Challenges in the world today

- Young people under 30 currently make up just over 2.6 per cent of world’s MPs. Participation in elections has declined.
- Young people remain active outside formal politics.
- The pandemic restricted young people’s ability to exercise their right to participate and accelerated the growth in social media use.

Global priorities for our work

Raising the voices of young people and their leadership through:

- Programming and advocacy that supports young activists to take collective action, and to advance gender equality.
- Powering the Movement – working directly with autonomous youth networks and groups, resourcing their work and connecting them to decision-making processes.
- Working in and through digital spaces.

Results of advocacy on girls' leadership

- 2,450,754 Girls supported to be active citizens
- 49,524 signatures from 149 countries on the Girls Get Equal-supported petition demanding education to combat false information online
- 14 changes or developments in laws, policies, regulations and guidelines
- 6 increases or commitments to spending and services by governments and partners

Our goal:

Girls, boys and young people shape decisions that affect their lives by leading change within their own communities and influencing decisions at higher levels.

Read about all our priority areas of work in 2022 at plan-international.org/annual-review
Preparing youth to be drivers of change • Supporting collective action • Facilitating youth engagement with governments and other decision makers • Youth driving change via the media • Enabling youth participation in emergency responses

**GLOBAL**

→ For International Day of the Girl 2021, the Girls’ Petition called on governments to educate children in digital literacy – a vital step to address misinformation. It got 49,524 signatures from 149 countries and contributed to commitments by authorities in Zambia, Cameroon, Philippines, Peru and Ecuador to enhance digital literacy and girls’ online safety.

→ Kenya: Champions of Change programmes, which are happening in more than 40 countries, prepare young people to challenge discrimination and take collective action on gender equality. In Tharaka county, over 400 Champions of Change motorcycle taxi riders are participating in efforts to prevent and report gender-based violence and FGM/C.

→ Tanzania: Youth-led radio drama series addressed the importance of girls’ education and parental support for education.

→ Mozambique: A social movement challenging norms that drive child marriage and early pregnancy is being built by education networks and youth hubs created through the Break Free project in Mogovolas.

→ Lebanon: The She Leads Programme here and in 8 other countries in East and West Africa and the Middle East aims to build up the leadership of girls and young women. Supported groups in Lebanon are advocating on issues such as young women’s reproductive rights, cyberbullying and mothers’ custody rights.

**AFRICA**

→ West Africa: The Youth Challenge Fund supports collective action by girls and young people in West Africa to provide services and solutions in their communities. It funded 23 youth-led groups raising awareness in their communities of the effects of COVID-19.

→ Senegal: The Act for Girls Campaign, bringing together youth organisations, NGOs and others, targeted candidates in local and parliamentary elections. Over 60 candidates signed the campaign’s manifesto supporting girls’ rights.

→ Ghana: A youth network advocating for the right to free and accessible medical care for survivors of domestic violence and rape was able influence a prominent MP to take up the issue in Parliament.

**ASIA**

→ Nepal: More than 1,700 girls on the Girls Out Loud Facebook page discuss harmful social and gender norms, digital advocacy and other issues affecting them. Girls Out Loud is active in 15 countries.

→ Children’s Climate Cards are a set of fun activities for children to inspire them to raise their voices on climate change. They’ve been used in after-school clubs in Indonesia, displaced-persons’ camps in Myanmar, and approved for school use in Timor-Leste.

**SELECTED EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK**

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**PREPARING YOUTH TO BE DRIVERS OF CHANGE • SUPPORTING COLLECTIVE ACTION • FACILITATING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER DECISION MAKERS • YOUTH DRIVING CHANGE VIA THE MEDIA • ENABLING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN EMERGENCY RESPONSES**

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