



Your

IMPACT

SPRING | 2023



Meet the young woman **DRIVING CHANGE** IN PERU

“Gender stereotypes can be broken, as I am doing every day.”

Edith, 20, is paving the way for more girls in Peru to defy gender stereotypes and follow their dreams.

When she was young, Edith loved to play with toy cars. As she got older, she helped friends repair their bicycles and it quickly became her passion.

“Although I was very interested in cars and motorbikes, I was afraid to choose this as a career because of what my parents and society would say,” Edith admits.

During her last year of high school, Edith heard about the Changing Schemes project, a Plan initiative that seeks to provide young people, particularly women, with access to training and employment opportunities, free of gender stereotypes.

“Changing Schemes came to my school to present us with the opportunity to access scholarships to study for a career in automotive mechanics,” Edith says. “I loved this idea ... Plan International held talks for us and also for our families so that they would understand our desire to study this career. And so, my parents started to support me.”

In fact, it was her father’s encouragement that gave Edith the confidence to pursue her dream.

“When my daughter told me she wanted to study this career, it was a joy for me, because I also studied mechanics, although I couldn’t finish it for

economic reasons,” Mariano, Edith’s father, says. “But there was also the fear that my daughter would choose this career, because of the things that people say, such as ‘a woman can’t lift an engine, it’s heavy and you need strength.’ But I told her ‘No, daughter, don’t listen, just keep going.’”

Edith realized that it was important for girls to see women working in this profession.

“I spoke to my classmates who also wanted to study this career and I realized that I was not the only one,” she says. “And what gave me the final push was that, during the selection process for the scholarship, the project introduced us to a woman mechanic who already had a name in the automotive world, and this made me realize that anything was possible.”

After graduating at the top of her class, Edith, now 20, got a job at one of the world’s leading automotive companies. She’s living her dream, and she is encouraging other young women to do the same.

“I want them to see me as an example that it is possible, that with effort and discipline you can achieve anything,” Edith says.



Edith with her parents, who have been supportive of their daughter’s career path.



J.P.Morgan

Building a more inclusive IT industry

Information technology is one of the key sectors of growth that will continue to shape this century and beyond. Training young women to gain the in-demand skills they'll need to succeed in this field will help them to get good-paying jobs.

That's why Plan USA is proud to announce the second phase of our Tech Muda project in Indonesia, made possible with support from J.P. Morgan.

The project builds on the work of Plan's Tech Muda I project, which trained 150 young people in IT-related skills and helped 139 young women and men find internships and employment in the greater Jakarta area. This second phase will reach 400 young women, providing them with training, mentorship, work-based learning and placement support to secure jobs in Indonesia's growing IT sector.

“At J.P. Morgan, we believe everyone deserves equal access to opportunities, no matter their background, and we believe a more diverse workforce will benefit not just individual companies, but the industry and communities at large ... We are very glad to be renewing our partnership with Plan Indonesia to support underserved young Indonesian women, and play our part in building a talent pool that will help promote economic growth.”

GIOSHIA RALIE, *Senior Country Officer of J.P. Morgan Indonesia*

With help from donors like you, and our friends at J.P. Morgan, a more inclusive, diverse and vibrant IT industry can be a reality today.

THANK YOU

for helping to keep sponsored children like Vien

HEALTHY AND SAFE

“I was infected with coronavirus in March 2022 and treated at home for 15 days ... Due to the pandemic, my parents could not go out for work and my family's income was reduced. **During this time, Plan supported my family with face masks, sanitizers and essential supplies such as rice, cooking oil, dry fish and medicine. I would like to thank donors, Plan and partners for their valuable support that helped us to overcome this difficult time.**”

— VIEN, 10



Want to learn more about how our sponsorship program in Vietnam is changing lives? [Click](#) or [scan this code](#) to meet Luyen, who takes you on a tour of her community!



NOT JUST A girls' fight



Before joining Plan's **Generation Change!** project in 2018, Boyd admits that the way he treated girls was disrespectful.

"I didn't believe girls had any rights, but now I understand we are equal and have the same rights," Boyd says. "The way I used to treat them was different from how I talk to them now. I felt I was above girls and didn't allow my sisters to mingle with boys."

Now 23, Boyd has been a peer educator for five years, as well as a role model for boys and young men in his community.

"As boys, our challenges are peer pressure and lack of correct information," Boyd explains. "I talk to them and give them advice ... Girls face many challenges, and people still don't allow them to participate. They are forced into early marriage, especially in rural areas. I thank Plan International and their partners for giving me this opportunity. They are empowering us with knowledge."

Impact area spotlight: Gender & Youth Equality

When it comes to girls' rights, there's a lot of work we do, and a lot of impact we make, together. One of Plan USA's five impact areas is Gender & Youth Equality — we work with and for girls to design projects that amplify their voices, keep them protected and help them stay in control of their own lives. We're helping girls identify the challenges they face, and working together to come up with solutions that reflect their priorities, needs and visions.

Here are just a few of the ways you made a difference for Gender & Youth Equality in 2022:



You helped close to **2.5M girls** drive **change in their communities.**



With support from people like you, Plan reached **5M girls** through our **sexual & reproductive health and rights work.**



With support from people like you, Plan projects helped **protect 5.3M girls from violence.**

Plan's Gender & Youth Equality programs serve young people — around the world and right here in the U.S.! We have a Youth Advisory Board, a group of young people who work alongside our staff to collaborate on strategy and programs, and a Youth Leadership Academy, a yearlong program designed to help young activists take their leadership to the next level!

"In my role as a Plan USA Youth Ambassador, my voice calls for the engagement and representation of girls in all spaces of decision-making. Every position I hold circles back to the value of storytelling and creating change through human connection. I am driven by the goal of having narratives once written for girls to be written by girls."

— ANIKA, Youth Leadership Academy alum



Click or scan this QR code to read Anika's story on our blog!



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YOUR IMPACT

One year of crisis in Ukraine

Even as Ukraine faded from the headlines, you didn't forget about the girls and their families who need your support as much now as they did a year ago. **Thank you** for helping to keep refugee children safe and for addressing the unique needs of girls, who are particularly vulnerable in times of crisis.

Beyond the numbers:

Hear from the people you've reached



MARYNA

"It was an amazing feeling to receive my first salary. I was expecting it, but when I received the notification on my phone that it had been paid, I was still elated and felt proud of myself for making it in a foreign country."

After participating in a training program, Maryna (pictured here with her 8-year-old son) is now employed at one of the nine daycare centers established by Plan and local partners in Poland.



VIKTORIIA

"When I was told that today you were going to come and give us these vouchers in person, I cried because complete strangers are helping us ... I'm sure that people in Ukraine would help the same way."

Viktoriia (pictured here with her 2-year-old daughter and 14-year-old son) received a cash voucher to help support her family in Romania.



NASTYA

"Being able to return to school meant that things might not be as bad as they were and that we may be able to go back to normal life soon. When I was younger I never knew what I wanted to do when I grew up, but now, after everything that has happened, I know for sure that I would like to become a doctor."

Plan is working with partners in Ukraine to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction of schools and shelters, as well as providing heating appliances and generators, so that students like Nastya, 15, can return to the classroom.

Your impact in numbers

Over the past year, you've helped to reach more than **250,000** people with critical support in Ukraine, Moldova, Poland and Romania.



More than **60,000** people have received **food support**.



40,000 people received **cash vouchers** in Poland, Romania and Ukraine.



More than **30,000** children have received **protection** services.

- **75 schools** and **25 shelters** in Ukraine have been **reconstructed** or rehabilitated.
- More than **14,000** people have received relief items such as **blankets and winter clothing**.
- **11,200 hygiene kits** have been distributed to families, including **8,200 menstrual health kits** for girls and young women.
- **15,000 children** benefited from learning activities, including the provision of tablets to continue to follow the school curriculum online.
- **9 daycare centers** were established in Poland, offering protection services for children and employment for refugee women.

"While we don't know how long the conflict will last, we know it has devastated the lives of countless girls, boys and their families, and that more support will be needed in months to come. Plan International and our partners will continue to be there — throughout the conflict and as they rebuild and recover. **We need support as urgently as ever before so that we can keep scaling up lifesaving programs.**"

— SVEN COPPENS,
Plan's Ukraine crisis response director



To help support more girls and their families from Ukraine, visit: planusa.org/help-ukraine

YOUR IMPACT

Syria

Two massive earthquakes in February, followed by more than 100 aftershocks, have created ruin across Syria and Türkiye. Syria, in particular, will seriously struggle to recover — more than a decade of war has left the country without the capacity to deal with this new tragedy.

Plan is working with a local partners in Syria, helping girls and their families access safe shelter and lifesaving aid, including:



Food and clean water



Health care



Menstrual health kits



Protection and education services



Blankets and beds

600

hygiene kits

have been delivered to girls and their families.

250

families

have received blankets and mattresses.

600

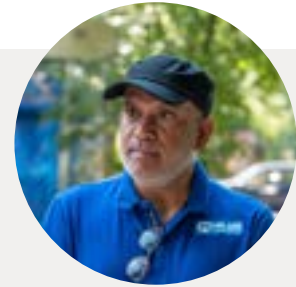
food baskets

have been distributed.

In the chaos of emergencies, girls and young women are at greater risk of exploitation and abuse. With your support, we help all people in crisis, making sure that girls' unique needs don't fall through the cracks.

THANK YOU.

To help support more girls and their families in Syria, visit:
planusa.org/syria



“A major earthquake and repeated aftershocks shake people, impact their minds and amplify stress. Psychological needs are often invisible. Left unattended, they often leave lasting scars on young minds. **It is critical to address the mental health needs of young survivors from day one onwards.**”

— DR. UNNI KRISHNAN,
Plan's global humanitarian director



Dr. Krishnan shares what we've learned from responding to earthquakes for decades, and how that has informed our response in Syria [on our blog here.](#)



Naya, 12, stands beside her hygiene kit, which include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, menstrual pads, reusable face masks and hand sanitizer.



Juliana, 18, Carla, 16, and Jacqueline, 16, are living together in a shelter in Aleppo.