

PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2021

JULY 2020 — JUNE 2021





# “Empowered girls empower the world.”

## RASHID JAVED

CEO Plan International Switzerland



Plan International Switzerland is compensating its carbon footprint in cooperation with carbon-connect.



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## DEAR READER,

Plan International Switzerland celebrates its 15<sup>th</sup> birthday this year under the banner of children's rights and equality. For 15 years, we have been able to count on you to help children, adolescents and especially girls and young women to build a sustainable and equal future. In the past year, which was also marked by the pandemic and when help was needed the most, we were able to count on your generous support.

Looking back on the past 15 years, we are proud of the challenges we have overcome and the successes we have celebrated together. The growing strength of our strategic partnerships, the number of which has increased from 8 to 37, enables us to deliver projects of the highest quality and impact, and to continually expand them. In 2007 we were working with donations of around CHF 495 000, today we can draw from over CHF 5.8 million, of which we invest 81 % directly into our projects. This is a gratifying balance sheet that will allow us to continue to expand our geographic and programmatic focus in the next 15 years.

The ongoing pandemic continued to impact our programmatic work last year, but through the tireless efforts of our staff and local partners, we were able to adapt and continue our work. Creative solutions guaranteed continuity of our work, for example, the [virtual field trip](#) to project sites in El Salvador and Nicaragua as part of the “Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance” project was met with an overwhelmingly positive response. In the fiscal year 2021, we launched new programmes; one of them in Mara, Tanzania, to stop child marriage and female circumcision. At the same time, we can look back on several successfully completed projects, such as the construction of a secondary school in Cambodia, which enables children to continue their education. Or the project “Youth Economic Dynamism in El Salvador”, which improves the economic situation of young people, especially young women, through training and start-up capital.

At the beginning of 2021, we, Karina Candrian and Rashid Javed, took up our roles as the new Board President and new Director of Plan International Switzerland, and we set ourselves a clear goal: We want to continue to grow as an organization and partner in Switzerland that works to protect, educate and

empower girls and young women. With a planned “Youth Advisory Panel”, we will actively involve young people in our work so that they have a say in issues that directly affect them so that we can take their needs into account.

On the Board, we bid farewell to Zahra Darvishi and Markus Dörig this year, and warmly welcome [new members](#) Dr. Mara Catherine Harvey and Markus Pfenninger, who were elected on 1 December. We would like to thank Zahra Darvishi and Markus Dörig for their long and valuable contribution.

Another big thank you goes to our sponsors, partners, patrons, donors and volunteers who have supported us continuously throughout the years. Without you our work would not be possible.

**Thanks to you we have grown and become stronger and more girls and young women around the world can look forward to a better future where their voices are being heard and in which they can make their own decisions about their life.**



*K. Candrian*

**KARINA CANDRIAN**  
President of the Board,  
Plan International Switzerland



*Rashid Javed*

**RASHID JAVED**  
CEO, Plan International Switzerland



- Countries in which Plan International is active
- Focus countries of Plan International Switzerland
  - Egypt
  - El Salvador
  - Kenya
  - Nepal
  - Nicaragua
  - Vietnam

- Plan International Global Hub, Woking, United Kingdom
- Regional Offices
  - Bangkok, Thailand
  - Dakar, Senegal
  - Nairobi, Kenya
  - Panama City, Panama
- Advocacy Offices
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
  - Brussels, Belgium
  - Geneva, Switzerland
  - New York, USA

## PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND

Plan International Switzerland is an independent Non-Profit-Organisation and part of the global Plan International network. Since its foundation in 2006, Plan International Switzerland is working to advance gender equality and children's rights in different parts of the world.

Our programmes create the conditions for adolescent girls and young adults to be educated, protected and economically empowered.

## THE GLOBAL NETWORK IN NUMBERS

ACHIEVEMENTS IN FINANCIAL YEAR 2021:

ADVANCING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FOR GIRLS FOR OVER

**80**  
YEARS

ACTIVE IN

**78**  
COUNTRIES

REACHED OVER

**50.3 M**  
CHILDREN WORLDWIDE

INCLUSIVE AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR OVER

**22 M**  
GIRLS, BOYS AND YOUNG ADULTS

IMPROVED ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR OVER

**6.3 M**  
GIRLS

IMPROVED SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH FOR OVER

**5.7 M**  
GIRLS

BETTER START IN LIFE FOR OVER

**4 M**  
GIRLS



## TRANSPARENT AND AUDITED

Plan International is a member of

Accountable Now, a cross-sector platform for civil society organizations working internationally. Together, we commit to being transparent, responsive to stakeholders and focused on delivering impact. We signed [the twelve commitments](#) of the Global Standard for CSO Accountability, respect the human rights and work ethically, professionally and independently.

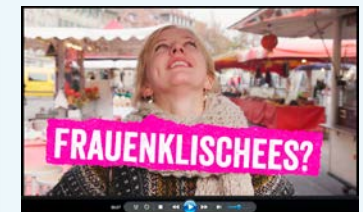


# PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND – WORKING FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY FOR 15 YEARS!



**2015** **PROJECT LAUNCH "PROTECTION  
AGAINST FLOODS"**  
as part of the Zurich Flood  
Resilience Alliance with Nepal  
as the first project country

**2016**



**CAMPAIGN AND VIDEO SPOT #GIRLUNSTOPPABLE**  
for a self-confident image of women  
in Switzerland

**2017** **JAN SCHNEIDER**  
takes over the management

**2017** **SWISS MENTORING PROJECT  
"STRENGTHENING YOUNG WOMEN"**  
with the aim of boosting young  
women's self-confidence and promoting  
an equal start to their careers

**11 OCTOBER 2017** **BIG #GIRLSTAKEOVER CAMPAIGN**  
with companies such as  
Swiss Post, Blick am Abend,  
Deloitte, Google, PwC and  
four city presidents and a total  
of 32 young women

**2018** **SUBA UMATHEVAN**  
becomes Executive Director

**11 OCTOBER 2018** **GIRLS SUMMIT**  
with Google on the topic of  
girls' rights with 80 participants  
aged between 12 and 22 years

**2019** **INDEPENDENT ACTION GROUP**  
successfully raised money for the  
Girls' Fund at the Basel City Run

**2021** **CHF 5.8 MILLION DONATIONS**  
collected in the last financial year.  
81 % of this went directly into the project  
work. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

**JANUARY 2021** **RASHID JAVED**  
becomes the new Managing  
Director. Karina Candrian takes  
over from Andreas Bürge as  
President of the Board of Directors

**2020-2021** **EXISTING PROJECTS**  
will be adapted to the situation under  
COVID-19 and around CHF 639,970  
will be invested in the global  
COVID-19 emergency response

**11 OCTOBER 2020** **WISHES FOR THE GIRLS OF THE WORLD:**  
competition in collaboration  
with IKEA and social media

**MARCH 2020** **PUBLICATION**  
of the Plan International  
Switzerland study: "Equality  
in Switzerland. Young people  
are optimistic: rightly so?"

**APRIL 2019** **SUCCESSFUL SPONSORSHIP EVENTS**  
at the Helferei Grossmünster Zurich and  
the Spittelsaal Generationenhaus Bern



Learn more  
about the  
project

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT 15 YEARS WITH YOU!**



# RASHID JAVED IS NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR

He is known as a role model with a can-do attitude: Rashid Javed is Managing Director of Plan International Switzerland since January 2021. He tells us personally, where he comes from and where he is headed.



I have been working for Plan International for over 18 years. These years have been more of an odyssey than a journey. Even though I vaguely remember a life before that, they have made me who I am today: a son, a father, a husband, and a citizen of the world. They gave me a real appreciation for our basic needs that we often take for granted. I remember the first time I wondered why other children had to go to sleep hungry while my own children were safe and content in their beds. With that feeling, I set my sails. Not long after that, in 2003, after one of the most intensive recruitment processes ever, I joined Plan International after a close friend of mine referred me to a job opening. I knew immediately that I was exactly where I wanted to be. At an organisation that takes a child-centred approach to poverty alleviation and equips communities with knowledge and tools; not only to give, but to empower. An organization that asks people about their needs and listens rather than talks at them. I found the concept as fundamental as it was brilliant.

I quickly realized that I wanted to be close to Plan International's work on the ground. I supported missions in Haiti, Pakistan, and the Philippines for disasters

on a global scale. Then, in 2012, I took on the role of Country Director in Asia and East Africa. Plan International began addressing the root causes of gender inequality and thus created a niche and led by example. We knew right away that including boys and men was an essential part of creating a more gender-equal world, and I realized that change starts with face-to-face conversations with friends and family.

With more than 15 years of experience under my belt, I headed to the UK in 2019 to lead a global initiative. This was to ensure the financial sustainability of Plan International. Our global reach and local presence give us the means to lead an organization that is "fit for the future" and focusses on big impact.

At the end of 2020, I was given the opportunity to lead the Plan International country office in Switzerland and its dedicated team. We set ourselves the goal of delivering on our promise to children and young people and working together to protect, empower and promote them with a focus on gender equality. To do this, we build on the trust of our valued partners and donors.

If there is one thing  
I have learned over the past 18 years,  
it is this: we must work together  
to use efficiency and expertise to increase  
impact in the lives of young people,  
especially girls. United forces can  
create real, lasting change.



The pandemic has shown  
that the work of Plan International  
is more important and urgent  
than ever before. Together, we can  
prevent regression and  
emerge stronger from crises.

KARINA  
CANDRIAN

has taken over as President of the Board of Plan International Switzerland this year after serving 8 years as a member.





# 2021 AN OVERVIEW OF OUR PROGRAMME WORK

In the financial year 2021 the programme works of Plan International Switzerland focussed on resilience, education, protection against harmful practices and economic empowerment of children and young people. The ongoing pandemic has had an impact on our work also in the last year. Nonetheless, we were able to continue our project work with certain adjustments. On the following pages you will find an overview of our diverse programme work and the successes we celebrated last year.

## AFRICA

### EGYPT

#### HOPE TOGETHER

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT MIGRATION

##### Project Description

The economic self-reliance and social integration of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Egyptians in host communities in Damietta and Alexandria are at the centre of this project. It is aimed at 2150 young people between the ages of 15 and 17 and adults between the ages of 18 and 45.

**Timeframe** October 2018 – April 2022

##### Project beneficiaries

1,283 young people

##### Successes

1,283 people (664 in Alexandria and 619 in Damietta) benefited from training on finance. Among them were 788 women and 495 men.

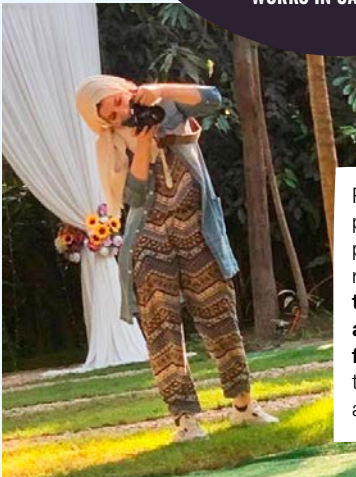
##### Positive mid-term project results after two years

- ✓ 83 % adults report being able to meet their household's basic needs due to participation in project activities
- ✓ 95 % of youth respondents say the project has provided skills for future education and employment opportunities or to start their own businesses
- ✓ For 85% of the respondents, their monthly income has increased due to participation in the project activities



At first my husband was against it. I had started working on the project without his knowledge. Now that I have shown him that I can run a business, he is convinced that I can also provide for the family and supports me in my work.

— AMANI (38), SYRIAN, WORKS IN CATERING



Rawan (23) from Syria, photographer. Thanks to the project "Hope Together" Rawan received **financial support to pay for camera equipment and to save some money for rent.** She also supports the basic needs of her mother and brother.



#### GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE PROGRAMME WORK – FOR A SUSTAINABLE IMPACT

Our goal for the future is for all of our programmes to be gender-transformative. A gender-transformative approach tackles the root causes of gender inequality and reshapes unequal power relations in the long term. A holistic promotion of gender equality is at the heart of an intervention, for example by empowering girls and women as well as engaging boys and men.

### TANZANIA

#### EMPOWERING GIRLS TO SAY NO TO HARMFUL PRACTICES

PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL PRACTICES

##### Project Description

The aim of this project is to prevent harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). To this end, we are working together in three districts of the Mara region.

- Strengthen resilience of adolescent girls potentially at risk of child marriage, FGM and other forms of abuse.
- Building a safe environment for the promotion of girls' rights and gender equality.
- At the individual level: peer mentoring in girls' clubs and safe networks inside and outside schools to reach girls directly. Boys are also included in these clubs.
- Family and community level: awareness raising through discussions by parents, traditional counsellors and trailblazers.
- Support and strengthen child protection teams and community-led initiatives to prohibit child marriage and FGM.

**Timeframe** April 2021 – March 2023

##### Project beneficiaries

2,182 participants  
(990 girls) (360 parents)  
(540 boys) (292 community leaders)

##### Successes

The project was launched this year with a successful kick-off workshop.



### SENEGAL

#### BETTER HEALTH FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

GENDER EQUALITY SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

BIRTH AND HEALTH REGISTRATION

##### Project Description

Plan International Switzerland works on this project in Senegal with the support of the Botnar Foundation. By involving male community members, training health workers, improving health facilities and promoting general health knowledge among youth and families, this initiative also contributes to better health promotion throughout the community.

**Timeframe** January 2016 – October 2021

##### Project beneficiaries

1.3 million people

##### Successes

The success of these activities enables change on a large scale.

- ✓ Data on births, deaths and health from communities in hard-to-reach areas can be used for the first time in national health planning and decision-making to better represent the needs of the poorest communities, thanks to mobile devices
- ✓ Children in these regions receive birth certificates and have official documents that recognise them as citizens and allow them to claim their rights to education, protection and representation in Senegal

«We are working hard to ensure that there is no female genital mutilation (FGM) or child marriage in my village. Our group conducts awareness sessions for all sections of the population in schools and churches in our village.»

#### INFLUENTIAL WOMAN

in a community in Mara Region, Tanzania, on her joint work with Plan International to fight FGM and child marriage



VIETNAM

FIT FOR THE FUTURE

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION  
GENDER EQUALITY



**Project Description**  
This project improves the employability of dis-advantaged youth, especially young women aged 18–24, in the IT sector and provides more eco-nomic security for project beneficiaries and their families. The technical IT training is complemented by English courses and social skills training and empowers young women to engage in the male-dominated IT sector.

The project offers the following courses:  
Graphic design (3 months), 3D modelling (6 months), Web coding (6 months), Comprehensive IT training course (12 months/3 years of support)

**Timeframe** September 2018 – September 2022

Project beneficiaries

815 young people  
(at least 50 % of whom are young women)

Positive mid-term project results after two years

- ✓ 465 disadvantaged young people, 158 of them young women, were trained in one of the technical IT courses and prepared for the labour market
- ✓ 240 disadvantaged youths, 87 of them young women, found jobs or internships after graduation
- ✓ 124 companies in the IT sector in Hanoi and the surrounding area offer internships and permanent jobs to 228 students
- ✓ 133 graduates, 49 of them young women, kept their jobs despite the COVID-19 impact on the economic situation



School class of the project “Fit for the Future”



Successful participant of the **Digital Marketing course** which was part of the “Fit for the Future” programme shares her experiences.

Project beneficiaries of the programme “A Better Future for Children and young people in Hue City”



VIETNAM

A BETTER FUTURE FOR STREET CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN HUE CITY

EDUCATION ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**Project Description**  
This project focuses on street children, working children and disadvantaged young people. This second phase of the project promotes sustainable economic security for the project beneficiaries and their families as well as their access to education. The project benefits young women and men between the ages of 18 and 30 and 345 girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 18.

- The following activities are being held:
- Scholarships and school materials for children, as well as scholarships for vocational training for young people
  - Start-up capital for vulnerable families to take up professional activities
  - Establishment of collective savings groups for sustainable investment
  - Capacity building of local NGOs, local government actors and business institutions to support disadvantaged children

**Timeframe** August 2017 – August 2021

Project beneficiaries

350 young women	345 disadvantaged girls and boys
160 parents (70 % mothers)	3 NGOs
50 government employ-ees and local leaders (70% men)	50 local business leaders (80% men)

- Successes**  
COVID-19 and natural events severely affected this project last year. However, despite these challenges, we can look back on the following successes:
- ✓ We reached 519 disadvantaged children (269 girls and 243 boys)
  - ✓ 5,000 notebooks distributed to disadvantaged children
  - ✓ 290 youth received TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training)
  - ✓ 21 savings groups with 431 active members (412 women and 19 men) established in cooperation with local women's associations

“Through my internship, I have gradually learned to become more pro-fessional. I really enjoy teamwork and I hope that I will be able to use the practical knowledge I acquire in my professional life later on.”  
— LO THI (20), MARKETING INTERN IN A SPICE COMPANY

COURSES OFFERED

GRAPHIC DESIGN 3 MONTHS	WEB CODING 6 MONTHS
3D MODELLING 6 MONTHS	IT TRAINING COURSE 12 MONTHS

A new water tank and pond is ensuring **clean drinking water** during dry seasons.



CAMBODIA

WATER TANK

WATER SUPPLY CLEAN DRINKING WATER

**Project Description**  
In Siem Reap Province, a water reservoir was built to supply 10 nearby villages with clean drinking water during the dry season. For this purpose, a pond and a water tank were built to purify the water.

**Timeframe** July 2020 – June 2021

- Successes**
- ✓ Construction successfully completed in June 2021 and water tank was officially inaugurated
  - ✓ Through the construction of the water tank, the population of the 10 nearby villages can benefit from clean drinking water



## VIETNAM

### SAFE AND CHILD-FRIENDLY ROUTES TO SCHOOL IN THAI NGUYEN

LEAD EDUCATION

PROTECTION AND SECURITY FOR GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

#### Project Description

The project aims to increase road safety for children, their parents, teachers and bus staff in school zones.

- Improvement of road infrastructure in two school zones
- Improving the safety of bus transport for children and young people, especially girls
- Adherence to road traffic regulations by road users, more helmets on motorbikes and bicycles

**Timeframe** October 2020 – May 2022

#### Project beneficiaries

15,000 primary and secondary school students	500 primary and secondary school teachers
1,000 high school students	15 selected primary and secondary schools
1,500 parents	Indirectly, 170,000 local citizens reached
100 selected bus staff	

#### Successes

What we have achieved in the past financial year:

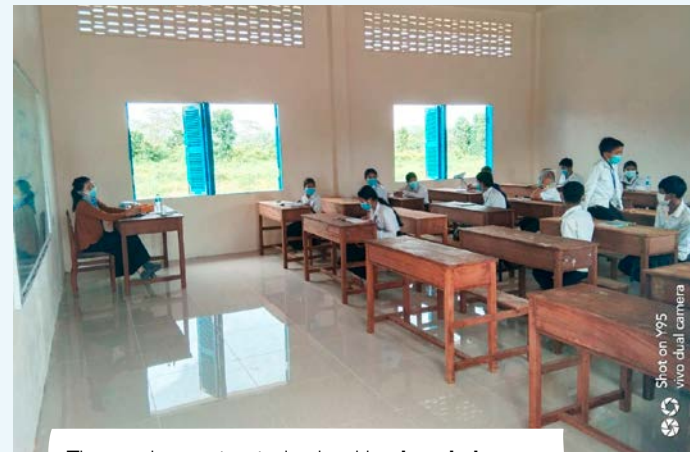
- ✓ Study conducted on girls' safety along 4 bus routes and at 20 bus stops
- ✓ Completed the improvement of road infrastructure for one school
- ✓ Conducting an observational study on the use of helmets at 3 schools



Typical scene in front of a school at the end of the day. Plan International is working to **raise awareness about the importance of wearing a helmet** when riding bikes and to improve the infrastructure around school districts.



Newly constructed school



The newly constructed school is **already in use**.

## CAMBODIA

### SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION IN THE STUNG TRENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION

#### Project Description

Together with the Ministry of Education at provincial and district level, a school building with 3 classrooms was built with provision of furniture so that children can continue secondary school attendance after primary school. The Stung Treng Province has currently the worst education indicators for lower secondary school. The construction of the school and the commitment of the Ministry of Education to provide qualified teachers is an important step towards improving this situation.

**Timeframe** January 2021 – December 2021

#### Project beneficiaries

58 students (28 of them girls)	4 teachers
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#### Successes

- ✓ A building committee was established
- ✓ UXO and mine clearance
- ✓ Construction of the school completed

## NEPAL

### EQUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN SINDHULI

EDUCATION EQUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

HYGIENE UND MENSTRUAL HYGIENE

#### Project Description

Strengthening gender-equitable and inclusive schools where girls, boys and children with disabilities can learn equally in a positive and non-discriminatory environment are at the centre of this project.

**Timeframe** January 2018 – December 2020

#### Successes

All activities under this project were carried out in close coordination with the local government and the project schools.

- ✓ The involvement of male teachers encouraged students (825 girls, 948 boys) to create menstruation-friendly and gender-responsive classrooms.
- ✓ An interactive code of conduct was created through the involvement of the parents council (294 women, 185 men), teachers (122 women and 223 men) and parents (666 mothers, 229 fathers) as well as local representatives (73 women, 63 men)
- ✓ Ensuring sustainability: The local administration and education officials were impressed by the progress and committed to adopting these practices in other schools as well



Meeting of a **women's cooperative**

“ This project brings change to schools. Teachers are applying gender-sensitive teaching approaches by teaching boys and girls in the same environment and giving them equal opportunities. On behalf of the Education Department, I am very grateful to this project and its project team, including the donors.

— OM GAUTAM (42), EDUCATION OFFICER OF THE SUNKOSHI RM



School class in Sindhuli, Nepal

## NEPAL

### SELF-DETERMINATION FOR YOUNG WOMEN

GENDER EQUALITY ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

#### Project Description

The second phase of this project focuses on the economic empowerment of young women and the establishment of women's cooperatives. Young women take on leadership roles and get involved socially. In addition, these cooperatives support the action plan against gender inequalities such as child marriage, gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation of women.

**Timeframe** August 2020 – July 2022

#### Project beneficiaries

40,000 women

#### Successes

- ✓ 20 women's cooperatives work independently and submit annual action plans
- ✓ 656 women generate income from VSLA loans (Village Savings and Loan Association)
- ✓ 2,334 women participated in advocacy campaigns
- ✓ 50 women were trained in fund management



EL SALVADOR

HOPE BEHIND BARS

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT  
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)

Project Description

This project focussed on the institutionalisation of the educational programme “Early Childhood Development for Women Deprived of Liberty” as part of the state prison model “Yo Cambio”. A corresponding training programme was developed and introduced for this purpose.

- State institutions to be better sensitised in dealing with mothers and their children who grow up in detention centres
- Establish a transition plan for children when they leave prison at the age of 5

Timeframe

February 2019 – April 2021

Project beneficiaries

827 inmates75 children in the Izalco prison and 84 prison staff

Successes

In the financial year 2021, we can look back on the following achievements:

- ✓ Design and validation of the training programme for women in detention, which includes five modules: SRHR, pregnancy, childbirth, the first five years of life, separation of mother and child at five years of age, including video tutorials.
- ✓ Training of staff of the National Criminological Council on the above-mentioned training programme.
- ✓ Additional awareness-raising campaigns (also virtually) for administrative and security staff in prisons where the programme is implemented, as well as a virtual workshop with the national prison authorities
- ✓ Training of mothers to become mentors for training programmes for other incarcerated mothers.
- ✓ Development of a tool to monitor the impact of the training programme, the mentors and the incarcerated women in general
- ✓ A transition plan when children aged 5 leave their mothers in prison has been finalised and disseminated. It will be the focus in the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the project. A number of families have been identified to work with the children.
- ✓ Extra: COVID-19 emergency response: Purchase and delivery of hygiene kits to prisons for distribution to inmates and staff, awareness campaigns.

More on this project on page 19



Mothers and their daughters are being looked after in penitentiaries.

EL SALVADOR

EDUCATECH – INSPIRING YOUNG GIRLS FOR STEM PROFESSIONS

EDUCATION GENDER EQUALITY

Project Description

The project aims to deconstruct gender roles by motivating and empowering adolescent girls to continue their academic education to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers.

Our main activities include:

- Gender-transformative STEM training for girls and boys
- Girls Tech Tours
- Mathematics promotion
- Scholarships for STEM studies
- Awareness raising and training of parents and teachers on the importance of encouraging young girls to pursue STEM careers

Timeframe

June 2021 – December 2022

Project beneficiaries

3,546 girls (14 – 18 years old)7,092 parents and 54 teachers

Successes

Despite the stringent COVID-19 lockdown and policy changes in the country, the project was successfully launched in June 2021.

EL SALVADOR

YOUTH ECONOMIC DYNAMISM IN EL SALVADOR

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT GENDER EQUALITY

Project Description

The aim of this project is to improve the social and economic situation of young adults, especially young women. Through training, start-up capital and technical advice, they are prepared for integration into the labour market. A focus has been placed on innovative approaches such as ecological skills and climate-friendly agriculture.

More on this project on page 20

23 students of the bakery and confectionery course at their graduation ceremony in the Santa Tecla municipality. In the second year of the project 105 teenagers successfully graduated from a technical training.



Timeframe

March 2018 – November 2020

Project beneficiaries

268 women191 men2 youth networks

Successes

Despite COVID-19 restrictions, we were able to conduct the trainings with the young people virtually:

- ✓ The topics of “digital marketing” and “access to digital marketing platforms” were included in the business management training courses as an adaptation to the COVID-19 context, so that the young entrepreneurs can market their products on the digital platforms and social networks available in El Salvador
- ✓ Virtual labour market preparation workshops were held in collaboration with the mayor’s offices of Santiago Texacuang and Santa Tecla to improve CVs and digital job search

NICARAGUA EL SALVADOR VIETNAM THE PHILIPPINES

PROTECTION FROM FLOOD

RESILIENCE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Timeframe

July 2018 – December 2024

Project beneficiaries

approx. 320,000 people

Successes

Despite the restrictions and related challenges of the Corona pandemic, Plan International Switzerland has maintained constant communication with the project communities and local partners to follow up on the planned activities.

- ✓ Close cooperation with local health facilities at all sites to ensure the protection and health of staff and project beneficiaries
- ✓ As a solution to the worldwide travel ban during the pandemic, Plan International Switzerland organised a virtual field trip to the project sites in El Salvador and Nicaragua with the participation of the core project team, national stakeholders, alliance members, donors, community representatives and allowed for a virtual presentation of the activities to build flood protection measures
- ✓ The inevitable project delays caused by the pandemic were used by Plan International Switzerland to create a series of information materials on the work done so far in the form of blogs or videos



Project Description

The aim of this project is to find practical ways to strengthen resilience to flood risks in communities of developed and developing countries. The project was launched in El Salvador and Nicaragua in 2018 and was previously implemented in Nepal. This year, the project was also launched in Vietnam and the Philippines. For these projects, we are working with the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance (ZFRA) and nine cross-sector partnerships.



I am very proud of my work with Plan International and the changes our community is experiencing by improving our quality of life and resilience to flooding.  
— CRISTINA, YOUNG LEADER AND MEMBER OF THE CIVIL DEFENCE COMMISSION OF HER MUNICIPALITY, EL SALVADOR

Read more about our collaboration with the Zurich Foundation on page 22



# CAREER PROSPECTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The project “Youth Economic Dynamism in El Salvador”, which was implemented between 2018 and 2020, made a significant contribution to vocational training in the country. The goal was to improve the social and economic situation of young adults with a focus on empowering young women – which was successfully achieved despite the pandemic.

One important achievement is the development of three curricula: “Green Businesses”, “Sustainable Agriculture Development” and “Youth Economic Solutions”. These curricula have all been accepted and adopted by the Salvadoran Vocational Training Institute (INSAFORP). INSAFORP is the most important vocational training institution in the country. The curricula are thus taught nationwide and are available to all institutions upon request.

In the final evaluation 94 % of participants said that their quality of life had improved thanks to the project implemented by Plan International and our strategic partners. They stressed that the project gave them access not only to basic vocational skills, but also to personal skills that made them more confident and motivated, and that they feel ready to compete in the labour market. By the end of the project, the monthly earnings of young entrepreneurs had increased by 13 % compared to the baseline – despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy in El Salvador.

“

We have learned to save from the profits of the company.

— LIMDEFLO / FLOR DE MARÍA VÁSQUEZ ANDRÉS

Thanks to the project, I have improved in every way. I have created a work plan, improved my workplace, bought more equipment and organised my financial reports.

— ARTINNCUP / CARLA YOCASTA MATAMOROS COREAS

A TOTAL OF  
**154 YOUNG PEOPLE**  
(61 % WOMEN)  
RECEIVED TRAINING ON LIFE SKILLS AND BUSINESS MODELS, AS WELL AS START-UP CAPITAL, AND SUBSEQUENTLY SET UP THEIR OWN BUSINESSES.

**105 YOUNG PEOPLE**  
(68 % WOMEN)  
COMPLETED TECHNICAL COURSES, 67 OF WHOM HAD JOBS AT THE END OF THE PROJECT.



In the second year of the project, several business fairs took place where young entrepreneurs could present and sell their products.

# SUPPORT FOR MOTHER AND CHILD IN PRISONS

The project “Hope Behind Bars” in El Salvador supported incarcerated mothers and their children, who grew up with them in prison.

With this project we were focussing to institutionalise a comprehensive training programme for early childhood development as part of the state prison model “Yo Cambio”, for women deprived of their liberty. In the second phase of the project, guidelines and state institutions of penitentiary systems were developed for this purpose in cooperation with local partners. In addition, the project helped children to adapt to a new family and social environments when they have to leave prison at the age of 5, as required by law in El Salvador. This will be followed up in a third project phase.

Participating in the project was a very important experience for me. It helped me grow as a person and become a better mother. Thank you for the opportunity and the knowledge you have given me.

– Project beneficiary



**Phase 1:** Implementing the training programme for women of reproductive age with a focus on children's rights



**Phase 2:** Comprehensive care for children from the Women, Mother and Child Sector Prison



# WOMEN'S WEAPON OF CHOICE

## CHILD BRIDE OR PEDIATRICIAN?

WOMEN'S WEAPON OF CHOICE

EDUCATION  
MAKES THE  
DIFFERENCE



# SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2020

For millions of girls the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to have caused school closures not just temporarily, but permanently. To draw attention to the various impacts and high level of concern particularly for girls and young women caused by the pandemic, Plan International Switzerland organised a solidarity campaign at IKEA stores and on social media on the International Day of the Girl 2020. Numerous people shared their wishes for girls all around the world on this occasion.

IKEA LOCATIONS:  
2 × 8,500 VISITORS

IKEA AUBONNE | IKEA DIETLIKON

HANDWRITTEN WISHES: 228  
SOCIAL MEDIA REACH: 222,899  
INTERACTIONS: 10,664

### What is your wish for girls worldwide?

Well-known personalities such as sprinter Sarah Atcho and the two Plan International Switzerland ambassadors Sandra Studer and singer Stefanie Heinzmann were also involved: "I wish for opportunities such as basic education and freedom for all girls in this world, so that they can lead their own lives." The campaign was also very well received at IKEA. Several hundred visitors wrote down their wishes at the stands in

German- and French-speaking Switzerland. Plan International Switzerland staff were present on site. Our favourite wish for the International Day of the Girl 2020: "That every girl can be herself." The International Day of the Girl, which is annually observed on 11 October, was initiated by Plan International in 2008 and recognised by the United Nations in 2012 to raise awareness for girls rights.



With the solidarity campaign on social media and in IKEA, we collected **wishes for girls all over the world** on the International Day of the Girl 2020.



Ambassador **Stephanie Heinzmann** makes her equality sign for girls worldwide.





The video from El Salvador shows the work of Plan International and the Z Zurich Foundation. View of the community of Santa Bárbara.

## THE PARTNERSHIP THAT PROTECTS PEOPLE FROM FLOODS



**Floods affect more people worldwide than any other type of natural disaster. As part of the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance, we are strengthening long-term resilience against increasing flood problems in four countries.**

Population growth and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events due to climate change are progressively exacerbating the risk of flooding. By reducing disaster risk early and investing in climate change adaptation, we can not only reduce costs and losses, but also save lives.

### Sustainable protection against flood risks

This is the goal of the [Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance](#), which combines the knowledge of partners from the humanitarian, research and private sector. Together, we promote resilience to flood risks in direct cooperation with affected communities.

### Crucial role of girls and women

Plan International Switzerland is currently active as one of nine partners in four countries (El Salvador, Nicaragua, Vietnam and the Philippines). We ensure that women and girls are involved in the development of solid resilience solutions to flooding and thus promote their effectiveness. This is because girls and women often bear a disproportionate share of the burden caused by floods, but are excluded from decision-making processes on effective measures.

### Z Zurich Foundation a valued partner

The Z Zurich Foundation supports our [flood prevention](#) projects in all four countries and the appreciation of this cooperation is mutual. "Plan International Switzerland is a valued member of the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance. They bring a very different perspective to the issue of building community resilience to flooding. The work they do [...] demonstrates the importance of considering resilience strategies in development activities", says David Nash, Senior Flood Resilience Alliance Manager at the Z Zurich Foundation.



Flood resilience workshop in Santa Bárbara, El Salvador



# THANK YOU!

to over  
**9,000**  
DONORS  
who supported our work  
in fiscal year 2021.

In total, we raised  
**5.8**  
MILLION CHF  
in donations.

Over  
**81%**  
OF THE INCOME  
went directly into  
project work.

## A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO

- our patrons. With your commitment you change the lives of children, families and entire communities.
- our donors. With your regular or one-time contributions, you create a better world for children, especially girls.
- the cantons and municipalities, parishes and associations that take responsibility for the future of girls and boys with their contributions.
- all the foundations that have supported us in the past year.
- all companies that set an example for a fairer world.
- our ambassadors, who are committed to more justice and make our cause heard.
- all volunteers as well as board members of Plan International Switzerland who step forward to support our work.

## SPECIAL THANKS GOES TO:



as well as the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** for their support in the past year.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2020–2021

## FINANCIAL RATIOS



8 %  
ADMINISTRATION  
CHF 0.43 M

11 %  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND FUNDRAISING  
CHF 0.59 M

81 %  
PROJECT EXPENDITURE  
CHF 4.49 M

11 %  
INSTITUTIONAL  
DONATIONS  
CHF 0.65 M

8 %  
SINGLE DONATIONS  
CHF 0.44 M

35 %  
FOUNDATIONS  
CHF 2.05 M

14 %  
REGULAR  
DONATIONS  
GIRLS' FUND  
CHF 0.82 M

CHF 5.86 M  
**SOURCE OF FUNDS 2021**  
TOTAL

32 %  
SPONSORSHIP  
CHF 1.9 M

## REPORT OF THE STATUTORY AUDITORS

### ON THE LIMITED STATUTORY EXAMINATION TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND, ZÜRICH

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements of Plan International Schweiz, which comprise the balance sheet, operating statement, statement of changes in equity and notes for the year ended 30 June 2021. As permitted by Swiss GAAP FER 21 the information in the performance report is not required to be subject to the statutory auditors' examination.

These financial statements prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation are the responsibility of the Board. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory ex-

amination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of association personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of association documents as considered appropriate in the circumstances. However, the testing of the operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation.

PricewaterhouseCoopers AG

*Blazenska Kovacs-Vujevic*

Blazenska Kovacs-Vujevic  
Audit expert  
Auditor in charge

*Kerstin Loser*

Kerstin Loser

Zürich, 20 August 2021



## BALANCE SHEET

### ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents

Other short-term receivables

Prepayments and accrued income

#### Current assets

Rental deposit

Property, plant and equipment

Intangible assets

#### Non-current assets

### LIABILITIES

Payables from goods and services

Other current liabilities

Support and sponsorship liabilities

Accrued liabilities and deferred income

#### Current liabilities

#### Restricted fund capital

Unrestricted reserves

#### Organization Capital

Notes	30.06.2021	30.06.2020
	1'608'112.83	1'644'065.36
	5.86	5.86
3.1	199'883.82	13'787.32
	<b>1'808'002.51</b>	<b>1'657'858.54</b>
	30'404.75	30'404.75
3.2	11'431.70	20'653.79
3.2	0.00	0.00
	<b>41'836.45</b>	<b>51'058.54</b>
	<b>1'849'838.96</b>	<b>1'708'917.08</b>
	2'670.70	9'230.70
3.4	99'645.35	56'428.55
3.3	364'552.77	375'935.27
3.5	72'064.50	300'203.36
	<b>538'933.32</b>	<b>741'797.88</b>
	<b>259'201.18</b>	<b>257'907.34</b>
	1'051'704.46	709'211.86
	1'051'704.46	709'211.86
	<b>1'849'838.96</b>	<b>1'708'917.08</b>

## INCOME STATEMENT

### INCOME STATEMENT

Donations

Sponsorships

Rental income

Other income

#### Operating income

Project expenditure International

Project expenditure Switzerland

Personnel expenses Projects

Advocacy expenses

Personnel expenses Advocacy

Sponsorship communication

Travel expenses

Investment Plan International Inc.

#### Total project expenses

Marketing

Personnel expenses

Investment Plan International Inc.

#### Total Fundraising expenditure

Personnel expenses

Rental expenses

Property insurance / cleaning

Administrative expenses

Depreciation

#### Total administrative expenses

#### Operating expenses

#### Operating profit

Exchange gain / loss

Currency translation gains

Bank charges

Interest income

#### Financial results

#### Operating result before change in fund capital

Change in fund capital

Allocation to organizational capital

Notes	2020 / 2021	2019 / 2020
	3'962'899.23	4'104'401.26
	1'899'593.68	1'942'662.83
4.1	0.00	8'575.00
	300.00	17'835.87
	<b>5'862'792.91</b>	<b>6'073'474.96</b>
	-3'928'805.49	-3'815'108.61
	0.00	-78'177.62
4.2	-504'974.76	-421'026.93
	-33'721.49	-20'137.00
4.2	-71'770.07	-51'727.88
	-81'896.11	-67'210.00
	-6'820.49	-31'121.56
	135'471.77	27'613.75
	<b>-4'492'516.64</b>	<b>-4'456'895.85</b>
	-794'754.29	-573'915.10
4.2	-342'966.82	-219'951.20
	546'903.48	208'520.50
	<b>-590'817.63</b>	<b>-585'345.80</b>
4.2	-266'722.69	-264'068.45
4.1	-66'848.60	-68'365.45
	-8'630.40	-8'074.35
	-73'722.71	-71'372.73
3.2	-12'237.69	-28'488.77
	<b>-428'162.09</b>	<b>-440'369.75</b>
	<b>-5'511'496.36</b>	<b>-5'482'611.40</b>
	<b>351'296.55</b>	<b>590'863.56</b>
	-365.30	-937.63
	12.66	815.26
	-7'157.47	-4'873.11
	0.00	1.25
	<b>-7'510.11</b>	<b>-4'994.23</b>
	<b>343'786.44</b>	<b>585'869.33</b>
	-1'293.84	-157'789.05
	-342'492.60	-428'080.28
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN CAPITAL

CHANGES IN RESTRICTED FUND CAPITAL

FUND CAPITAL

	Starting Balance 01.07.2019	Allocations	Appropriation	Ending Balance 30.06.2020
Girls' fund	95'395.64	840'648.80	681'056.24	254'988.20
Special projects fund	832.20	5'200.00	4'798.00	1'234.20
Emergency relief fund	1'715.96	8'400.00	8'899.52	1'216.44
Water fund	2'174.50	420.00	2'126.00	468.50
Total fund capital	100'118.29	854'668.80	696'879.76	257'907.34

Girls' fund: Projects in Egypt, Burkina Faso, El Salvador, Nepal, Niger, Vietnam, Central African Republic;  
Special projects fund: Projects in Nepal and Switzerland; Emergency relief fund: Projects in Bangladesh; Water fund: Projects in Cambodia

FUND CAPITAL

	Starting Balance 01.07.2020	Allocations	Appropriation	Ending Balance 30.06.2021
Girls' fund	254'988.20	1'010'084.60	1'007'877.87	257'194.93
Special projects fund	1'234.20	5'855.00	6'325.36	763.84
Emergency relief fund	1'216.44	9'595.00	10'307.53	503.91
Water fund	468.50	270.00	0.00	738.50
Total fund capital	257'907.34	1'025'804.60	1'024'510.76	259'201.18

Girls' fund: Projects in Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, El Salvador, Cambodia, Colombia, Nepal, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zambia, Sudan, Tanzania, Vietnam, Central African Republic;  
Special projects fund: Projects in Benin, Ecuador, Nigeria; Emergency relief fund: Projects in Burkina Faso, Colombia; Water fund: -

CHANGES IN ORGANIZATIONAL CAPITAL

ORGANIZATION CAPITAL

	Starting Balance 01.07.2019	Allocations	Appropriation	Ending Balance 30.06.2020
Unrestricted reserves	281'131.58	428'080.28	0.00	709'211.86
Total organization capital	281'131.58	428'080.28	0.00	709'211.86

ORGANIZATION CAPITAL

	Starting Balance 01.07.2020	Allocations	Appropriation	Ending Balance 30.06.2021
Unrestricted reserves	709'211.86	342'492.60	0.00	1'051'704.46
Total organization capital	709'211.86	342'492.60	0.00	1'051'704.46

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 30 JUNE 2021

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The association Plan International Switzerland was founded on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2006. The headquarters of the association is in Zurich.

Plan International Switzerland pursues the goal of helping vulnerable children, their families and their communities in underdeveloped countries to satisfy their basic needs and to promote their ability to contribute to the improvement of their community. The association is committed to development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

2 ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The accounting principles applied by the association are in accordance with the Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting principles. Expenses and income are accrued on an accrual basis. Expenses and income apply to the respective accounting period. Cash and cash equivalents as well as receivables / payables in foreign currencies are reported in the balance sheet at the closing rate on 30 June 2021. The foreign currency valuation of the operating accounts is based on the daily exchange rates of the respective transaction. Receivables and liabilities in CHF are valued at nominal value.

3 EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET

3.1 PREPAID EXPENSES AND ACCRUED INCOME

	30.06.2021	30.06.2020
UVG/KTG/AHV (accident / daily benefit / old-age and survivors' insurance)	9'695.42	11'992.52
Donations / services not yet received	190'188.40	1'794.80
	199'883.82	13'787.32



3.2 FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are shown in the balance sheet at their acquisition cost, taking into account depreciation calculated according to the straight-line method based on the corresponding useful life.

	Property, plant and equipment		Intangible assets	Total
	Furniture Depreciation 25 %	Communication / EDP Depreciation 50 %	Website Depreciation 50 %	
ACQUISITION VALUES				
Balance as of 01.07.2019	31'408.80	125'495.05	36'430.21	193'334.06
Additions	5'277.75	20'122.98	0.00	25'400.73
Disposals	0.00	-73'209.33	0.00	-73'209.33
Balance as of 30.06.2020	36'686.55	72'408.70	36'430.21	145'525.46
VALUE ADJUSTMENTS				
Balance as of 01.07.2019	-31'407.80	-119'969.27	-18'215.16	-169'592.23
Additions	-694.45	-9'579.27	-18'215.05	-28'488.77
Disposals	0.00	73'209.33	0.00	73'209.33
Balance as of 30.06.2020	-32'102.25	-56'339.21	-36'430.21	-124'871.67
Book value as per 30.06.2020	4'584.30	16'069.49	0.00	20'653.79
ACQUISITION VALUES				
Balance as of 01.07.2020	36'686.55	72'408.70	36'430.21	145'525.46
Additions	0.00	3'015.60	0.00	3'015.60
Disposals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Balance as of 30.06.2021	36'686.55	75'424.30	36'430.21	148'541.06
VALUE ADJUSTMENTS				
Balance as of 01.07.2020	-32'102.25	-56'339.21	-36'430.21	-124'871.67
Additions	-1'319.46	-10'918.23	0.00	-12'237.69
Disposals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Balance as of 30.06.2021	-33'421.71	-67'257.44	-36'430.21	-137'109.36
Book value as per 30.06.2021	3'264.84	8'166.86	0.00	11'431.70

3.3 SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP LIABILITIES

Child sponsorships received in advance	30.06.2021	30.06.2020
Project sponsorships received in advance	319'487.62	314'172.22
Sponsorships received in advance	2'390.00	4'074.00
	42'675.15	57'689.05
	364'552.77	375'935.27

3.4 LIABILITIES TO PENSION FUNDS

As of 30.06.2021, there was a liability to the pension fund of CHF 27'712.40 (Prior year: CHF 22'587.50).

3.5 ACCRUED EXPENSES AND DEFERRED INCOME

	30.06.2021	30.06.2020
Vacation and overtime accruals	60'197.30	58'535.70
Audit costs	10'000.00	10'000.00
Other expenses	1'867.20	231'667.66
	72'064.50	300'203.36

4 NOTES TO THE OPERATING STATEMENT

4.1 RENTAL EXPENSES

	2020 / 2021	2019 / 2020
Rental expenses	-66'848.60	-68'365.45
Rental income from subletting	0.00	8'575.00
Net rental expenses	-66'848.60	-59'790.45

4.2 PERSONNEL EXPENSES

	2020 / 2021	2019 / 2020
Personnel expenses Projects	-504'974.76	-421'026.93
Personnel expenses Advocacy	-71'770.07	-51'727.88
Personnel expenses Fundraising	-342'966.82	-219'951.20
Personnel expenses Administration	-266'722.69	-264'068.45
Total personnel expenses	-1'186'434.34	-956'774.46

5 FULL-TIME POSITIONS ON ANNUAL AVERAGE

Personnel expenses consist of the expenses for 1079 FTE on an annual average.

6 TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL COMPENSATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Since only one person is entrusted with the executive management of the organization the disclosure of her remuneration is waived.

7 VOLUNTARY WORK

The Board of Directors of Plan International Switzerland works on an honorary basis and is only entitled to reimbursement of actual expenses and outlays.





Maria Esperanza is a dancer and member of the **Youth Leadership Programme** of Plan International Ecuador.

“ I have been working with Plan International Switzerland for over 10 years. There is a mutual trust.

— JOSEF OEHRI, SPONSOR OF TWO CHILDREN AND LONG-TIME PARTNER OF PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND

“ When one girl rises, we all rise. The Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved without a focus on gender equality. For this reason, I am pleased to work with Plan International, an organisation that works for girls rights and gender equality in more than 75 countries.

— DR. MARA CATHERINE HARVEY, AUTHOR OF “A SMART WAY TO START” AND FORMER FINANCIAL EXPERT

“ Plan International Switzerland has led us to take on challenges that I never thought could be achieved. I am very grateful for the effective cooperation between Switzerland and El Salvador.

— FLORA BEATRIZ MUÑOZ PALUCHO, PROJECT WORKER AT PLAN INTERNATIONAL EL SALVADOR