



# COUNTRY STRATEGY

2024 - 2028

**Plan International Paraguay**

Country Director: Thiago Machado

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# Foreword

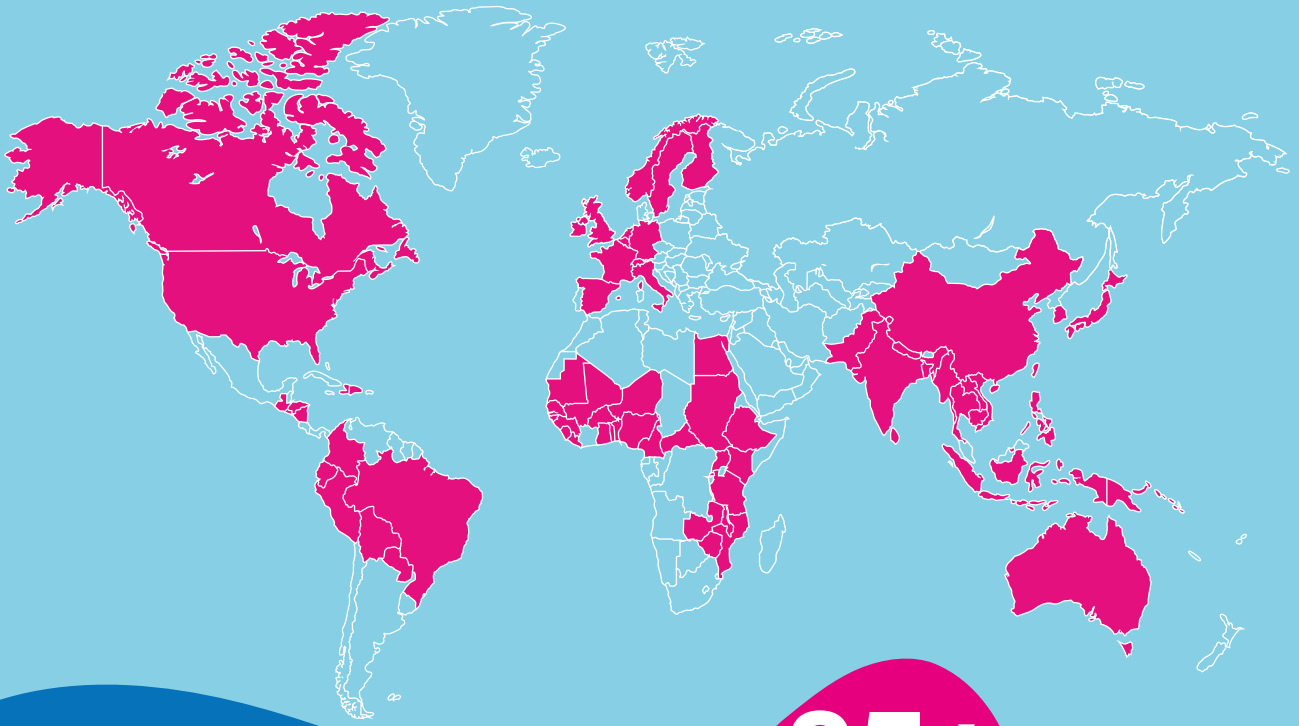
Plan International has been working in Paraguay since 1994 to promote an inclusive, egalitarian society free from all forms of violence, especially against girls, female adolescents and women, through development programs and projects and by responding to humanitarian crises.

There are high levels of gender-based violence in the country, resulting in high rates of adolescent pregnancy, sexual abuse, marriages and forced and early unions, school dropouts and criadazgo [indentured child servants exploited for domestic labour]. These issues affect girls, female adolescents and young women in particular, and affect their ability to make decisions and influence their lives.

In light of these situations, Plan International Paraguay is committed to strengthening a society that ensures children's rights. We will work to ensure that children, adolescents and youth have knowledge and skills on protection against violence, live in safe environments free from harmful practices, make their own decisions about their lives and express their needs in emergency and humanitarian response scenarios.

**Our goal is to see All Girls Standing Strong Creating Global Change.**





# Plan International round the world

We have more than 85 years of existence in the world, and we have made an impact on the lives of girls, boys, and adolescents in vulnerable situations in 70 countries.

## in Paraguay

We implement programmatic actions in over 330 communities across four departments in the eastern region of the country: San Pedro, Caaguazú, Guairá, and Paraguairí, reaching 25,000 sponsored girls and boys. In addition, we implement projects in areas of the Central department through grant funding and with the support of local partners.

Throughout this strategy, we will maintain the coverage area of the mentioned areas, and programmatic intervention may be expanded nationally in alignment with the allocation of additional funds and collaborative efforts."

**85+**  
years

**70**  
countries

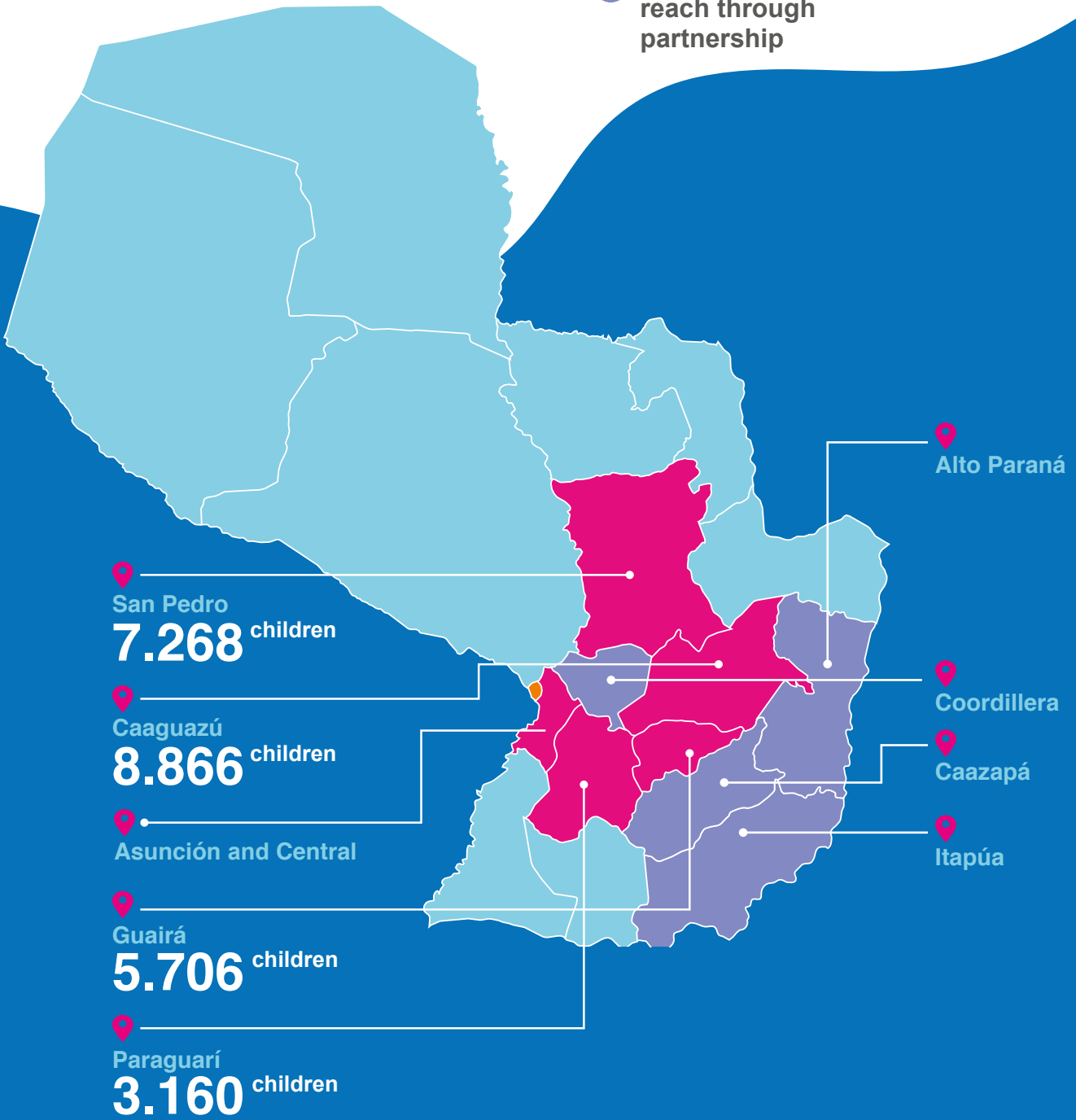


**25.000**

sponsored  
children

# Where Plan International will work

- Country office
- Areas of Intervention with Sponsorship
- Projection of territorial reach through partnership



# Paraguay's context



## Pregnancy in girls and adolescents

**20.000**

pregnancies are registered every day among girls and adolescents between the ages of 10 and 19.



## Forced pregnancy of girls (10 to 14 years old)

**2 GIRLS**

aged 10 to 14 give birth every day.



## Child sexual abuse

**3.800**

reports last year. At least 9 cases of sexual abuse per day. 85% are girls and adolescents between the ages of 0 and 17.



## Child marriages and forced and early unions (CMFEU)

**19.726**

cases reported between 2013 and 2019, of which 83% are girls.



## School dropout

**60%**

of children and adolescents do not complete school. 43.5% of indigenous children and adolescents between the ages of 14 and 17 do not attend school.



# Our Strategic Plan



# MITAKUÑA OÑEMOMBA'E

(Empowered girls)

## AMBITION

All girls live in a Paraguay free from violence.

## OBJECTIVE

To contribute to building a more just and equitable society in which girls, female adolescents and young women have the opportunity to develop to their full potential and exert autonomy over their lives.

We will focus on working on two strategic programmes aimed at addressing critical issues:



**Gender  
based  
violence**



**Teenage  
pregnancy**





# PROGRAMMES



# PROGRAMME 1

## GIRLS FREE OF VIOLENCE



(Protection against gender based violence)

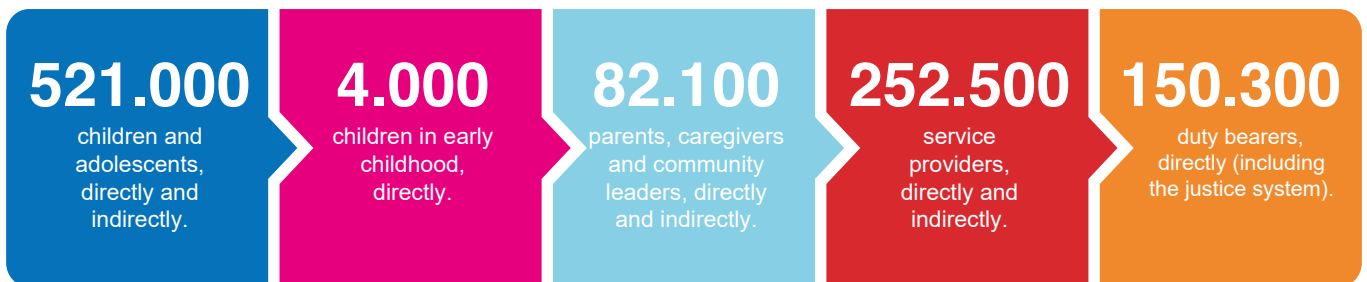
### WHAT WILL WE DO?

Children and adolescents live in an environment free from harmful practices, have the knowledge and skills to identify situations of violence, and where duty bearers recognize and act against to violence.



## GOALS

### Primary target group(s)



# PROGRAMME 2

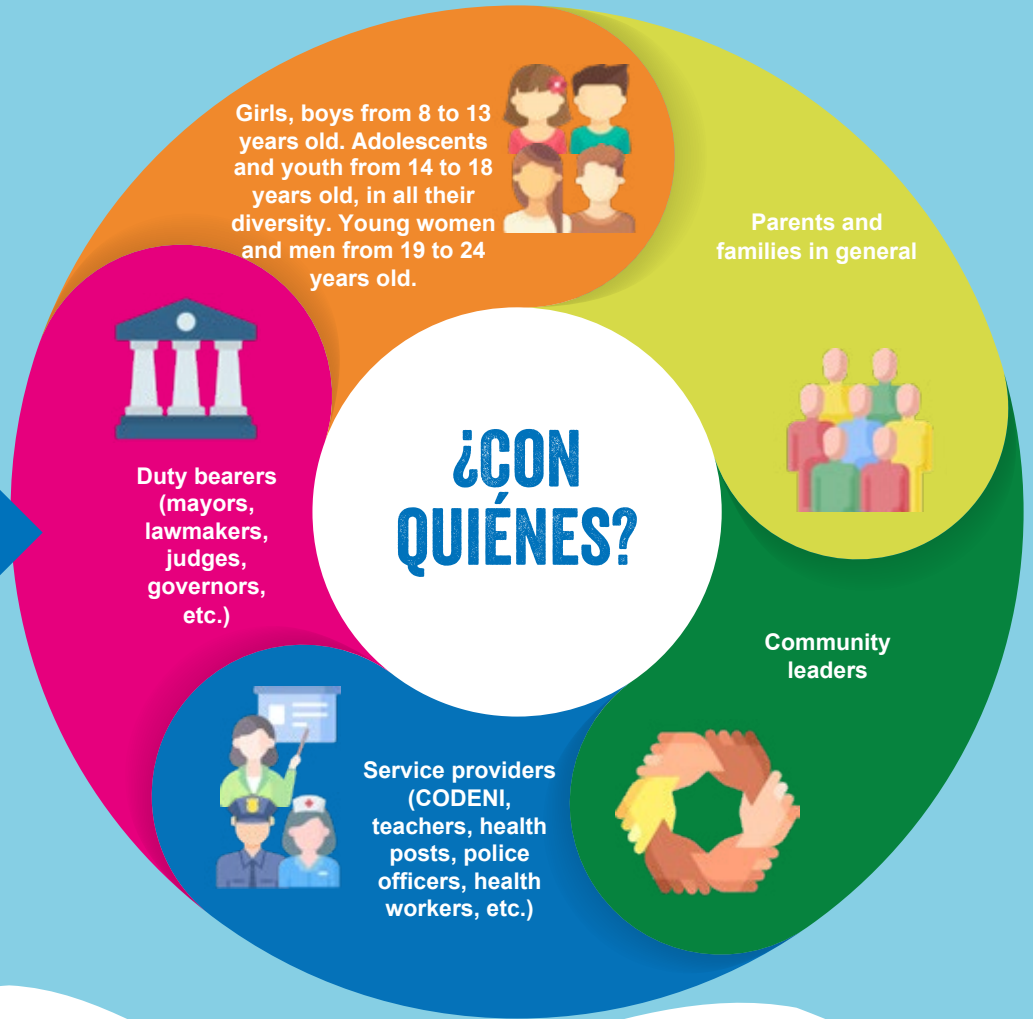
## GIRLS AS LEADERS OF CHANGE



(Autonomy in decision-making)

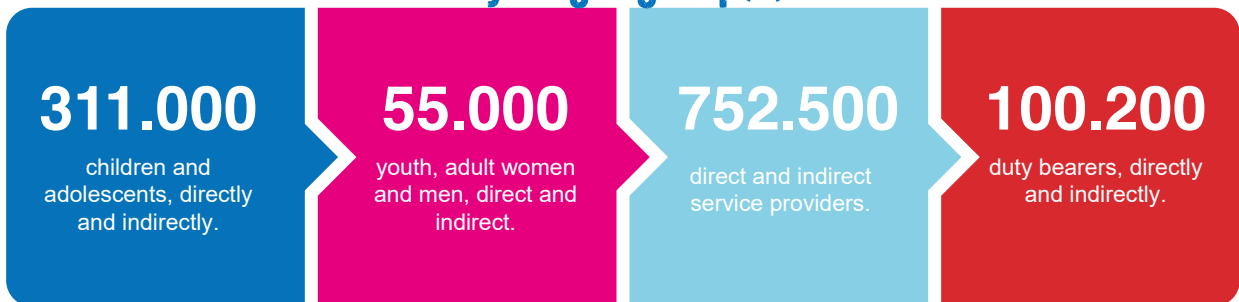
### ¿WHAT WILL WE DO?

Children, adolescents and youth, in their diversity, make autonomous and informed decisions about their own bodies and lives, based on participation and the development of capacities.



## GOALS

### Primary target group(s)





# Testimonies



"We often see many fellow students who drop out of school due to pregnancy, and that is very sad. I really liked the training we received because we learned about the importance of getting informed to make appropriate decisions."

**Mia, 16 years old.**



"We have the right to achieve everything we set our minds to. Today, girls and women are no longer afraid to be active members of our communities."

**Evelyn, 17 years old.**



Ore ndahaeí oremembysegui la ore memby, ha roikoteve rojehesape'a ikatu haguaicha rojecuida ha rombohovaí umi Kariaykuerape, che ndaikuaaiguinte che memby".

("We don't have children because we want to, we need guidance to take care of ourselves, and it's important to have these conversations with men too. It wasn't because I wanted that I got pregnant.")

**Francisca, 15 years old,  
indigenous community.**






Through the national programmes of this Country Strategy, we aim to make an impact on the lives of girls, boys, adolescents, and young people in all their diversity from early childhood to the transition to adulthood.

We place emphasis on populations in vulnerable situations, economic poverty, and address the inclusion of people with disabilities, indigenous communities, the LGBTQ+ community, particularly girls, and pregnant adolescents and/or those with children, ensuring access to comprehensive care services, with a focus on rights-based equality as the central principle to achieve social development.



 **Country Office**

Avda. República Argentina  
esq. Ing. Albino Mernes  
Edificio VITRUM, 3er. Piso


 (595 21) 615 – 174  
Asunción, Paraguay

 **San Pedro Program Unit**  **Caaguazú Program Unit**  **Guairá - Paraguari Program Unit**


Mariscal Estigarribia  
y 14 de Mayo

 (595 343) 420-666  
San Estanislao, Paraguay

Pedro Juan Caballero y  
Eugenio A. Garay

 (595 522) 41-373  
Caaguazú, Paraguay

Boulevard Yegros  
esquina Humaitá

 (595 541) 40-759  
Villarrica, Paraguay

[www.plan-paraguay.org](http://www.plan-paraguay.org)

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