



PLAN INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE ANNUAL REVIEW

2018



This review covers the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

Cover photo: Jackline, a member of the Safer Cities for Girls programme. Kampala, Uganda. Credit: Plan International / Quinn Neely.

This page: Girls and boys play rugby together in Delhi, India. Credit: Plan International / Vivek Singh.

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OVER 80 YEARS OF BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO TRANSFORM CHILDREN'S LIVES

Active in

76

countries
in 2018

We partnered with

51,581
organisations



18,140,482 GIRLS and **16,085,741 BOYS**
benefitted from our work*



Supporters sponsored **1.2 MILLION CHILDREN**

WHERE WE WORK



AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

Benin
Burkina Faso
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Egypt
Ethiopia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Jordan
Lebanon
Liberia
Malawi
Mali
Mozambique
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Senegal
Sierra Leone
South Sudan
Sudan
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

AMERICAS

Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Colombia
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
USA

ASIA

Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Laos
Myanmar

EUROPE

Belgium
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland
Italy
Netherlands
Norway
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
UK

OCEANIA

Australia
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands

ADVOCACY OFFICES

Addis Ababa
Brussels
Geneva
New York

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bangkok
Dakar
Nairobi
Panama City

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

OUR PURPOSE

We strive for a just world that advances children's rights and equality for girls, and we motivate our people and partners to:

- empower children, young people and communities to make vital changes that tackle the root causes of discrimination against girls, exclusion and vulnerability
- drive change in practice and policy at local, national and global levels through our reach, experience and knowledge of the realities children face
- work with children and communities to prepare for and respond to crises, and to overcome adversity
- support the safe and successful progression of children from birth to adulthood

FOREWORD

In the first year of our global strategy we have focused world attention on the fundamental injustices girls face.

And we are starting to see real change. Pressure from Plan International and other organisations, saw girls' education in emergencies top the G7 agenda for the first time. Our #GirlsTakeover on every International Day of the Girl is growing, harnessing the collective energy of girls to break down the barriers that deny them freedom and power. Likewise, our online GirlsRightsPlatform.org is revolutionising the way information can be used to advance gender equality.

We are also working to transform the humanitarian sector so that emergency responses always consider the specific and unique needs of girls. Our *Adolescent Girls in Crisis* reports found that girls living through major emergencies are suffering some of the most horrific human rights violations, while being largely ignored by the international community. We have shown it's time for change and that starts with listening to girls' voices.

Meanwhile, our programmes are helping to put more vulnerable children – especially girls – in school and learning. We've trained schools to deal with sudden emergencies so that children can continue coming to class, helped bridge language divides so that children from ethnic minorities can benefit from an education, and created safe spaces for girls to learn in refugee camps, including the Rohingya in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

The changes we are making to our funding model too will support this strategy going forward, allowing us to achieve our aspiration of being the world's largest girls' rights organisation helping 100 million girls lead, learn, decide and thrive.



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**Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen,
CEO**



**Joshua Liswood,
Chair**

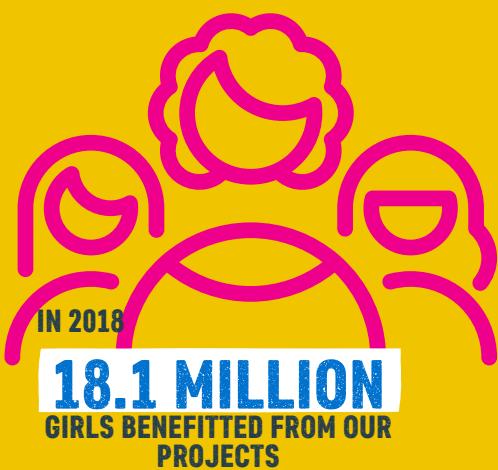
STRATEGY

PLAN INTERNATIONAL'S GLOBAL STRATEGY TO 2022

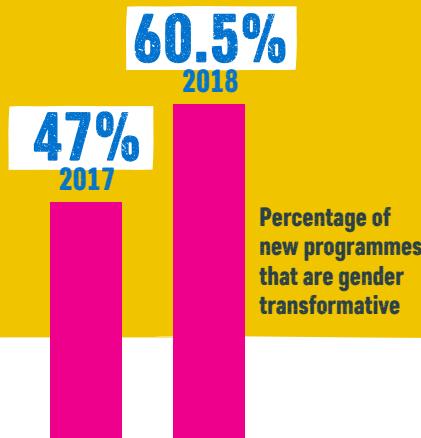
In July 2017, we started implementing our new strategy to advance children's rights and equality for girls, worldwide. Our work is inspired by the United Nations' Global Goals, and in particular, achieving gender equality by 2030. Without equality, no other goal can be truly met.

Our ambition is to transform the lives of 100 million girls through our strategy.

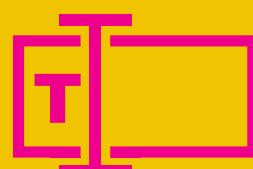
Progress on transforming the lives of 100 million girls by 2022



Progress on putting gender equality at the heart of every new programme



Our impact as a leading global girls' rights organisation*



* Based on a sample of 31 Plan International offices.

UP TO 2022 WE WILL:

DELIVER GREATER IMPACT FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY GIRLS.

By:

- working where violations of children's rights and inequality for girls are the greatest
- being transparent and accountable to those we work with
- working with men, women, boys and girls to advance the girls' rights movement
- putting gender equality and girls' empowerment at the heart of every new programme
- becoming the world's leading girls' rights organisation

INFLUENCE GREATER CHANGE AT LOCAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS.

We will:

- collaborate with others to drive policy change and investment in children's rights and equality for girls
- support communities to hold governments to account

TRANSFORM GIRLS' LIVES

All our programmes will focus on enabling vulnerable and excluded children to **learn, lead, decide and thrive**, across **our six main areas of work**.

LEARN

So they are able to succeed in life and work, we are working to ensure:

- governments invest in all children completing secondary **education**
- children in conflict and emergency settings, and especially girls, are educated in safety
- young people have the **skills** and opportunities to **work** and manage money

LEAD

So they are able to engage in **activism** on issues that affect them, we are working to ensure:

- children and young people have a stronger voice
- decision-makers build ways for them to voice their opinions
- governments establish and enforce laws that advance their rights to speak out

DECIDE

So girls have control over their own lives and bodies, we are working to ensure:

- communities eliminate harmful practices like child marriage and female genital mutilation
- governments act for adolescent **sexual health and rights**
- young people get quality sexual health services and sex education
- young people play an active role in preventing sexual violence in emergencies

THRIVE

So vulnerable and excluded children grow up cared for and free from violence and fear, we are working to ensure:

- they receive the **early childhood** care they need to be healthy, educated and protected
- governments, communities and families work to end **violence** and change the beliefs, attitudes and behaviours that cause girls harm.

A YEAR OF GLOBAL ACTION FOR GIRLS' RIGHTS



© Plan International / CNW Group

OCT
'17

#GIRLSTAKEOVER

Over 1,100 girls took over the roles of prime ministers, mayors, CEOs and other leaders in 64 countries as part of the biggest ever global #GirlsTakeover for International Day of the Girl. Through takeovers, girls are demanding an end to the discrimination and prejudice that hold them back in private and public life. By stepping aside, leaders demonstrate their support. Leaders who took part included the presidents of Guinea and Ecuador, the prime ministers of Finland and Denmark, the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General of the UN, the governor of Tokyo, the Mayor of Madrid and many more.

Other notable displays of girl power included 300 local radio stations taken over by girls in Nepal, as well as every state-run school in Paraguay being led by a girl for the day. In Canada, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accepted the #GirlsBelongHere challenge to share his office with Breanne, 23. "I dream of having a real impact as a leader in Canada," said Breanne. "I look forward to showing the world that every girl – no matter her race, religion, culture or ability – has the power to achieve her dreams."

#WEARETHENEXT EDUCATION FINANCE CAMPAIGN

In the year running up to the Global Platform for Education financing conference our #WeAreTheNext campaign, led by young activists from El Salvador, Haiti, Uganda and Vietnam, called for a big increase in the funding of girls' education.

At the February conference in Dakar, Senegal, world leaders announced \$2bn in funding for education in low-income countries. France, Canada, UAE and Denmark, among others, indicated that funds should specifically target girls' education.

Summit co-host French President Emmanuel Macron told the conference: "We need to put a special emphasis on girls' education – everywhere that people want to promote terrorism, obscurantism and push back democracy, everywhere that our values are under threat, that's where you find girls are taken out of school."

FEB
'18





GIRLSRIGHTSPLATFORM.ORG

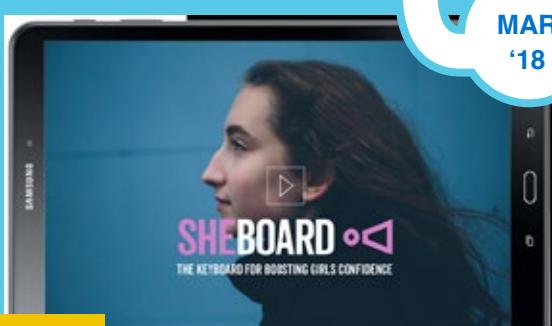
GirlsRightsPlatform.org is a first-of-its-kind human rights database launched by Plan International in February 2018.

Bringing together more than 1,400 international policy documents in a searchable database, the platform aims to revolutionise the way campaigners and policy-makers use information to improve girls' rights legislation.

A research report by Plan International: *Girls' Rights are Human Rights* – made possible by the database – revealed the extent to which international law overlooks girls' rights, effectively rendering them invisible.

Plan International has used the platform to strengthen girls' rights in resolutions relating to issues such as violence against women, discrimination against women, the rights of the child and maternal mortality.

FEB
'18



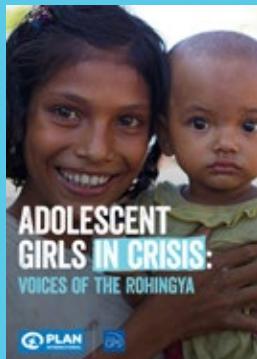
SHEBOARD

In partnership with Samsung, Plan International Finland launched the Sheboard predictive text app – described as the 'keyboard for boosting girls' confidence'. The app raises questions about the way people talk to and about girls and awareness of the impact of gendered speech. As Nora Lindström, Plan International's Global Coordinator for Digital Development, said: "We want to help people see the impact that words have, and make them consider ways in which they can change how they talk in order to empower girls."

APR
'18

DATA-DRIVEN ADVOCACY

Over 600 girls' and women's rights advocates from 50 countries spoke out in a survey by our partner organisation, Equal Measures 2030. Over 90% of the advocates reported their governments do not prioritise collecting data on issues that affect women and girls. Over half of respondents identified dealing with gender-based violence as one of their top priorities. The survey results are being used in advocacy to drive progress towards gender equality and achieving the UN's Global Goals.



The *Adolescent Girls in Crisis* research reports revealed the personal experiences of girls living through emergencies in South Sudan and Bangladesh, to help ensure girls' needs aren't ignored where disaster strikes.

JUN
'18



GIRLS' EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

Two years of public campaigning and face-to-face advocacy put girls' education in emergencies at the top of the agenda at a G7 Summit for the first time.

In June, G7 leaders in Canada announced a global commitment of US\$2.9bn (C\$3.8bn) for girls' education in crises. They also endorsed the Charlevoix Declaration on the importance of investing in children's education in crises, with a special focus on girls.

This was the result of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his fellow G7 leaders listening to civil society organisations including Plan International; to adolescent girls from around the world brought by Plan International and partners to meet the leaders; and to 160,000 signatories on a petition as part of a worldwide online campaign.

Plan International CEO AB Albrechtsen said: "This action by the G7 will alter the futures of millions of girls currently out of school because of conflict and crisis."

QUALITY, INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

We want vulnerable and excluded children, particularly girls, to have the education they need to succeed in life. This means promoting quality education that is accessible to all.

THE WORLD TODAY

Though enrolment in education has risen dramatically across the world since the start of the millennium, too many children are still missing out due to their gender or disability or because they are living in conflict or crisis. Over 260 million children aged 6-17 are out of school globally. In addition, while more children are accessing education, the quality of the education they receive still needs to improve.

WORK IN 2018

Our work aims to remove barriers that prevent vulnerable children, especially girls, from learning, and to provide education that responds to their needs. We have established partnerships with education ministries in many countries, and are working to provide education for growing numbers of internally displaced children and refugees. Plan International offices in Belgium, Ireland, France, Spain and Switzerland have come together to support our global efforts on education programming, and influencing education policy and practice.



**3,379,601
GIRLS
WITH BETTER ACCESS
TO EDUCATION**

**€77 MILLION
INVESTED IN EDUCATION**

**EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES
PROGRAMMES IN
25 COUNTRIES**

GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

Promoting quality education for all: We are helping teachers support children from a range of backgrounds. We promoted conflict-sensitive teaching methods to support Syrian refugees in Egypt to learn alongside Egyptian students. In Vietnam, we helped break down language barriers that prevent teachers supporting ethnic minority children, increasing enrolment by 10%. In Central African Republic, a learning programme brought 715 out-of-school children into formal education.

Influencing government spending and policies:

In Bolivia, we supported education councils and student governments to lobby their local governments for more funding. Governments in five municipalities provided funding for projects providing inclusive, quality secondary education. We successfully advocated in Liberia for greater inclusion of gender, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and school safety in national education policy. In Myanmar we advocated alongside UNICEF and others for more Muslim women to be trained as teachers. The Ministry of Education is beginning to cover their salaries.



Malawi

Scaling up work on gender and inclusion: By partnering with education ministries, we have scaled up work on gender and inclusion in many countries worldwide. In El Salvador, the partnership has allowed us to implement a programme in 92 schools promoting girls' participation in leadership and decision-making. In Malawi, we collaborated with the Ministry of Education to tackle misconceptions about menstrual hygiene, reducing barriers to girls' attendance at school.

Supporting education in emergencies: As part of the Rohingya refugee response in Bangladesh, we are providing learning in ways that compensate for the lack of space in camps and the cultural barriers that prevent girls from learning. In Burundian refugee camps in Tanzania, we tested an innovative early learning programme in 25 centres that focused on psychosocial support and on children's social and emotional skills.

REMOVING THE BARRIERS TO EDUCATION



Koonipo, 14, dreams of becoming a nurse. Her dream started slipping away when she was bullied because of her speech disorder and dropped out of school. "I used to reluctantly speak to people, especially in the classroom, and my classmates made a mockery of me because of the way I speak," says Koonipo.

Plan International's REACH programme in Ghana is an education programme designed to help out-of-school students and student drop-outs return to formal education.

Koonipo eventually agreed to join the 9-month programme and her attendance

increased when she realised she wouldn't be bullied by the other students.

"I said to myself that I will make sure I complete this class and join the formal school so that I can pursue my ambition of becoming a nurse," says Koonipo, determined not to let her speech disorder hold her back.

Supported by her teachers, Koonipo completed the programme and passed the Junior High School entrance exam.

19,372 girls and boys completed the programme in 2018 – almost 90% of them successfully returned to school.

PROTECTING CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FROM DISASTERS

Nearly one million students from 33 countries have taken part in disaster risk reduction activities in three years as part of our Safe Schools programme, like these students on a training exercise in Nagakeo, Indonesia. The programme gives children knowledge to deal with sudden emergencies, and improves school buildings and school operations so that children in disaster-prone areas can continue to be educated in safety.



SKILLS AND DECENT WORK

We want vulnerable and excluded young people, especially young women, to be resilient, gain knowledge and skills, access opportunities and engage actively in decent work of their choosing.

THE WORLD TODAY

Globally 71 million young people are unemployed, with numbers increasing in many parts of the world. Many who are employed are defined as 'working poor', still living in poverty, with young women, in particular, less able to access employment and other economic opportunities, and more vulnerable to unsafe workplaces. As technology advances, artificial intelligence offers opportunities for work but could also pose a threat to the workforce.

WORK IN 2018

We work with communities, the private sector, governments, and others to drive changes that foster an accessible, youth-friendly world of work with equal opportunities for men and women. Our offices in Australia and the Netherlands have teamed up with our Asia region to provide skills and opportunities for youth employment and entrepreneurship, with a focus on supporting girls to access education and training, and young women to find decent work.



€52 MILLION
INVESTED IN SKILLS AND WORK

1,016,124
GIRLS
WITH IMPROVED SKILLS AND
WORK OPPORTUNITIES

GLOBAL SNAPSHTOS

Supporting vulnerable young people, especially young women, to make a decent living: A technical institute in Ghana set up in collaboration with Hyundai and the Korea International Cooperation Agency is training young women in auto-engineering, while in Vietnam we have established a network with more than 100 business leaders to collaborate on training and job opportunities for female migrant workers and vulnerable young people in cities. We are working with the private sector to promote gender equality in the workplace, for example in Brazil, where companies we have linked with have become more open to recruiting young women. In El Salvador, we set up Plan Store, an innovative social enterprise that supports young entrepreneurs by marketing their products.

Working with young people through savings groups:

We support young people to increase financial literacy, build savings and access loans for entrepreneurial opportunities. In Burkina Faso, we have helped create safe spaces for young women to participate in savings groups, on-the-job training, and access support and mentoring, while savings groups in Sudan have empowered young women economically with a social fund to help them set up and run small businesses.



Brazil

Building skills for life and work: We are harnessing technology to support young people to build their employment skills, for example in the Philippines, where a partnership with Accenture has helped roll out a Facebook chatbot that young people can use to create an employability profile. In Dominican Republic, a partnership with the Community Technology Centre has created a space for young entrepreneurs to share ideas, and access mentoring and networking. In Rwanda, we provided vocational skills training to young people living in refugee camps, including young mothers.

YOUNG PEOPLE WORK SMARTER



More than 3,500 young people in Uganda have developed skills for work in inspiring new youth spaces – SmartUp Factories.

The project supports girls and out-of-school young people with training, mentoring and networking, especially in the field of technology. “I have learnt how to type, write emails, print out documents, scan and make copies. Before I couldn’t start or even operate a computer,” says Judith, 22. “The project is giving girls the opportunity to prove themselves in the world of information technology and get employed.”

The factories also provide a place where young people can take on creative and innovative projects that solve problems they are facing in their communities. “I have learned app development and hardware programming,” says Fiona, 20. “I have been able to develop an app which is focused on providing reliable and safe motorcycle taxi transport within cities.”

Many of the projects started at the factories have created jobs for young people, and the project has been funded for another four years.

→ **Influencing spending and policies that support youth employment:** Advocacy efforts in Myanmar have secured land valued at \$270,000 to build a training centre for youth employment and entrepreneurship, while in Tanzania, we brought young people and government officials together to discuss the district Youth Development Funds which support income generation. The government agreed to reduce the interest rate on loans to zero, increasing young people's access to this resource. We have successfully influenced the Philippines' Chamber of Commerce to promote gender inclusion in the workplace with initiatives including anti-sexual harassment policies and inclusive hiring processes.



INVESTING IN GIRLS' FUTURES

"I can generate an income and I know how to manage it. We received leadership training which was very useful. It gave me the confidence to make it on my own" – Lenia, 22.

Lenia runs a successful business selling biscuits and ice lollies in a rural area of Timor-Leste. It's a business she started thanks to a loan from one of 20 Savings and Loans Groups in the area supported by Plan International Australia and funded by the European Union and the Australian government. Through the groups, young people are able to borrow money for education or business, learn to save, and receive skills training.

YOUNG PEOPLE DRIVING CHANGE

We want girls, boys and young people to have the power to take action on issues that matter to them. We want them to shape the decisions that affect their lives by leading change within their own communities and influencing decisions at higher levels.

THE WORLD TODAY

People's rights to speak out are frequently repressed around the globe, and young people, especially girls, are least likely to be heard. Organisations and power-holders are increasingly engaging with young people, but activities are often symbolic and don't lead to meaningful change that places greater power in young people's hands.

WORK IN 2018

Plan International Germany, our Nordic offices and our offices for the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean are collaborating to support our work encouraging youth-led collective action on issues that affect young people. We increasingly work in partnership with young people's organisations. We create spaces for young people, especially girls, in public decision-making processes and support them to advocate for change that advances gender equality and the rights of young people.



GLOBAL SNAPSHOT

Supporting young people to influence decision-makers: We worked in partnership with a network of young people's organisations in Paraguay to gain commitments on young people's rights from the main presidential candidates, and supported young people's organisations in Nepal to successfully lobby for local funding. In Indonesia, we supported a youth group to advocate for climate change and disaster risk reduction to be included in their village budgeting plan.

Nurturing girls' rights movements: In Vietnam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil we have intensified our support for networks that connect young people, as well as linking them with adult decision-makers and civil society. In Brazil and Bangladesh we are testing digital platforms to connect young people advocating for change. We supported girls in Togo who formed their own organisation and led a digital campaign on gender-based violence and child marriage, after being involved in International Day of the Girl takeovers. Their campaign reached 45,000 people. In Egypt, we facilitated discussions between young people and media professionals challenging the images of girls presented by the media.



Strengthening young people's roles in humanitarian action and building community resilience: In Sierra Leone, young people set up Community Disaster Risk Management teams aiming to reduce the risks from flooding and increase community awareness. Girls and boys in Bolivia carried out awareness-raising activities in 92 schools to learn how education can continue if disaster strikes and to develop school safety plans, while members of youth clubs in Sudan and South Sudan have provided training to their peers on promoting peace, child rights and child protection.

YOUNG REPORTERS PROMOTE PEACE



Students in Central African Republic are promoting peace in their communities through a series of radio broadcasts. With the support of Plan International Ireland and the European Commission's humanitarian aid department ECHO, the Promoting Peace and Social Cohesion project trained 20 children as journalists, and their programmes – transmitted on national radio, to thousands of listeners – are raising young people's voices.

"After an animated radio show... I felt like a professional journalist," says Aboubacar. "I realised how useful I am in my community and I am proud of it. Thanks to me the population of Boda is informed about events happening here."

The students received training on reporting techniques and visited community leaders, including the mayor and Police Commissioner, as part of their research. They interviewed other students on the realities they face to identify topics for the programmes, which included school toilet facilities for girls and education of Muslim children.

In a country scarred by religious conflicts, the programme brings together Christian and Muslim children to promote community cohesion and peace.



LEARNING TO LEAD FOR CHANGE

“I have seen that it is possible to change our reality. What I want today is to continue my career representing the people, striving to improve the life of my community” – Flavia, 17.

Flavia is president of her city's youth council and wants to become mayor to change her community in north-eastern Brazil for the better. She is part of Plan International's Girls in Power programme, which supports young people to become leaders of change in their communities and to know their rights. In a country where fewer than 20% of political positions are held by women, the initiative helps girls understand national politics and the importance of gender equality in these spaces.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

We want vulnerable and excluded children, particularly girls, to have control over their lives and bodies. We want them to be able to make informed choices about identity and relationships, and if and when to have children.

THE WORLD TODAY

Every year there are 9.6 million pregnancies among adolescent girls. Around half of these are unintended. Complications due to pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death for older adolescent girls. Ensuring that girls have access to sex education, contraceptive choice and safe abortion is critical to achieving their rights to sexual and reproductive health and gender equality. These rights are under attack across the world.

WORK IN 2018

We work to eliminate harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), and attitudes, beliefs and practices that limit girls' rights. Our work also aims to reduce unintended adolescent pregnancies, increase access to quality sexual and reproductive health services, and deliver comprehensive education about sexuality in schools and out of schools.



GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

Eliminating harmful practices: All our regions scaled up work on addressing child, early and forced marriage. In Benin, we are supporting dialogue between different generations on child marriage, and radio broadcasts have helped increase the number of cases reported. In Vietnam, we established 53 new girls' clubs to take action to prevent child marriage. We worked with adolescent girls from local and refugee populations in Lebanon to help them make informed decisions about marriage and having children. An FGM project in Guinea reached 50 communities with information on alternative methods of initiation, protecting 400 girls from FGM. The practice was declared to be abandoned in 11 villages.

Reducing unintended adolescent pregnancy: We reached almost 7,000 adolescents over four years in Ecuador to discuss their sexual and reproductive rights, including working with boys to challenge harmful gender stereotypes. In all 11 provinces, we saw a reduction in adolescent pregnancies. In Nicaragua, a mobile phone app was launched on pregnancy prevention for adolescents, and in Peru, we launched a project called 'We Decide' to reach 59,000 young people over 4 years with information and services to help reduce adolescent pregnancy.



Uganda

Promoting sexual and reproductive health services, information and education for adolescents: We influenced the national curriculum in several countries to provide comprehensive sexuality education. In El Salvador the new curriculum reached more than 5,000 children. Working with Marie Stopes and with young people, we created an app in Timor-Leste that allows girls to engage with health care staff and track their periods, and in Togo, we set up mobile clinics offering information, contraception and STI testing to adolescents. We supported young refugees from Central African Republic in Cameroon with kits to help manage personal and menstrual hygiene, and contraception.

TECH WORKING TO END CHILD MARRIAGE



A mobile phone app launched in Bangladesh is stopping child marriages at the click of a button. It prevented 3,700 child marriages in its first six months alone, by allowing marriage registrars to check the true age of a bride or groom.

Developed by a government official and scaled up by Plan International, the app allows marriage officiants to digitally verify the bride and groom's proof of age documents, significantly reducing the chances of documents being forged.

"It will take years to convince each of the 160 million people in Bangladesh that child marriage must not happen,"

says Mr Muhammad Abdul Halim, Director General of the Government of Bangladesh's Governance Innovation Unit. "A faster and perhaps more effective route would be to convince the 100,000 or so marriage registrars, solemnisers and matchmakers."

The app is a truly innovative approach to tackling a practice that forces girls out of education, leads many to become child mothers, and traps girls and young women in a lifetime of poverty.

Influencing laws, policies and budgets:
We influenced the National Health Strategy in Bangladesh to include adolescent-friendly health services, while in Uganda, our advocacy led one district to allocate budgets to family planning services for the first time. A successful campaign in Timor-Leste opposed a draft policy to make modern contraception available only to married women. In Sudan, we worked with the National Council of Child Welfare to push MPs for plans on enforcing laws and policies for the abandonment of FGM. In Egypt, we led advocacy on FGM at multiple levels including changing parents' beliefs and engaging directly with parliamentarians.



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

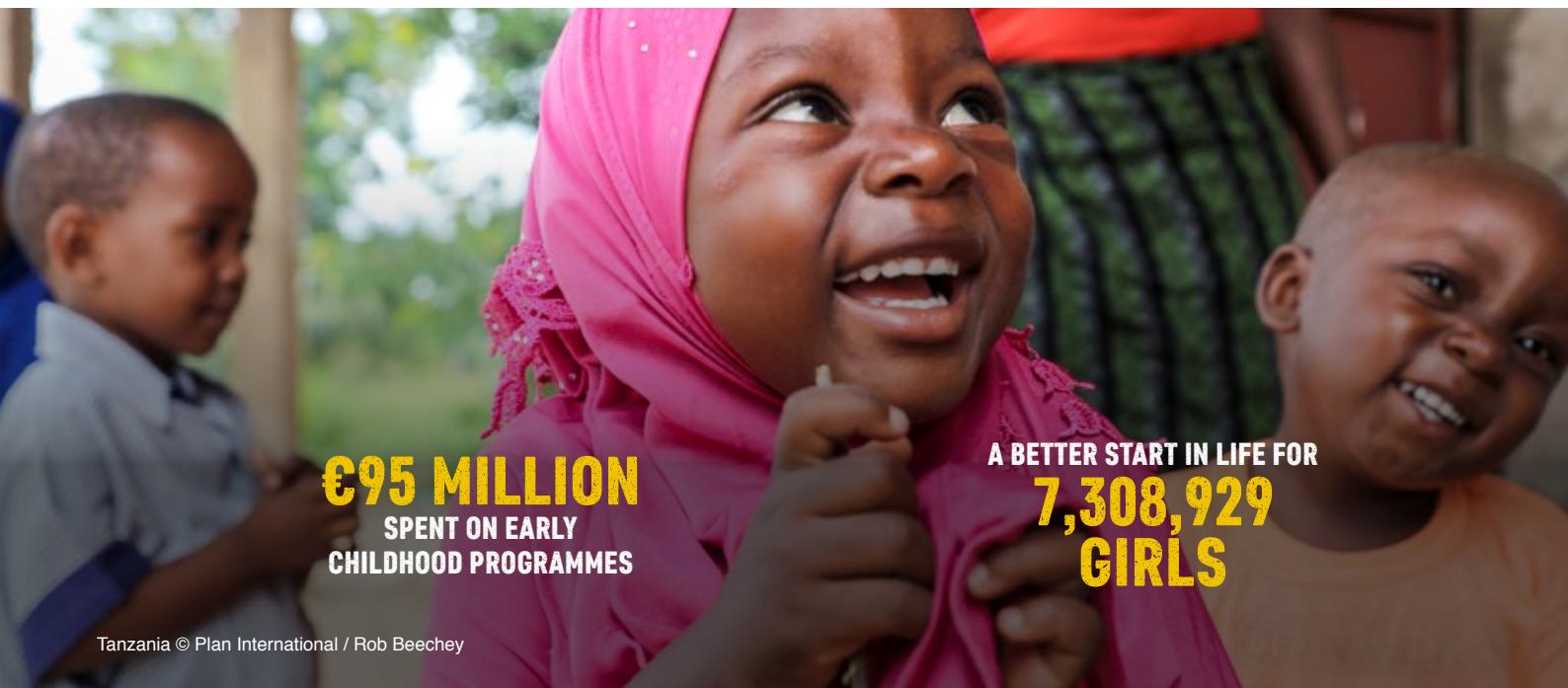
We want vulnerable and excluded young children, particularly girls, to grow up well cared for and equally valued.

THE WORLD TODAY

Some 85 percent of children in low-income countries do not have access to preschool education. It is estimated 250 million under-fives in low- and middle-income countries risk not reaching their developmental potential due to factors such as poor health and nutrition, violence and lack of care and stimulation. The Nurturing Care Framework launched in response to these challenges by The World Health Organization, UNICEF, World Bank and the Early Childhood Development Action Network set out the importance of supporting caregivers to provide care to young children and the role of the health sector in early childhood.

WORK IN 2018

We work with parents and families to promote care for young girls and boys, encompassing play, love, health, nutrition and protection. We support community-led early learning, maternal, new-born and child health and nutrition and sanitation programmes. We influence decision-makers to support better early childhood development policies and to expand access to quality services that give children the best start. All our work focuses on promoting gender equality and men's positive engagement in care.



€95 MILLION
SPENT ON EARLY
CHILDHOOD PROGRAMMES

A BETTER START IN LIFE FOR
7,308,929
GIRLS

GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

Working with parents/caregivers to promote nurturing care for girls and boys, free from gender-bias: In China, we worked with nearly 60 community child development networks and over 200 kindergartens to offer a parenting programme, and our approach focused on gender and protection has been integrated into a government initiative. In Vietnam, we worked with the Women's Union to implement a parenting programme reaching 1,600 villages, with the aim of going nationwide eventually. In Kenya, our work with nearly 400 parenting groups has had a strong focus on promoting men's engagement in the care of their children, with families reporting their increased involvement. In Brazil, we have focused on the equal rights of young girls and boys to play, and promoting male caregivers' involvement in play and care.

Supporting community-managed programmes: In Bangladesh, we supported over 1,700 community early learning centres, handing a third of these over to local management. In Mozambique, we partnered with 134 communities implementing community-managed early learning centres, supporting a number of these



to be disability-inclusive. In conflict-affected and food-insecure states in north-east Nigeria, we have supported screening for more than 22,000 children under 5, treatment of children with severe malnutrition and the work of 480 volunteer lead mothers to promote infant and young child feeding and prevent malnutrition. In Cambodia and Indonesia, early childhood programmes were linked to community-led water and sanitation initiatives, with both focusing on reducing girls and women's burden of household tasks and increasing women's role in decision-making.

SAVING YOUNG LIVES



Nadia experienced complications when giving birth to her son. The health centre where she had been admitted couldn't help her, so an ambulance arrived to take her to a hospital 70km away for a caesarean section.

"The ambulance didn't take long to arrive. It saved my life and my son's life," says Nadia.

The ambulance, one of six in the North-East department of Haiti, helps women and their babies access improved maternal and newborn healthcare,

and was provided as part of Plan International's Strengthening Health Outcomes for Women programme. The programme, supported by Plan International Canada and the Government of Canada, aims to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality rates in Haiti, Bangladesh, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal, while also promoting equal access to health services and male participation in maternal and infant care. It reached over 228,000 children in those five countries last year, and provided training to over 6,800 health professionals.

Influencing early childhood policies and practice: We are working with the Department of Social Welfare in Myanmar to make gender integral to national early childhood development strategic plans. In El Salvador, we worked with the government and others to create the National Strategy for Early Childhood. In Bolivia, the Ministry of Health adopted our early childhood violence prevention tools and is implementing them nationally, while in Pakistan we worked with the Punjab government to expand access to quality early childhood education across the entire province. In Guinea Bissau, Plan International worked with UNICEF and health authorities in two regions to expand access to essential interventions such as antenatal care, vaccination, community management of childhood illnesses, and treatment of malnutrition. In Jordan, we led the creation of a national early childhood development network to respond to the Syrian refugee crisis.



ENDING VIOLENCE

We want vulnerable and excluded children, particularly girls, to grow up free from violence, fear or discrimination and we work with families, communities and governments to end all forms of violence against children.

THE WORLD TODAY

For many children and young people, especially girls, children with disabilities and adolescents identifying as LGBTQI, there may be few spaces in their lives that are free from violence and discrimination. 2018's Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children summit cemented the growing global momentum for ending violence against children, and our emphasis is on the gender dynamics and vulnerabilities that can fuel this violence.

WORK IN 2018

Our programming and influencing is based on strengthening child protection systems and tackling the causes of violence against children. We work to establish and support child protection mechanisms that make homes, schools and communities safer places for children, especially girls, and advocate for laws and policies that protect children from violence.



**€73 MILLION
SPENT ON CHILD PROTECTION**

GENDER-SENSITIVE
CHILD PROTECTION FOR
**3,026,491
GIRLS**

CHILD PROTECTION IN
EMERGENCIES PROGRAMMES IN
31 COUNTRIES

GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

Working with others to end all forms of violence against children:

Working with partners, we introduced an anonymous text message service to report cases of child abuse in Togo. In Tanzania, we helped more than 5,000 children escape from child labour and we are supporting them to integrate back into school or vocational skills training. We intervened in many cases of child trafficking in Nepal, and provided information on trafficking to more than 9,000 girls and boys. In Honduras, a campaign about cyber bullying – that also uses a digital application to raise awareness – was supported by 3,000 young people.

Tackling gender-based violence: In Kenya, we worked with more than 600 men and boys to discuss and change social norms that put girls at risk. We created school clubs aiming to reduce gender-based violence in schools in Burkina Faso, and trained teachers on managing gender-based violence in school settings. We worked with 30 communities in Ghana to develop their by-laws to ensure there are safe places for girls.



Nepal © Plan International / Crystalline Randazzo

Advancing gender-sensitive child protection in emergencies:

Safety was a central concern for Rohingya and South Sudanese girls in our *Adolescent Girls in Crisis* research. The research based on girls' experiences aims to improve support for girls in crises. Elsewhere, our emergency response in Tanzania to the Burundi refugee crisis has resulted in 70% of children surveyed reporting they feel safe in the camp, compared with a baseline of 41%. In Cameroon, more than 11,000 refugee children from Nigeria benefitted from child-friendly spaces.

MOBILE UNITS REACH OUT TO GIRLS IN EMERGENCIES



Aged 15, Fadi* was separated from her family, raped and forced to leave her home. She's one of millions of refugees in West Africa's Lake Chad Basin displaced by conflict and needing humanitarian assistance.

Fadi needed urgent medical care when she accessed one of Plan International's 15 mobile units that provide vital services for victims of gender-based violence and sexual abuse, especially girls and young women.

Then a refugee in Diffa, Niger, Fadi saw a health professional for the care she needed. The team built trust with Fadi, offered psychosocial support to help

her overcome her fear and anxiety, and helped reunite her with family members.

"The mobile units support victims of violence in one of the world's most volatile regions," says Anita Queirazza, Child Protection in Emergencies Specialist. "It's often dangerous for girls and women to leave their homes, or they may live in remote areas, so they can't access other services."

The mobile units reached over 25,000 children in the Lake Chad region in 2018.

*Name changed for protection reasons

Promoting improved child protection mechanisms: We introduced community-based social workers and legal counsellors in Cambodia to address child protection issues in communities, resulting in an increase in the number of cases raised and budget allocated. We supported girls' rights clubs in Uganda to petition the government to act on sexual abuse against girls, and one district pledged to pass an order to end sexual abuse against girls.



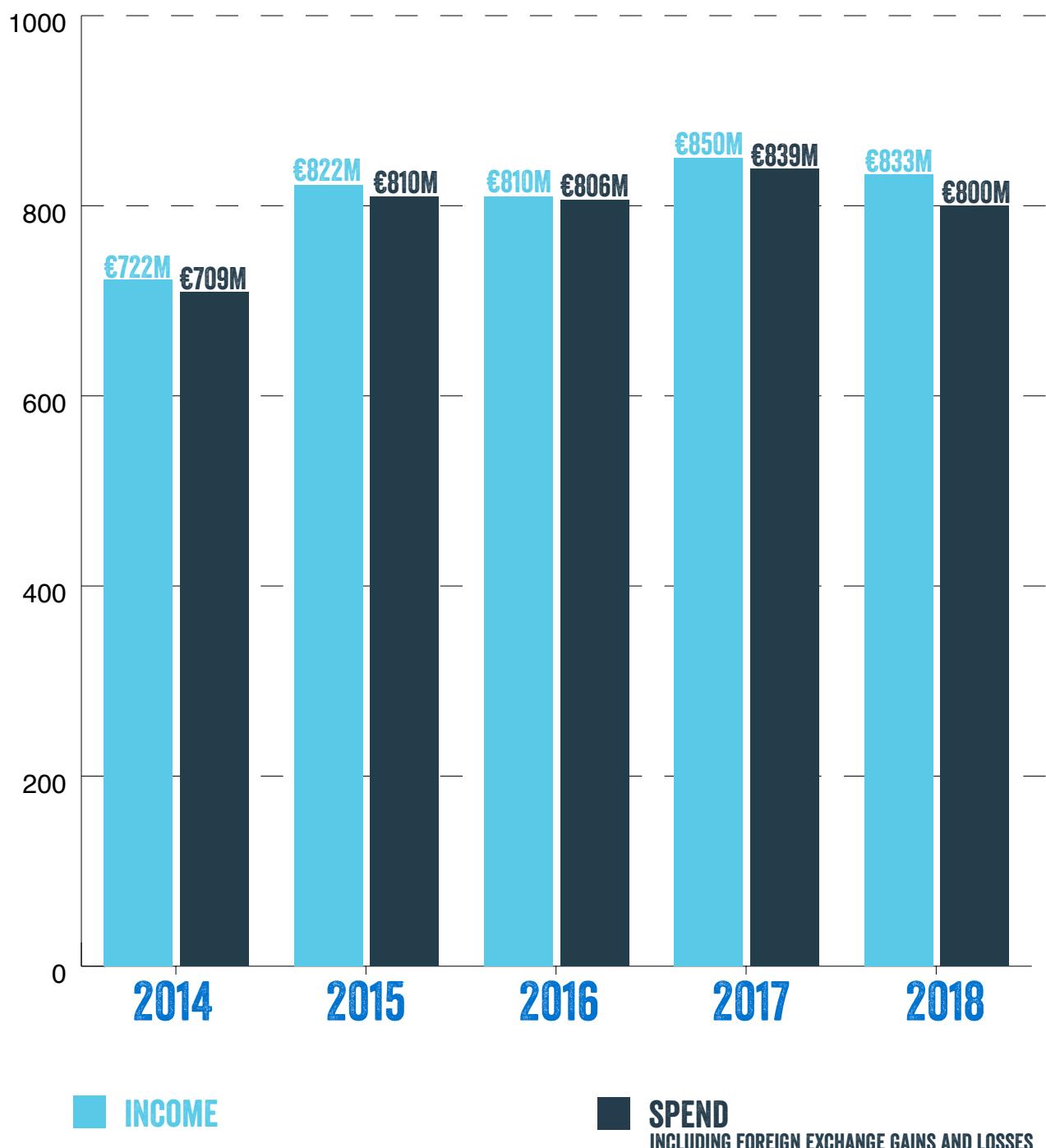
SAFETY WORK BOOSTS FREEDOM IN CITIES

“Many girls tell us that they now feel confident to stand up and speak up for themselves, not just in public spaces but also at home” – Kirti Sharma, Project Coordinator of Plan India’s Safer Cities programme in South Delhi.

The programme, operated in partnership with UN-Habitat and Women in Cities International, aims to increase safety and access to public spaces for girls and women, and educates girls and boys about gender equality in everyday life. In eight major cities worldwide, it supports girls to advocate for positive change and challenges attitudes and behaviours that can put girls at risk.

2018 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ANNUAL INCOME & ANNUAL SPEND



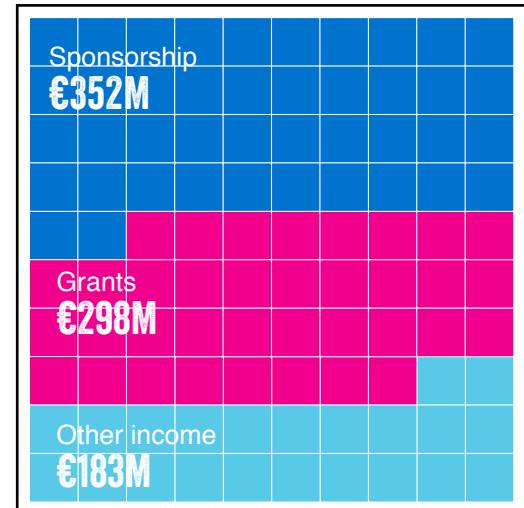
To see the full financial statements go to: plan-international.org/annualreview2018



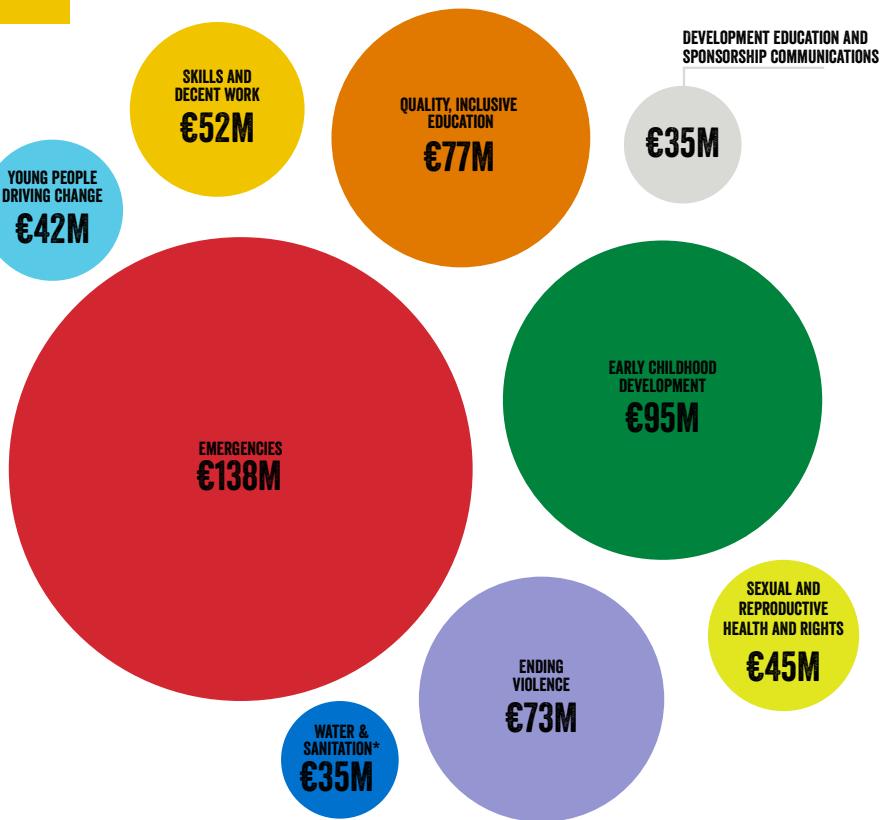
* excluding foreign exchange gains and losses

2018 INCOME SOURCES

Total income:
€833M



2018 PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE BY AREA



* Water & Sanitation is a cross-cutting activity that supports our six main areas of work



OUR PARTNERS IN 2018 INCLUDED...

- Accenture
- Asian Development Bank
- AstraZeneca
- AkzoNobel
- Citi
- Covington & Burling
- Credit Suisse
- Department for International Development, UK
- DLA Piper
- Equal Measures 2030
- European Union
- Every Woman Every Child
- Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany
- Geena Davis Institute
- Girls Not Brides
- Global Campaign for Education
- Global Partnership for Education
- Global Affairs Canada
- Joining Forces
- Linklaters
- Microsoft
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
- Prudence Foundation
- Samsung
- Scotiabank
- Solutions for Youth Employment
- SOS Villages
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- UN Women
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges
- Women Deliver
- World Economic Forum
- World Food Programme
- World Vision

About Plan International

We strive to advance children's rights and equality for girls all over the world. We recognise the power and potential of every single child. But this is often suppressed by poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination. And it's girls who are most affected. As an independent development and humanitarian organisation, we work alongside children, young people, our supporters and partners to tackle the root causes of the challenges facing girls and all vulnerable children. We support children's rights from birth until they reach adulthood, and enable children to prepare for and respond to crises and adversity. We drive changes in practice and policy at local, national and global levels using our reach, experience and knowledge. For over 80 years we have been building powerful partnerships for children, and we are active in over 75 countries.

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