Challenges in the world today

- A dramatic increase in food insecurity – exacerbated by climate change and conflict, and the after-effects of the pandemic, and the resulting inflation.
- The climate crisis is also intensifying gender inequality, particularly for the most marginalised girls and young women, increasing girls' likelihood of dropping out of school, and risk of child marriage or gender-based violence.
- The number of people forcibly displaced by crises exceeded 100 million by May 2022.

Global priorities for our work

- Promoting humanitarian responses that address the needs of children, particularly girls.
- Supporting children in the hunger crisis. Eight countries – Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Haiti – were prioritised for the initial response.
- The Ukraine conflict prompted us to work for the first time in four countries: Ukraine, Moldova, Romania and Poland.
- Multi-country expansion of effective approaches, including school meals provision and cash and voucher assistance, which provides choice and dignity to people in crises.

OUR GOAL: PROTECTING AND UPHOLDING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, PARTICULARLY GIRLS, BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER EMERGENCIES

READ ABOUT ALL OUR PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK IN 2022 AT PLAN-INTERNATIONAL.ORG/ANNUAL-REVIEW
HOW WE SUPPORT GIRLS IN EMERGENCIES

AMERICAS

GUATEMALA: Hunger programming – in collaboration with government – included education on child nutrition, support for the establishment of home gardens and poultry units, and food or cash assistance for families at risk. We also strengthened communities’ ability to monitor and respond to the threat of hunger.

EUROPE

INTERVENTIONS IN POLAND, MOLDOVA, ROMANIA AND UKRAINE included mental health and psychosocial support for refugee and host community children in safe spaces for children and women; referrals to specialised support where necessary; and awareness raising of risks of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

AFRICA

NIGERIA: Improved access to emergency nutrition services for over 130,000 children (52% girls) and over 40,000 pregnant and lactating women. The programme included screening for malnutrition, nutrition education and food assistance, including monthly supplementary food or e-vouchers.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: Organised vocational training for 100 children formerly associated with armed groups. An additional 115 children at risk of recruitment into armed forces and groups were referred to schools for a return to education.

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: Worked with partners on advocacy and programming to implement the Safe Schools Declaration, which aims to protect learners, teachers and schools from attack by armed forces.

MALAWI: Strengthened the capacity of girls and others to prepare and respond to cyclones, including improving early warning systems through community rain gauge readers, and monitoring of water flow.

UGANDA: As part of the refugee response, we reached more than 67,500 people with information and services including on sexual and reproductive health. In one refugee hosting district, use of contraception increased from 18% in 2021 to 45.8% in June 2022.

KENYA: Training on climate-smart agriculture and adaptive farming techniques reached 2,382 families in Bondo.

ZAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE: We supported young women to research the impact of climate change on girls’ education in their rural areas and make recommendations for policy change. They shared their calls to action in Adolescent Girls in the Climate Crisis: Voices from Zambia and Zimbabwe, and directly with government ministers at COP26, and used their research to influence leaders in their own communities to improve girls’ access to education.

PLAN INTERNATIONAL’S SCHOOL MEALS supported education for 450,735 children in Mali, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Ethiopia and Cambodia.

PHILIPPINES: Worked with the Department of Education to ensure educational facilities are constructed and managed based on agreed standards in terms of safety, gender equality and inclusion, climate change and disaster risk factors.

TIMOR-LESTE: Supported gender equal school disaster management committees and the development of multi-risk action plans. Actions included improving school safety, evacuation plans, early warning systems, land terracing and tree planting.