



PLAN INTERNATIONAL NEPAL ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

20
19

2019

PAVING A WAY FOR GENDER EQUALITY



This report covers the activities and impact of work done by Plan International Nepal under different projects between July 2018 and June 2019.

Programmes on gender equality have had an impact on the lives of 106,264 girls and 76,954 boys. Both girls and boys have become more vocal at addressing harmful traditional practices such as like child marriage and Chhaupadi, a practice of requiring girls to live in isolation during menstrual periods. Many young women have also embarked on the path of economic empowerment by enrolling in skills training and setting up small enterprises.

The year 2019 was the second year of the rollout of the new federal government structure in Nepal. In project areas across Nepal, Plan International Nepal has interacted with many local government officials who have expressed desire to collaborate and have also requested our assistance, mainly technical. The change in governance structure has shifted many responsibilities on child protection to local governments, where it can be more effective under the Children's Act of 2018. Plan International Nepal had worked with various stakeholders to suggest the making this new law more comprehensive and effective in terms of child protection.

We launched the Girls Get Equal, a social change campaign, in 2019. The campaign sought to amplify the voices of young people, particularly girls. It also sought to engage young people for ending gender-based inequalities in Nepal.

A related initiative of Plan International Nepal and its partners was supporting over 500 girls across Nepal to prepare and submit a report on the status of girls to the CEDAW Committee. The report helped put the voices of Nepali girls on the table. The concerns were also reflected in the CEDAW Committee review.

The programmes of 2019 focused on making gender transformative by addressing the root causes of gender-based inequalities. Our programmes trained about 3000 people on gender equality and transferred knowledge and skills required for addressing the inequalities.

Our journey for ending inequalities faced by girls will continue in the coming years.

2019

IN NUMBERS



629, 010
PEOPLE REACHED



106,264
GIRLS UNDER
18 YEARS



76,954
BOYS UNDER
18 YEARS



256,260
WOMEN



189, 532
MEN



103
PARTNERSHIPS

COMMUNITY BASED
ORGANIZATIONS

48

55
NGOS



2052
COMMUNITIES
COVERED

2,848
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS TRAINED
ON GENDER
EQUALITY



4,618
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS AND
VOLUNTEERS TRAINED
ON CHILD PROTECTION





GIRLS AND BOYS START EQUALLY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)

**“WE WANT VULNERABLE AND EXCLUDED
YOUNG CHILDREN, PARTICULARLY GIRLS,
TO GROW UP WELL-CARED-FOR AND
EQUALLY VALUED.”**

We work towards a healthier and prosperous future of children. This is possible only if parents and caregivers provide nurturing care, and support children to develop free from violence and limiting gendered norms and expectations. Our Child DREAM is a pilot project that targets children aged 0-3 years with this goal: “Girls and boys including, those who are marginalised and vulnerable, will demonstrate improved achievement in reaching their developmental milestone.”

ACHIEVEMENTS



6,461 parents and
caretakers from **174
groups** attended
parenting education
sessions



5,657 people who
attended the **community
dialogue sessions** on
positive parenting



**93 Female Community
Health Volunteers**
(FCHVs) trained and
mobilised for positive parenting



**102 Early Childhood
Education Development
facilitators**, who facilitated
**103 parenting education
sessions**, trained



The programme focuses on child development through responsive care, early stimulation, and family affection and motivated parents. This evidence-based programme is implemented in partnership with Monash University, Australia where we will test and adopt gender-responsive positive parenting through the the government health system for supporting gender-transformative, violence-free parenting. Our Child DREAM is being implemented at three rural municipalities of Sindhuli, Bardiyaya and Jumla districts.

Early Child Development (ECD) is a national priority. The National Planning Commission (NPC) has begun formulating the “National ECD Strategy 2019-2030”. Plan international Nepal along with UNICEF and the ECD consortium provided inputs on the approach and gender perspective during the strategy development process. The strategy is expected to be approved by the Government of Nepal in 2020.



GIRLS AND BOYS LEARN EQUALLY

PROMOTING INCLUSIVE AND QUALITY EDUCATION

“We want vulnerable and excluded children, particularly girls, having access to and complete basic education from gender transformative and inclusive education institutions, and no barrier for gender equality and inclusion. This means promoting quality inclusive education service and system that is accessible to all.”

Plan International Nepal is committed to strengthening gender transformative and inclusive education facilities and systems, and to improve early learning and reading comprehension of children. We support all children to complete basic education with relevant and effective learning outcomes by strengthening inclusive and gender sensitive education governance at schools and at the municipal level.

We worked with the Government of Nepal in the centre, and UNICEF, Save the Children and World

Vision International Nepal to prepare the first national Safe Schools Manual that has been approved by the government. An associated Safe Schools Policy is in its final stages of approval. Plan International Nepal looks forward to collaborating with all stakeholders in the roll out of the policy in 2020.

We closely worked with policy makers at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) to incorporate content on gender transformative and inclusive education in the professional development training curriculum of teachers. We continued our work with local governments and supported them in developing inclusive education plans, bringing out of school children to school and for improving services and facilities related to menstrual hygiene at school.

In Sindhuli District, we supported improvements in classroom infrastructure by supporting inclusive playgrounds for all children, including those with disabilities, where they could play with each other.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **26,728** children (**14,765** girls) and **1,613** children with disabilities have access to inclusive education facilities and system
- **11,899** children (**6,296** girls), **149** children with disabilities and **5,093** Dalit children from **253** schools benefitted from support for early learning and reading comprehension
- **4,379** School Management Committee (SMC) / Parents'-Teachers' Association(PTA) members, teachers and local leaders including **1,239** women attended training on inclusive and gender sensitive education governance
- **291** SMC and PTA members and **736** teachers attended training on inclusive and gender transformative education
- **13** schools (**54** classrooms) for **1,890** children including children with disabilities were built in compliance with school safety measures
- **208** women trained on lobbying for inclusive representation of women in education committees



RESILIENT GIRLS AND BOYS WASH AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

Our social behaviour change communication activities promote sanitation and hygiene (e.g. handwashing, menstrual hygiene management, water safety, ending open defecation, using and maintaining toilets, etc.), and the elimination of harmful and discriminatory practices, and gender inequalities. They also promote inclusion of women (e.g. women's participation and decision making) or reducing their drudgery.

Both water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and resilience to disasters have remained major challenges in Nepal. There are wide disparities in access to clean drinking water between rural and urban areas and the poor and rich. We worked with communities and

local governments to declare two districts, Morang and Rautahat, as Open Defecation Free (ODF).

Changes have been noticed regarding the management of menstrual hygiene. The Menstrual Hygiene Management Programme (MHM) worked with child clubs, MHM committees and teachers, SMCs, PTAs, elected local governments representatives, local leaders, in-laws and religious leaders to bring about the changes at both the schools and within households. Girls have begun talking openly about menstruation. Many schools have also made provisions for separate MHM corners with resting and washing facilities and free sanitary pads for girls. This has contributed towards reducing absenteeism of girls from school during menstruation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **31,125** people attended the social behaviour change communications sessions
- **6,310** people and children of communities facing disaster risk trained on knowledge and skills on disaster preparedness
- **5,000** people provided with first responder kits in schools and communities
- **3,000** people provided access to clean drinking water
- **2,783** members of WASH coordination committees attended orientations
- **1,179** members of disaster response committees at communities, schools and districts attended sessions on child protection and gender during emergencies
- **200** WASH Champions, both girls and boys were trained and supported to become change agents

GIRLS PROTECT CHILD PROTECTION



“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 form of violence against children.”

Our Child Protection programme is focused on strengthening both community and national level child protection systems, including responding during disasters; empowering girls and groups to build collective capacity for ending violence against children, and supporting development of safe and protective environments at educational institutions. The programme has helped in strengthening child protection systems and in tackling the causes of violence against girls and boys. The programme works to make homes, schools, and communities safer places for children especially girls, and also advocates for laws and policies to protect children from all forms of violence.

Plan International Nepal advocated for amendments in the “National Strategy on Ending Child Marriage” to ensure that the strategy and action plan cascade to the province and local levels through consultation workshops with provincial stakeholders. The child protection policy framework has been developed in consultation with representatives of several municipalities

that have also begun using the framework. Upon endorsement by government this framework can guide policy of all local governments. We also engaged in child centred Universal Periodic Review reporting by joining hands with child rights networks and the National Human Rights Commission.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **5,852** children including 161 adolescent girls trained on awareness building
- **4,500** people provided safe migration information to prevent them from being trafficked
- **4,000** children benefited from child-friendly and safe learning environment at school
- **2,532** parents trained on positive parenting, child protection and ending child marriage
- **500** leaders of various religions encouraged to support the ending of harmful traditional practices including child marriage, Chhaupadi and gender based violence
- **189** people (**55** young girls) prevented from being trafficked with help of information booth at border areas
- **139** girls and **54** survivors of abuse and exploitation provided with emergency support
- **58** cases of child marriage prevented



GIRLS AGENCY

GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

"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."

Young women supported by us have increased their incomes and enhanced self-confidence start enterprises and take positions within their family and neighbourhoods. The Champions of Change initiative supports and encourages adolescents and young women to discuss on harmful traditional practices in their communities and break all barriers to realize their right to equal opportunities. The participants in the Champions of Change course have acquired leadership skills and knowledge required for challenging gender inequality and harmful traditional practices. In Jumla district, the Champions were able to end the practice of chhaupadi (isolation during menstruation) in many communities.

Our Girls Advocacy Alliances project contributed various Government of Nepal initiatives for ending harmful traditional practices through national women rights defenders and inter-religious groups. One business association, the Hotel Association and Trekking Agencies, has developed policies on child protection, gender equality, ethical recruitment and decent work with our support.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **22,000** women members of 29 women cooperatives were supported in freed Kamaiya settlements, 26 of them have begun operating their own cooperatives
- **2,049** young women have formed two district-level networks of 125 organisations of young women
- **1,635** adolescent girls aged 11-19 years attended training on better life options
- **1000** adolescent girls and **550** adolescent boys participated in the Champions of Change courses
- **78%** young women, among **122** vulnerable young migrant women between 16-24 years, secured employment
- **34** child marriages and **5** cases of possible domestic violence prevented
- **12** municipalities have developed strategies to combat gender based violence and action plans for ending child marriage, **5** municipalities have endorsed these plans



GLOBAL YOUTH-LED GIRLS GET EQUAL CAMPAIGN



Girls Get Equal is campaigning for girls' and young women's power, voice and leadership. Plan International Nepal is committed to building a world where girls and young women are equally able to make decisions about their lives, and to shape the world around them. The campaign is about supporting girls, young women and their allies to organise and advocate for gender equality. We have integrated the campaign theme across our programmes and project activities to give voice to issues that matter most to girls and young women.

The Girls Get Equal campaign was launched in 2019 and will continue alongside our commitment to work with and engage boys and men in order to address the root causes of gender inequality. Both girls and boys are engaged in campaign activities. We promote an 'Art is Power' where the Girls Get Equal messages are portrayed through art. This has enabled girls from the most marginalised communities to portray their ideas about the power, freedom and representation. The campaign will

continue for some years and will support young girls to campaign for equal and gender sensitive representation in media, films and online platforms.

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

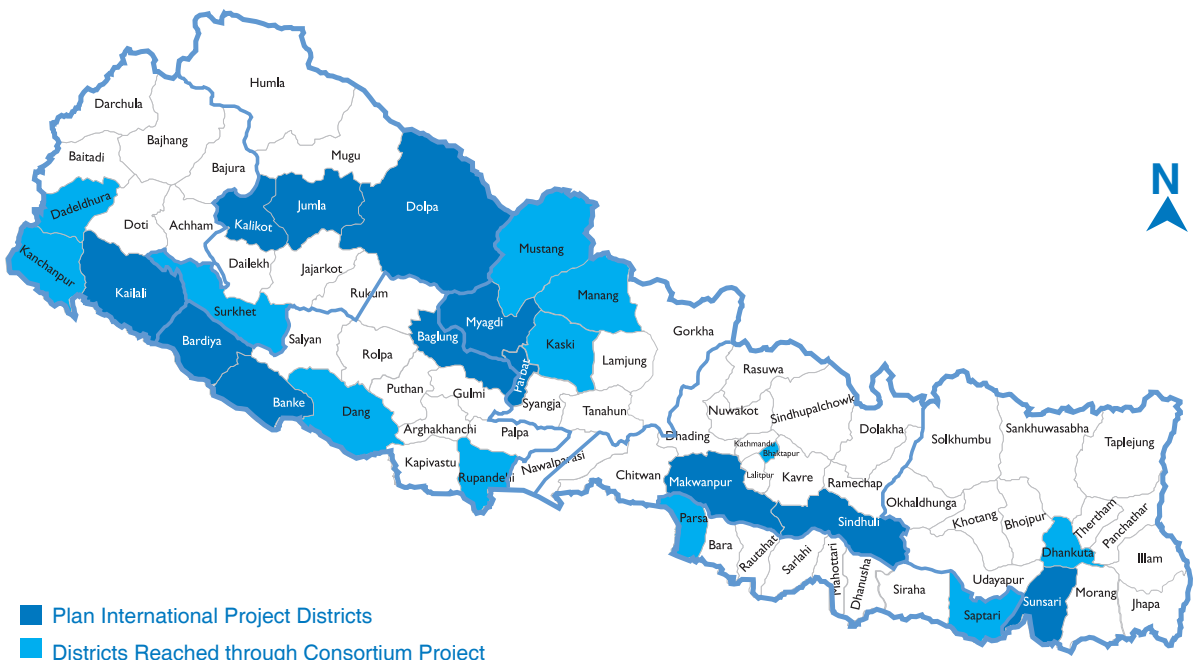
- **300** adolescent girls hosted radio programmes to amplify their concerns and request action on **300** community radios
- **20** girls tookover hosting responsibilities in the 'radio takeover' organised in 2018, for facilitating radio programmes on girls' issues
- **20** girls and **5** boys from **5** districts participated a storytelling event and shared their journey towards ending inequality and ending harmful practices in their communities
- **25** girls and boys from **5** districts provided recommendations to enhance the Girls Get Equal campaign in Nepal

SPONSORSHIP

Child sponsorship is a means of connecting children and their sponsors. Plan International generates fund to bring lasting positive impacts in the lives of girls and children through sponsorships. In 2019 there were 38,936 children sponsored through Plan International in Nepal. Sixty-seven sponsors from various countries visited the sponsored children and families for assessing impact of their support and Plan International Nepal's programmes.

Outcome: Plan has continued to work with local governments and contributed towards developing inclusive education plans, bringing out-of-school children to school and increasing and improving services and facilities for menstrual hygiene at schools.

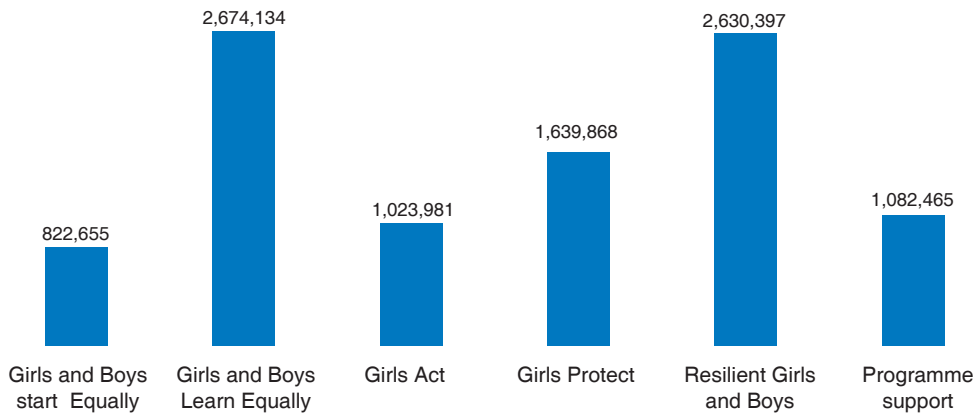
PLAN INTERNATIONAL WORKING AREAS IN NEPAL



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2019

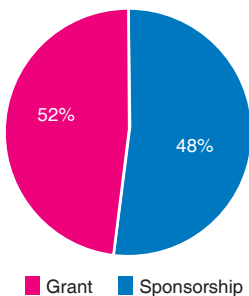
July 2018 to June 2019

Expenditure Details in €

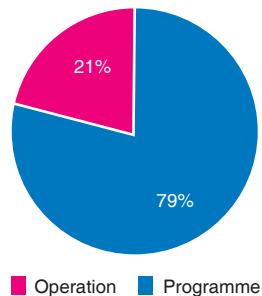


Grand Total: € 9,873,499

Funding Sources (Total Expenditure € 9.8 million)

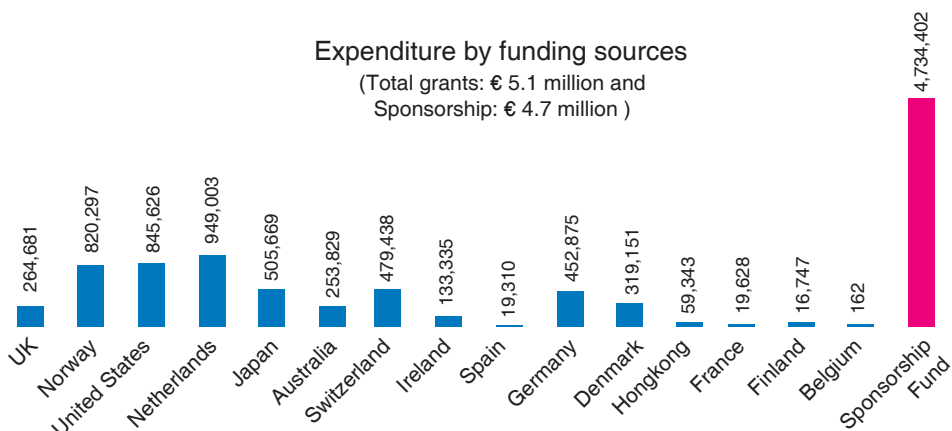


Programme Vs Operation Cost (Total Expenditure € 9.8 million)



Expenditure by funding sources

(Total grants: € 5.1 million and Sponsorship: € 4.7 million)



ABOUT PLAN INTERNATIONAL NEPAL

Plan International Nepal is an independent development and humanitarian organisation that advances children's rights and equality for girls. We have been working in Nepal since 1978 to help marginalized children, their families and communities for accessing their rights to survival, development, protection and participation.

We operated programmes through development partners in 24 districts in cooperation with government, civil society organisations and schools.

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