



WINTER | 2022

A close-up photograph of a young boy with a joyful expression, smiling broadly with his teeth showing. He has his hands clasped together in front of his chest. He is wearing a red, blue, and black patterned shirt. The background is a blurred, rustic setting with wooden beams and a textured wall.

Your
IMPACT

Thank you for helping girls unlock their futures.

When girls are the drivers of the change they need in their lives, the ripple effect is powerful. That's why Plan International USA's unique development approach, **GirlEngage**, combines our expertise and your generosity with the most important voices of all: those of the girls themselves. With your support, girls are showing their families how education can transform their lives, and boys are joining the fight for gender equality. Here are some examples of the kind of work you made possible in 2021.



ZIMBABWE

Participants of The Graduation Project in Zimbabwe have already helped to co-design two dormitories, where they will live while attending secondary school — but they're not stopping there! Now, the girls are working on a water recycling system for their school. In close collaboration with Purdue University's engineering school, Plan is co-developing a curriculum to teach 160 girls about engineering.

EGYPT

You're helping to keep girls in Egypt safe with the Safer Cities for Girls program. In March 2021, girls and boys from 20 clubs came together in Cairo to play games and participate in discussions, sharing their experiences with gender inequality and sexual harassment.

"The project is for us, by us," Persistency says, using one of her school's new boreholes to wash her hands.



EL SALVADOR

Through Plan's Champions of Change program, girls and boys in El Salvador are building their own visions of an equal world — and learning how to make those visions a reality. In 2021, 165 participants received digital kits, so they could continue meeting remotely, and 100 menstrual health kits were distributed to girls in the program.

INDIA

Many students in India were out of school for over 18 months due to the pandemic. In consultation with principals, teachers and girls, Plan distributed 11,000 education kits to help girls learn from home.

"We are born with rights: the right to freedom, the right to education," Yeimi, a Champions of Change participant, says. "We girls have learned that we have the same power as boys."

From sponsored child to Plan staff member

Today, Jean Baptiste is a logistics coordinator for Plan International Burkina Faso. But his history with Plan goes way back, to when he was a sponsored child himself.

Jean Baptiste remembers his sponsors with fondness, recalling the letters, cards and games he received from them, as well as visits with the community volunteer. “With Plan International, there was real follow-up,” he says. “My parents didn’t have to worry anymore. When school started, I had my backpack, and at the time, few people had backpacks.”

After earning his diploma in transportation logistics, Jean Baptiste worked for other organizations before joining Plan’s staff. “I wish to help as I was helped,” he says. “It’s a great pleasure to work with sponsored children, and I have become a sponsor myself, and I couldn’t hope for better. I encourage the children to make good use of the school kits that we supply to them. And above all, I encourage them to continue their studies. Anything can happen!”



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

Here are just a few of the ways girls made their voices heard as we celebrated International Day of the Girl 2021!



Mali

Around the world, young women continued to smash gender stereotypes, stepping into leadership roles for Plan’s annual **Girl Takeovers**. Racky, 17, took over as Plan International Mali’s Country Director, leading staff meetings and addressing important issues like education and equality.



Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, a panel of girls held a press conference at Plan’s office, speaking to the media about issues like child marriage, early pregnancies, violence and abuse, in person and online.



Vietnam

Girls in Vietnam hosted discussions about online safety, demonstrating ways to protect themselves. They organized events with games and performances and collected nearly 7,000 signatures for our global petition against the spread of false information online.

KEEPING GIRLS SAFE ONLINE

Plan International spoke to 26,000 girls across 33 countries and found an alarming trend — nine in 10 have been harmed by the effects of misinformation online. We asked you to join us in calling on the Biden administration to fulfill a campaign promise to create a National Task Force on online harassment and abuse. Hundreds of you signed our petition, and there have been results — the task force has been included in the recently released White House Gender Strategy. Thanks for helping girls take a step forward in ensuring their right to be safe online.



Building better futures, closer to home

Plan International USA is proud to work with partners and supporters like you to impact the lives of adolescent girls and children around the world. Our work is global, but we also confront challenges a little closer to home — like the migration crisis in Central America.

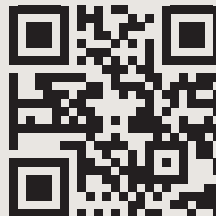
Plan's Protected Passage program is working in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico to provide critical support and resources for vulnerable girls and their families who were forced to leave their homes behind. Protected Passage is also addressing the root causes that lead to migration, including poverty and a lack of economic opportunities.

And this critical work is about to get a boost from our friends at the Western Union Foundation! With their help, over 2,000 Indigenous young people in Guatemala will participate in a skills training program, preparing them to join their economy as it begins to recover. Plan will recruit marginalized young people from rural areas, and more than half of participants will be young women.

Thank you for helping young women access the tools they need to build a better and safer future, for themselves and their families.

NEW YEAR, NEW SITE!

We're excited to share our brand-new website with you! It doesn't just have a fresh look — it's also more accessible, which means it's easier than ever for you to see how your support is making a difference. Hear from the girls who are changing their communities for the better, in their own words, and be sure to visit MyPlan — connecting with your sponsored child is only a click away!



You're helping India heal.

Thank you for helping India combat a deadly second wave of COVID-19. Here are some of the ways Plan International India has responded to the crisis.

➤ **339,570**
triple-layered surgical masks distributed.




➤ **139,705**
Personal protective equipment kits distributed to medical staff.

➤ **509,127**
people reached through an awareness campaign on prevention measures and vaccine eligibility.

➤ **252** oxygen concentrators provided.

➤ **72,075**
food and nutrition kits distributed to families affected by COVID-19.



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