

# ANNUAL REPORT PLAN INTERNATIONAL PARAGUAY

July 2021-June 2022

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# PLAN INTERNATIONAL PARAGUAY

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### **WORDS FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR**



As a newly arrived Country Director since October, I have the pleasure of presenting the annual report of Plan International Paraguay for the year 2022. We are celebrating our 85th anniversary in the world and 28th aniversary, working with children, youth, and their communities to achieve a more inclusive and equal society.

Although COVID-19 remained a challenge, we managed to continue carrying out our activities and programs to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable communities where we work.

Our goal for the next 5 years with the new global strategy and the challenges it brings will be not only to improve the lives of girls but also to promote their position and value in society, as well as to work actively with children and youth to advocate equality

Thiago Machado
Country Director
Plan International Paraguay

for all. We will seek to transform the world with unstoppable girls and young women.

Every member of Plan International, regardless of his or her role within the organization, will work to achieve these goals and increase our impact, as we have been doing since our beginnings.

We are confident that we will meet the challenges that the future holds for us, and our objectives and achievements we want to reach are encouraging to continue working for a better Paraguay.

The results presented below have been possible thanks to the leadership as Country Directors of Lorena de Garcia and Leticia Pereira, whom we thank and acknowledge.

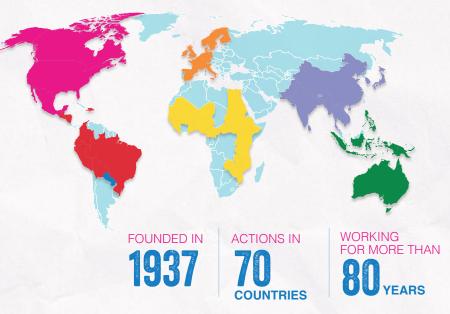
During this period, we impacted a total of 441,794 people. Thanks to the support of families, local governments and municipalities, partners, sponsors, donors, civil society organizations, teachers, community leaders and volunteers.



### PLAN INTERNATIONAL

#### IN THE WORLD

We are an independent, humanitarian and development organization. In 85 years of existence in the world, we have had an impact on the lives of vulnerable children and adolescents in 70 countries, including Paraguay since 28 years ago, where we have established partnerships and alliances equal, inclusive society free of all forms of violence, especially against girls, female adolescents and young women.



#### **IN PARAGUAY**

We work in 370 COMMUNITIES





And carry out activities in



The team of Plan International presented the results of the fiscal year 2021 with the slogan #VentanaDeOportunidades [Window of Opportunities], where we opened the doors and windows of our organization to welcome each and every person whose contribution helped to change the reality of thousands of children and adolescents in Paraguay.

This time, we present testimonials of those who lives were enhanced by an open window of opportunities. We also present audiovisual and photographic materials, the library of projects and examples of each program implemented in the different areas.





### **OUR PURPOSE**

We strive to advance children's rights and equality for girls all over the world.

### **VALUES**







### **NEW STRATEGY**

to 2027 is:

# ALL GIRLS STANDING STRONG CREATING GLOBAL CHANGE.

From 2022 to 2027, Plan International's contribution worldwide, together with that of our partners, will have a positive impact on the lives of 200 million girls and young women and the people around them.

We all become stronger when girls thrive in a more equal world.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Below are data of the impact from our interventions during the 2021/2022 Plan International Paraguay in numbers

WE REACHED A TOTAL OF

Including





11,309





TOTAL REACHED

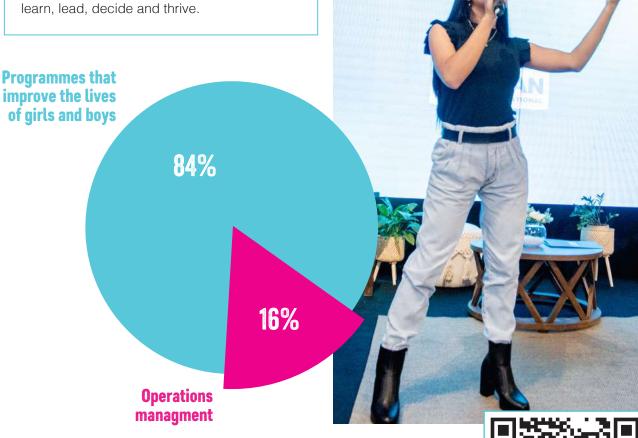
**SPONSORSHIP** 

56% ARE GIRLS (5



# INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

84% of Plan International Paraguay's funds were allocated to programs that change the lives of children and adolescents so they can learn, lead, decide and thrive.



16% of funds contributed to operational sustainability within the country, including office costs in Asuncion, Santani, Villarrica and Caaguazu, staff and tax compliance.

Scan this QR
Code to access the opinion of our external audit.

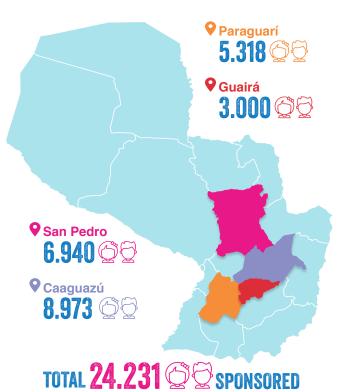


### CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Through child sponsorship, a sponsor has the opportunity to support the most vulnerable populations in the world.

The sponsorship system provides a sponsor with the opportunity to make monetary donations to benefit children in rural communities. The sponsor receives updates from his or her sponsored child, often including photos and letters that help to develop a relationship between them.

Income from child sponsorship make it possible to implement quality programs in the community where the sponsored child lives.



### **TESTIMONY**



"I have been a sponsored child for 5 years now. When I grow up, I want to be a doctor. In the community, boys used to have more opportunities to keep studying than girls, but that changed. Thanks to Plan's workshops, today we, girls, have opportunities and more spaces for participation"

**BERENICE**Sponsored Child

Income from grants are not spent directly on the sponsored child, but are added to other income to finance various education, health, security and other projects, benefiting the whole community.

Sponsored children are introduced as ambassadors in their own communities. They come from the most vulnerable families, and therefore it is key that Plan International's programs are targeted them and provide them with community-based development solutions in which they and their families can participate.



### **VOLUNTEERING**







# The support from our nearly 600 volunteers make it possible for our programs and projects to have a greater impact on communities.

Volunteers are an invaluable resource and are made up of community leaders, parents, teachers, and former sponsored children who are comitted to children development in their communities.

# Without their commitment, dedication and effort that they give us every day, it would not be possible to reach the 24,231 families associated with Plan International Paraguay.

They contribute to improving the quality of life of the most vulnerable children and communities in order to create a more just and equal society.

### TESTIMONY



"Plan made a significant contribution in the community to eradicate violence and promote respect for the rights of children and adolescents. I am pleased to have been involved in Plan's work in my community for 25 years now."

LUIS ALBERTO PARANÁ



### HUMAN TALENT

#### A team full of enthusiasm, willingness to work, vocation for service and a strong social commitment.



We are proud of our principles of women leadership, since more than 50% of management positions are led by women. Our policies and procedures seek to ensure the well-being of children and equal opportunities for women and men.

We seek to empower our staff and create a culture of care as we work to make a positive impact on the lives of thousands of vulnerable families.

### **WE ARE A GREAT PLACE TO WORK**

#### We were recognized as one of the best organizations to work for in Paraguay!

Great Place Work.

The Certification™ is a recognition program to validate the organizational culture of a company. It offers the only program that can recognize a workplace in more than 60 countries.

89% of Plan International Paraguay staff state that it is a great place to work, compared to 71% of employees of companies in the market.

100% I am so proud of what we have achieved.

89% Plan International Paraguay 71% Market companies

Source: Great Place To WorkR Paraguay 2019 national climate study.



Caaguazú

Asunción

Guairá

San Pedro



### **PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

Our programs and projects follow 4 strategic objectives, from a humanitarian and development context:



Improve access to and opportunities for training and decent employment for adolescents and youth aged 17 to 29, particularly indigenous women and people with disabilities.



Promote the leading role and leadership of girls, adolescents and youth.



Change the situation of girls, adolescents and youth who lack access to information, education and comprehensive health services.



Address the high percentage of girls, adolescents and youth who are victims of sexual abuse, ill-treatment and criadazgo [indentured child servants exploited for domestic labour].





### LEARN



Implemented by:







This program aims to respond to the needs of young people in accessing a decent employment. It has been implemented since 2014. It is funded by the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development (AECID) and Plan International Spain and implemented jointly with the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MTESS) and the Saraki Foundation.





SAPEA 2.0 aims to provide beneficiaries with vocational training, labour intermediation and training in business plans adapted to their territories, so that distance or economic limitations are not a barrier to their development.

**2 1,68** 

Young people had access to technical training in business plans, labour intermediation and life skills.

61% 17% 7%

61% WOMEN 17%
PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES

7%
INDIGENOUS
POPULATION



The program has a strong inclusion component and an indigenous population and people with disabilities-friendly intervention. It also includes specific actions to strengthen women's equal participation.





YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE COMPLETED GAINED JOB PLACEMENTS.



Trainers from the SNPP [National Service for Professional Promotion in Paraguay] /MTESS [Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security] were trained in gender topics.





#### Visit of HM Queen Letizia from Spain

HM Queen Letizia of Spain met women entrepreneurs from the SAPE'A 2.0 Project. They presented their business projects and shared their experiences with HM.



Plan International Paraguay was accepted and is part of the Paraguay Emprende Network (core of the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem), which will provide greater visibility and options for beneficiaries with training and business support.

We supported public policy on employment through the Labour Facilitator, which is a key profile for the effective implementation of the Regulatory Decree for the Act on Incentives for Employment. This was achieved through the signing of a joint training agreement between the Saraki Foundation and the National Secretariat for Persons with Disabilities (SENADIS)

A study on social determinants for women's access to employment was presented at the III International

Forum for labour equality organized by Plan International in partnership with the United Nations.









### **TESTIMONIALS**



"I am a mother of two children. I used to be a housewife. Thanks to Plan International and the Spanish Cooperation, I was able to become an entrepreneur. My idea is to help more women in the Bañado"

**DAYSI** Carpenter



"If you put some effort into a motorcycle that is basically out of use and repaint some of its parts, you could have a new one. And those unusable parts can be used to make flowerpots, porta tereré [bags to hold thermos flasks for tereré, a typical cold drink] or even a BBQ grill. We reuse everything; nothing goes to waste"

NATALIA Motorcycle Mechanic EAI)





#### Leadership School "Flores de Acero" [Steel flowers]

It aims to offer an educational proposal to support the education of rural girls, adolescents and young women in the Departments of San Pedro, Guaira, Paraguari and Caaguazu, empowering and strengthening their leadership to transform their own practices towards equality.



10% of GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES and girls from indigenous communities.



**in the Department of Caaguazu** were trained as facilitators to pilot the school's modules.









# **KUÑATICS**"Technology for the empowerment of girls and women"

GIRLS AND ADOLESCENTS from communities and districts in the Departments of Guaira, Paraguari and San Pedro

were trained in best practices on the use of technology, such as online security and cyberbullying, and fostered their creative and scientific skills within an environment of equality.







#### 12 districts that make up the Youth Advisory Councils team

were trained through a partnership with the organizations Decidamos and Juntos por la Educación. Training addressed citizen participation and oversight on issues affecting their communities.







#### Flexible Model for Youth



We seek innovative solutions to improve the quality of life of youth, by carrying out specific actions to achieve lasting results for this population. Project funded by Plan International Sweden.







We support collective actions led by youth themselves to strengthen the guarantee of their rights, particularly those of girls and young women, through transformative actions.

Two youth organizations were selected as partners.



#### **Cinecable Association**

This is a youth organization that works with cinema as a means of expression for social change, artistic expression and dissemination of human rights. Working in the southern city of Encarnacion, they carried out a project called "El desafío de Gaby - capítulo 2" [Gaby's challenge - chapter 2], as a continuation of a short film already made, which seeks to inform about gender equality and to break down prejudices and oppressive traditions.

This project also allowed them to work on internal institutional strengthening, and internal reflection and generation of a strategic plan with the mission and vision they intend to achieve as a youth organization.



## Corazones Abiertos [Open Hearts]

Organization that promotes youth volunteering in Paraguay and seeks to promote solidarity as a way of life. They proposed the "Homes" project, which seeks to map alternative care centres that house children and adolescents across the country.

The "Homes" project aims to share contact information about the alternative care centers to which individuals, entities, private companies, etc., can address their intentions of help or corporate social responsibility. More than 90% of those homes are supported by solidarity contributions from private entities and the State. They are also working on the design and layout of the "hogares.com" website, where they will publish collected data.



### LEAD

### Napu'a Oñondive - Levantémonos Juntas 2.0 [Let's stand up together]

citizenship The objective was to strengthen participation of rural and indigenous girls through training in advocacy and information technologies for the development of their communities.

**Funded by the Canadian Fund for Local** Initiatives.



LISTEN TO THE GIRLS' VOICES IN THE **PODCATS:** 





#### from the departments of Guaira, Paraguari and San Pedro

participated in online and face-to-face training on leadership, participation, spokesperson skills and advocacy.









### DECIDE





PROFESSIONALS FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE PROFESSIONALS FROM THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCES

were trained in comprehensive health.



were equipped with basic materials to provide comprehensive quality care to adolescents and support them in replicating it with their peers in the communities.



were trained on comprehensive health issues using the "Escuelita Mágica" guide.



from community adolescent and youth clubs were trained as ambassadors in comprehensive health. This group, supported by Family Health Units, replicated lessons learned to their peers to promote and encourage positive and non-violent masculinities, make commitments to engage with others and take actions for equal inclusion.



### DEGIDE

#### Namopu'a Oñondive - Let's stand up TOGETHER

This project seeks that rural and vulnerable youth leaders (men and women, indigenous and with disabilities) are connected, and receive information and appropriate health services through digital platforms and media.

NAMOPU'Ã ILEVANTÉMONOS JUNTOS!

**Funded by the British Embassy in Asuncion and** Plan International UK.







RURAL GIRLS, FEMALE ADOLESCENTS AND



RURAL BOYS AND MALE ADOLESCENTS REACHED.



**FEMALE ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG WOMEN** 

were trained in menstrual hygiene management. They received kits of reusable sanitary pads made by the female entrepreneurs of the Sape'a 2.0 project.





### DEGIDE

#### Other results of the DECIDE program

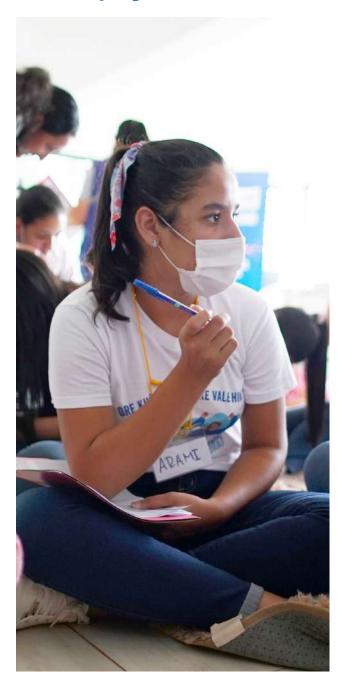
A network of experiences in comprehensive health education through art was created through community meetings.

They benefited:

140 adolescents.

110 parents and caregivers

- The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare implemented the "pregnancy-free zones" methodology, training 1,277 male and female adolescents in the departments of San Pedro, Caaguazu, Guaira and Paraguari. They also adopted the adolescent APP and made it part of its website.
- The Ministry of Education adjusted the "psychosocial support" materials as a strategy for the promotion of mental health to prevent, care and address violated rights of children and adolescents in emergency educational contexts.
- The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare presented the first guide in the country on "Comprehensive Health Care for Adolescents with Disabilities". This guide was used for training health personnel in the departments of San Pedro, Caaguazu, Guaira and Paraguari.
- 211 adolescents and youth participated in the First National Congress for Adolescents and Youth "For a healthy youth".







#### **Positive Parenting**

It aims to encourage parents and caregivers to incorporate nurturing practices that ensure violence-free environments.

Officials of the Ministry of Education and Science (MEC) were trained as ToT:





who then replicated in their working areas.

In addition.



from the Tekopora Program of the Ministry of Social Development replicated the action with community In addition, the Positive Parenting methodology was included in the operational plan of the Ministry.

As part of this same program, we worked especially with parents and caregivers through community workshops conducted by Plan International staff.

#### **Community-based child** protection mechanism

In community meetings, we work to strengthen and train community members to prevent violence against children and adolescents.



1,808 MEN AND WOMEN WERE TRAINED.

#### **Diploma in Protection with a** gender-based approach

Successful implementation in partnership with the University of Villarrica del Espíritu Santo.



**COHORTS WERE CONDUCTED IN** IICH 60 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PROTECTION SYSTEM FROM PARAGUARÍ-GUAIRÁ

were trained and showed, according to testimonials, a change in their knowledge and attitudes.



### TARWE

### "Beyond the Classroom" Project



In partnership with the Itaú Foundation, we seek to develop a comprehensive educational environment for children and adolescents in basic education, mitigating the risk of school dropout during the 2022-2023 school year, in the districts of María Antonia and Ybytymí.

Thanks to the donation of folk guitars and national dance costumes, children and adolescents improved their attendance and participation in the classroom, through artistic and cultural activities.









### OTHER PROJECTS

#### **Scholarship Program**

The University scholarship program for young men and women aims to improve education by providing financial support to young people in the Department of San Pedro and is funded by Mr Terry Nelidov, a US-based sponsor.

#### **JUAN RODRIGO**

He is in the last semesters of his studies to become an Agricultural Engineer at the National University of Caaguazu. In his free time, he supports the community by providing technical advice on crops and family gardens.



#### **ANA FABIOLA**

She is in her third year of Education Sciences at the Polytechnic and Artistic University of Paraguay. She is currently doing an internship in a school in Ñemby, carrying out educational activities with primary school children.

"I am grateful for the opportunity they gave me to keep studying. I am very happy and committed, as I have been from the very beginning, to do my best and work hard to get ahead, helping my family and my community".





### OTHER PROJECTS

#### The media and the importance of their work

The media play a decisive role in the construction of public opinion.

We conducted



## FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING WORKSHOPS

for journalists and communicators aimed at providing them with tools on how to communicate with a child rights-based approach and, at the same time, contribute to making Plan International Paraguay more visible as a leader in children and adolescents' issues.











### **CAMPAIGNS**



### NIÑAS IGUALDAD

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL
- GIRLS GET EQUAL



In 2011, Plan International and other organisations advocated worldwide for establishing an International Day of the Girl to recognize the rights of girls and the challenges they face. aln December of that same year The United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 as International Day of the Girl

### #CONECTADAS YSEGURAS

In 2021, with the slogan #ConectadasySeguras, we wanted to highlight the limited access to the Internet for girls and young women, and the misinformation and fake news they are exposed to when they are online.

SWe know that during the pandemic, technology has been key to continuing education and maintaining social interaction.

However, digital inequalities have increased significantly, especially for girls, women and other groups that were already vulnerable before Covid-19.

#### **TAKEOVERS**

Since 2016 in Paraguay, girls took over positions of top authorities in several state institutions, embassies, cooperation agencies, private companies and in the media.

The girls participating in the experience stated that the takeover is a symbolic act to show the world that girls do exist, have capabilities and that, if they have opportunities, they can take over and enhance their leadership.

Girls take over positions in which they are often not seen or heard and strengthen every girl's right to equal opportunities with boys and adults.





#### **TAKEOVER - Institutions**



### Ministries and State Secretariats participants

- Ministry of Children and Adolescents
- Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies Attorney General's Office
- Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security
- Ministry of Women
- · Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Public Defence
- Ministry of Social Development
- Ministry of Education and Science
- · Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- National Youth Secretariat
- National Emergency Secretariat



#### Companies

- Athena Foods
- Personal
- Financiera El Comercio
- El Mejor
- Aseguradora Tajy
- CADIEM
- MUV
- TEXO

- Olmedo Abogados
- Asociados
- Huawei
- Paracel
- Microsoft Paraguay
- Itaú Foundation
- Itaipú Binacional



#### **Civil society organizations**

- Asociación Paraguaya de Profesionales Graduados en EEUU (APPG)
- Juntos por la Educación



#### **Municipalities and local governments**

- Municipality of 3 de Febrero
- Municipality of Juan Manuel Frutos
- Municipality of R.I. 3 Corrales
- Municipality of Repatriation
- Municipality of Caaguazú
- Government of Guairá
- Government of Paraguarí



#### **Institutions**

- National Congress
- Supreme Court of Justice
- Central Bank of Paraguay
- V Health Region Cnel. Oviedo
- San Pedro General Hospital
- Departmental Directorate of Education Paraguarí IV Health Region in Guairá
- Departmental Directorate of Education Caaguazú IX Health Region in Paraguarí
- Departmental Directorate of Education in Guairá
- Departmental Directorate of Education in San Pedro
- Juvenile Court in San Pedro
- Instituto Paraguayo de Artesanías (Paraguayan Institute of Handicrafts)
- CONATEL (National Commission of Telecommunications)



International organizations and Embassies

British Embassy in Paraguay

Organization of Ibero-American States

- U.S. Embassy in Paraguay
- UNICEF
- Habitat for Humanity



#### **Self-managed takeovers**

- BASA Bank
- National Directorate of Public Procurement
- Government of Central Department



### **CAMPAIGNS**

#### **INVISIBLE IN FULL LIGHT** CHILD MARRIAGES AND FORCED AND EARLY UNIONS

In partnership with the United Nations **Population Fund** (UNPFA).



Child marriages and forced and early unions (CMFEU) refer to any formal marriage or informal union where one or both parties are under 18 years of age.

A research was conducted in Asunción and in the departments of Central, San Pedro, Caaguazú, Alto Paraná and Amambay.

The findings clearly show that there is a close relation between early unions, pregnancy, poverty and school dropout and that these are factors that condition girls and adolescents to lose opportunities, give up their life projects and reproduce such conditioning factors.

They represent multidimensional problem: sociocultural, educational, economic, legal, health, among others, which is confronted by weak public institutions, lack of access to rights and lack of protection for a large proportion of children and adolescents across the country. They also represent a form of violence against children and adolescents.



ES UN MENSAJE DE



**JOURNALISTS** 

were trained

online.









#### **ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN**

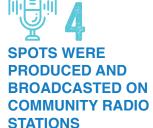
The research was released in a communication campaign and shared results in Santaní, Caaguazú, Asunción and Villarrica, mainly with representatives of the Judicial System.

More than



#### **JUSTICE OPERATORS**

mainly from the Ministry of Public Defense and the Public Ministry, were involved.



to raise awareness on the issue.

Scan this OR Code to









### **CAMPAIGNS**



The national campaign

**#TodosSomosResponsables** calls for attention and urges people to report any signs of sexual abuse or other forms of violence against children and adolescents.

It is promoted by the Ministry of Children and Adolescents, with the support of Plan International Paraguay and other civil society organizations, including UNICEF, Children Believe, SOS Children Villages UNDP Paraguay, UNFPA, and the Yacyreta Binational Entity.

















In 2022, efforts were focused on stressing that sexual abuse is not acceptable, raising awareness of the need to address the issue as something real, close and extremely serious, something that can neither keep happening nor go unpunished.

By focusing on the abuser, the aim was to further widen the scope of the reports against abusers. To represent the concept, we used something related to both children and fragility; something that can be shaped or destroyed in the same way: modelling clay.





## BE PART OF THE CHANGE

Very soon, you will be able to become PARTNER of Plan International Paraguay through our campaign "Girls with a Plan". With a monthly contribution, you will make it possible for more girls in our country to have the opportunity to learn, decide, lead and thrive.

Stay tuned for our fundraising campaign.

### **PARTNERS**





























































#### **TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR PARTNERS**



"At the Itaú Foundation, we are pleased to partner with the most vulnerable communities. We are working for culture and education. We see our partnership with Plan as

an opportunity to further build together a more equal Paraguay for all.

This time, through Paraguayan music and dance, we are revaluing both our culture and identity"

ADRIANA ORTIZ

**Executive Director - Itaú Foundation** 



"We have been working in partnership with Plan International to promote the rights of children and adolescents. In our visits to schools, we can see the positive impact of the work

they have been doing. Today, they are more confident children, they have more sustainable life projects and clear objectives. They are being prepared as leaders in their communities, from social work and the rights of both men and women"

> **ANGELIZA ZARATE President. DEFORLIJ Organization**



# Celebration of PLAN INTERNATIONAL's 85 YEARS IN THE WORLD and accountability of our work

APOYAMOS EL PACTO GLOBAL



### SAY 'YES!' TO KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE"

Get to know our Safeguard Policy by scanning this QR Code





- 🧡 Country Office
- San Pedro Program Unit

  Mariscal Estigarribia
- 💡 Caaguazú Program Unit
- 💙 Guairá Program Unit

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y 14 de Mayo

Pedro Juan Caballero y Eugenio A. Garay Boulevard Yegros esquina Humaitá

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- (595 522) 41-373 Caaguazú, Paraguay
- (595 541) 40-759 Villarrica, Paraguay

# Together we prevent violence against children and youth.

www.plan-paraguay.org

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