% of the region’s young female population. To date, we’ve reached 16,115, but this will increase significantly in the coming years due to health-worker training and facility upgrades already completed or underway.

► Empowered girls transform futures

Plan is launching new projects with support from Global Affairs Canada and Canadian donors. In Bolivia, the \$10.3 million **REACH** project (Resilient and Empowered Adolescents for Change and Action on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) will create safe spaces for girls’ health education, train teachers and deploy mobile health units. In Mozambique, the \$22 million **Todas Avante** project will support clinics and mobile health teams to reach young women. The initiative also provides girls with skills, resources and seed funding to launch their own businesses.

HEALTH

EMERGING LESSONS

How youth voices drive real health change

The challenge

For years, we've helped young people, especially adolescent girls and young women, build the confidence and skills to advocate for their health needs. But enabling youth to advocate only within their immediate circles wasn't creating sufficient change.

What's working

We've discovered that real change happens when we connect young people with decision makers, both within and outside the home.

Through our Youth Advocacy and Leadership (YAL) project, funded by Fondation Botnar and implemented with the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), young advocates across seven countries secured new government funding and resource commitments for youth health programs.

One of our biggest YAL wins was in Malawi. Thanks to persistent youth advocacy, the government nearly doubled its family-planning budget, from 570 million to 1 billion Malawian kwacha (\$422,000 to

\$770,000), and committed to fighting harmful cultural practices that lead to early and forced marriages, teenage pregnancies and sexual violence. It also created youth parliaments to develop future leaders.

And through the Plan for Girls project in Benin and Cameroon, "girls formed their own advisory committees, from villages to cities – even getting seats at national decision-making tables," notes Sandrine Batonga, a health advisor at Plan Canada. "They talked about their rights to education, health and economic opportunities, and they got city councils to put real money behind these initiatives."

Similar results have been seen in other projects. In Guinea, a Champions of Change club worked with advocates to establish a youth-friendly health clinic, where they learned about health issues like TB and HIV, with their knowledge increasing by 50%. They also gained the confidence to discuss these sensitive topics with adults who could help make change happen.

Going forward

To build on this success, we need to:

- Create connections between youth and key decision makers.
- Set up mentoring programs.
- Give youth access to larger platforms to influence policy.
- Support youth engagement with women's rights groups and youth organizations.



Read our special report on our Youth Advocacy and Leadership project.

Donor Spotlight



ALI'S JOURNEY WITH PLAN CANADA


When Ali Nabeviah's son was born with a serious heart condition requiring multiple surgeries, it reinforced his commitment to Plan Canada, to which he's been a donor for nearly 20 years. "I feel really lucky that we have a medical system that supported my son," Ali says. "I was thinking about those kids who might not have these facilities or the medications they need."

This personal experience shapes his Gifts of Hope choices, which he focuses on health care, including the Stock a Pharmacy, Health Worker Training and Health Services for All gifts. As a dentist who immigrated to Canada as a child, Ali watched his father work 18-hour days to support the family. "Even though we started in poverty, I realized our definition of poverty was nothing compared to what some children in the rest of the world go through," he reflects.

Through the Gifts of Hope catalogue and letters from their sponsored child, Ali teaches his 13-year-old son about global inequalities. "Look around your living room. You'll notice that you have everything you need to survive," Ali says to him. "With Gifts of Hope, you can make children's survival easier."

Students who participated in our global youth advocacy project





Marwa and her children live in a temporary shelter in Kassala State, in Sudan. "It's hard to be uprooted from your home and move to another area," she says. "It affects our health, our mental health and morale."

Humanitarian Response & Resilience

22.8%

of our program expenditures supported humanitarian-response and resilience initiatives.

54 PROJECTS

- 31 in West & Central Africa
- 11 in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa
- 6 in the Americas
- 5 in Asia Pacific
- 1 in East & Central Europe

OUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED

644,975 girls and 597,235 boys.

“

In just five years, global humanitarian needs have more than doubled, as crises tear at the fabric of daily life and force families into increasingly precarious situations. We're no longer facing isolated emergencies but an interconnected web of crises that intensifies hardship. Our response must evolve: prioritizing prevention first, supporting development where we can and providing humanitarian assistance when lives depend on it.”

—Jessica Capasso, director of emergency and humanitarian assistance, Plan International Canada

HOPE SERVED


A child in Gaza receives a hot meal from one of Plan's partners, the non-profit Taawon (Welfare Association).

Families find strength

408,000

people received over 13,000 metric tons of food through Plan Canada's response, providing essential nutrition to help families survive severe food shortages.





Four of the more than 8,000 students involved in environmental clubs

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: COSME

A rising tide of change

Through seaweed farming, mangrove planting and forest conservation in coastal Kenya, women lead climate solutions that protect children's futures.

Plan isn't waiting for disaster to strike before addressing the connected challenges of climate crises, gender inequality and economic instability.

While global humanitarian needs have more than doubled in the past five years, the COSME (Conservation and Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems) project shows how early intervention can strengthen communities before emergencies occur.

In the Kenyan coastal communities of Kwale and Kilifi, where climate change has hit hardest and women traditionally have the least power, Plan is working with 3,000 women to build resilience through sustainable seaweed

farming, mangrove restoration and forest conservation.

"These communities understand the impact of environmental degradation better than anyone," says Annick Gillard-Bailetti, COSME's coastal resilience advisor. "They witness first-hand how deforestation and mangrove destruction affect their livelihoods, their health and even their children's access to education."

We've completed Year 1 of this three-year, \$18.7 million project, funded by Global Affairs Canada and Canadian donors and in partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada, Cascadia Seaweed Corporation, Solvatten AB and the government of Kenya.

Support for this project also came through

Because I Am a Girl donations and **Gifts of Hope** purchases like Grow Green Businesses, Nature-Based Solutions for Economic Empowerment and Support for Youth Climate Champions.

Coastal-protection tool kit

"We're focusing on these three nature-based solutions to build resilience from ocean to forest," explains Gillard-Bailetti. "We're also drawing on the knowledge and leadership of the women in the project, as they've been stewards of these lands for generations."

1. Mangrove restoration Acting as living seawalls, mangrove trees store four times more carbon than inland forests while also protecting coastal communities from storms and rising seas.

2. Sustainable seaweed farming These underwater crops provide steady incomes through value-added products such as fertilizers while naturally reducing coastal erosion and sheltering marine life.

3. Forest conservation Coastal forests host vital biodiversity, which communities can protect by switching from destructive practices (like cutting trees for fuel) to more sustainable practices, like mushroom foraging and planting native species.

Women involved in planting mangroves



Photography: Armstrong Too (this page, top); Millicent Muthieu (opposite page)

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE & RESILIENCE

Plan Embedded Storytellers Armstrong Too (videographer) and Millicent Mutheu (writer) spent time with Caroline in the forest.

Where Trees Tell Stories

“Every tree here holds a story,” Caroline Kiti whispers, touching the bark of a towering baobab in Kenya’s Kaya Chonyi forest, a UNESCO World Heritage site. As a child, she played among these trees, guided by elders’ wisdom about sacred boundaries and ancestral spirits. Now she leads efforts to restore this precious ecosystem.

Caroline watched her childhood forest decline as timber harvesting and land clearing took their toll. “People had to survive and feed their families,” she recalls, remembering the sight of smoke rising above the canopy. The forest’s deterioration brought serious challenges, particularly for women who walk kilometres for water and rely on firewood for cooking.

Through Plan International’s COSME project, Caroline found a path forward. As chairperson of the Tumaini conservation group (the name means “hope”), she spearheads initiatives that balance preservation with community needs. The group

has planted 5,000 seedlings, including traditional medicinal trees like Mzambaru and Mibuyu.

Caroline’s approach to change extends beyond tree planting. In her compound, fruit trees now provide food and shade while solar water heaters have reduced

firewood dependency. “We’re showing our community that conservation creates abundance,” she says, pointing to thriving orange and mango trees.

WOMEN ON THE FRONT LINE OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE

For Caroline, conservation has become a powerful tool for social change. What began as Tumaini, a women’s conservation group, is now a partnership with Heri (“goodwill”), a men’s group. The collaboration extends beyond forest work to mixed-gender football matches in which only women can score goals. This partnership has transformed both environmental and family dynamics. “We’re not there yet with the forest,” Caroline reflects, “but now my husband respects me more. He seeks my opinion on family matters.” By selling seedlings to Plan, the group earned 80,000 Kenyan shillings (C\$860), which it used to help parents send their children to school. Other COSME participants planted seedlings, contributing to the project’s reforestation initiatives.

As dusk settles, women move gracefully between the plants, their bare feet in rhythm with their songs. The traditional kayamba’s gentle shake accompanies their voices: *Eh Plan imebadilisha mtindo* (“Plan has changed our way of life”). Like Mekatilili wa Menza, the Mijikenda freedom fighter who resisted colonial rule, Caroline fights for her community’s future. “We’re the freedom fighters of clean air and good medicine,” she declares. In her hands, she holds milk bags that were salvaged from roadsides and recycled into seedling containers – a testament to how traditional wisdom and modern conservation can nurture both forest and community.

From childhood wanderer to community leader, Caroline Kiti is writing a new chapter for Kenya’s sacred Kaya Chonyi forest – one seedling and one football match at a time.

By Millicent Mutheu

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: COSME

Gender Justice Journey

A path to women's leadership in climate action

Along Kenya's coastline, a transformation is taking place that goes beyond environmental restoration. "The Gender Justice Journey, a cornerstone of the COSME project, is empowering women to step into leadership roles within their communities while tackling critical climate challenges," explains Beryl Odour, COSME's senior project manager. "This innovative initiative recognizes that true

environmental resilience must be built on a foundation of gender equality."

Through carefully designed training programs, women learn to navigate the complex intersection of economic rights and climate crises. They explore how environmental degradation particularly affects their daily lives – from water collection to farming and fishing. But rather than viewing these challenges

as insurmountable, the programs equip women with essential leadership and decision-making skills to address them.

What makes this initiative unique is its inclusive approach. Recognizing that lasting change requires community-wide support, the program brings men and women together. Their conversations help reshape traditional roles and create new understandings of gender equality.



Growing change

Elizabeth and thousands of other students are turning school gardens into climate solutions.

In the shade of a tree in Kilifi County, Grade 6 student Elizabeth takes a break from working in her school garden. She belongs to her school's 4-K Club, an environmental program similar to Tanzania's Roots & Shoots initiative run by the Jane Goodall Institute, a COSME partner.

"Kenya has been experiencing prolonged drought, fewer trees and less circulation of fresh air," Elizabeth explains. "This means we don't have enough food at home or in school. That's why I joined the 4-K Club – to be part of the people helping Kenya."

The club's name, she explains, reflects its mission: "4-K means *kuungana* ('coming together'), *kufanya* ('taking action'), *kusaidia* ('to help') and Kenya. When we come together, we can get things done faster and easier." Elizabeth and her fellow club members – part of a network of over 8,600 students (4,580 girls) – meet twice weekly to learn about farming and tree planting. In their garden, they grow watermelons, eggplants, yams and other vegetables. The harvest provides both environmental and practical benefits, helping feed families when money is tight.

While Elizabeth dreams of becoming a doctor, she's currently focused on healing the environment. "I don't like it when the environment isn't cared for," she says.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE & RESILIENCE



BRANCHING OUT

The first lesson in the Gender Justice Journey uses a powerful metaphor of two trees: one stunted and one healthy. The stunted tree represents a woman without support, while the healthy tree symbolizes a woman nurtured by her husband and community. Caroline instantly connected with this imagery: "It's as if Plan had a lover of trees in mind when designing these lessons."



Watch our mini-doc starring Caroline.

The ripple effect (and reach!)

When women lead climate action, the benefits ripple through entire communities.

➤ **3,000** women are directly involved in ecosystem restoration through COSME.

➤ **49,000** people total (26,000 women and girls) will participate in the project.

➤ **110** coastal communities across Kenya and Tanzania are taking part.

➤ **20** groups (600 women) will be trained in seaweed production.

➤ **1,200** members (840 women) from 43 conservation groups will receive mangrove-restoration and -conservation training.

➤ **44** groups (1,800 members, 1,215 of them women) will receive forest-conservation training.

➤ **62** savings groups will be created to help develop the skills to save and access loans.

➤ **6,767** solar water-purification kits have been acquired for participants and schools.

➤ A study of climate-resilient seaweed varieties has launched.

Partner Spotlight

Sea change for women

A partnership between Plan International and Cascadia Seaweed Corporation combines sustainable-farming expertise with gender justice and economic empowerment for women seaweed farmers on Kenya's coast. While women dominate this sector, they face unstable environmental conditions, low prices due to monopoly buying and raw-product export, and for some, up to four-hour walks to farms.

"What struck us was that the seaweed-farming groups had viable businesses but had faced crop losses due to changing climate conditions," explains Jennifer O'Neill, project manager with Cascadia Seaweed.

To address these challenges, Cascadia is developing a land-based seaweed nursery and biobank facility for emergency seed supply and climate-resilient strain research while helping women expand sales beyond raw seaweed production to more profitable value-added products like soap and even seaweed donuts and exploring the potential to develop climate-friendly alternatives to traditional fertilizers.



Women like this seaweed farmer are at the heart of climate solutions in Kenya.

Impact updates & highlights

Last year, we invested **\$48.9 million** in 54 humanitarian-response projects, reaching **2.4 million people**

(644,975 girls, 597,235 boys, 642,120 women and 552,045 men).

We worked with people fleeing conflict and insecurity across Africa (including Sudan, Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria, Mali and Niger), the Americas (Haiti, Colombia and Ecuador), Asia (Myanmar) and the Middle East (Gaza). Focusing on hunger response and prevention as well as protection and education in emergencies, we increased our reach by 156% compared to 2023. As part of this, we served 408,000 children and adults through emergency food programs and provided life-saving critical support to 1.3 million people in crisis (including 292,170 girls).



ABOVE: A child-friendly space in Haiti provides a safe haven for children fleeing gang violence. **RIGHT:** The Adre transit centre in Chad, for refugees from Sudan



► Children in Crisis Response Fund

Plan International Canada's Children in Crisis Response Fund (CiCRF), our first-ever rapid-response fund, was launched in spring 2023, and to date, donors have supported critical **humanitarian work in Gaza, Lebanon, Chad and Haiti**, helping children affected by conflict and crisis with immediate assistance. Plan delivers supplies, creates safe spaces and reunites families, with a particular focus on protecting girls from the increased risks they face in a crisis. Strong local partnerships enable efficient and appropriate aid delivery despite extremely challenging conditions. CiCRF ensures we can act immediately when children need help most.

► Sudan's children: hope amid crisis

Since conflict erupted in Sudan in April 2023, creating the world's largest child-displacement crisis, Plan International has **reached 1.1 million people in the country** with life-saving programming; our response has also extended to 142,200 people across Chad, South Sudan, Central African Republic and Ethiopia. Some examples of our response include establishing 34 temporary learning spaces serving 15,600 children (9,350 girls), providing psychosocial support to 20,000 children (10,600 girls) and helping 7,560 children (4,690 girls) reconnect with their families. We've reached 42,000 people with food assistance, helped 150,000 people access health services and provided nutritional support to 93,760 children (41,670 girls) and mothers. Additionally, 76,000 individuals have gained access to clean water and sanitation. "The war must end," says Kristine Anderson, Plan International gender-in-emergencies specialist, "but children cannot wait."

► Education beyond conflict

The humanitarian crisis in the North East region of Nigeria has torn families apart, forcing more than 500,000 people to flee across the border into Cameroon's Far North. Working with communities and partners, Plan reached nearly 180,000 people, including more than 96,000 children (51,920 girls). Our year-long program **delivered more than 20 metric tons of food** to hungry families, distributed 13,330 school kits (6,170 to girls) and created six safe spaces where 4,140 children (1,870 girls) can play, learn and heal. By fixing damaged schools and supporting teachers, we're helping children continue their education and restoring some stability to lives upended by crisis.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE & RESILIENCE

Donor Spotlight



A child finds comfort in being able to play with friends in a safe space in Ukraine.

“THE PEOPLE IN UKRAINE FACE THEIR DIFFICULTIES WITH GRACE, KINDNESS AND RESILIENCE.”

When the Temerty Foundation set out to help smaller Ukraine-based organizations maximize their impact, it partnered with Plan Canada and Plan Ukraine to tackle a critical yet often overlooked humanitarian need: psychological healing in a country scarred by prolonged conflict.

“Mental health is a critical concern in Ukraine,” says Krystina Waler, director of Ukraine initiatives at the Temerty Foundation. “The entire population is experiencing immense stress, regardless of where they live.”

Rising Strong, the collaborative initiative the foundation supports, creates safe spaces and provides psychological support to individuals coping with trauma and gender-based violence. By working with local partners, the project combines Plan’s global expertise with Ukrainian organizations’ deep understanding of their communities. “We hope this collaboration offers meaningful support to the people of Ukraine and brings some relief during these challenging times.”

EMERGING LESSONS

Transform lives through adaptive responses

The challenge

When disasters and crises strike, communities need immediate help across many areas, from food to shelter to medical care. The challenge is delivering urgent aid while building lasting resilience and avoiding duplicating efforts.

What’s working

- **Community-led recovery:** After an earthquake, like the one that hit Nepal, we know children, especially girls, are often forgotten in the rush to rebuild. While a lack of available trained local workers and adequate tools slowed our progress, we ultimately helped more than 10,000 people (54% girls and women), making sure every shelter, latrine and water system we built was done so with women’s and children’s safety in mind. By having local communities lead the work – and paying them for their labour – we helped families recover in the ways that mattered most to them.

- **Cash support:** Cash and voucher assistance enhances women’s and girls’ resilience and self-reliance by eliminating the need to travel long distances to acquire goods, resell unwanted items or carry heavy relief items. In Kenya, cash transfers improved girls’ school attendance, while in Cameroon, more than 4,000 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers received cash that helped them access maternal health services.

- **Local government partnerships:** Coordination with authorities helps minimize duplication and ensure locally appropriate assistance. In

Sudan, partnerships with ministries have enabled effective aid to reach conflict-displaced families. In Colombia, close collaboration with the Ministry of National Education is critical for strengthening the resilience of the education system in the face of complex challenges posed by internal armed conflict and the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis.


- **Multi-sectoral crisis response:** In humanitarian crises, children, especially girls, are often overlooked. Through our local roots and partnerships with major aid organizations, Plan ensures their needs are met. In Cameroon, we work with the World Food Programme and UN Refugee Agency to provide 70,000 people with food aid monthly while protecting children from trafficking and supporting their education and emotional recovery.

Going forward

To accelerate crisis recovery and ensure effective humanitarian aid, three critical improvements are key:

1. Prioritizing vocational and skills training enables community members to contribute to reconstruction and helps prevent delays in recovery.
2. Distributing cash assistance through digital systems helps ensure more flexible and tailored support.
3. Coordinating recovery efforts will address diverse needs, resulting in more effective and sustainable relief.

Ultimately, putting communities at the centre of recovery efforts and strengthening their capacity to lead is essential for building long-term resilience against future shocks.

A group of approximately ten young children, mostly girls, are gathered in a room with a red brick wall. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The children are wearing colorful, patterned dresses. One girl in the center is wearing a purple dress, while others are in floral and polka-dot dresses. The lighting is bright, coming from a window in the background.

Children participating
in the LEARN Plus
project in Tanzania

Education

17.5%

of our program
expenditures supported
education initiatives.

23 PROJECTS

- 14 in West & Central Africa
- 5 in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa
- 2 in the Americas
- 2 in Asia Pacific

OUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED

113,455 girls and 102,865 boys.

“

Missing out on education isn't just about lost learning — it's about lost futures. Without education, children, especially girls, face a cascade of challenges. Their futures become constrained, their health is compromised and their vulnerability to exploitation increases. For girls specifically, leaving school early can trigger a domino effect, leading to child marriage and early pregnancy, which only deepen the cycle of lost opportunities.”

—Peter Simms, senior education advisor,
Plan International Canada

Second chances

33,918

girls missing out on their education were enrolled in school through Plan International Canada's education projects around the globe. More than a number, it's 33,918 lives transformed through the power of education.



RESILIENT STUDENT
Miladis, a migrant from Venezuela living in Colombia, speaks out against discrimination while staying focused on her studies.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: FASST

Breaking barriers

When conflict strikes, education is often the first casualty – especially for girls. But our FASST project proved that that doesn't have to be true.

In conflict-affected regions of Burkina Faso, Plan's \$16.6 million Strengthening Girls' Right to Complete Their Education Safely and on Time (FASST) project helped young people transform their lives. Launched in 2019 and completed in 2024, the project helped **129,613 students, including 69,382 girls**, continue their education in safe, inclusive environments.

Many of these children have fled violence or face poverty that threatens to push girls toward early and forced marriages. Child labour also remains

a challenge, as many families depend on their children's work to survive. FASST created spaces where children could receive quality education and thrive despite these challenges.

"Each student who remains in school becomes a powerful force for change," says Sara Nikolic, a program manager with Plan Canada. "Educated girls transform communities, earning higher incomes and raising healthier families. And they challenge practices like early and forced marriage and gender-based violence."

INNOVATION IN ACTION

Speed schools: helping children catch up fast

FASST speed schools help children ages 8–12 who have missed education due to conflict get back on track through a nine-month accelerated program that covers three years of learning. "We wanted to provide a solution that was tested and effective," says Elizabeth Lory, a Plan Canada education advisor. "Instead of these kids giving up on education, we provided a way for them to catch up." The initiative successfully **brought more than 8,300 students (51% girls) back to classes** in 302 centres, with 151 trained teachers supporting these students, 71% of whom have been displaced by conflict.

Learning over the airwaves

When security risks and COVID-19 closed schools in Burkina Faso, Plan broadcast lessons over local radio stations. Community volunteers ran 289 education listening groups, helping **4,502 students (3,678 girls)** learn safely in their neighbourhoods.

STORY OF CHANGE



Zénabou has big dreams and a big heart.

Seeds of hope: Meet Zénabou, one seriously inspiring young teen

In her backyard in eastern Burkina Faso, 14-year-old Zénabou tends to her vegetable garden while cultivating dreams of justice and equality. Despite conflict keeping over a million children out of school in her country, Zénabou refuses to let her dreams fade. Through her determination and her participation in the FASST project, she's continuing her education – and inspiring others.

"Girls and boys, we are all equal," declares Zénabou, who's challenging deep-rooted stereotypes in her community. After learning about her friend's mother suffering abuse at

home, she aims to become a lawyer so she can "ban violence against children and fight against gender-based violence."

Zénabou is one of 9,497 students (6,783 girls) who received take-home rations of rice and beans through FASST's school meals program – critical support that helps keep girls in school. And she understands the importance of giving back. "My dreams are to see my mother benefit from her efforts and other people who have helped me," she says, mentioning Plan International. "I will never forget them because they did everything for me to succeed."

Watch Zénabou's inspiring story to see how this young girl is becoming tomorrow's change maker one garden – and one dream – at a time.



EDUCATION

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

The numbers tell the story

The FASST project met or exceeded 87% of its targets. Here are the highlights.

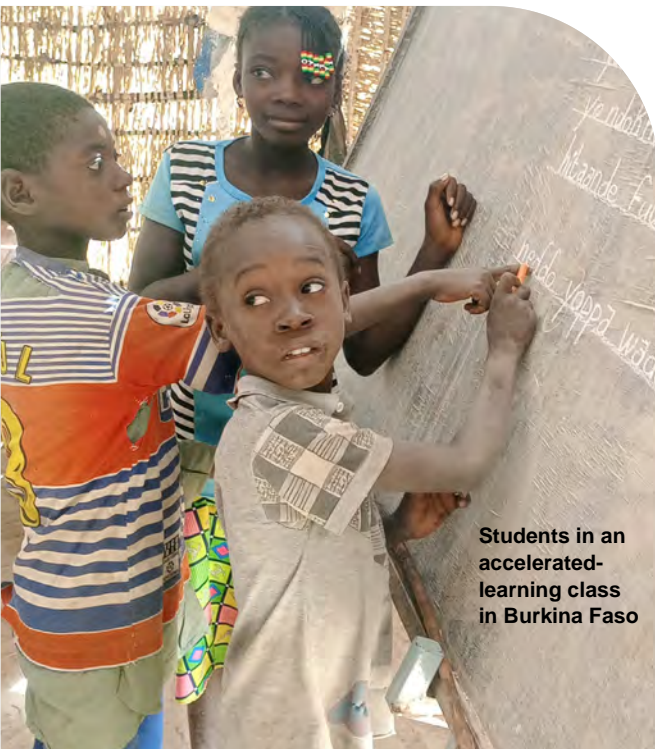
THE SECRET INGREDIENT? COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Change happens through people.

The project trained:

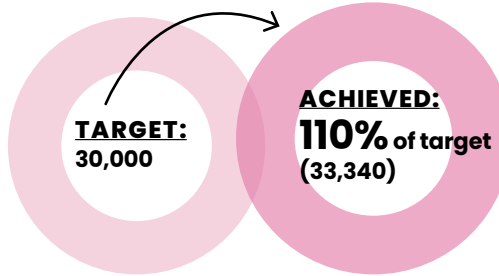
- 405 female mentors, or “godmothers,” who supported 5,413 girls
- 901 teachers (45% of them women) in gender-sensitive education
- 162 religious and community leaders (33% women)
- 135 community volunteers (52% women)

These champions advocate for girls’ education and oppose harmful practices like early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation and gender-based violence.



Students in an accelerated-learning class in Burkina Faso

Girls who received school meals



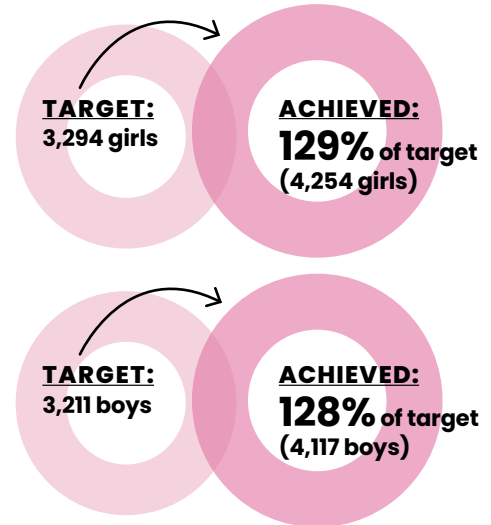
What this means:

School feeding in the Sahel region delivers a double win: providing crucial meals during the food crisis while keeping students, especially girls, in class.

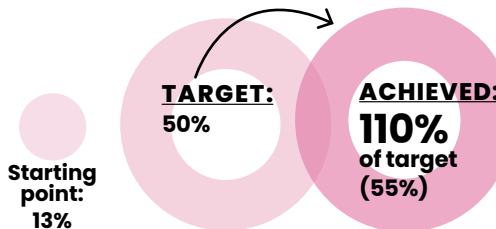
Girls and boys who went from speed school to primary school

What this means:

Our speed-school program proved you can innovate even in conflict zones.



Girls who feel confident to make decisions about their education and protection needs



What this means:

Working with female mentors and creating safe ways to speak up at school helped girls feel more confident about their right to education and safety.



Read the final impact report for the FASST project.

FASST was funded by Global Affairs Canada, the Strømme Foundation and Canadian donors and implemented by Plan International, the Strømme Foundation, five local partners and the government’s ministry of education.

Support for this project also came through **Because I Am a Girl** donations and **Gifts of Hope** purchases like Speed Learning for Girls, School Essentials, Girl Power, Send a Girl to School, Education in Conflict Situations and School Meals.

Impact updates & highlights



LEFT: Anitha used to walk 12 kilometres to school. Now she rides the bike she received from the KAGIS project. **TOP:** Plan Celebrated Ambassador Maitreyi Ramakrishnan visited the KAGIS project and took a spin with the girls on their bikes.



Watch our mini-doc with Maitreyi in Tanzania.

“Every morning as I arrive at school early, I can’t help but smile,” says 15-year-old Anitha, above, who once fled from a hyena during her pre-dawn walk to class. Now, with a bicycle from Plan International, she has a faster, safer journey, protected from both wild animals and harassment from men along the way.

We invested **\$37.5 million** in 23 projects last year, reaching **249,450** people: 113,455 girls, 102,865 boys, 24,245 women and 8,890 men. Most of our projects are in West & Central Africa, with a number in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa; we also have a smaller but impactful presence in the Americas and Asia.

➤ Early education builds success

Pre-primary education is crucial. Children who receive it are more likely to enter school at the right age, less likely to drop out and more likely to complete their education. However, three out of five children have no access. Our **LEARN Plus** project launched accelerated school-readiness programs across Cambodia, Lao PDR and Tanzania to reach excluded children. As grandmother Zena Halfan noted, “I brought my grandchild to the centre to learn. Now she can count from zero to 10.” Having proven effective, the program has since been endorsed and scaled by the Lao government as an alternative pathway for pre-primary education.

➤ Courage sparks transformation

The **Plan for Girls** project helps young women in Benin and Cameroon through a comprehensive approach. In the two countries, 42,945 girls gained the confidence to speak up about their rights and challenges. We combined this with practical skills, training 3,591 girls in entrepreneurship and financial literacy. “Young women were speaking, and that gave me courage,” says Carole, who began as a participant and is now a successful entrepreneur and mentor. “I thought, ‘If they can pursue and earn respect, so can I.’” In Benin, male health providers’ knowledge of how to provide **gender- and adolescent-friendly services** increased from 45% to 100%.

➤ Girls leading change

In Tanzania, more than 60% of girls drop out before they reach secondary school due to early and forced marriage, pregnancy, the demands of care work or simply a lack of schools in their area. The **Keeping Adolescent Girls in School (KAGIS)** project is working to change that. As education officer Faustine Lucas Masayi explains, “For many years, girls’ education was less important than a family receiving dowries. But with increased awareness, we are seeing a shift in attitudes.” The project aims to reach 96,336 students (including 49,174 girls) plus 2,950 out-of-school girls by 2026. We’ve also distributed 500 bicycles so girls can ride to school safely and held 104 menstrual lab sessions to keep girls in school during their periods.



Read the full 2024 impact reports for these projects.

EDUCATION

EMERGING LESSONS

Reimagining teacher training to transform education

The challenge

We're facing a critical shortfall of teachers worldwide. Across the African continent, particularly in regions south of the Sahara, an estimated 15 million new teachers will be needed by 2030 to ensure every child receives a good education. That's a staggering number, but we've found some promising solutions.

What's working

We've learned that just calling for more teachers isn't enough. Success comes from creating an environment in which teachers can thrive – offering better working conditions and clear paths for career growth. But here's what's really exciting: We're seeing remarkable results when we think creatively about who can become a teacher and how they can get there.

Take Sierra Leone. Instead of expecting women from rural communities to travel long distances to teacher-training centres, we brought the training to them. Through distance learning, local mentorship and in-school experience, 1,000 women have become teachers in their own communities.

In Tanzania and Uganda, we're keeping good teachers in the classroom by providing what they need, like teaching materials, practical training and professional-development opportunities. We've put a special focus on supporting female teachers, whom we've seen become powerful community role models.

And in Ghana, we've worked with the National Teaching Council to ensure teachers can earn professional-development points that count toward promotions. It's about creating real career paths, not just jobs.

The key insight? When we remove barriers for women to enter the field and give them the support they need to succeed, we're not just filling vacancies – we're transforming education from the inside out.

Going forward

- Remove training barriers, such as child care and school fees.
- Increase female teachers, especially in secondary schools, where they boost student retention.
- Continue to partner with ministries of education to strengthen their school systems and help build sustainable teacher workforces.

Watch a mini-doc starring Kumba (front row, middle) and Eunice (behind her), two graduates of the Teacher Training for Inclusive Girls' Education project in Sierra Leone.



Donor Spotlight



Kathy West-Rwamungu in Rwanda

“THAT, FOR ME, IS WHAT THE POWER OF ONE MEANS: IT JUST TAKES ONE PERSON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”

When we asked Kathy West-Rwamungu of the Power of One Foundation about supporting a school meals program in Sierra Leone, the connection was immediate and personal. As a nurse and school parent council volunteer for more than 20 years, she understood how hunger affects children's ability to learn.

The impact truly hit home when she and her mother visited a lunch program in Rwanda. “I watched six moms cooking hundreds of meals,” Kathy recalls. “I reflected on the times I just handed out a piece of pizza on special lunch days at my children's school. Here, these women were labouring over a firepit to make sure these kids were fed. It resonated that this was an important piece of education.”

Support from the Power of One Foundation, which was founded by Kathy's sister, Suzanne Lee West, inspired other donors to step up, and as a result, 31 million plates of food have gone to nearly 300,000 children.





Women weave intricate carpets at a handicraft workshop in Giza, Egypt, as part of our SWEET project, supported by Global Affairs Canada and Canadian donors.

Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment

9.9%

of our program expenditures supported youth-leadership and economic-empowerment initiatives.

11 PROJECTS

- 3 in West & Central Africa
- 2 in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa
- 6 in the Americas

OUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED

29,540 girls and 26,360 boys.

9 PROGRAMS

- 9 in Canada
- 224,790 youths involved (201,180 girls)

Ghana women rise

2,898

women in Ghana gained jobs in sustainable agriculture and green enterprises after participating in Plan International's training. Today, they are providers and decision makers, each paycheck bringing the power of choice.

“

When young people in Canada engage with global issues and connect with youth leaders worldwide, they become powerful advocates for change. They're not just learning about challenges; they're building partnerships across borders and turning empathy into action. This is how we grow tomorrow's global citizens.”

—Anjum Sultana, director of youth leadership and policy advocacy, Plan International Canada

RIISING LEADER

Through Plan Canada's Girls Belong Here program, youth ambassador Lia shadowed leaders at Corus Entertainment, strengthening her skills as an advocate for girls' rights worldwide.



**PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:
WOMEN'S VOICE AND LEADERSHIP**

Leading from within

Women's rights organizations are transforming communities across Ghana and Ethiopia.

Community-based women's rights organizations have long been the driving force behind gender equality, running programs that help women start businesses, teaching girls about their rights and advocating for policy changes.

But in Ghana and Ethiopia, restrictive gender norms often limit women's opportunities, pushing them toward traditional roles while keeping education and leadership positions out of reach. Without access to land, savings or capital, many women remain trapped in economic dependency.

In 2019, Plan International's Women's Voice and Leadership (WVL) project began changing this story in both countries. The project, one of several initiatives supported by the Government of Canada and Canadian donors, takes a new approach: It puts local organizations in the driver's seat with steady yet flexible funding and support they can use where they need it most. Working across both countries, the project supported 87 organizations in Ghana and 116 in Ethiopia.

"I learned about gender justice and inclusion, and now I approach conflict resolution in a way that uplifts women from victims to problem solvers," says Mekdes Korma from the Ethiopian Mediation and Arbitration Center. "We trained 123 female mediators who've resolved more than 400 legal disputes." In Ghana, where the project operates across six regions, the impact is equally powerful. "The project helped us understand the opportunities for us to improve faster than anticipated," says Hajia Alima Saheed, executive director of the Savannah Women Integrated Development Agency.

Through partnerships with national networks like NETRIGHT and WILDAF in Ghana and organizations like the Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations and the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association, the project has provided networking opportunities, grants and training. Through 273 WVL grants, 181 organizations received funding totalling over \$7.7 million. Another 34 grants, with a total value of \$481,000, were used to implement innovative projects.



From farmer to salon owner

Having earned less than a dollar a day as a subsistence farmer, Rahinatu now owns a successful salon and trains other women, thanks to a WVL-funded program that provided her with business skills and access to a women's savings group – a testament to the transformative power of investing in women's economic empowerment.

Support for this project also came through **Because I Am a Girl** donations and **Gifts of Hope** purchases like Girl Power, the Mom Shop and Literacy Training for 2 Women.

STORY OF CHANGE

It's the law

Breaking through:
Ghana passes a historic
gender-equality law.

After a decade of advocacy by women's rights organizations, Ghana passed a landmark gender-equality law in July 2024 to ensure that women fill 50% of leadership roles by 2030. This victory, championed by NETRIGHT and WILDAF with Plan International's support, comes at a critical time: Women currently hold only 14% of public leadership positions in Ghana, ranking the country 147th globally

when it comes to equal representation. The law helps tackle traditional expectations that have long limited women's access to education, economic opportunities and leadership roles. "Together, we can create a Ghana where every woman and girl has the opportunity to reach her full potential," says Vera Karikari Bediako from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

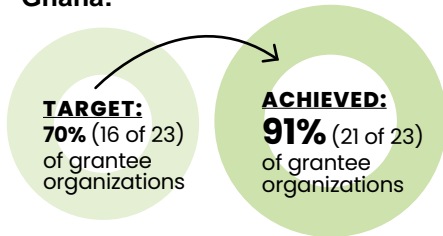
MEASURING OUR IMPACT

The numbers tell the story

The success of our partner women's rights organizations is their communities' success. Some key outcomes:

● Organizations' ability to deliver quality programming

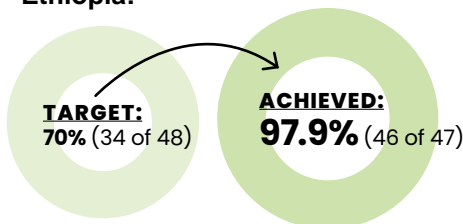
Ghana:



What this means:

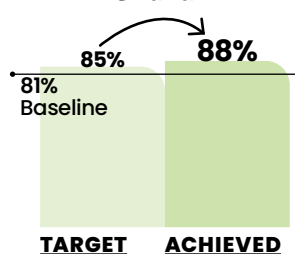
Organizations that received WVL grants were able to support more community members through their projects. This shows the effectiveness of the grants in enabling these organizations to extend their reach and make a greater impact in their communities.

Ethiopia:

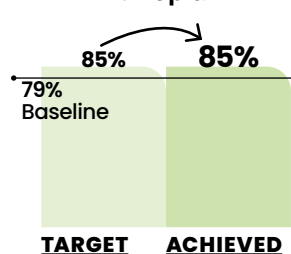


● Co-operation among women's rights organizations

Ghana:



Ethiopia:



What this means:

Increased co-operation among women's rights organizations is crucial for creating lasting change. Coordinated advocacy campaigns are more effective at influencing policies and enacting laws that positively impact girls' and women's daily lives. By working together, these organizations can amplify their voices and achieve greater success in promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls.

Impact updates & highlights

> Valuing invisible work

In Ecuador and Paraguay, the **SOAR** (Strengthening the Organization, Agency and Rights of Women) project will partner with 5,430 child-care workers, their male family members and key public officials to ensure that this often undervalued and overlooked group of worker women can stand up for their legal rights. In El Salvador, the **MujerES** project will help women reduce unpaid care work while creating earning opportunities.

> Funding women's dreams

Across six countries, 56,900 women and girls are participating in projects funded by our new **Women and Girls' Economic Empowerment Fund**. Supporting money-management skills, entrepreneurship training and small-business grants, the fund enables women and girls to take ownership of their income while challenging restrictive gender norms, like being excluded from financial-decision making and facing barriers to owning property or accessing business loans.

> Girls' power in Myanmar

The **Thanaka** project, backed by \$9.4 million from Global Affairs Canada and Canadian donors, is helping transform lives in Myanmar's Kachin and Mandalay provinces. The project has reached more than 29,543 individuals (20,591 of them women) and is focused on employment initiatives, health education and leadership development. Despite challenges like political instability and limited access to financial services in rural areas, these women are forging new paths to independence and prosperity.

Watch our mini-doc on Su, who has gone from shy teen to global youth leader in Myanmar.



From seeds to success: Read about how women in Ghana are gaining economic power through green agriculture.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:
CANADIAN YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Youth take their place

Plan's youth ambassadors bring young voices to global decision making.

The morning sun streams through the windows of a Manhattan hotel conference room where stakeholders have gathered to discuss "the future girls want." Unlike in past meetings, today's conversation includes crucial voices: the very girls whose futures are being debated.

"It's one thing to share your story and have people listen," says Marya, a disability-rights activist and Plan International youth ambassador. "But what will they take from that story and actually implement?"

Discover your power

Last year, our free *The Power Within* self-esteem and body-confidence resources had 1,826 downloads. Access them here.



At the UN Summit for the Future, Marya and 17-year-old Maryam, a fellow youth ambassador from Canada, joined advocates from Bolivia, Jordan, Guatemala and Zambia, sponsored by Plan and Fondation Botnar.

These young leaders are reshaping youth engagement and confronting a stark reality: More than 70% of people ages 18–30 feel unheard in decision-making spaces.

"We advocate for youth in policy spaces," says Alexandria Bohémier, policy and advocacy advisor at Plan International Canada. "We work hard to counteract power dynamics that can tokenize their contribution."

"It's a first step for us to be here," says Maryam, who joined Plan International Canada's Youth Council at age 15. "We are raising awareness about what youth engagement is and why it matters. The next step is true inclusion."

year alone, 71 youth ambassadors stepped into leadership roles at major organizations such as AstraZeneca Canada, BMO and Brother Canada. In their seat shares with executives, these emerging leaders brought fresh perspectives to boardroom discussions and shaped real organizational change.

In a world where only 10% of Canadian youth envision women as CEOs, Girls Belong Here offers a glimpse of the future and is actively building it — one leadership opportunity at a time.

POWER SHIFTS

Young voices shaping discussions and decisions

Picture this: a 16-year-old girl leading executive meetings at RBC or a young gender-diverse leader shaping policy with Canada's ambassador to the UN. Through Plan Canada's Girls Belong Here program, scenarios like these aren't just dreams; they're transforming leadership today.

Since 2016, this groundbreaking initiative has promoted the leadership of girls, young women and gender-diverse youth ages 14–24. Last

Participant Spotlight



The Power Within trainer
Muskaan

“THE POWER WITHIN PROGRAM HELPED ME REFLECT ON MY BODY-CONFIDENCE JOURNEY.”

Growing up, Muskaan didn't see herself reflected in beauty ideals portrayed in the media. "I was surrounded by remarks that praised fair skin while stigmatizing darker complexions," she says.

For her, as a teenager, these messages damaged her self-esteem and body confidence. But her attitude shifted when she joined Plan Canada's *The Power Within* program, a partnership with Women and Gender Equality Canada and the Dove Self-Esteem Project by Unilever Canada.

Muskaan helped develop workshops for racialized and newcomer youth facing similar struggles. The sessions explore self-esteem building, navigating appearance pressures and using media for positive expression while examining systemic causes of low confidence. Building on this success, the program launched the Systemic Change Fellowship to help youth drive policy changes for more inclusive beauty standards.

Last year, The Power Within program reached 35,540 participants.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

EMERGING LESSONS

Banking for everyone

Practical, applicable financial education
increases interest, engagement and confidence.

The challenge

Getting access to basic banking services isn't just about walking through a bank's doors. For many communities, those doors don't exist. "Many community members, especially women, encounter significant obstacles when trying to access financial services," says Maria Paula Ballesteros, economic empowerment advisor at Plan International Canada.

While feeling overwhelmed or intimidated by banking is a real challenge, the bigger hurdles are more concrete: Many banks won't serve low-income areas, ask for unrealistic minimum incomes, charge high fees or simply don't have branches where people need them most.

What's working

Plan tackles this challenge from both sides: first, by working with banks and other financial institutions to remove barriers like high fees and strict requirements, and second, by giving people in these communities the practical financial skills, support and knowledge they need to feel confident using banking services.

We've found that teaching financial skills works best when they connect to people's everyday lives. In Colombia, women's savings groups in our Leading for Peace project got hands-on practice filling out bank deposit slips during their learning sessions. This practical experience, paired with Plan's work to



In Peru, Luciana and her classmates tested their entrepreneurial skills by starting a waste-reducing organic-shampoo business.

get a local bank to drop its fees, helped women overcome both their hesitation and the real-world obstacles they faced.

In Peru, our Educating Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs project took a similar approach. Instead of just teaching theory, we helped young people learn practical skills like how to challenge an incorrect utility bill and write effective complaint letters. The impact was clear: The number of teenage girls with bank accounts nearly tripled, jumping from 7.3% in 2021 to 21.2% in 2022.

The numbers tell a powerful story about growing confidence, especially among young women. After one year:

- The percentage of girls who felt confident filling out bank forms jumped from 16.4% to 61.2%.
- Those who could understand their bank statements rose from 24.7% to 55.5%.
- Women who were comfortable making money transfers (like paying bills) increased from 31.6% to 58.6%.

Going forward

We're bringing these lessons to all of our financial-education programs, combining practical-skills training with efforts to break down banking barriers. Real change happens when we work on both fronts: helping banks better serve communities while empowering people with the tools and confidence they need to access financial services.

Our Canadian youth programming

CONFIDENCE AT EVERY AGE

The challenge

We noticed that while our programs like Confident Me and Be Real Be Me were helping younger kids feel more confident, teens needed ongoing age- and gender-appropriate support too. The challenges facing a 15-year-old are quite different than those facing a 10-year-old, especially when it comes to feeling good about themselves.

What's working

The Power Within program is thriving because we're committed to getting it right. We're talking with teens, teachers and community partners to understand what older youth need. We're building meaningful partnerships by taking the time to understand everyone's goals

and vision. This careful, thoughtful approach has created a foundation of trust that's helping the program flourish.

Going forward

We're focused on quality over quantity. We're adapting our programs to help 15- to 18-year-olds build self-confidence and handle peer pressure. By creating supportive environments, we're enabling youth to build healthy relationships with themselves and navigate social pressures with confidence. The bigger picture? We want to support young people as they become confident leaders and active global citizens who speak up for causes they care about – across Canada and around the world. By listening to what teens tell us they need, we're building something that will make a lasting impact in their lives and communities.



Protection From Violence

Joselyn, who participates in the ELLA project, is learning how gender equality can protect girls in crisis. (See page 42.)

6.0%

of our program expenditures supported protection-from-violence initiatives.

5 PROJECTS*

- 1 in the Middle East and Eastern & Southern Africa
- 3 in the Americas
- 1 in Asia Pacific

OUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED

55,745 girls and **18,795** boys.

* While these five projects focus primarily on protection, an additional 23 multi-sector projects include protection-from-violence activities and initiatives.

“

Every second counts in protecting childhood. Right now, violence threatens 1.6 billion children in their homes worldwide, stealing their safety, their dreams and, too often, their futures.

Every day, 32,877 girls are forced into marriage rather than continuing their education. But we're proving that change is possible. When we invest in protection, children return to classrooms, rebuild their confidence and reclaim their right to be children.”

—Tanja Suvilaakso, director of program technical quality, Plan International Canada

Teenagers, not brides

12,000

girls in Bangladesh, in communities where Plan International works, got to be teenagers instead of child brides – staying in school, dreaming big and avoiding dangerous early pregnancies. (See page 40.)



COURAGE TRIUMPHS
Shompa (in front), 21, from Bangladesh, stopped five early marriages, including her own.

**PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:
COMBATTING EARLY MARRIAGE IN BANGLADESH**

A ring of truth

Addressing root causes: a multi-pronged strategy to end early and forced marriage in Bangladesh

When societal pressure in her Bangladeshi community pushed 14-year-old Esha toward forced marriage, she made an extraordinary choice. Despite the whispers and judgment, she dropped out of school and refused to leave her parents' home. Everything changed when she joined Plan International's Combatting Early Marriage in Bangladesh project.

"After the training, I was motivated to fulfill my dreams," she says. Esha began to teach sessions for other girls about equality, child protection and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Today, the young woman studies English literature in Dhaka and says she wants "to be a role model for the teens" in her village.

BREAKING THE CYCLE

Through \$15.7 million in funding from the Government of Canada and Canadian donors, the project **prevented 12,000 child marriages** over six years. In a country where 51% of girls are married before age 18 and 16% marry before 15, these results demonstrate significant impact.

Sexual and reproductive health education is key to preventing early and forced marriage. This education empowers girls with knowledge about their bodies, their rights and the health risks of early pregnancy – a leading cause of death for mothers under 18. In our outreach efforts, we provided training on gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, child protection and life skills to 15,330 out-of-school adolescents, with girls comprising 48% of the participants.

BUILDING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The project raised awareness among 131,984 parents, marriage officiants, religious leaders

and local champions about how early and forced marriage harms girls. Volunteer "wedding busters" – groups of adolescent girls and boys – raised community awareness about early marriage's harmful effects. Mohiuddin, a tailor, matchmaker and community ally, skilfully identified child brides among his customers and persuaded their families to delay or cancel underage weddings.

A FINANCIAL PATH FORWARD

Financial independence is key to preventing early marriages. Through the project, 810 out-of-school girls received start-up funding for their own businesses, while 1,759 women got support to buy livestock or business supplies. A small investment of 4,000 BDT (C\$50) helped these girls and women build sustainable livelihoods.

While progress has been made, sustained community-led efforts and continued support are crucial to ending early marriage in Bangladesh.

“After the training, I was motivated to move forward and fulfill my dreams. I want to be a role model for other teens.”

–Esha, a project participant who avoided an early marriage



Read the final impact report for the Combatting Early Marriage in Bangladesh project.



Rupali (centre), 14, and her friends learned about their rights, including saying no to an early and forced marriage.

Support for this project, which served 41 districts from 2018 to December 2023, also came through **Because I Am a Girl** donations and **Gifts of Hope** purchases including Goats, Literacy Training for 2 Women and Send a Girl to School.

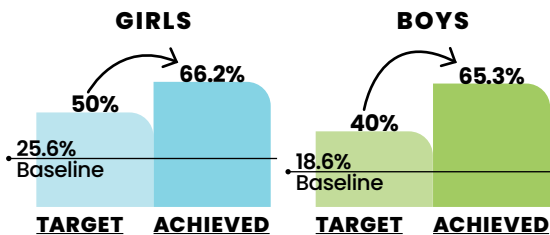
PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

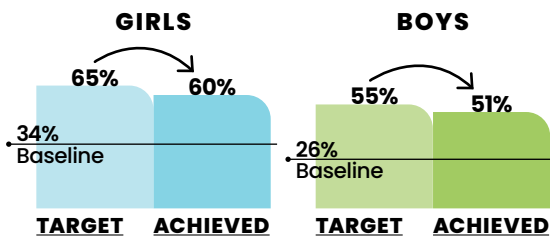
Project targets & achievements (2018–2023)

This data demonstrates particularly strong achievement when it comes to youth's awareness of their rights, with most targets exceeded. While some parent- and community-engagement metrics fell slightly short of ambitious targets, they still show substantial progress.

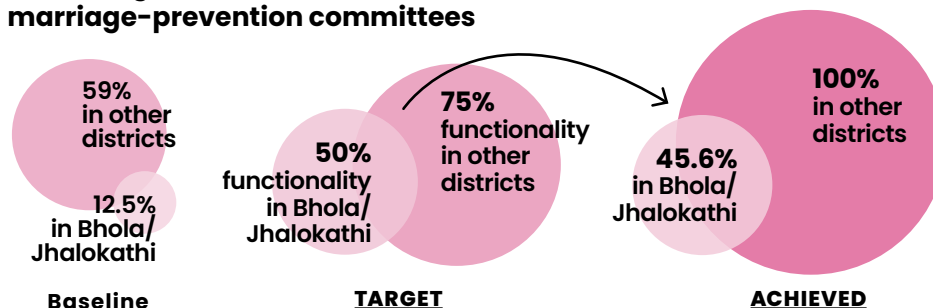
- Percentage of youth who are able to make decisions about marriage and their sexual health and rights



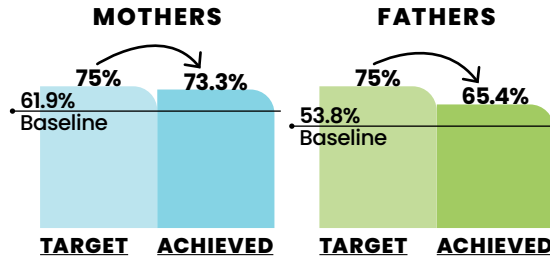
- Percentage of youth who perceive boys and girls as equal



- Percentage of functional child-marriage-prevention committees



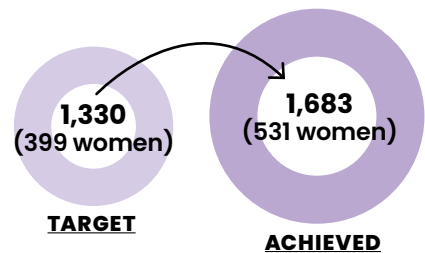
- Percentage of parents taking action to support their daughters



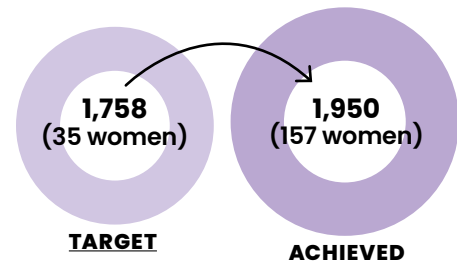
Notable results:

- Support for girls' economic participation showed the largest gains.
- Fathers' support increased by 11.6 percentage points, from 53.8%.

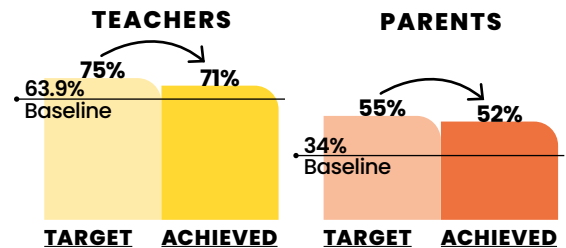
- Number of teachers and school-committee members trained to report and address child marriages



- Number of religious and community leaders trained on child-marriage laws



- Percentage of teachers and parents who perceive women/girls as equal to men/boys



Significant changes:

- Male teachers believing in shared parental responsibility: 40% → 80%
- Mothers agreeing that "men are better at math/science": 60% → <40%

Notable results:

- 45 "wedding buster" groups were established.
- 1,431 cases of early marriage and child abuse were reported via school complaint boxes.
- 95 schools attended reflection sessions on child-marriage reporting.
- Comprehensive Child Marriage Prevention Committees were strengthened in all districts.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: ELLA

The hidden shield

Why gender equality protects girls in crisis

Armed groups attempting to recruit her partner forced a then 20-year-old Moreila to flee Venezuela with her family. She, her partner and her young daughter ended up sleeping under plastic sheets in a vacant lot in Colombia.

"The few things we had got soaked, and my daughter got sick," she recalls. "It was six years ago, and I still remember with fear what we experienced."

Her story is one of millions. Since 2018, over 7.3 million people have left Venezuela in the world's second-largest mass movement. While countries like Colombia, Peru and Ecuador offer opportunities, Venezuelan women face a dangerous paradox: Seeking refuge exposes them to new risks.

SURPRISING TRUTHS ABOUT PROTECTION

When we think about refugee crises, gender equality rarely tops the list of urgent needs. Yet the ELLA (Empowerment, Local Leadership and Accountability) project has uncovered a truth: Many dangers facing migrant women stem directly from harmful gender norms in their new communities.

These dangers are stark. Venezuelan migrants in Peru face harassment due to stereotypes that hypersexualize Venezuelan women. This increases their risk of assault, trafficking and pressure to exchange sex for support.

"Women often are not allowed to make decisions about family planning and sexual relations," explains Moreila, now 26. "The fear of violence leads them to say 'yes' to everything."

A BOLD RESPONSE

The \$14.5 million ELLA project supports more than 23,000 Venezuelan migrants and their host communities in Peru, Colombia and Ecuador. Its mission is to change harmful gender norms while building stronger bonds between migrant and host populations. Through innovative community programs, the project helps communities create lasting change by addressing both immediate needs and long-term social transformation.



BREAKING THE CYCLE

The project works on multiple fronts:

- Equipping shelters and protection services for adolescents and young women at risk of violence or pregnant as a result of sexual violence
- Referring cases of violence to appropriate service providers, including psychosocial support
- Improving coordination between health and protection services for timely responses to sexual-abuse survivors
- Supporting parents and community leaders in identifying risks of violence and harmful behaviours impacting children and adolescents

The impact is already visible. The project has:

- Connected 16,832 young people with sexual and reproductive health services.
- Trained 817 adolescents in women's rights and protection from violence.
- Provided essential hygiene supplies to 6,469 young people.
- Supported 4,342 people with emergency financial assistance.

AGENTS OF CHANGE

Today, Moreila leads community activities that unite Venezuelan migrants and Colombian citizens. Her leadership has inspired other women to step forward as community advocates. "The project gave us a jump-start to believe in ourselves and work together," she says.

- The ELLA project is supported by Global Affairs Canada, Canadian supporters and more than 20 local organizations across Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. It was launched in March 2022 and ends in June 2025.

ELLA participants who are set to change the world!

DID YOU KNOW?

Due to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis...

- 7.3 million people have left Venezuela since 2018.
- 2.5 million+ Venezuelan migrants live in Colombia.
- 1.5 million+ live in Peru.
- 500,000+ live in Ecuador.

Support for this project also came through **Because I Am a Girl** donations and **Gifts of Hope** purchases like Cash Assistance in Crisis, Stock a Pharmacy, Sports Equipment and Digital Safe Spaces for Girls.

Partner Spotlight



Sara Rodas
works with
migrant teens.

SAFE HAVEN FOR YOUTH AT COLOMBIA'S BORDER

As millions of Venezuelans flee their country's economic collapse and humanitarian crisis to seek refuge in Colombia, Cúcuta's Frontera Morada serves as a safe space for marginalized youth ages 14–24. This community cultural centre helps young people learn about sexual and reproductive rights, conflict resolution and the importance of voicing one's opinion.

The centre offers cultural programs, journalism workshops and musical activities. Through partnerships with like-minded organizations, it organizes city field trips and helps youth feel welcome throughout Cúcuta.

"Whether it's former participants returning to volunteer or LGBT youth finding themselves, the impact of our work is felt every time," says Sara Rodas, a regional strategist with Frontera Morada. "For us, it's important that young people not only survive their difficult situations but that they do it with dignity."

The cultural hub has become a cornerstone of support for the region's young people. Most importantly, it offers a place where youth can feel truly at home in their new community.

EMERGING LESSONS

Breaking taboos

Latin American youth lead dialogue on sexual health to combat gender violence.

The challenge

Without strong family support, young people face greater risks of early pregnancy, abuse, early and forced marriage and relationship violence. In Latin America, we have heard from youth who feel that they can't speak up about their concerns around sexuality and health without facing judgment or stigma. The stakes are high, especially for adolescent girls.

What's working

The good news? In our ELLA project in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru and our Achieving Reproductive Rights for Bolivian Adolescents (ARRIBA) project in Bolivia, we have honed approaches that are helping transform how families talk about these critical issues.

First, youth, particularly girls, are leading the way. The ELLA project's Say Yes to Plan! strategy provides guidance and tools to support conversations between adolescent girls and boys and their parents on sensitive topics such as gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. Through this approach, we train adults to listen and have open, judgment-free conversations with teens. When parents and leaders examine their biases, it leads to meaningful discussions.

Second, we're getting smart about family engagement. We have learned that while broad community outreach is important, the real magic happens when we work directly with families. As part of the ARRIBA project, during COVID-19,

we used WhatsApp to conduct intergenerational exchanges with families in rural areas, which opened up conversations that might have been too difficult face to face.

Most importantly, we're seeing lasting change. When families become allies in sexual and reproductive health education, they create protective environments that transform entire communities.

Going forward

By engaging family decision makers – including men and elders – and helping them overcome gender biases and support young people's health and rights, we create positive change for everyone. Young people feel safer, families grow stronger and communities become more protective and supportive.



These teen girls in Bolivia learned about sexual and reproductive health through the ARRIBA project.

FINANCIALS

Your support, our impact: reaching 7 million lives

Through partnerships with local communities and non-governmental organizations, children, families and governments, Plan Canada drives sustainable development where it's needed most. Our impact reached 7 million people – including 3.1 million children – last year; this was made possible by dedicated supporters ranging from individual donors to major institutions.

Our Child Sponsorship program fuels what we call the Plan Effect, in which sponsorship funds catalyze community-driven development that attracts additional partnerships and resources. This multiplying effect turns initial sponsorship into broader positive change, expanding our impact far beyond individual sponsored children.

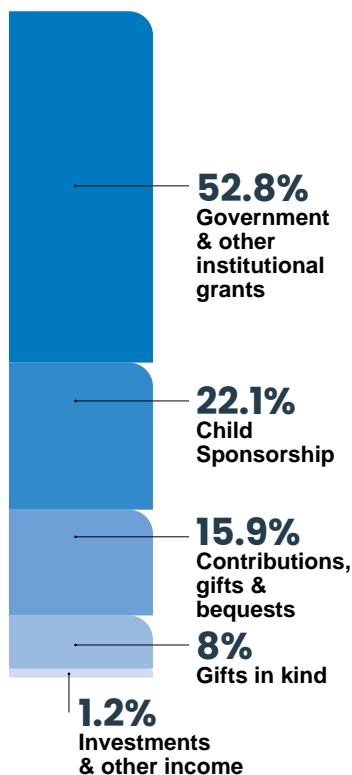
We channel designated funding – including major gifts, Gifts of Hope and recurring donations – into targeted projects chosen by our supporters. These initiatives are co-designed with community members, particularly children and girls, to combat inequality and advance social justice. Through rigorous operational oversight, we maximize the portion of every donation that directly serves program participants.



View our complete financial statement.

REVENUES

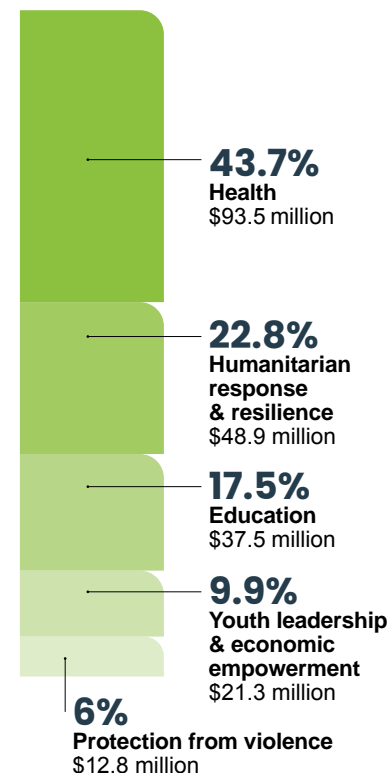
Where did our support come from?



We received \$258 million in support in fiscal year 2024.

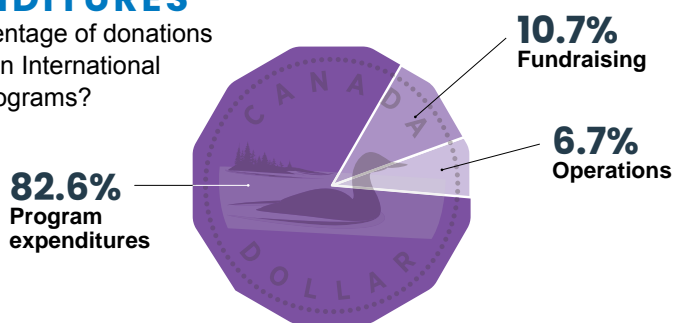
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

What percentage of program investments went to our different thematic areas?



EXPENDITURES

What percentage of donations went to Plan International Canada programs?



➤ **83 cents** of every dollar went toward programming for children and their communities worldwide. We focused on improving education, health, protection from violence, humanitarian response and resilience, and youth leadership and economic empowerment.

➤ **17 cents** of every dollar went toward fundraising and operations to ensure that our programs are run efficiently and effectively. These funds go toward developing and administering our program-related services, marketing and fundraising initiatives. We also invest in rigorous child-safeguarding and risk-management-protocol training.

➤ Total FY24 expenditures: \$259 million

Our fiscal year ran from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. This number includes the purchase and amortization of capital or intangible assets.

DONORS

Our supporters

We are deeply grateful to our generous and loyal supporters, including the following donors who have contributed over the past three years and whose lifetime giving exceeds \$100,000.

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Patsy and Jamie Anderson
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Donor Spotlight



Legacy donor
Lucille van Essen

LUCILLE'S LEGACY

When Lucille van Essen received our holiday card, she could guess the ages of the two girls on the cover by the size of their teeth. It's the kind of detail you'd only notice after a lifetime with children.

Lucille's experience runs deep. The eldest of 11, she grew up in a bustling household. While other kids played, Lucille changed diapers and calmed toddlers. She was a natural caregiver.

When she was unable to have children of her own, Lucille channelled her gift for caregiving into teaching. "I decided to become a really good kindergarten teacher," she says. It was a profession she embraced for 35 years.

In retirement, Lucille began reflecting on how she could continue to support children beyond her lifetime. "My living came from children, and I wanted it to go back to them," she explains.

An afternoon of research online led her to Plan International Canada. The 84-year-old said she was drawn to our organization's focus on education, especially for girls, who face unique barriers.

Through her legacy gift, Lucille will continue to help children, especially girls, step into brighter futures – a fitting gesture for a natural caregiver who can read a child's age just by their smile.

Donor Spotlight



Arti and David Meyers

TEACHING GRATITUDE THROUGH GIVING

For Arti and David Meyers, their 37-year sponsorship journey began with the birth of their first child. “We were young and didn’t have much money,” explains Arti, a first-generation Canadian with parents from India. “We did it out of gratefulness.”

Once they began sponsoring, says David, they never questioned stopping or reducing their commitment. “Instead, we wondered where and how we could do more to help,” he says.

Since then, the couple has always sponsored three children – one for each of their own children, who fondly remember writing back and forth with their peers around the world. Now Arti and David sponsor three additional children to honour their grandchildren.

Their impact extends beyond sponsorship through Plan projects focusing on girls’ education and women’s empowerment. “There’s tremendous untapped potential,” says David about investing in girls globally.

“As a teacher, I truly believe in the value of education for girls,” says Arti, reflecting on how education builds girls’ confidence and knowledge to become change makers. “It’s women who move communities forward, and then everybody moves forward.”

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Five additional donors have chosen to remain anonymous. While we endeavour to maintain accurate records, if we have omitted or included you in error, please accept our apologies and connect with us at philanthropy@plancanada.ca.



Ready to start your own family giving tradition? Start here.

Legacy partners

We are incredibly grateful for these thoughtful and generous individuals, who contributed to Plan International Canada through a gift in their estate.

July 2023 to June 2024

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Estate of Barbara Ann Bell
Estate of Gary Bewell
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When you invest
in girls, you help
create a safer,
healthier and more
prosperous world
for everyone.

Diana (left), 14, and
her friend participate
in the KAGIS project
in Tanzania, which
is keeping girls in
school. (See page 30.)

2024 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Appendix

A summary of our FY24 outputs and notable three-year trends

> Acronyms & abbreviations

CSE: comprehensive sexuality education
GBV: gender-based violence
GE: gender equality
MNCH: maternal, newborn and child health
NFI: non-food item
SBCC: social and behaviour change communication
SGBV: sexual and gender-based violence
SRHR: sexual and reproductive health and rights
WASH: water, sanitation and hygiene

> What is our gender-transformative approach?

Our gender-transformative approach explicitly tackles the root causes of gender inequality and exclusion, unequal gender power relations, discriminatory social and gender norms and legislation – in all of our work. The focus goes beyond improving the condition of diverse groups of women and girls; it seeks to improve their social position (how they are valued in society) as well as help them fully realize their rights. This involves promoting and applying affirmative action for girls and women so that long-standing gender gaps are closed and inequalities are overcome.

> What does it mean when we say Plan International was active in 83 countries last year?

There are two categories:

1. We have a physical presence, including an office and staff.
2. We are working with partners to implement programs. Criteria for inclusion in the “working through partners” category are:
 - Plan International has made a strategic decision to work in that country.
 - There is a multi-year program in place.
 - The activity is not only fundraising.

Plan International has four regional offices and four liaison offices to engage with key international institutions/donors, as well as our headquarters in the U.K. In 2024, Plan International Canada was active in 54 countries.

> 2024 Plan International Research

- [Girls’ Activism and Leadership for Climate Justice in Asia and the Pacific](#)
- [Real Choices, Real Lives – Climate Change and Girls’ Education: Barriers, Gender Norms and Pathways to Resilience](#)

- [For Our Futures: Youth Voices on Climate Justice and Education](#)
- [Changing Lives 2024: The Impact of Plan International’s Child Sponsorship Programmes in Bangladesh, Ecuador and Uganda](#)
- [Youth Advocacy Holds the World Accountable: Our Youth Advocacy and Leadership Project](#)
- [Results Report: Plan International’s Grant Portfolio for Global Fund Grants](#)

> Our Results Framework

In 2023, Plan International Canada launched our Results Framework reporting tool, which allows us to track data associated with a select number of outputs and outcomes that are representative of our work. We have always collected thousands of data points specific to each of our projects, but with the Results Framework we have a reporting framework that provides us with a consolidated and summarized view and broader or “rolled-up” perspective on specific work associated with our five areas of expertise: Health, Humanitarian Response & Resilience, Education, Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment, and Protection from Violence.

• Definition of indicators

“Output indicators” are the direct result of Plan International Canada’s interventions. They include products and services delivered, such as the number of trainings and workshops provided or health facilities built or refurbished. “Outcome indicators” refer to the change in state or condition resulting from our interventions, such as enhanced skills or improved capacity to provide quality health services. (Outputs and outcomes are presented throughout the report; however, only outputs are presented in the next section.)

• A snapshot of our reach in FY2024

	# of projects with data in Results Framework	# of projects	% of projects with data entered
Health	22	34	65
Humanitarian Response & Resilience	31	56	55
Education	18	23	78
Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment	9	11	82
Protection from Violence	5	5	100

APPENDIX

Outputs from FY24

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 5 for all results above 100.

Health

- **367,645** children, adolescents and adults received health education and information, including SRHR, with a focus on gender equality (140,630 in Bangladesh, 2,140 in Cameroon, 2,830 in Colombia, 7,735 in Ecuador, 32,910 in El Salvador, 79,730 in Liberia, 13,985 in Myanmar, 25,940 in Nigeria, 2,435 in Peru, 51,739 in Tanzania, 7,585 in Uganda).
- **908,660** children, adolescents and adults received insecticide-treated bed nets* (303,880 in Guinea, 610 in Kenya, 10,475 in Peru, 593,695 in Zimbabwe).
*One net for two children or one net for one adult and one child
- **1,995,475** children, adolescents and adults accessed improved health services, including SRHR, MNCH, HIV and TB services (805,935 in Bangladesh, 9,770 in Benin, 67,150 in Cameroon, 36,870 in Colombia, 295,195 in Ecuador, 32,910 in El Salvador, 47,645 in Guinea, 208,685 in Liberia, 407,315 in Mali, 14,310 in Peru, 37,255 in Tanzania).
- **48,975** girls and women received training, information and/or supplies to support their menstrual health (20,180 in Bangladesh, 2,025 in Cameroon, 1,705 in Colombia, 1,780 in Ecuador, 750 in Kenya, 150 in Nepal, 1,315 in Peru, 17,995 in Tanzania, 3,115 in Uganda).
- **53** health facilities were supported with improved infrastructure or equipment, including clean water and sanitation facilities (8 in Benin, 7 in Colombia, 17 in Ecuador, 14 in Nigeria, 7 in Peru).
- **2,280** health personnel were trained to provide services sensitive to the needs of adolescents and women (850 in Bangladesh, 40 in Cameroon, 425 in Colombia, 150 in Ecuador, 250 in Nigeria, 180 in Peru, 390 in Tanzania).

NOTE: Compared to FY23, health output achievement increased in almost all indicators, with the exception of the distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets, which was significantly lower than in previous years due to the programming cycle of distribution in-country and which led to an overall decrease in reach compared to FY23. Increases across other indicators were due to several large health

projects reaching the implementation stage in FY24, with specific targeting of vulnerable women in addition to children.

Humanitarian Response & Resilience

- **408,440** children and adults received emergency food distribution (28,635 in Cameroon, 2,330 in Kenya, 65,855 in Myanmar, 125,145 in Nigeria, 820 in Peru, 1,600 in Sudan).
- **308,025** children and adults received emergency cash distribution (22,215 in Burkina Faso, 132,055 in Cameroon, 126,602 in Myanmar, 1,085 in Nepal, 208,550 in Nigeria, 280 in Ukraine, 40 in Somalia, 380 in Sudan).
- **75,460** children and adults received emergency non-food items (NFIs) (4,905 in Burkina Faso, 15,115 in Cameroon, 1,255 in Colombia, 9,970 in Ethiopia, 400 in Kenya, 30,150 in Lebanon, 2,950 in Nepal, 4,670 in Peru, 5,415 in Sudan, 420 in Uganda, 215 in Ukraine).
- **1,317,495** children and adults accessed life-saving or critical services in humanitarian contexts (7,215 in Kenya, 1,279,980 in Lebanon, 10,635 in Mozambique, 2,420 in Nepal, 3,060 in Peru, 11,845 in Sudan, 2,350 in Somalia).

NOTE: Compared to FY23, overall humanitarian reach was significantly higher (156%) due to the significant reach of our humanitarian WASH response to the earthquake in northwest Syria. This increase also affected individual output indicator performance.

Education

- **358,810** children and youths received improved formal and informal education, literacy opportunities or vocational training (22,735 in Burkina Faso, 49,290 in Cameroon, 1,255 in Colombia, 4,300 in Ethiopia, 38,065 in Ghana, 17,520 in Honduras, 535 in Laos, 42,785 in Mali, 99,755 in Niger, 205 in Sierra Leone, 365 in Somalia, 70,505 in Uganda, 11,506 in Ukraine).
- **66,785** adults received information on rights to education and gender equality (6,105 in Benin, 1,190 in Burkina Faso, 10 in Cambodia, 54,495 in Cameroon, 410 in Colombia, 950 in Laos, 845 in Mali, 2,750 in Niger, 25 in Tanzania).
- **17,270** girls received financial support to continue their education (1,665 in Burkina Faso, 1,830 in Cameroon, 205 in Sierra Leone, 1,750 in Tanzania, 11,820 in Uganda).

- **275** primary and secondary schools were supported with improved infrastructure or equipment, including clean water and sanitation facilities (72 in Cameroon, 4 in Colombia, 41 in Ecuador, 2 in Ethiopia, 56 in Niger, 100 in Uganda).
- **2,485** alternative and vocational schools were constructed, refurbished or equipped (7 in Benin, 2 in Colombia, 2 in Ethiopia, 300 in Ghana, 6 in Lebanon, 70 in Niger, 2,100 in Ukraine).
- **13,655** teachers and school personnel were trained to provide inclusive education (1,305 in Burkina Faso, 90 in Cameroon, 375 in Colombia, 35 in Ethiopia, 520 in Ghana, 75 in Honduras, 85 in Laos, 595 in Mali, 565 in Niger, 200 in Nigeria, 2,285 in Peru, 20 in Somalia, 730 in Tanzania, 2,525 in Uganda, 4,260 in Ukraine).

NOTE: Overall reach for Education declined from FY23 due to a definitional change, which placed projects associated with education-in-emergencies programming in the Humanitarian thematic area only. Many of the specific outputs for Education increased in FY24 due to an increase in the number of projects in the implementation phase.

Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment

- **48,585** adolescents, youths and adults participated in training on financial literacy, employability and entrepreneurship (1,265 in Myanmar, 1,980 in Nigeria, 570 in Egypt, 1,020 in Benin, 900 in Cameroon, 42,850 in Peru).
- **26,635** adolescents and youths participated in Champions of Change (12,600 in Bangladesh, 480 in Cameroon, 3,250 in Myanmar, 10,300 in Nigeria).
- **1,725** entrepreneurs, farmers and smallholders were provided with financial and/or business-development services (in Ghana).
- **20,045** youths and adults were engaged in savings groups or other forms of microfinancing (615 in Cameroon, 570 in Egypt, 14,015 in Ghana, 1,980 in Nigeria, 235 in Peru, 2,630 in Uganda).
- **120** women's- and youth's-rights organizations were supported (10 in Bangladesh, 50 in Ethiopia, 35 in Ghana, 30 in Nigeria).

- **900** adolescents, youths and adults participated in training on leadership, participatory governance and evidence-based advocacy (30 in Cameroon, 160 in Ethiopia, 50 in Ghana, 660 in Mali).
- **1,895** government and municipal officers were trained in participatory governance and planning (25 in Bangladesh, 75 in Burkina Faso, 1,265 in Ghana, 10 in Mali, 85 in Tanzania, 435 in Uganda).
- **17,850** young people in Canada participated in knowledge building, skills training, policy-advocacy programming and public-engagement activities.

NOTE: Increased overall reach achievement in our economic-empowerment and life-skills programming in FY24 (117K) compared to FY23 (72K) is due to a larger number of projects in the implementation stage in FY24 (11) versus FY23 (8).

Protection from Violence

- **257,540** children, adolescents and adults participated in training on or learned how to help prevent, respond to and end violence, including gender-based violence (140,360 in Bangladesh, 34,810 in Cameroon, 3,265 in Colombia, 5,460 in Ecuador, 14,285 in Myanmar, 25,960 in Nigeria, 2,805 in Peru, 6,085 in Sudan, 23,120 in Tanzania).
- **32** communities strengthened their procedures for reporting and responding to violence and GBV (9 in Colombia, 9 in Ecuador, 3 in Nepal, 7 in Niger, 4 in Peru).
- **84** safe spaces were supported (57 in Cameroon, 12 in Colombia, 3 in Mozambique, 4 in Peru, 8 in Sudan).
- **2,200** child-protection personnel were trained (1,095 in Bangladesh, 460 in Burkina Faso, 185 in Colombia, 65 in Mali, 40 in Nigeria, 35 in Peru, 125 in Sudan, 195 in Tanzania).
- **58,060** children, adolescents and adults accessed protection services, including psychosocial support and case management (1,710 in Bangladesh, 330 in Burkina Faso, 13,290 in Cameroon, 17,060 in Colombia, 18,835 in Ecuador, 140 in Nepal, 270 in Peru, 120 in Sudan; 6,445 in Ukraine).

NOTE: Increased protection reach achievement in FY24 (358K) compared to FY23 (272K) is due to our significant protection programming in FY24 in support of refugees in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and migrants fleeing Venezuela.

Three-Year Results Framework Trends

Health

2022

109,530 children, adolescents and adults accessed improved health services, including SRHR, MNCH, HIV and TB services (girls: 10,740; boys: 8,830; women: 65,260; men: 24,700).

494,300 children, adolescents and adults received health education/information, including SRHR, with a focus on GE (girls: 141,220; boys: 133,320; women: 122,170; men: 97,590).

127,580 girls and women received menstrual health management training, SBCC and/or supplies (girls: 56,960; women: 70,620).

2023

354,790 children, adolescents and adults accessed improved health services, including SRHR, MNCH, HIV and TB services (girls: 121,800; boys: 121,800; women: 76,130; men: 35,060).

245,150 children, adolescents and adults receiving health education/information, including SRHR, with a focus on GE (girls: 92,205; boys: 71,780; women: 36,570; men: 44,600).

5,030 girls and women received menstrual health management training, SBCC and/or supplies (girls: 3,440).

2024

1,995,475 children, adolescents and adults accessed improved health services, including SRHR, MNCH, HIV and TB services (girls: 140,865; boys: 66,690; women: 1,189,595; men: 59,830).

367,645 children, adolescents and adults receiving health education/information, including SRHR, with a focus on GE (girls: 78,040; boys: 57,665; women: 134,055; men: 97,890).

48,970 girls, boys and women received menstrual health management training, SBCC and/or supplies (girls: 40,295; boys: 4,795; women: 3,885).

NOTE: Increased health output achievement is due to several large health projects reaching the implementation stage in FY24, with specific targeting of vulnerable women in addition to children.

Humanitarian Response & Resilience

2022

157,555 children and adults received emergency cash, NFIs, vouchers and food distribution (girls: 42,550; boys: 40,950; women: 44,080; men: 40,010).

40,880 children and adults accessed life-saving or critical services and facilities in humanitarian contexts, including emergency protection, case management, education, WASH and SRHR services (girls: 14,940; boys: 9,260; women: 14,160; men: 40,880).

2023

489,200 children and adults received emergency cash, NFIs, vouchers and food distribution (girls: 125,690; boys: 100,570; women: 146,950; men: 116,000).

320,730 children and adults accessed life-saving or critical services and facilities in humanitarian contexts, including emergency protection, case management, education, WASH and SRHR services (girls: 90,570; boys: 93,010; women: 86,310; men 50,850).

2024

308,025 children and adults received emergency cash (girls: 85,220; boys: 73,480; women: 82,605; men: 66,720).

75,460 children and adults received emergency NFIs (girls: 22,455; boys: 20,930; women: 17,500; men: 14,575).

3,575 children and adults received emergency vouchers (girls: 920; boys: 300; women: 1,885; men: 470).

408,440 children and adults received emergency food distribution (girls: 63,920; boys: 67,645; women: 149,230; men: 127,645).

1,317,495 children and adults accessed life-saving or critical services and facilities in humanitarian contexts, including emergency protection, case management, education, WASH and SRHR services (girls: 292,170; boys: 288,855; women: 371,565; men: 364,905).

NOTE: Output definitions have been revised slightly in FY24 to separate cash support from vouchers and NFIs. Increased humanitarian output achievement is due to the significant reach of our humanitarian WASH response to the earthquake in northwest Syria.

APPENDIX

Education

2022

2,280 girls received financial support to continue their education.

8,400 teachers and school personnel were trained.

280 primary and secondary schools received improved infrastructure or equipment, including clean water and sanitation facilities.

140 alternative and vocational schools were constructed, refurbished or equipped.

2023

4,890 girls received financial support to continue their education.

8,500 teachers and school personnel were trained.

190 primary and secondary schools received improved infrastructure or equipment, including clean water and sanitation facilities.

450 alternative and vocational schools were constructed, refurbished or equipped.

2024

10,585 girls received financial support to continue their education.

13,655 teachers and school personnel were trained.

275 primary and secondary schools received improved infrastructure or equipment, including clean water and sanitation facilities.

2,485 alternative and vocational schools were constructed, refurbished or equipped.

NOTE: Increased education output achievement is due to a larger number of education projects in the implementation stage in FY24 versus FY23.

Youth Leadership & Economic Empowerment

2022

860 adolescents and youths engaged in Champions of Change programming (girls: 310; boys: 200; women: 250; men: 100).

1,330 adolescents, youths and adults were trained in financial literacy and entrepreneurship (girls: 510; boys: 310; women: 380; men: 140).

7,600 youths and adults engaged in savings groups or other forms of microfinancing (girls: 670; boys: 290; women: 5,270; men: 1,370).

140 women's- and youth's-rights organizations were supported.

2023

15,020 adolescents and youths engaged in Champions of Change programming (girls: 5,490; boys: 5,620; women: 1,930; men: 1,980).

37,040 adolescents, youths and adults were trained in financial literacy and entrepreneurship (girls: 19,850; boys: 14,060; women: 2,800; men: 330).

15,980 youths and adults engaged in savings groups or other forms of microfinancing (girls: 570; boys: 210; women: 15,100; men: 110).

130 women's- and youth's-rights organizations were supported.

2024

26,635 adolescents and youths engaged in Champions of Change programming (girls: 13,200; boys: 12,135; women: 1,020; men: 280).

48,585 adolescents, youths and adults were trained in financial literacy and entrepreneurship (girls: 23,220; boys: 22,310; women: 2,960; men: 95).

20,045 youths and adults engaged in savings groups or other forms of microfinancing (girls: 555; boys: 295; women: 17,805; men: 1,390).

120 women's- and youth's-rights organizations were supported.

NOTE: Increased output achievement in our economic-empowerment and life-skills programming is due to a larger number of projects in the implementation stage in FY24 versus FY23.



Children participating in environment clubs in Kenya's COSME project (page 22)

Protection from Violence

2022

123,240 children and adults received training or information on how to help prevent, respond to and end violence, including GBV (girls: 69,260; boys: 44,900; women 4,970; men: 4,110).

55 safe spaces were supported.

2,490 child-protection personnel were trained (women: 690; men: 1,800).

2023

156,870 children and adults received training or information on how to help prevent, respond to and end violence, including GBV (girls: 76,040; boys: 63,850; women: 8,400; men: 8,590).

52 safe spaces were supported.

1,950 child-protection personnel were trained (women: 670; men: 1,280).

2024

257,540 children and adults received training or information on how to help prevent, respond to and end violence, including GBV (girls: 64,400; boys: 54,000; women: 76,870; men: 62,270).

58,060 children and adults received protection services, including case management and psychosocial support (girls: 12,890; boys: 9,865; women: 24,745; men: 10,565).

84 safe spaces were supported.

2,200 child-protection personnel were trained (women: 995; men: 1,210).

NOTE: Increased protection output achievement is due to our significant protection programming in FY24 in support of refugees in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and migrants fleeing Venezuela.

Other Notable Three-Year Trends

Child Sponsorship

2022

140,960 children were supported by **98,420** sponsors in Canada.

2023

147,110 children were supported by **108,760** sponsors in Canada.

2024

130,410 children were supported by **102,930** sponsors in Canada.



Until we are all equal

For the complete audited financial statements of Plan International Canada Inc. and Plan International worldwide, visit plancanada.ca/annualreport.

Thank you for your continued support in protecting and promoting the rights of children and equality for girls around the world!

If you feel inspired by the work we do or have had a positive experience with Plan Canada staff, we would love to hear from you. Help further our cause and take a minute to leave us a review on Google here:



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Students play at a Plan-supported school in Stung Treng province, Cambodia.

About Plan International Canada

Plan International Canada is a member of a global organization dedicated to advancing children's rights and equality for girls. Plan International has been building powerful partnerships with and for children for over 85 years and is now active in more than 80 countries. We stand with children, especially girls, wherever they are oppressed, exploited, left behind or not equally valued. We're determined optimists, and we will continue to persevere **until we are all equal**.