

**ANNUAL REPORT 2023** 

### **Contents**

Abbreviations	3
My Body My Future 2. 2023 in numbers	4
1. Introduction	6
1.1 Summary	6
2.Country context and context for civil society	8
2.1 Ethiopia	
2.2 Laos	10
2.3 Mozambique	11
2.4 Myanmar	12
2.5 Uganda	13
2.6 Zimbabwe	14
3. Programme results	1
3.1 Sexual and reproductive health and rights projects	15
3.1.1 Outcome 1	15
3.1.2 Outcome 2	18
3.1.3 Outcome 3	19
3.1.4 Outcome 4	21
3.2 Communications, youth-led activism and participatory advocacy and global citizenship education in Finland	23
3.2.1 Outcome 1	23
3.2.3 Outcome 2	24
3.2.4 Outcome 3	24
3.2.5 Outcome 4	25
3.2.6 Outcome 5	26
4. Thematic and cross-cutting work	27
4.1 Gender and SRHR	27
4.2 Inclusion	29
4.3 Climate resilience	30
5. Programme management	31
5.1 Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning	31
5.2 Compliance and risk management	34
5.3 Financial management and operations	35
Financial Report	36

### **Abbreviations**

ACTADE	African Centre for Trade and Development	IVI&⊏	Monitoring and Evaluation
APPG	All Party Parliamentary Group	MEESA	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa
ASRHR	Adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights	MEAL	Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning
AY	Adolescent and Youth	MOU	Memorandum of understanding
CAY	Children, adolescents, and youth	MSH	Model School Health
CBO	Community-based organisation	NGO	Non-governmental organisation
CO	Country Office	ODA	Official development assistance
CoC	Champions of Change	OPD	Organisation of persons with disabilities
COP	Conference of the Parties	PIE	Plan International Ethiopia
CSE	Comprehensive sexuality education	PVO	Private Voluntary Organization
CSO	Civil society organization	SRC	Sexual Rights Centre
GNI	Gross national income	SRH	Sexual and reproductive health
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	SRHR	Sexual and reproductive health and rights
ICT	Information and communications technology	SOGIESC	Sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression
IDG	International Day of the Girl		and sex characteristics
IDP	Internally displaced person	STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
IGA	Income generating activities	ToT	Training of trainers
IOM	International Organisation for Migration	UN	United Nations
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex or Questioning	VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association
MBMF	My Body. My Future.	YEE	Youth Economic Empowerment
MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs		



### My Body My Future 2. 2023 in numbers

SRHR PROJECTS

The total number of people reached by the SRHR projects in 6 countries Out of whom children and adolescents (10–19 years old) Out of whom girls and young women (10–24 years old) Out of whom youth (20–24 years old) Out of whom people with disabilities











**24,023 children, adolescents and youth** in the six programme countries received comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)

**211 health services providers** in the six programme countries were trained, in adolescent and gender responsive SRH services

**10,984 community members and caregivers** in the six programme countries participated in community dialogues, intergenerational dialogues, positive parenting sessions and CSE for parents' trainings

**511 children, adolescents and youth** in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe received access to vocational training

In Zimbabwe, 11 health facilities strengthened their capacity to respond to emergencies and to ensure the continuity of their SRHR services

As part of advocacy initiatives, **336 adolescents and youth in Ethiopia**, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe were involved in promoting improved SRHR policies, gender equality and inclusion, climate resilience, or other related themes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These numbers are calculated based on direct reach.



## Communication, youth participation and global citizenship education in Finland

Total number of people reached in Finland



Out of whom children and youth



Out of whom girls



**Plan Finland's Global School strengthened the capacity of 401 teachers**, other educational professionals, and teacher students to practice quality global citizenship education by giving 17 in-service trainings and by producing teaching resources.

Plan Finland engaged in active media work, and reached 404 media hits, with the potential reach of 182 million."

The Child Rights Ambassadors of The Global School component conducted 400 global education workshops and school visits, reaching altogether 12,500 children and youth.

Plan Finland conducted 153 meaningful interactions between 125 young activists and 460 decision-makers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Summary

My Body. My Future. 2 (MBMF2) is a four-year long joint programme between Plan International Finland and Plan International Country Offices in Ethiopia, Laos, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda, and Zimbabwe as well as numerous partners in the programme countries. In addition to the international programme component, the programme also includes a domestic programme component implemented in Finland. The programme seeks to advance girls' rights and gender equality, especially through promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), with the aim of improving understanding and practices related to SRHR amongst children, adolescents, and youth (CAY) both in and out of school. At the same time, the programme also aims to enhance rights, inclusion, and meaningful participation of CAY with disabilities and, in selected contexts, LGBTIQ+ youth. The impact to be delivered by MBMF2 is that CAY in all their diversity have control over their bodies and futures in a healthy, safe, and supportive environment.

The MBMF2 -programme takes a gender transformative approach to development, to tackle the root causes of inequality and reshape power relations <sup>5</sup>, as well as to address social and gender norms and barriers that limit the participation of CAY, especially girls, in society and restrict their access to quality, adolescent friendly SRHR services, and place them in risk of diverse forms of violence. Additionally, the programme aims to improve CAY's resources, skills, and opportunities by supporting livelihoods and employment, especially for girls. The domestic programme component, in turn, focuses on strategic communication, participatory advocacy and global citizenship education. The programme receives funding from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) for the years 2022–2025.

The year 2023 was the second year of the MBMF2 programme and the year focused fully on programme implementation. **Under the international programme component** implemented in Ethiopia, Laos, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe, all together 24,023 children, adolescents and youth (CAY) across the six programme countries received comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) in 2023. To strengthen the school as a safe space for learning, in Uganda and Laos, 560 teachers also participated in trainings and, by the end of the year, a total of 95% of them were recorded as having adequate knowledge and skills to provide inclusive and quality CSE for CAY. CAY who took part in CSE sessions experienced positive changes in their knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).



At the same time, 511 CAY in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe received access to vocational training throughout the year, which increased the CAY's confidence in their life skills and gave them better abilities to start a business, become employed or resume their education.

In 2023, the programme also focused on improving the quality of the services provided by health facilities and their services providers in the six programme countries and increasing the uptake of the services by CAY. By the end of the year, altogether 211 health services providers in the programme countries were trained in adolescent- and gender-responsive SRHR services and 28% of CAY across the six countries declared they had used some type of SRHR services in the past 12 months. The adolescent and gender responsiveness of SRHR services provided to CAY also improved during the year, which was noticed by AY themselves. Yet,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> To do this, MBMF2 implements strategic actions that link to six essential elements that are interconnected and mutually reinforcing which include: social and gender norms; agency; work with boys, young men, and men; diversity; improving both condition and position of girls and young women; and fostering an enabling environment.

in 2023 among AY with disabilities  $^6$ , only 43% considered services to be highly responsive. Therefore, the results received during the year also indicate that the friendliness of the services AY receive is not yet fully inclusive and more work is to be done to strengthen this area.

During the reporting year, the programme also aimed to increase the support provided by communities to CAY so that they can make informed choices about their body and their own future. This required challenging and transforming harmful social and gender norms around SRHR among parents, communities and community leaders. In 2023, community members participating in the programme experienced changes in the way they consider CAY's SRHR and are now more supportive of CAY's SRHR than what they were in the baseline. During the reporting year, parents also experienced changes in the ways they communicate and interact with their children about SRHR issues.

Yet, while the monitoring data collected in 2023 demonstrates that changes have occurred in opinions of community members, it also indicates that certain norms around CAY's sexuality and contraceptives still continue to persist rather strongly and impact negatively on some opinions, such as whether girls must abstain from sex before marriage.

Then again, while usually CAY with disabilities are considered as asexual and as less able to make their own decisions, during the reporting year new perspectives and reflections emerged amongst community members. For example, 94% of community members surveyed agreed that they should have access to sexuality education. Nevertheless, 76% of community members still disagreed with allowing adolescent girls and boys to access SRH services without the approval of their caregivers. Thus, it is to be noted that more work is still to be done to also strengthen this area.

In 2023, the programme also aimed to strengthen CSOs in the six programme countries so that they improve their capacity to influence ASRHR and gender equality for CAY in all their diversity and advocate for their rights, either through their own advocacy initiatives or by supporting the participation of youths and youth movements in those initiatives. By the end of the year, 61% of the 18 implementing CSOs can now be rated as 'high-level' for engaging and supporting adolescents and young people in accountability processes for CAY's SRHR. Also, all or close to all CSOs have now adopted or strengthened practices to better advocate for CAY SRHR and to meet with other CSOs to identify ways of collaboration and networking.

And, as part of the advocacy initiatives implemented in 2023, 336 adolescents and youths in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe were involved in promoting improved SRHR policies, gender equality and inclusion, climate resilience, or other related themes. Also, an average of 75% of them felt that their

participation had been meaningful, expressing a sense of empowerment and recognition of their voices in their advocacy efforts.

Under the domestic programme component in 2023, the programme aimed to improve the knowledge, skills and motivation of children and youth around the topic of global justice by offering them engaging and age-appropriate information about sustainable future, equality and equity, and skills to become active citizens. Throughout the year, school outreach was carried out through the Global School Child Rights Ambassadors network. In 2023, the ambassadors conducted in total 400 global education workshops and visits, reaching altogether 12,500 pupils. Through the school visits, the pupils learned about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, gender stereotypes, climate justice, countering hate speech as well as promoting knowledge of safe discussion on the internet. In addition, the Global School reached a total of 401 teachers and other educators as well as teacher students through trainings that strengthened their capacities on quality global citizenship education.

In 2023, the domestic programme component focused also on enhancing young people's skills to raise awareness on the programme topics as well as to make an impact on society. Plan's Children's Board, for example, reached altogether 6680 people through different events in 2023. Plan Finland also organised the seventh consequent #GirlsTakeover campaign in 2023, where six young people had the opportunity to influence persons in high-level positions of power and raise issues important for young people related to the theme of girls and sports. And, to expand the global movement for climate solutions and climate justice in 2023, Plan Finland started new cooperation between youth groups from Uganda and Finland who aimed to influence the COP28 international climate conference in Dubai.

In 2023, Plan continued advocating for effective implementation of the government's commitment to gender equality and rights of women and girls as key focus areas in the Finnish development and foreign policy. In addition, Plan Finland's communication efforts remained dedicated to raising awareness on gender equality issues, humanitarian crises, youth activism, and the goals and outcomes of our work. Plan Finland's earned media visibility for instance reached a potential audience of 182 million in 2023, emphasising Plan's commitment to disseminating information and insights effectively.

All in all, in 2023, the total number of people reached by the projects in Ethiopia, Laos, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda, and Zimbabwe was 162,635, out of whom 61,805 were children and adolescents, and 79,977 girls and young women. In Finland, the programme reached all together 54,139 people in 2023, out of whom 53,276 were children and youth, and 26,639 girls.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> With a sample of 37.

# 2. Country context and context for civil society

cording to CIVICUS Monitor, in 2023, almost a third of the world's population was living in countries where the civic space was characterised as closed <sup>7</sup>. And those groups who were the most targeted and worst-affected during the year, were those who were advocating for democracy, better governance and environmental protection <sup>8</sup>. Plan International's 2023 State of the World's Girls report, for example, demonstrates that adolescent girls and young women faced several barriers, such as lack of funding, repressive laws and age- and gender-based discrimination while campaigning for their rights and the rights of others. Yet, throughout the year, girls were determined to advocate for gender equality, challenge gender-based violence, raise awareness about climate change and run local campaigns to improve the lives of their peers. <sup>9</sup>

In 2023, the civil society space in four of the MBMF2 programme countries was characterised as repressed (Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, and Zimbabwe)¹¹. In two of the countries, the civil society space was closed (Myanmar, Laos) ¹¹. Thus, in all the countries where MBMF2 is implemented, a shrinking democratic space for civil society and its actors continued to be evident throughout the year, and transnational movements, such as the anti-rights/anti-gender movement, continued to harmfully impact the rights of girls and LGBTIQ+ adolescents to live freely and safely in their body and identity, many of whom tend to rely on the support and protection provided by the civil society ¹².

Security challenges, in societies that have been fragmented by conflicts and insecurity, were also present in some of the countries during the reporting year, which, in turn, had an impact on the operating environment and programme implementation. As described in the sections below, the operating environment in Myanmar, for instance, changed in 2021 with political conflicts continuing to affect Plan's operations also in 2023. In Ethiopia in turn, the security situation in the Amhara region had an impact on MBMF2 project implementation in 2023. And, due to legal restrictions, topics related to SRHR, such as comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) also continued to be difficult to work with in some of the programme countries, such as Ethiopia.

During the reporting year, the MBMF2 programme continued to maintain a constructive relationship with governments in all of the countries, except Myanmar<sup>13</sup>,



and work with civil society actors was implemented at different levels: from smaller youth groups and community-based organisations (CBOs) to larger, national non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The MBMF2 programme sees partnership work as an ongoing journey, and effective and fruitful partnerships are central to the quality of the programme. Yet, making partnerships work well for everyone requires careful effort. Therefore, the programme will continue to strive to continuously improve its understanding of partnerships and of how it builds and nurtures them in practice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CIVICUS Monitor, https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 8.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Plan International. 2023. https://plan-international.org/uploads/2023/09/IDG-SOTWGR2023-EN-final-1.pdf

<sup>9</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 7.5.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> CIVICUS Monitor, https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 7.5.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Denkovski, Damjan, Bernarding, Nina and Lunz, Kristina. 2021. Power over rights. Understanding and countering the transnational anti-gender movement. <a href="https://centreforffp.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/PowerOverRights">https://centreforffp.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/PowerOverRights</a> Volume1 web.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Due to the military coup that took place in Myanmar in 2021.

#### 2.1 Ethiopia

In 2023, the civil society space in Ethiopia was repressed according to CIVICUS Monitor <sup>14</sup>. Previously, when the CSO law was in place in Ethiopia, CSOs were not allowed to work on issues related to rights and good governance. With the new government, these rules were lifted in 2019. This made the environment for CSOs more enabling in the country and CSOs have since gained more space and opportunities to operate <sup>15</sup>. Yet, although less government supervision is now required for CSO work in Ethiopia, this type of change takes time, and the progress has continued to progress rather slowly. Also, since the civil society in the country is not yet as developed and active as in some neighbouring countries, paying attention to equal partnerships with different local actors continued to be of crucial importance also in 2023.

While advancing human rights became possible for CSOs in Ethiopia from 2019 onwards, working on issues related to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) continued to be difficult due to the current legislation and strong taboos that persist within the society. Because of this, working on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) remained challenging. However, even when the context is restrictive, in 2023 the MBMF2 project in Ethiopia continued to follow through with Plan International's global safeguarding policy, implementation standards and guidelines as well as centring the Do No Harm principle. In practice, this meant that effective safeguarding required staff and partners to actively champion inclusive, non-discriminatory safe spaces and practices, in which children and young people feel safe and respected. Furthermore. Plan continued to seek to challenge discrimination or exclusion. upholding principles of rights-based development, including rights to equal protection from all forms of violence. Then again, to overcome the challenge with CSE related work, in 2023 the project team implemented sessions on this topic by applying different mechanisms, such as using life skills development as a session title, and changing some sensitive words in the content.

Finally, the growing tension between the Federal Government and the Amhara local militia known as FANO grew into a full-blown conflict in July 2023. The conflict led to a declaration of state of emergency in the region in August 2023, enabling law enforcement to impose curfews, restrict movement, ban mass gatherings, and make arrests. Internet blackouts have also taken place. For Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) and the MBMF2 project, the operational environment became uncertain and MBMF2 project activities implemented in the region had to be stopped for a while. In the project area, strict security protocols were put in place to ensure the safety and security of the employees of the project. Movement by road, for example, was forbidden and no activities with people getting together were



allowed. To ensure the continuity of the MBMF2 project in 2024 and beyond, PIE in close consultation with its partners also identified different scenarios that could potentially occur in the future due to the conflict and have an impact on the project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. <a href="https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings">https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings</a> 2023/ (accessed: 9.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> ICNL. 2023. https://www.icnl.org/resources/civic-freedom-monitor/ethiopia

#### 2.2 Laos

In 2023, the civil society space in Laos was rated as closed, according to the CIVICUS Monitor <sup>16</sup>. Throughout the year, restrictions that were placed in the country continued to limit freedom of expression, association, internet freedom and peaceful assembly. The society in Laos remained closely monitored during the reporting period and the state had strict control over the media. The human rights situation remained the same in the country as in previous years. <sup>17</sup>

While again no major political changes took place in Laos in 2023, inflation, devaluation of local currency and shrinking funding opportunities continued to have an impact on the civil society and its actors in the country during the reporting year. Additionally, public spending cuts took place in the health sector in 2023, which in turn reduced mobile health services at village level and resulted in contraception running out of stock. This adversely impacted the quality and accessibility of health services in affected areas.

School dropouts were also rising in Laos in 2023 as economic pressures mounted on households. The rising inflation and poor harvests <sup>18</sup> decreased household incomes, making it challenging for families to afford school fees. Other factors, such as low expectation on the value of education among parents and adolescents and the lure of immediate earnings from low-wage labour opportunities, for example in plantations, special economic zones, or abroad in Thailand, further contributed to the situation, pushing young people to migrate out of the country in search of work. This, in turn, reduced the number of young people the MBMF2 project in Laos had planned to reach initially.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 8.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/explore/laos-human-rights-defender-shot-at-while-activists-in-exile-face-arrest-and-attacks/ (Accessed: 8.6.2024); U.S. Department of State. 2024. https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/laos/ (accessed: 15.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Poor harvests happened due to drought conditions in 2023.

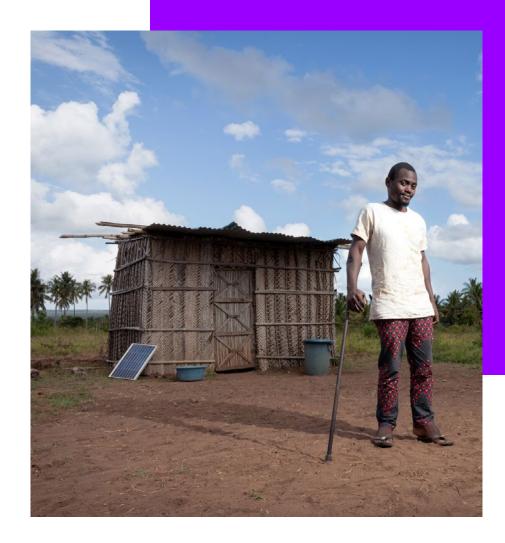
#### 2.3 Mozambique

In 2023, the civil society space in Mozambique was classified as repressed, according to CIVICUS Monitor <sup>19</sup>. During the reporting period, participation of civil society in public decision making remained weak and CSOs, academics, journalists and opposition party officials worked under challenging conditions, experiencing, for example, restrictions regarding freedom of speech and media <sup>20</sup>. The right to peacefully protest was also limited in the country in 2023 <sup>21</sup>.

In 2022, the government in Mozambique decided to undergo a revision of the Law of Associations, and the result of this revision is currently under public consultation. In 2023, the law had not yet been passed <sup>22</sup>. However, if passed, the revised law would limit the civic space in the country and give stronger power to the government to place new regulations on CSOs. The law would also cause a notable reduction in the space for dialogue and advocacy in the country.

Furthermore, according to the estimations of International Organization for Migration (IOM), there were approximately 834,300 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Mozambique in June 2023, who had been displaced due to violence in the northern part of the country <sup>23</sup>. For example, the Cabo Delgado province in northern Mozambique has been the site of insecurity and conflict since 2017 and several people have been internally displaced from the conflict-affected areas <sup>24</sup>. Yet, according to Human Rights Watch, in 2023, the security situation in Cabo Delgado did improve, and people started to return to their areas of origin. Nevertheless, while some were able to return, others continued to remain displaced. And for those who did manage to return, access to basic needs, such as food, water and health care was limited in their areas of origin. <sup>25</sup>

Finally, strikes in the health sector also took place in Mozambique in 2023, impacting the delivery of health services to adolescents and young people referred through dialogue groups. These strikes also disrupted scheduled health fairs due to the unavailability of healthcare providers. Even though this did not directly impact the implementation of the MBMF2 project in Mozambique, due to this, there were gaps in the provision of health sector services throughout the year and advancing SRH service provision for youth was challenging at times with officials.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> U.S. Department of State. 2024. <a href="https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/mozambique/">https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/mozambique/</a> (accessed: 15.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 15.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Freedom House. <a href="https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2024">https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2024</a> (accessed: 9.6.2024); U.S. Department of State. 2024. <a href="https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/mozambique/">https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/mozambique/</a> (accessed: 15.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> HRW. 204. https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/mozambique (accessed: 15.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Freedom House. <a href="https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2024">https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2024</a> (accessed: 9.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Freedom House. 2023. <a href="https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2023">https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2023</a>; HRW. 2023. <a href="https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023/country-chapters/mozambique">https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023/country-chapters/mozambique</a>; UNICEF. 2023. CIVICUS Monitor. <a href="https://world-report/mozambique-amid-human-rights-and-humanitarian-crisis-i/">https://world-report/mozambique-amid-human-rights-and-humanitarian-crisis-i/</a> (accessed: 9.6.2023); International Crisis Group. <a href="https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/east-and-southern-africa/mozambique">https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/east-and-southern-africa/mozambique</a> (accessed: 11.6.2023); <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/unicef-mozambique-humanitarian-situation-report-no-4-april-2023">https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/unicef-mozambique-humanitarian-situation-report-no-4-april-2023</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> HRW. 2024. <a href="https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/mozambique">https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/mozambique</a> (accessed: 7.6.2024).

#### 2.4 Myanmar

In 2023, the civil society space in Myanmar remained closed due to the military coup that took place in February 2021. <sup>26</sup>

The military coup had multiple impacts on the civic space in the country: the country has experienced political and economic turmoil, those who have opposed the military rule have faced crackdown, and several people, including opposition politicians, political activists, journalists, and human rights defenders have been detained.

In 2023, three years after the coup, humanitarian needs across the country continued to intensify. The security situation in conflict zones further deteriorated during the reporting period and community members living in those areas were forced to flee towards neighbouring zones. <sup>27</sup> For the MBMF2, the escalation of the conflict meant that restrictions on group gatherings remained active in 2023, which caused frequently postponed orders for field-level project implementation. Some group activities were rescheduled or postponed also in 2023 due to security concerns. And since activities concerning direct collaboration with the de facto government have been removed from the project implementation plan, it was necessary for the MBMF2 project in Myanmar to explore new ways for SRHR service provision still in 2023 and consider doing more service delivery through alternative approaches in light of the non-existent health system.

Under the current situation, CSOs in the country continued to also face uncertainty and unpredictability in terms of the sustainability of their operations and engagement with partners. Many CSOs in the country had to continue operating with a low profile throughout the year and some were forced to reduce their advocacy activities in favour of service provision. Organisations working in conflict areas faced challenges when implementing activities, and financial services as well as access to resources remained difficult for many during the reporting period. <sup>28</sup>

The organisation registration law that was imposed by the military in October 2022 was also still in place in the country in 2023. The law made previous voluntary registration compulsory for all national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and associations in Myanmar and those organisations working without registration continued to be in a situation where they could face criminal penalties. Thus, the law violated the freedom of association in the country and restricted civil society activities also in 2023. Like many other organisations, Plan International was in the process of applying for the registration during the whole of 2023, yet the application process was finalised only in early 2024.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (accessed: 25.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> ICRC. 2024. <a href="https://www.icrc.org/en/document/myanmar-operational-facts-and-figures-2023">https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-cyclone-mocha-flash-appeal-may-2023</a> (accessed: 25.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> ICNL. 2023. <a href="https://www.icnl.org/post/assessment-and-monitoring/country-assessments/assessment-of-myanmar-civic-space">https://www.icnl.org/post/assessment-and-monitoring/country-assessments/assessment-of-myanmar-civic-space</a> (accessed: 25.6.2024).

#### 2.5 Uganda

In 2023, Uganda's civil society space continued to be repressed according to CIVICUS Monitor and spaces for citizens in the country to express themselves and associate continue to be rather narrow. <sup>29</sup>

In May 2023, the president of Uganda signed a bill into a law that that criminalises same sex conduct. It also created the crime of "promotion of homosexuality".

30 Plan's SRHR activities, including the MBMF2 project, had been carefully contextualised at the planning phase and continued to be implemented as planned throughout the reporting year. An update to the risk analysis was made due to the new law and risk mitigation measures were included in all SRHR projects accordingly.

In 2023, costs related to education and health services rose in the country, which had an impact on women's and children's wellbeing <sup>31</sup>. Multi-dimensional child poverty as well as monetary child poverty remained also high during the reporting year and social sector financing was reduced <sup>32</sup>. At the same time, the number of refugees and asylum seekers increased in Uganda due to instability in DR Congo, Sudan and South Sudan. <sup>33</sup>

Then again, impacts of climate change, such as increasing temperatures, droughts, floods and landslides, tend to occur regularly in Uganda, and in 2023 they remained one of the major risks to the country's agriculture sector, including crops, livestock and people's livelihood and living conditions. <sup>34</sup> In 2023, commodity prices in Uganda also became higher and individual consumption in the country slowed down due to factors such as reduced purchasing power and limited credit growth. Increased prices had a negative impact particularly on the poorest households in the country. <sup>35</sup>

Finally, during the reporting period, surveillance of CBOs also became stricter, since all CBOs are now required to register with the national level government.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. <a href="https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings\_2023/">https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings\_2023/</a> (Accessed: 7.8.2024); Uganda National NGO Forum. <a href="https://ngoforum.or.ug/2023/02/24/civil-society-new-year-statement-2023/">https://ngoforum.or.ug/2023/02/24/civil-society-new-year-statement-2023/</a> (Accessed: 8.8.2024).

<sup>30</sup> HRW. 2024. https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/uganda

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> UNICEF. 2023. https://www.unicef.org/media/152301/file/Uganda-2023-COAR.pdf

<sup>32</sup> UNICEF. 2023. https://www.unicef.org/media/152301/file/Uganda-2023-COAR.pdf

<sup>33</sup> UNHCR. 2023. https://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/EHGL%20-%20Uganda%20 ARR%202023\_0.pdf; UNICEF. 2023. https://www.unicef.org/media/152301/file/Uganda-2023-COAR.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> UNHCR. 2023. https://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/EHGL%20-%20Uganda%20 ARR%202023\_0.pdf

WFP. 2023. https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000157769/download/?\_ga=2.226528414.2045871708.1723236460-944410649.1717939493

#### 2.6 Zimbabwe

The civil society space in Zimbabwe was classified as repressed in 2023 by CIVICUS Monitor <sup>36</sup>. The year remained moderately stable in the country, though the operational environment continued to be highly unpredictable throughout the year.

The Zimbabwean economy has shrunk, and in 2023 the country experienced high inflation. In this context, the low and declining socio-economic status of most Zimbabweans, and with it the decline in their purchasing power for health services, means that health care was frequently unaffordable in 2023 <sup>37</sup>. Poverty and economic instability in various families pushed youth and adolescents to be involved earlier in sexual activities in exchange for material things and deprived this age group from seeking SRH services. The broader economic and political environment in Zimbabwe also had a devastating impact on disposable income levels. Hyperinflation meant that private savings were often wiped out and those who experience low-income opportunities were plunged into even deeper poverty.

At the same time, the year 2023 was characterised by the political harmonised elections as the month of July and first three weeks of August 2023 saw the build-up to elections and thus were filled with tensions and uncertainty. The months of July to August 2023 were fraught with pre-election turbulence, characterised by local authorities intensively monitoring assemblies and potential assemblies within both districts. The Kwekwe district bore the brunt of these impacts, with the surveillance causing obstructions and delays in the implementation of activities with a large or potentially large crowd.

In the wake of the elections, the Sexual Rights Centre (SRC) in Zimbabwe kept a close eye on possible shifts in government policies, particularly those pertaining to SRHR. Relating to programming, increased surveillance and efforts to regularise NGOs through state institutions such as the Office of the President's state security and the Provincial Development Coordinator's office were observed. The impact of this increased surveillance was predominantly felt in the Kwekwe district whereby in early July 2023, it became increasingly difficult to access communities as NGOs were instructed to halt any group gatherings or seek police clearance to hold community meetings. This was further punctuated by two looming Bills, namely the Patriotic Bill and the PVO Bill, which present uncertainties in the operations of civil society organisations (CSOs) in Zimbabwe.

The Patriotic Bill was passed into law on 31 May 2023, further placing CSOs at risk due to its wide provisions, particularly the provision that criminalises "wilfully injuring the sovereignty and national interest of Zimbabwe". This provision is vague and can be used to thwart the operations of CSOs, particularly those working on less popular agendas and criminalised sub-populations such as the LGBTIQ+ and sex workers.



The launching of the PVO Bill has also resulted in delays for some CSOs in obtaining MOUs in various districts by the District Development Coordinator's Officer. However, of significance in the CY2023 is that the Cabinet handed the PVO Bill to the Head of State in August 2023 for his signing and assenting as recorded in the Parliament's status of bills report. CSOs in Zimbabwe were relieved by the President's stance of returning the bill back to Parliament with reservations for reconsideration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> CIVICUS Monitor. https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings 2023/ (Accessed: 8.6.2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Young people were also more likely to be affected by sexual reproductive health issues, and poorer households have been disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS mortality.

## 3. Programme results

he MBMF2 programme includes two main components: 1) an international programme component that includes gender transformative sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) projects implemented in Ethiopia, Laos, Mozambique, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe, and 2) a domestic programme component that focuses on communication, youth-led activism, and global citizenship education in Finland. The results received in 2023 under both these components are presented in this chapter. First, the chapter will present the results received under the SRHR projects, which is the larger component of the two by number of projects and budget. This is then followed by a section that presents the results received under the domestic programme.

## 3.1 Sexual and reproductive health and rights projects

MBMF2 incorporates a multicomponent approach and a set of core values that inform all the country-level projects included in the programme. Evidence and experience from previous project implementation and partners, as well as scientific research, show that a multicomponent approach is essential to improve SRHR outcomes for CAY. The MBMF2 programme multicomponent approach therefore integrates gender transformation at its heart in combination with scaling up SRHR education, improving quality and youth-friendliness of SRH services, and encouraging increased societal and political acceptance of CAY's sexuality. In addition, the SRHR projects focus on improving young people's access to skills, resources and opportunities and reducing the impact of climate risks on the SRHR of young people. Together, these multiple components link up to four specific outcomes that the SRHR projects aim to achieve between the years 2022 and 2025 under the international programme component. This chapter presents the progress made by the SRHR projects under each of the four outcomes in 2023.

#### **3.1.1 Outcome 1**

Outcome 1: Children, adolescents and youth in all their diversity have the support and the confidence to make informed, responsible, positive and healthy choices about their SRHR and future



Under Outcome 1, our main goal is that children, adolescents and youth participants of the programme can improve their ability to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health and rights. This ability, or feeling of having this ability, is at the crossroads of different factors, personal, interpersonal and external, the concrete expressions of which vary depending on their age and development stage. It is closely linked with the increase of their awareness regarding gender norms and stereotypes, and with the increase of their knowledge on core SRHR issues. It also relates with the access to some safe space to learn, unlearn and express themselves with their peers, so to make the changes mentioned above possible.

As a programme, the main strategy contributing to those expected results is Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), delivered by different means in the six countries (through the school curriculum delivered by the teachers, through school clubs led by teachers or students, or through out-of-school groups led by peers or by the projects' staff). The aim is also to train teachers to have adequate knowledge and skills to provide inclusive and quality CSE.

During the second year of the programme, 24,023 CAY (12,255 female, 11,059 male, 16 other) in the six programme countries received comprehensive sexuality education. To strengthen the school as a safe space for learning, in Uganda and Laos, 560 (160 in Laos and 400 in Uganda) teachers also participated in trainings and, by the end of the year, a total of 95% of them were recorded as having adequate knowledge and skills to provide inclusive and quality CSE for CAY. In addition, two teachers per school in Zimbabwe were trained to become CSE mentors and to conduct CSE sessions in their schools.

As a result, in all countries and through the different methodologies, participants have experienced positive changes in their knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to their SRHR. Based on our monitoring system and data for 2023, after participating in the CSE related activities, 60% of CAY (58% of female and 63% of male) are now feeling able to make informed decisions about their SRHR (against 42% in the baseline) and 55% (54% of female and 56% of male) have increased ability to challenge gender stereotypes (against 24% in the baseline). As demonstrated in Table 1 below, **this ability to make informed decisions about their SRHR** for children relates with the possibility/ability to talk to their friend about relationships and sex, the possibility/ability to ask questions about SRH from a parent/caregiver, the knowledge of where to get advice about contraception, and the confidence to say no to unwanted sex. Amongst adolescents and youths, it relates with the ability/feeling of being able to ask advice about SRHR, to get contraception and to talk to a partner about one's feelings and sexuality and male respondents.

Statement	Baseline	2023
Children who consider having possibility/ability to talk to their friend about relationships and sex	64%	73%
Children with the possibility/ability to ask questions about SRHR from a parent/caregiver	73%	82%
Children with knowledge of where to get advice about contraception	69%	73%
Children with the confidence to say no to unwanted sex	73%	92%
AY with the ability/feeling of being able to ask advice about SRHR	71%	82%
AY who have knowledge on where to get contraception	70%	81%
AY who are able to talk to a partner about one's feelings and sexuality	63%	71%

**Table 1.** Comparative data analysis: Indicator 1a. % of CAY who feel able to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. Baseline data compared with 2023 monitoring data.

This last aspect, the ability to talk to a partner about one's feelings, is particularly significant, as it relates to the agency of the adolescents and youths to negotiate with their partners and express their feelings and opinions on issues that tend to be culturally sensitive and taboo. The fact that it is more difficult for women than for males reflects the persisting power imbalance in the intimate sphere. One female project participant from Mozambique, for example, explained: "I talk to my partner about using condoms in our sexual relations, not because I don't trust him, but as a method of contraception that will help us stay focused on our goals, without fear of pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections. I'm glad he understands me." It shows how CSE is a crucial support to CAY's sexual wellbeing and youth's evolving capacity to give and receive sexual consent. It is indeed common feedback from CSE participants, through for instance methodologies like Champions of Change, that they have now more understanding to stay focused on their goals to get education and not become parents too early.

If the awareness and desire/ability to challenge gender stereotypes have been strengthened, there are still some controversial norms-related issues and important disparities across countries.

We consider that CAY have now an "increased ability" in that matter, because of their rights-based and positive attitudes towards CAY's SRH and the ability, for children, to report to someone any sexual abuse/harassment, and for adolescents and youths, to challenge some harmful behaviour related to gender violence that they would witness amongst their peers.

By this concept, we consider that 58% of children (against 26% in the baseline) have now increased ability in this matter. As indicated in Table 2 below, there are positive changes in their attitudes to be noted, in the approval of sexuality education for children, the acceptance of homosexuality, the acknowledgement of people with disabilities' SRH rights, the recognition of different ways of "being beautiful".

Statement	Baseline	2023
Approval of sexuality education for children	66%	91%
Acceptance of homosexuality	37%	54%
Acknowledgement of people with disabilities' SRHR	79%	92%
Recognition of different ways of "being beautiful"	68%	86%

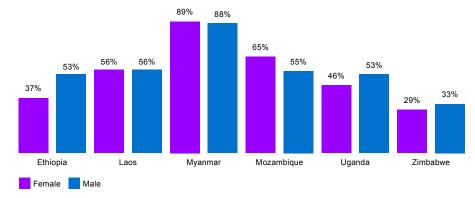
**Table 2.** Comparative data analysis: Indicator 1b. % of CAY with increased awareness and desire/ability to challenge gender stereotypes linked to SRHR. Baseline data and 2023 Monitoring data, for some of the questions used to measure the indicator with Children

For adolescents and youths, we now consider that 53% have this increased awareness and ability (against 24% in the baseline). As the table below shows, it relates with an increased acceptance of the use of contraceptives for unmarried girls, recognition of the rights of women to say no to unwanted sex, approval of safe abortion as a right for all girls and women, acceptance of homosexuality. It is to be noted that abstinence for girls and women before marriage is still a strong norm and expected behaviour for a vast majority of CAY (for 71% and 63%% in the baseline and the 2023 monitoring data).

Attitudes	Baseline	2023
Acceptance of the use of contraceptives for unmarried girls	34%	54%
Approval of safe abortion as a right for all girls and women	52%	68%
Acceptance of homosexuality	27%	47%
Acceptance of sex before marriage as a personal choice	29%	37%

**Table 3.** Comparative data analysis: Indicator 1b. % of CAY with increased awareness and desire/ability to challenge gender stereotypes linked to SRHR. Baseline data and 2023 Monitoring data, for some of the questions used to measure the indicator with Adolescents and Youths

A quick look at this indicator's values across countries gives us a good overview of the prevalence of different norms-related attitudes towards CAY's SRH, amongst children, adolescents and youths (here below also disaggregated by Sex), with Myanmar (88%), Mozambique (60%) and Laos (56%) showing more gender stereotypes' awareness amongst CAY than Uganda (49%), Ethiopia (37%) and (Zimbabwe 31%).



**Chart 1.** Comparative data analysis: Indicator 1b. % of CAY with increased awareness and desire/ability to challenge gender stereotypes linked to SRHR. 2023 monitoring data disaggregated by sex.

It is also important to highlight that the CSE in its different modalities is a powerful platform for CAY to have access to quality and trustworthy information on SRHR. For example, in Uganda, the CSE strategy, implemented with the name Model School Health (MSH) approach, has reached 80 schools in the country throughout the year and 1,749 children (995 female, 754 male). As a result, CAY have increased their knowledge on SRHR core topics, including on contraception, as expressed in this testimony of one focus group participant from Uganda: "I was involved in a sexual affair at 14 years old during the lockdown. When schools resumed, I was introduced to the model school health club in our school and there I learned about the dangers of unsafe early sexual relations but also equipped with knowledge about contraception when I need it."

Outcome 1 also embeds the Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE) component, which aims at improving the economic opportunities and resilience of youths together with improving their agency to make informed and autonomous decisions over their SRHR. The aim is that adolescent and youth, in particular young women and girls most at risk, will have access to vocational training to develop their life skills and enhance their access to other economic opportunities to support them into having more independence to make decisions over their future.

Altogether 511 CAY (313 female and 198 male) in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Uganda and Zimbabwe received access to vocational training throughout the year.

In Ethiopia and Uganda, through the Smart up Factory/Innovation hubs models where the youths received vocational and entrepreneurship trainings together with other courses including life skills, SRHR, climate resilience, disability inclusion, communication skills and ICT, we were able to follow up on the situation of the youths six months after the end of their trainings; it resulted that 73% of them had started a business, become employed or resumed their education by then.

The YEE activities, in addition to supporting the access to economic opportunities, are also a platform for delivering SRHR messages and for youths to develop their personal and social skills to be better equipped to make their own decisions. At the end of their training, on average 60% of youths were feeling confident about their life skills. The assessed life skills cover communication, expression of one's ideas, argumentation, leadership, team collaboration, self-awareness, self-control, problem-solving, goal setting, empathy. There is an important discrepancy in those results between Ethiopia and Uganda on one side with respectively 69% and 76%, and Myanmar with 24%. We explain this delta with the different exposures and contents of the life skill trainings among those countries, as in Myanmar the life skills training was delivered from the Ready for work curriculum, more focused on direct job-related skills like preparing for an interview or drafting a CV. It shows the importance of developing exhaustive life skills curriculum to support the youths in developing social skills which will also support their ability to make informed decision on their SRH.

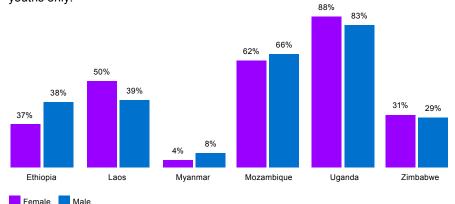
As a complementary strategy, in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe 773 CAY benefitted from income generating activities and/or participated in village saving and loan associations (VSLAs) in 2023.

#### **3.1.2 Outcome 2**

Outcome 2: Children, adolescents, and youth in all their diversity have improved access to quality, inclusive, gender-responsive, and adolescent-and youth-friendly SRHR services

Under Outcome 2 we expect the improvement of the quality of the services provided by health facilities and their services providers and the increase of the uptake of the services by CAY.

Regarding the uptake of the services, our programme indicator is measured with CAY participating in CSE and YEE activities under Outcome 1. By the end of 2023, 28% of CAY across all 6 countries declared they had used some SRHR services in the past 12 months, with variations based on the Age group but similar results for male and female respondents: 10% of children (9% of females and 10% of males), 35% of adolescents (both males and females) and 50% of youths (48% of females and 50% of males). The overall value for CAY shows a slight increase compared with the baseline (+4 percentage points), although this increase is more important if we consider the values amongst adolescents (+ 11 percentage points, from 24% in the baseline to 35% in the 2023 annual data collection) and youths (+14 percentage points, from 36% to 50%) 38 separately. There are important variations across countries, as shown in the following graph with the values for adolescents and youths only:



**Chart 2.** Comparative data analysis on service uptake by country among adolescents and youth. 2023 monitoring data disaggregated by sex.



The majority of CAY who participated in the CSE activities know where and how to access different SRH services, with 87% (against 77% in the baseline) telling that they know how and where to access at least three SRH services (out of a list of 6); it is a bit less among children (77%) and around 90% for adolescents and youths. In more details, 80% would know how and where to receive counselling on family planning, 85% to get an HIV and STI testing or to receive information on SRHR, 53% to receive a safe abortion, 59% to receive post-abortion care, 81% to receive condoms or get contraception.

The reasons for this low uptake of SRH services in some countries, even among CAY reached through the programme's CSE interventions, vary across the different contexts: in Myanmar, where the uptake is particularly low with only 4%, the offer of SRH services is itself very low and restrained by the current political situation in the country; in Ethiopia, Laos and Zimbabwe, the relatively low uptake can be related with the social norms hindering CAY's appetite for going to those services, and the discrimination they experience when accessing the services.

Some improvements of the adolescent and gender responsiveness of the SRH services provided to CAY have been noticed by AY themselves, as 62% of them consider the services as highly responsive (33% partially responsive and 5% not responsive) against 48% in the baseline (with 38% considering them partially responsive and 13% not responsive). If we have a closer look at the variables assessed by the AY respondents from the five countries where the indicator was measured, it appears that the affirmations that CAY less agreed with are related with the affordability of the SRH services' costs, the possibility to see a practitioner of one's sex, and the respectful treatment regardless of LGBTIQ+.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> We attribute this to the fact that the children's values of some countries were too high in the baseline, because of some misunderstanding of what we meant by SRHR services.

Variable	Statement	% of AY agreeing with the statement
Accessibility: opening hours	Facility opening hours are convenient for young people, including those in school	77%
Accessibility: location	Young people can get / travel to the facility easily	83%
Accessibility: cost	Fees are affordable for young people	67%
Appropriate duration of the attentions	Young people have time to ask questions and receive answers when they attend the facility	86%
Respectful treatment regardless disabilities	Young people with disabilities are treated with respect at the facility	81%
Confidentiality	Young people can trust that the facility and its staff keep their information confidential	84%
Respectful treatment regardless age	Young people are treated with respect at the facility: regardless of their age	82%
Respectful treatment regardless of LGBTIQ+	Young people are treated with respect at the facility regardless of their gender/sexual diverse identities	50%
Respectful treatment regardless marital status	Young people are treated with respect at the facility regardless of whether they are married or not	83%
Safety	Getting to the facility and its location is safe for both female and male clients (i.e. – you do not fear violence or discrimination)	87%
Access to practitioner of one's own sex	At the facility, young people can see a practitioner of their own sex, if they want	67%
Access to contraception	Young people can get a wide range of contraceptives (for example, condoms, pills, implant, injection (Depo-Provera), coil)	87%

**Table 4.** Variables of adolescent and gender responsiveness SRH services, extracted from Adolescent and Youths KAP survey, 2023 Monitoring data

Among AY with disabilities (with a sample of 37), only 43% of them consider the services as highly responsive (with 54% partially responsive and 3% not responsive), which might indicate that the friendliness of the services they receive is not fully inclusive.

It is interesting to compare the views of AY with our assessment of trained healthcare service providers' attitudes and skills on adolescent and gender-responsive and inclusive SRH-service provision. Overall, across the programme's countries (except for Myanmar where it could not be measured), we consider that 61% of the trained services providers have the adequate attitudes and skills or consider having them. In 2023, 211 health services providers were trained, in adolescent and gender responsive SRH services. There are fewer health services providers than expected because in some countries there were some difficulties in enrolling them, and in particular in Uganda, it was found that another organisation (Uganda Health Activity) had already trained health workers in the same package, so they channelled the saved funds to support SRHR outreaches.

Regarding the disability inclusion, it seems that indeed the provision of services to CAY with disabilities appears as an area where they must be strengthened, as only 50% declare having received a training on providing SRH services to people and AY with disabilities, and as 42% tell that there are policies or procedures in the facility they work that might restrict the provision of SRH services to adolescents with disabilities. As per our assessment, following the WHO's eight standards of quality for adolescent friendly SRH services; the health facilities' services have continued with a similar level of quality compared with the baseline, and it will be strengthened in the following years of the programme.

#### 3.1.3 Outcome 3

Outcome 3: Children, adolescents, and youth in all their diversity live in safe and supportive communities that transform gender roles and challenge harmful social and gender norms and stigma around SRHR

Under Outcome 3, our main goal is that children, adolescents and youth participants of the programme are better supported by their communities to make their own informed choices on their body and future. Therefore, it is tightly related to challenging and transforming gender roles and harmful social and gender norms around SRHR, among their parents and through the parenting practices, and among the community in general and the community leaders.

Community members participating in the programme have experienced changes in the way they consider CAY's SRHR, and for parents, in the ways they communicate and interact with their children about SRHR issues.

As per our survey, we have noticed changes in some opinions of the community members, for instance in relation with supporting their sons and daughters with obtaining contraceptives; indeed, around 75% of community members declared that they would support their son or daughter to obtain contraception, against 51% in the baseline. They mentioned that the minimum age their children would have to be (so that they would support them) is 16.6 years old for sons (against 17.3 years old in the baseline) and 17.3 years old for daughters in both this data collection and the baseline. Yet, as demonstrated in the two tables below, when we go further in the analysis, the data reveals that a higher percentage of community members would support their sons at a young age (10–14 years old) to obtain contraceptives than their daughters. Thus, it can be interpreted that it is more accepted for boys to have sexual relations and use contraceptive at a younger age than for girls.

Age of sons	% of community members who would support their sons with obtaining contraceptives	
10-14 years old	25%	
15-19 years old	61%	
20-24 years old	14%	

**Table 5.** % of community members who would support their sons with obtaining contraceptives

Age of daughters	% of community members who would support their daughters with obtaining contraceptives
10-14 years old	14%
15-19 years old	59%
20-24 years old	27%

 $\textbf{Table 6.} \ \% \ \text{of community members who would support their daughters with obtaining contraceptives}$ 

It is also interesting to note the apparent contradiction with the fact that now 69% of community members agreed that girls must abstain from sex before marriage (against 84% in the baseline), whereas around 60% would be supportive of the sons and daughters from 10 to 19 years old to access contraceptives (probably despite the fact they would not be married): it seems to be showing that even though norms around sexuality and contraceptives among CAY are still pretty strong, there are some changes in how parents would act with their children.

With regards to CAY with disabilities, usually considered as asexual and as less able to make their own decisions, we noted that the participation in the dialogues

has allowed new perspectives and reflections to emerge amongst community members, as expressed by a caregiver in Zimbabwe, Kwekwe, in our qualitative data collection when he said "It never crossed my mind that despite my son having a disability he will be a father one day and would need information to be responsible during adulthood and parenthood, thank you for opening my eyes". As per our survey conducted in 2023, 91% of community members agreed that adolescent girls and boys with disabilities should have access to condoms (+ 14 percentage points compared with the baseline) and 94% agreed that they should have access to sexuality education (+ 4 percentage points compared with the baseline). Nevertheless, a majority of community members (76%) disagrees with letting adolescent girls and boys with disabilities accessing SRH services without the approval of their caregivers; in that sense, there is close to no variation between the baseline and the 2023 value in our indicator related to the support of community members to adolescent boys and girls with disabilities accessing equitable SRHR services, from 14% in the baseline to 17% this year.

On the other hand, community leaders appear to be now more supportive of CAY's SRHR than they were in the baseline, as 68% of adolescent and youth participants of the programme stated that they had heard or seen community leaders or religious leaders speaking in favour of family planning or CAY's SRHR in the last six months, with similar values across variables of Sex, Age, and Disability, against 41% in the baseline. It is interesting to note that it varies significantly across countries, with 56% in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe, 67% in Myanmar, around 74% in Uganda and Mozambique, and 80% in Laos.

Those changes were obtained through different strategies across the six countries to reach a total of 10,984 community members and caregivers participating through community dialogues, intergenerational dialogues, positive parenting sessions and CSE for parents' trainings. It sometimes involved peer-to-peer cascading trainings like in Mozambique, where 617 community members were trained through the Building Bridges methodology and then became Agents of Change, replicating the knowledge they had acquired to 1664 people from their communities through 179 replication sessions in 2023.

It was obtained, too, through the active engagement of 124 leaders to support CAY's SRHR. Our initial target for the year was 496 and indeed more leaders participated in the project activities than the 124 reported here, through the community dialogues and the intergenerational dialogues. Nevertheless, we defined together with the countries to report only those actively engaged as per our definition, i.e. those having, in the past six months, supported SRHR for young people in their own personal life/ family, talked with other people about the importance of supporting SRHR for young people, spoken at a public event or on the media in support of SRHR for young people and/or brought community members together to reflect and discuss why it is important to support SRHR for young people. In that sense,

we aim at progressively reaching this target during the two remaining years of the programme, together with the incremental and slow transformation of gender roles and harmful social norms related with CAY's SRHR.

Another component of Outcome 3 to strengthen the supportive environments of CAY is related with economic empowerment and with climate resilience, so that households and communities can be more resilient to shocks and stresses and to ensure the continuity of the access to SRHR services. The programme organised climate change and resilience education for community members participating in village saving and loan associations (VSLAs) and supported the integration of SRHR into local-level disaster risk response plans.

In Mozambique and Zimbabwe, communities' resilience has been strengthened with the establishment of trained Local Committees for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and supporting them with the assessment of multiple climate change and DRR related risks and the design of local-level disaster risk response plans. In Mozambique, community members reported that due to the training and the mitigation plan made, their houses remained resilient to the Tropical Cyclone Freddy which hit Mozambique in 202,335. In addition, in Zimbabwe, 11 health facilities have strengthened their capacity to respond to emergencies and to ensure the continuity of their SRHR services, with the training of 30 primary health care service providers in DRR, action planning and contingency and the establishment of functional and updated DRR and contingency plans, based on an up-to-date risk assessment. At the individual level, community members have also increased their understanding on how Climate Change can impact SRHR and Cay's SRHR, as climate change related content was included in the community dialogues. We assessed qualitatively their understanding as medium degree, compared with a low degree in the baseline. This is still an area to be improved with the strengthening of this content in the dialogues, in 2024 and 2025.

On the other hand, households' resilience has also been strengthened through the village savings and loans sssociations (VSLAs) and income generating activities (IGA), with a total of 1,917 people (1,322 women and 595 men) supported in Ethiopia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. To understand better those households' strategies to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change impacts and shocks and stresses, we are monitoring the use of different coping mechanism's strategies among them. This is what we aggregate to calculate the indicator 3.c of our results Framework, considering households putting into practice at least five of the ten mitigation actions presented. The global value of 2023 hasn't varied compared with the baseline, although with a significant difference between Ethiopia (89%) and Zimbabwe (37%), the two countries where it was measured. To get a better sense of the mitigation actions to better cope with shocks and stresses, see below in the following table:

Mitigation actions	Ethiopia	Zimbabwe
Follow-up of climate, weather and early warning information to anticipate hazards	78%	69%
Awareness of evacuation process, in case of emergency	63%	33%
Storing of emergency food supplies	78%	24%
Improvement of housing or properties during the last year	77%	18%
Continued access to health services (including reproductive) during hard times of all family members?	75%	56%
Continued schooling of all school-aged children in the household during hard times	87%	65%
Protection of water sources and saving of water	87%	72%
Diversification of agriculture or testing of new sources of income	71%	27%
Saving of money to overcome hard times	85%	15%
Saving of assets (livestock, valuables) to overcome hard times	88%	18%

**Table 7.** Mitigation actions adopted by surveyed households in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe to adapt to shocks and stresses, 2023 Monitoring data

#### 3.1.4 Outcome 4

Outcome 4: Children, adolescents, and youth in all their diversity participate and benefit from a vibrant civil society that advocates for increased public investment and improved SRHR policy and promotes equality for and agency of girls

Under Outcome 4, we aim to strengthen CSOs in the programme countries so that they improve their capacity to influence ASRHR and gender equality for CAY in all their diversity and advocate for their rights, directly through their own advocacy initiatives or by supporting the participation of youths and youth movements in those initiatives.

In 2023, the support to partner CSOs materialized through different training courses on SRHR, Disability inclusion, SOGIESC and Advocacy. For instance, in Ethiopia, 77 persons with disabilities from three local organisations with people with disabilities (OPDs) were trained in basic Life Skills and self-advocacy training.

It also materialised with workshops on Advocacy to build the capacities of Plan and partners staff in Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Uganda and with the establishment of joint advocacy plans for strategic influencing on SRHR, so they could conduct higher impact actions of advocacy to influence ASRHR and gender equality and have a clear strategy for investing in and supporting SRHR programmes and policies for CAY. In Ethiopia and Uganda, Plan and the implementing partners developed a joint plan for advocacy on SRHR, from a gender transformative perspective; the implementation already began in Uganda and will start in 2024 in Ethiopia. In Zimbabwe, all 4 implementing partners (including Plan) have developed their own plan. In Myanmar, due to the political situation, Plan and partner staff are not working with an advocacy plan as such but are working at the local level with village leaders and Village Development Committees. Those plans are still to be developed in Laos and Mozambique in 2024.

The CSO capacity assessment conducted with all implementing partners including Plan Offices in the baseline, to measure our indicators and better understand the strengths and weaknesses of the CSO's SRHR expertise, work and advocacy, was conducted in 2023 in Uganda (for other countries it will be only conducted again for the endline of the programme): 61% of the 18 implementing CSOs are now rated as 'high-level' for engaging and supporting adolescents and young people in accountability processes for CAY SRHR (against 5% in the baseline). Also, all or close to all CSOs have now adopted or strengthened practices to better advocate, meeting with other CSOs working in the area of ASRHR to identify how they can collaborate (100%), networking and sharing resources with local, national and international NGOs and also routinely engaging with policy makers in dialogues about SRHR (94%), or having an advocacy/influencing strategy in relation with SRHR for CAY (83%).

As part of all those advocacy initiatives, 336 adolescents and youths (149 females and 148 males) of all countries but Laos were involved in promoting improved SRHR policies, gender equality and inclusion, climate resilience, or other related themes. It is key to mention that an average of 75% of them felt that their participation had been meaningful, expressing a sense of empowerment and recognition of their voices in their advocacy efforts. Indeed, 97% enjoyed being part of the advocacy processes and felt the advocacy process was relevant and useful. Also, 91% thought that the advocacy processes were inclusive and among the adolescents and youths with disabilities, 96% expressed that they thought the process had provided sufficient measures for their participation. On the other hand, around 78% of them felt their opinions were being heard during the process, that they had the opportunity to make decisions that mattered and that they were consulted during the design.

In Uganda for example, the involvement of adolescent and youth in the advocacy processes has led to increased responsiveness from local leaders, especially at local government level. This has been demonstrated through various commitments



the leaders have made towards climate action. This includes, for example, the passing of by-laws to scale up community-level tree planting and tree cover restoration and putting in place a committee on climate change to follow up on action plans around climate change engagements. In Zimbabwe, the Adolescents and youths with disabilities have played a great part in influencing policy makers and SRH service providers through Youth-led Advocacy Dialogues, which have increased their engagement and participation in SRHR Programming. From the feedback survey, adolescents and youths have thus stated that "there are changes in the attitudes and opinions by stakeholders regarding us, persons with disabilities" and that "the quality of services have since changed for the better".

As a consequence of all the joint work between Plan and partner organisations, 395 decision makers were reached with initiatives to promote adoption/implementation of laws and regulations that ensure availability of inclusive, non-discriminatory and quality sexual and reproductive health services, in all countries but Laos. For instance, in Ethiopia, Government officials from different bureaus were addressed to contribute their active role in the promotion and proper application of laws and regulation relating to quality SRH services and inclusion of different project participants. Accordingly, a dialogue session was conducted on the study on safe abortion findings conducted by the project. As a result, the participants identified/proposed feasible and effective interventions targeting adolescents' sexual and reproductive health issues.

## 3.2 Communications, youth-led activism and participatory advocacy and global citizenship education in Finland

The domestic programme component of the MBMF2 programme aims to enhance children's and young people's active participation on the themes of sustainable development, global gender equality and climate solutions. By focusing on three main elements: 1) Global Citizenship education, 2) Youth-led Activism and Participatory Advocacy, and 3) Communication and Public Engagement, the domestic programme aims to engage children and young people to actively strengthen civil society, increase public awareness about development and gender equality, and to ensure that children and youth in all their diversity have a safe and inclusive environment to learn and express their opinions. Between the years 2022 and 2025 the domestic programme aims to achieve five specific outcomes. This chapter presents the progress made by the domestic programme under each of these outcomes in 2023.

#### 3.2.1 Outcome 1

Outcome 1: Children and young people in schools and other learning environments reached by Plan have the knowledge, skills, and motivation to promote global justice.

Outcome 1 of the domestic programme component aims to improve the knowledge, skills and motivation of children and youth around the topic of global justice by offering them engaging and age-appropriate information about sustainable future, equality and equity, and skills to become active citizens.

To strengthen children and young people's motivation to promote global justice, the domestic programme team conducts school outreach through its Global School Child Rights Ambassadors network. In 2023, the ambassadors conducted in total 400 global education workshops and visits, reaching altogether 12,500 pupils. Throughout the year, workshops were held in 184 different schools and in other learning environments <sup>39</sup> in over 50 municipalities. The quality of the visits was good: 66% of teachers in the classes visited evaluated the overall quality of the lessons and workshops as 4/5 or better.

Through the school visits, the pupils learned about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, gender stereotypes, climate justice, countering hate speech as well



as promoting knowledge of safe discussion on the internet. To enhance both the understanding of the substance as well as the capacity to act towards the issues, the ambassadors implementing the visits utilised participatory methodologies that encourage thinking and reflection.

Furthermore, Children's Rights week in November remained the high season of the school visits also in 2023. The ambassadors were also increasingly asked to visit religious events in schools. To answer this call, the domestic programme team developed a pedagogy that considers these larger groups and is focused on the festivity of the occasions.

Finally, the ambassadors' capacity to develop participatory lessons that take into account accessibility issues was also further strengthened in an advanced training session during the reporting year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> The other learning environments included, for example, Scout camps in Finland.

#### 3.2.3 Outcome 2

Outcome 2: Education professionals practise high-quality global citizenship education that follows the national curricula and supports the active participation of children and young people.

To strengthen the capacity of educational professionals to practise quality global citizenship education, Plan's Global School gave in-service training and produced teaching resources during the reporting period. In 2023, the Global School reached a total of 401 teachers and other educators as well as teacher students in 17 training sessions. Out of the training sessions, eight were face-to-face trainings and nine were held as online trainings. The trainings covered the following topics: 1) gender equality, 2) sustainable development and climate change education and 3) equality and anti-racism. Out of the education professionals who gave immediate feedback concerning the in-service trainings, 66% said that the training gave them useful insight and tools for their work 40.

To support the implementation of research-based, critical and action-oriented global citizenship education, the domestic programme team maintained, developed and distributed several participatory teaching resources both in digital and printed format. Plan Finland's renewed global education website, globaalikoulu.net was published in January 2023 with updates on the accessibility as well as usability on mobile devices. The website had 13,360 visitors throughout the year. New publications included a teaching resource on democratic participation related to our youth-led event targeted to schools, Nuorten Timantti in April and a teacher's toolkit "Tyttöjen oikeuksien olympialaiset". The latter encourages schools to celebrate International Day of the Girl Child in October, highlighting the topic of gender equality in sport. The domestic programme team also started to develop a new educational card game on gender equality and equity in 2023. To ensure national coverage for the materials, the team marketed them online, through the Subject Aid service and at relevant events. During the reporting period, altogether 6137 pieces of educational material were mailed and downloaded. In addition, to improve the accessibility in Plan's educational work, Plan consulted an accessible language expert to support material development.

Finally, to ensure the complementarity of Plan's global education component to other related national and international initiatives and processes, Plan's Global School contributed to the work of relevant networks, such as the European global citizenship education working group of CONCORD, Fingo SDG 4.7-working group and global education network and Central Union for Child Welfare's communications network.

#### 3.2.4 Outcome 3

Outcome 3: Young and adult volunteers advocate actively and raise awareness of gender equality, equity, climate solutions and sustainable development.

To enhance young people's skills to raise awareness on programme topics as well as to make an impact on society, the domestic programme organised several youth groups and campaigns in 2023.

To foster active citizenship among children and youth, Plan's Children's Board provided a platform for twenty 11–18-year-olds to learn about children's rights and gender equality, and to practise advocacy in a supportive environment. In 2023, the Children's Board reached all together 6680 people through different events. They organised several local events, for example a parliamentary election panel on global issues for young people and a demonstration to raise awareness for Finland to consider girls' rights also in the new government programme. The Children's Board also actively advocated about girls' rights and how youth should be listened to towards Finnish politicians in SuomiAreena.

To enhance young people's skills to make an impact on society, Plan Finland organised a national event: "Nuorten timantti" for the third time focusing on participatory democracy in Finland and globally. All together over 1500 young people participated in the event from various schools across Finland.

Plan Finland organised the seventh consequent #GirlsTakeover campaign in 2023, where six young people had the opportunity to influence persons in high-level positions of power and raise issues important for young people related to the theme of girls and sports. #GirlsTakeover participants took part in training sessions on equality and girls' rights, empowering them to voice their opinions. Feedback given by one of participant at the end of the campaign highlighted that the most important learning outcome she gained from the campaign was that she increased her knowledge on gender equality and understood better how to work together with others towards a more equal society.

To expand the global movement for climate solutions and climate justice, Plan Finland started new cooperation between youth groups from Uganda and Finland who aimed to influence the COP28 international climate conference in Dubai. The youth groups met regularly throughout the year and disseminated policy suggestions for decision makers that looked at how to take climate justice and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Based on the feedback, the domestic programme made an assumption that some participants would benefit from either a more advanced level training content or receiving more concrete tools on how to implement topics in the classroom. Therefore, the domestic programme is currently offering either basic or advanced level training for the participants from which the co-organiser can choose the most appropriate training for the participant group.

human rights into account when deciding about the Loss & Damage fund. For example, an online event was held with professor Saleemul Huq, a leading Loss & Damage expert from Bangladesh. The group also met with two negotiators from the Ministry of Environmental Affairs and wrote a blog post and an opinion piece that was published in several newspapers. Furthermore, as a part of the process, 17 young people also held an event in the Parliament to speak about climate justice issues with 23 parliamentarians or their representatives 41.

The Young Equality Influencers training programme was also organised in 2023 in cooperation with The National Council of Women of Finland. The training programme engaged 24 young people and offered them deeper understanding of global equality issues. Through the training, the participants also gained practical knowledge on how to influence these issues by executing various equality actions alone or in small groups. As a result of the training, the youth created 13 different actions for equality, including events in schools and community centres, articles and opinion pieces in magazines, content for social media, art projects, and two art exhibitions. The group also started cooperation with a Zimbabwean youth activist group "Amplifying Girls' Voices Through Digital Arts.

Plan continued to co-coordinate the Generation Equality youth group together with UN Women Finland in 2023. Throughout the year, the groups' 36 members continued to actively bring young people's voices and opinions to matters concerning technology and innovation. The group also met with different people, organisations, and companies in the technology sector, as well as the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to discuss the Generation Equality commitments and their progress. Through these meetings, the group introduced their manifesto "Right to be Online" for the technology sector to tackle online gender-based violence. One of the group members was also selected as a delegate to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York.

Additionally, Plan Finland continued to support a volunteer group for young people with immigrant backgrounds to offer the youth an easier way to become acquainted with global issues and influencing.

#### 3.2.5 Outcome 4

Outcome 4: Decision-makers in Finland promote global gender equality, human rights and climate solutions, and young people are involved in decision-making processes

In 2023, Plan continued advocating for effective implementation of the government's commitment to gender equality and rights of women and girls as key focus areas in the Finnish development and foreign policy . During the year, the key advocacy

priorities also included the target of allocating 0.7% of Finland's Gross National Income (GNI) to official development assistance (ODA) as defined by the United Nations.

The most significant achievements of the year were reflected in the new government's programme. Plan International Finland believes that its advocacy, alongside that of other NGOs with similar goals, played a role in shaping the government policy formulations. Details on how Plan Finland's activities contributed to the development of the government programme are outlined below.

In 2023, Plan International Finland published a study conducted by PhD candidate Minna Lyytikäinen on advancing gender equality in Finnish foreign policy and recommendations on implementing a model for feminist foreign policy in the Finnish context.<sup>42</sup>

Plan Finland's election campaign "Minun Suomeni - My Finland" influenced the development policy of candidates and the future government, while also inviting Plan's supporters to participate in advocacy. In the campaign, the general public in Finland was invited to sign the "Tyttöjen puolella - On the Side of Girls" petition, which received around 4,000 signatures. The campaign culminated at the House of the Estates when Plan's Children's Board handed over the petition to 40 government negotiators.

Plan launched a new term for the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Girls' Rights and Development. A total of 37 parliamentarians from all parliamentary parties joined the APPG, and three different political parties are represented in the leadership of the group. The International Day of the Girl was also celebrated with the parliament. One hundred people participated in the festivities in the Parliament House, with 47 of them being Members of Parliament.

Throughout 2023, the domestic programme team also met with a total of 460 decision-makers. Among them, 153 meaningful interactions took place between young activists and decision-makers during the year. In the end, the impact of the youth activists was significant and efficient since several of the activists were invited to represent their group at events, in the news, and in seminars.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> 23 parliamentarians or their representatives participated in the event and got personal postcards from the Ugandan members of the group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> https://plan.fi/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Turvaa-ja-tasa-arvoa-%E2%80%93-suositukset-tasa-arvon-edistamiselle-Suomen-politiikassa.pdf

#### 3.2.6 Outcome 5

Outcome 5. The general public understands the importance of equality and equity in achieving sustainable development goals and is motivated to support them

In 2023, Plan Finland's communication efforts remained dedicated to raising awareness on gender equality issues, humanitarian crises, youth activism, and the goals and outcomes of our work. Building upon the foundation laid in previous years, Plan Finland continued to prioritise impactful storytelling and engagement with diverse audiences.

During the reporting period, Plan Finland undertook extensive content production for Plan's major campaigns, including the International Day of the Girl, #GirlsTakeover, International Menstrual Hygiene Day, International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, a gender equality campaign related to the parliamentary elections, and a campaign highlighting Plan's humanitarian work. Through these campaigns, Plan Finland raised awareness, advocated for change, and showcased the impact of its programmes and work on a global scale.

During the reporting year, Plan Finland did a content gathering trip to the MBMF2 SRHR programme in Mozambique and documented the work of local activists, highlighting their efforts in promoting human rights and equality. From this material a diverse array of communication content across multiple channels was created, ensuring broad dissemination and engagement.

Plan Finland's earned media visibility reached a potential audience of 182 million in 2023, emphasising Plan's commitment to disseminating information and insights effectively. Furthermore, Plan Finland's earned social media hits had a potential reach of 19 million during the reporting year, reflecting the resonance of Plan's content within digital spheres.

The social media platforms of Plan International Finland experienced increased engagement, with growing responsiveness from their audience. The average engagement rate across the social media channels rose from three to four per cent, with Instagram witnessing an 8.4 per cent increase in engagement. Embracing emerging trends, Plan Finland expanded its presence to include TikTok and Bluesky, with Plan's TikTok account rapidly gaining traction, garnering 1.5 million views on its videos by the end of the year.

Plan Finland continued to also publish the quarterly Plan magazine, complementing it with the digital edition to cater to evolving reader preferences. A reader survey



conducted in the summer of 2023 reaffirmed the significance of the magazine as a vital source of information and engagement for Plan Finland's donors, despite a slight decline in the importance of the print edition.

Plan International Finland's commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion was evident in communication efforts in 2023, with Plan's blog and social media platforms addressing themes related to anti-racism, gender, and sexual diversity.

## 4. Thematic and cross-cutting work

#### 4.1 Gender and SRHR

In 2023, Plan Finland continued its robust investment in strategic knowledge creation, capacity building for staff and partner organisations, and the development of cutting-edge thematic tools aimed at advancing gender equality and SRHR programming. This work was supported by dedicated technical human resources, ensuring a comprehensive approach to programme implementation. The year saw significant progress on two primary fronts:

- Enhancing Project Implementation: Plan Finland provided extensive support to country offices and partner organisations in implementing high-quality, gender-transformative, and inclusive SRHR projects. Central to this effort was the integration of social and gender norm change components into project strategies. Strategic discussions with support staff and partners were convened to effectively integrate findings from social and gender norms diagnoses and analyses into project frameworks. This approach facilitated nuanced prioritisation, focusing efforts on strengthening norm change systematically. The emphasis was on building upon comprehensive diagnostics conducted in 2022, with particular attention to increasing access to and utilisation of contraception among adolescents. Action plans were developed to guide interventions, strategically engaging specific reference groups. Additionally, targeted training sessions and reflective spaces were coordinated, ensuring continuous learning and fostering critical reflection among teams.
- Global Engagement and Harmonisation: Plan Finland actively engaged in Plan International's global gender and SRHR development work, contributing to the creation of harmonised global practices that benefit both programme implementation and organisational strategy. This involvement included participation in global discussions and initiatives aimed at aligning practices across different contexts, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness and impact of gender transformative SRHR programming globally.

In 2023, Plan Finland pursued several specific initiatives and collaborations including its partnership with Sonke Gender Justice and MenEngage Africa. This work focused on advancing the component on adoption of positive masculinities. A notable highlight was a successful two-week deployment to Ethiopia, serving as a pilot initiative for future scaling. Based on capacity-building plans developed in



2022 in collaboration with local stakeholders, this deployment facilitated enhanced programme activities and systematic engagement with boys and men to achieve gender-transformative SRHR outcomes. Tools developed by Sonke/MenEngage Alliance were integrated, supported by the establishment of dedicated reflection spaces for ongoing learning and improvement. Following the deployment, we coordinated a programme-level reflection session to delve into key lessons learned around our work on transforming masculinities for SRHR. Plan Finland also supported the implementation of a global Masculinities Workshop on Protection from Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, and Abuse (PSHEA). This workshop contributed to enhancing participants' gender literacy through an intersectional feminist and queer theory lens.

Throughout the year, Plan Finland conducted dedicated sessions and strategic discussions on LGBTIQ+ issues, particularly in countries where these components are integrated into programming. These efforts included comprehensive mapping of activities and strategies tailored to address specific needs within diverse contexts. A significant milestone in 2023 was the approval and launch of the organisational position paper on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC) inclusion. Informed by global evidence and extensive consultations with diverse stakeholders, including children and young people in all their diversity, this paper provided a framework for inclusive programming across Plan International's operational regions. Plan Finland played a pivotal role as a core reference group member in the development and implementation of this landmark document.

Plan Finland also actively contributed to Plan International's global networks, including the SRHR Area of Global Distinctiveness Network and the Global Gender and Inclusion Group. Key personnel, including the SRHR Specialist and the Gender and Inclusion Specialist, participated as core members, fostering collaboration and technical development that benefitted global SRHR programming and sector-wide initiatives. Plan Finland also took a lead role in steering and co-leading global working groups on masculinities and the LGBTQIA+ champions network, driving internal initiatives aimed at promoting inclusive practices within the organisation.

In summary, 2023 marked significant achievements and strategic advancements for the programme, reaffirming our commitment to promoting gender equality and SRHR through innovative programming, robust partnerships, and active engagement in global advocacy and policy development. These initiatives not only enhanced programme effectiveness but also contributed to transformative change in gender norms and inclusive practices across diverse contexts.

#### Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)

In 2023, the MBMF2 programme continued to strengthen and deepen SRHR programme model development and rollout and supporting rights-based implementation of SRHR amidst contextual restrictions. To support the earlier work of CSE curriculum development, in 2023 MBMF2 supported the development of CSE facilitator training development to strengthen the TOT work in the projects. The delivery of CSE remains one of the most crucial aspects of CSE implementation and bearing in mind the various types of CSE facilitators in all of the projects, it is critical that they are equipped with adequate skills to both deliver the CSE content but also to create a safe space to ask, share and learn for the learners. In addition, MBMF2 participated in the development of CSE activity cards for children aged 5–8 years old.

For SRH services, MBMF2 supported the development and piloting of SRH Service Provider Training Package, which is a special Value Clarification Attitudes Transformation (VCAT) training that creates a space for SRH service providers to explore their own attitudes and values regarding adolescent sexuality and diversity.

In addition, the Decide project in Uganda developed, piloted and documented Peer Navigation Model for adolescent SRH services, where youth themselves guide other youth at the clinics to access SRH services. The model has attracted a lot of interest, and it will be replicated in other projects.

MBMF2 supported the finalisation of Plan's programme model for Prevention of Unintended Adolescent Pregnancies that has been under development for a few years. As unintended adolescent pregnancies are a key focus area in MBMF2, we will explore ways to incorporate the model into the programme. Previously, MBMF2 programme supported the development of guidance note for SRHR advocacy in restricted contexts. To cascade this work further, we supported the development and implementation of a training package based on the guidance note. The MBMF2 project teams participated in the training.

Furthermore, MBMF2 supported a Conversations that Matter VCAT-training of trainers in Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa (MEESA), which strengthens rights-based implementation of SRHR programming and enabled to create country level trainer base for cascading the trainings in the countries.

#### 4.2 Inclusion

In 2023, Plan Finland dedicated extensive efforts to provide direct technical support, coaching, and mentoring to project staff and partner representatives, aiming to significantly enhance our approach to inclusion and intersectionality. This strategic focus aimed to foster a more comprehensive and transformative impact within our programming efforts. Throughout the year, we concentrated on several pivotal objectives, with a primary emphasis on capacity strengthening. This initiative encompassed elevating the skills and knowledge of MBMF2 staff, including programme managers, thematic coordinators, and country-level personnel such as thematic advisers and representatives from partner organisations. Notably, this inclusive approach also encompassed collaborating closely with Organisations of People with Disabilities (OPDs) and local LGBTQIA+ organisations.

To achieve these goals, Plan Finland facilitated tailored coaching sessions, workshops, and mentoring activities. These initiatives were specifically designed to empower our staff to integrate inclusive and intersectional approaches into their daily work. By establishing reflective spaces, we encouraged critical engagement with the principles of disability inclusion, fostering a deeper understanding and more effective application of these principles. The coaching methodology employed various techniques for enhancing personal and organisational change, including collaborative values clarification, life visioning, and action planning centred on intersectionality and social inclusion. This approach placed a priority on promoting disability inclusion within the MBMF2 programme, identifying barriers to accessibility and reasonable accommodation, and adapting strategies to ensure meaningful participation of adolescents with disabilities in SRHR initiatives across diverse geographical contexts.

Another crucial objective in 2023 was the creation of spaces for individual and collective critical reflection. These environments were carefully crafted to empower staff to critically examine their practices and identify areas for continuous improvement. In addition to capacity building and reflective practices, we developed practical tools and training materials. Notably, a user-friendly training package for facilitators focused on intersectionality was introduced, comprising three core modules for face-to-face sessions. This resource was designed to equip practitioners with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate intersectional perspectives into their project implementations effectively. To further advance systematic and strategic intersectional inclusion, Plan Finland also developed a comprehensive guide outlining minimum standards for intersectional inclusion. This guide addressed specific stages in the project cycle and encompassed considerations for disability and SOGIESC issues, thereby ensuring a robust framework for inclusive programming.



In line with its commitment to disability inclusion as a cross-cutting objective within the MBMF2 programme, Plan Finland made significant strides in 2023 to enhance the participation and empowerment of persons with disabilities. This included coordinating programme-level activities and undertaking targeted actions at the country level to integrate the specific needs and interests of children, adolescents, and youth with disabilities across all projects. Collaboration with OPDs in various contexts played a crucial role in advancing gender-transformative SRHR projects that embraced disability inclusion. With the implementation of our projects, we proactively identified and addressed attitudinal, environmental, and institutional barriers that hindered the inclusion of persons with disabilities. This involved not only advocating for policy changes and institutional reforms at local level but also fostering a cultural shift towards more inclusive practices. Our projects continue to empower individuals with disabilities as active participants and leaders in their communities, recognising their agency in driving positive change.

Furthermore, Plan Finland actively advocated for stronger disability inclusion within key organisational documents, notably contributing to the Global Policy on Gender Equality and Inclusion which was approved in December. As a member of the technical reference group for this initiative, Plan Finland actively engaged in consultations and strategic discussions to elevate disability inclusion as a crosscutting priority. Additionally, co-chairing the Disability Inclusion Working Group (DIWG) within the global organisation underscored our commitment, facilitating the development of policies, standards, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at mainstreaming disability inclusion across Plan International's operations.

In summary, 2023 was a pivotal year for Plan Finland, marked by significant advancements in promoting inclusive and intersectional approaches within SRHR programming. Through robust capacity building, strategic advocacy, and collaborative partnerships, we not only enhanced our organisational effectiveness but also contributed meaningfully to transformative change, fostering inclusive practices and empowering marginalised communities globally.

#### 4.3 Climate resilience

In 2023, Plan International Finland assisted all projects in integrating climate resilience to support the overall SRHR outcomes of the programme. Body Mapping methodology linked to the impact of climate change on youth and adolescents' SRHR, which was developed in MBMF2 in 2022, gained interest in other offices of Plan International beyond MBMF2 programme countries. To respond to the demand, youth from the MBMF2 project in Uganda, with the support of the partner African Center for Trade and Development (ACTADE), trained SRHR experts from Plan International in the use of this innovative method. Other key results in 2023 were the development of educational materials, including an activity card linked to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), a module on climate change, gender equality and SRHR for champions of change (CoC) peer education, as well as three interactive green skills cards for youth economic empowerment (climatesmart agriculture, clean energy and circular economy). Also in 2023, Zimbabwe and Ethiopia developed a series of best practice case studies to share the innovative approach MBMF2 has taken in acknowledging interlinkages between climate change impact and the realisation of youth and adolescents' SRHR. These, as well as other results, were discussed in quarterly meetings among Plan staff and partners.

#### Education materials on climate change impact on SRHR

In partnership with ACTADE, Plan International Finland developed a climate change activity card linked to the CSE curriculum. It has now been adapted to complement CSE education in all programme countries. ACTADE also prepared a module on climate change, gender equality, and SRHR for champions of change peer facilitators; the module was tested in MBMF2 project in Uganda in 2023. Experiences on the use of the educational materials linked to SRHR education are being collected to finalise the materials in 2024 for wider sharing.

#### Young People and Green Skills

Plan International Finland, with the support of Samuel Hall consultants, developed three interactive Green Skills activity cards. The cards were ready in mid-2023 and are now being tested in Ethiopia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe to support the programme's youth economic empowerment activities. The topics of the cards (climate-smart agriculture, clean energy and circular economy) were selected based on a review of needs in three countries and a series of discussions and workshops. Interviews and focus group discussions conducted in Uganda and Ethiopia during the consultancy showcase the need for green skills education. While consultants only produced the green skills cards for testing in 2023, the interview results conducted in 2023 can be further used by the project as a baseline when documenting the results of the green skills activities at the end of the project.

#### **Sharing Best Practise**

All project countries have started activities in support of climate resilience based on the results of the Body Mapping conducted in 2022. In 2023, SRHR Hub of Global Plan organised two events with the support of Plan International Finland to initiate the sharing of best practices on the integration of climate resilience into SRHR programming. Plan International Finland facilitated quarterly sharing meetings between six MBMF2 countries, and a few countries were ready to document their innovations on climate resilience linked to SRHR outcomes. In 2023. Plan International Finland, with the team from Plan Zimbabwe, developed two case studies, and with the team from Plan Ethiopia, one case study to share the best practices. Case studies from Zimbabwe document activities of the youthled digital platform and the SRHR inclusion in the regional and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) response in Kwekwe and Bulawayo districts. The case study from Ethiopia focuses on village saving and loan associations as a means to promote community resilience. Youth from Uganda also developed a video on Body Mapping methodology that was used in the sharing of the methodology beyond the MBMF2 programme.

## 5. Programme management

## 5.1 Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning

Monitoring: In 2023, we have strengthened the programme monitoring system by making our data collection processes more systematic and quality driven. To monitor continuously the conduction of activities and stakeholders' participation, we developed a set of attendance templates for the different types of intervention linked with a reporting system named Activity tracker in Kobo ToolBox, to aggregate the data at the country and programme level through a set of 25 activities implemented programme wide. All team members from Plan and partners are involved in the data collection and reporting of activities and participants, which contributes to building a quality driven data-collection-and-reporting culture among the programme. This more systematic follow-up and reporting of activities and participants supports us in the analysis of the completion and drop-out rates (in multi session activities) and to avoid double counting in our reporting.

To measure our results indicators, we collected data using the programme tools (5 KAP survey for Children, Adolescents and Youth, Community members, Teachers, Services providers, 3 surveys to AY on Life skills, Meaningful participation on advocacy processes and satisfaction with the Innovation hubs and 3 assessment tools for Health Facilities, CSOs and Innovation hubs) set in Commcare and Kobo Toolbox and processed and visualised in Power Bi. The data was collected following a logic of post-tests, and in some countries of pre-tests, throughout the year and with some annual data collection towards the end of the year. In total in 2023, 4,909 surveys and assessments were conducted across the programme's countries, including 3,450 CAY and 1,380 adult community members, as follows on next page:



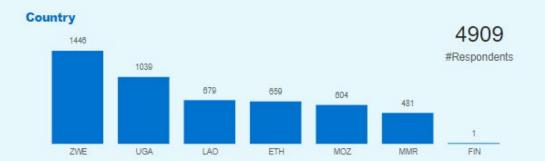


Who did participate in the data collections of the My Body My Future 2 programme?

They are all members of the communities where the programme is implemented, and for some data collections, direct participants of the projects. Let's find out some basic information about them, in terms of country and community, sex, age and disability status.

ata Collection	Dataset
Baseline	Pretest
Monitoring data - Pre assessment	Baseline
Monitoring data - Post assessment	Post-test

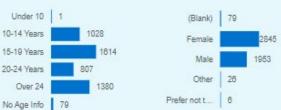
AUSTRALIA



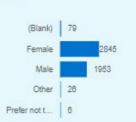
#### Disability



#### Age Group



#### Sex





Microsoft Bing

EUROPE

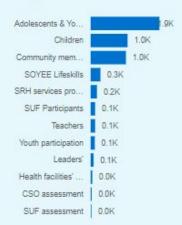
AFRICA

Indian

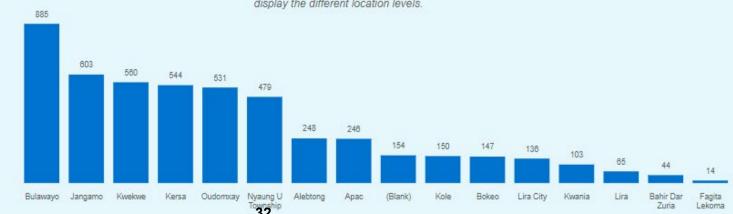
Ocean

© 2024 TomTom, © 2024 Microsoft Corporation, © OpenStreetMap Terms









During the annual data collection, we collected qualitative data through Focus Groups Discussions with the different groups of participants to understand the changes they had experienced because of the project, and we conducted an Outcome harvesting process with Plan staff and partners to identify the results of programme.

**Evaluation:** In the second semester of the year, we began our Mid-Term Review (MTR) process, which was conceived as a platform for genuine joint reflection, learning and decision making among Plan staff and partners across the six implementation countries, and a formative exercise to plan responses and corrective actions to challenges and opportunities, and define what to do next, for the current programme and for its next phase. The three objectives of the MTR were to 1. Reflect on the relevance of the MB(AMF2 gender transformative Theory of Change and core values, and on possible needs of adjustment, 2. Reflect on the learnings of the MBMF2 strategies and identify recommendations for their implementation in the current and future phase of the programme, and 3. Reflect on the partnerships of the programme and on how to improve the way Plan International works together with partners. The MTR will be finalised in 2024.

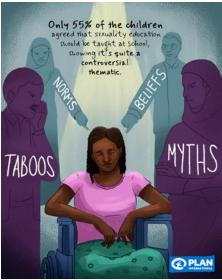
**Accountability:** In 2023, our accountability strategy was deployed through two components.

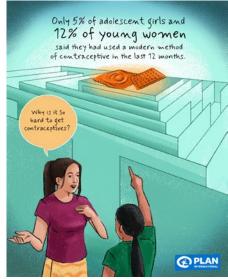
We created culturally relevant youth-friendly illustrations to convey the baseline and social and gender norms diagnosis main findings' messages in a meaningful and impactful way. We altogether created illustrations of the MBMF2 interventions, showing how the programme and projects are addressing the gaps and challenges hindering CAY's SRHR. The development process involved Plan Finland's MEAL specialist and Gender and Inclusion Specialist, as well as project staff from all the 6 countries. The illustrations are shared with CAY and communities where the data was collected and the projects are implemented, and more broadly on social media, so we are more accountable for the information that we collect and make a more fruitful and inspiring use of it. Below, an example of a few of the illustrations at right.

In addition, each country involved participants, including children, adolescents and youths and community members in conversations around the project, to understand what they liked and disliked most, and their proposal of improvement. Those review/ feedback activities differ across countries and range from quarterly feedback meetings to After Action Review type activities held with sex and age-based groups of participants as part of the annual data collection. This feedback contributes to the teams' reflection on the pertinence of the interventions and on ways to improve them; in that sense it is closely linked to the Learning strategy.

**Learning:** The learning strategy refers to all the different reflection processes around our interventions and ways of doing, and the identification, documentation, dissemination and use of our learnings, lessons learnt and good practices.









It contains 1) programme-level learning platforms and processes (online Learning&Experience sharing sessions and technical advisors-led sessions and processes), 2) project-level Learning Harvesting Workshops, with the use of the action tracker and lessons learnt briefs, 3) project -level other learning practices (like with the use of the Activity reporting templates).

Our Learning milestones are the project-level Learning Harvesting Workshops, which aim to gather the project team members from Plan and partners to reflect critically on the implementation of the project, to validate/complement/adjust the project's lessons learnt, identify possible solutions to repeated problems/challenges from the implementation of the project, and define the actions to be conducted during the next six months to follow up on the lessons learnt and address the identified problems and challenges together with following up on actions defined in previous learning harvesting workshops. In 2023, country MEAL coordinators facilitated bi-annual and annual learning harvesting workshops with Plan teams and partners, aligned with the bi-annual and annual reporting phases (or sometime in the first months of 2024 for the annual report). The main findings were then captured in country lessons learnt briefs and action trackers, to ensure a continuous documentation and follow-up of the learnings, and these learnings have also been included in our analysis of the Outcomes in this report.

In addition, we also continued strengthening our MEAL community of practices with quarterly and ad hoc online meetings and workshops, and a MEAL support visit in Laos, to work with Laos and Myanmar MEAL coordinators and ensure the proper use and adaptation of the M&E system and MEAL strategy to those countries and teams.

Finally, a programme-level Mid-Term Review (MTR) process that is part of the programme's learning strategy and evaluation plan, was initiated at the end of 2023. Since the MTR was conducted and finalised in 2024, it will be reported in the 2024 annual report.

#### 5.2 Compliance and risk management

Adherence to Plan International's rules and regulations as well as compliance with the MFA regulations was constantly monitored as part of programme management. Plan International's rules and regulations on financial management, child protection policy and safeguarding guidelines, risk management strategy, amongst other relevant policies and processes, are applicable to all of Plan's offices and, for their part, guarantee effective grant compliance. No breach of the policies was reported in 2023 within the MBMF programme.

Globally, Plan International has a risk management system and Global Policy on Risk Management encourages all project implementing staff, including

implementing partners, to engage in risk identification, assessment, and control over risks. The policy sets out common requirements and definitions and specifies staff and management responsibilities. In 2023, Plan International Finland's MBMF2 programme team followed the risk management procedures embedded in its regular review processes. These procedures are described in more detail below.

During the reporting period, the risk matrices at project and programme levels were updated and risks as well as mitigation actions were regularly reviewed and assessed by country offices, implementing partners and Plan International Finland. Risk matrices were reviewed twice during the year as part of the annual reporting and planning processes.

Based on the updated risk analysis, the programme team closely monitored the situation in Ethiopia, Myanmar and Zimbabwe where the political situation was fragile or prone to acute conflicts in 2023. As explained in chapter 2.1 the situation in Amhara Ethiopia escalated to an acute conflict in August 2023 to the extent that the programme activities had to be stopped for a while and specific security measures had to be put in place. The situation in Myanmar, was extremely fragile during the reporting year and potential risks were high. Thus, the programme team in Plan International Finland observed the situation closely and communicated regularly with the project team in Myanmar. The project team in Myanmar also organized regular and more frequent meetings with peer leaders, partner staff, community leaders and other community members throughout the year to communicate in a regular manner about potential risks and their prevention. In addition, implementation of project activities were postponed when needed, as explained in chapter 2.6. In Zimbabwe in turn, there was a risk for conflicts around the general elections in 2023. As a risk mitigation measure, the project did not implement activities that involved gathering community groups around the time of the elections. As explained in chapter 2.6, this delayed project implementation to some extent. The electoral environment was marred by tensions and controversies with opposition parties citing flaws and irregularities with electoral processes such as the delimitation exercise, nomination fees and free convening of mass rallies or public gatherings. However, the tensions did not escalate to a larger conflict that would have prevented the programme implementation.

Another risk that was monitored at the beginning of the reporting period was the spreading of Ebola in Uganda. The geographical distance from the epidemic area to the MBMF2 project area remained long in 2023. However, Plan International Uganda did prepare for potential effects of the epidemic in case it would have spread. However, the epidemic was declared over at the very beginning of the year and did not have any implication for the programme implementation.

In February 2023, Cyclone Freddy hit Mozambique and caused intense rainfalls and flooding in the country, including Inhambane province. While the cyclone did not cause direct changes to the MBMF2 project implementation, the MBMF2 project

in Mozambique decided to reallocate a small amount of its budget to support Plan Mozambique cyclone response in Inhambane that focused on supporting children's ability to return to school after the cyclone. A total of €3,410 from the project budget was used to produce learning materials for 100 students and dignity kits for 50 girls.

In the annual plan, restrictions to CSO operating space were also identified as increased risk for gender activists. The programme and project teams acknowledged that the activism of young people is often felt as a threat by those in power, and that limitations to the rights of LGBTQI+ persons are severe. As the programme addresses these challenges, both the programme team in Finland and project teams at country level paid special attention to the risk management of threats to activists in restricted contexts during the reporting year. This was done, for example, through risk management trainings and analysis of organisational protocols. As mentioned in Chapter 2, in Uganda for instance, the president signed a bill in May 2023 criminalising same sex conduct into law, which had implications for the implementation of the MBMF2 project. However, Plan's work centres on the integration of a gender transformative approach in programme work. As such, even in restrictive contexts, we aim to address the root causes of gender inequality and exclusion and work towards findings effective ways to navigate the context. Thus, while the MBMF2 project continued being implemented as planned in Uganda in 2023, all its activities and materials were contextualised and follow the approval processes and risk analysis conducted. Additionally, specific efforts to strengthen support to LGBTIQ+ adolescents and their rights are currently focused on other countries than Uganda within the MBMF2 programme. Yet, the MBMF2 project in Uganda commits to uphold Plan's organisational values and ensure that its activities do not harm young people irrespective of their status. The project also continues to ensure that staff have all the support they need, and at service points, all CAY continue to receive non-judgemental and non-discriminatory services.

In the beginning of the year, Plan International Finland saw that the global economic situation might also possibly affect the programme implementation in 2023. It was assumed that high inflation rate and exchange rate fluctuations could potentially continue creating challenges to the projects at country level. The implementation plans for 2023 were thus adjusted throughout the year to meet the estimated level of costs. As explained in chapter 2.6, the effects of inflation were most clearly seen in Zimbabwe where the economy was affected by hyper-inflation. The project budget was increased through previously unallocated funds during the year to mitigate the effects.

On-going remote technical support was also given to country teams throughout the year by Plan Finland, to support quality and to ensure that the project and financial management meets the MFA compliance requirements and adheres to Plan's global approach and guidelines, including child protection and safeguarding and prevention of sexual harassment, and the general principles of good governance. Monitoring and technical support visits to all the projects, except the project in

Myanmar, were also conducted in 2023 to support quality and to ensure that the project and financial management meets the MFA compliance requirements and adheres to Plan's global approach and guidelines, including child protection and safeguarding and prevention of sexual harassment, and the general principles of good governance. The project team from Myanmar was able to participate a technical support visit in Laos on M&E.

## 5.3 Financial management and operations

The implementation of the projects during the second year of the programme proceeded steadily. The main challenge in most countries was the sufficiency of funding. Although the turning point in the depreciation of the Euro against the Dollar occurred in 2023, its effects were still visible in the operations of the projects. A more significant challenge than the residual effects of the weakened Euro was the high inflation, which had decreased the purchasing power of projects and consumers and consequently increased the consumer prices and wage costs of project workers permanently. While the inflation and the value of the Euro improved in the beginning of 2023, the carry over, €407,085 from 2022 was also used to mitigate the effects. Nevertheless, the impacts are long-lasting. The original budgets were prepared in 2021 using the EUR exchange rate, which no longer corresponds to the current financial situation. The Euro depreciated by 10% since the budgets were formulated and the weak Euro will have effects for the rest of the project period. As a risk mitigation measure, we have remained proactive in consumption forecasting and strive to make quick decisions regarding the reallocation of funds if any countries face challenges with implementation.

The programme expenditure in 2023 was €7.2 million, out of which MFA funding consisted of €6.1 million. This is 8% more than the previous year. The expenditure rate was 93% and the total carryover to 2024 was €316,717. In 2022, our outsourced payroll company Integrata incorrectly recorded salary expenses, and the carryover amount to 2023 was increased by €166,933. An equal amount was returned to bookkeeping in 2023, reducing the carryover to 2024 accordingly. The share of MFA funding of the carryover was €141,893.

Finally, as mentioned in section 5.2, Cyclone Freddy hit Mozambique in February 2023 and a reallocation request was made for the MFA to support Plan Mozambique's cyclone response in Inhambane. €3410 was used for the response from the MBMF2 project budget in Mozambique.

### **MFA Financial Report 2023**

		Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure vs. budget %	MFA costs	Self- funding	Self- funding %
Mozambique	Mandziku - My Future (259PL149)	840 000	787 436	94	637 122	150 314	19 %
Uganda	An amoko tama - I Decide (285PL150)	1 206 145	1 352 775	112	1 156 732	196 043	14 %
Ethiopia	Yene Raey - My Future (238PL151)	1 112 192	990 299	89	846 786	143 513	14 %
Zimbabwe	My Body My Future (265PL153)	759 000	739 960	97	632 726	107 234	14 %
	East and Southern Africa Total	3 917 337	3 870 470	99	3 273 366	597 104	15 %
Laos	Anakhot khong-khoi - My Future (745PL224)	920 000	859 229	93	734 710	124 519	14 %
Myanmar	Me Me Kanda, Me Me Anagat Pa - My Body My Future (635PL225)	314 291	255 086	81	218 119	36 967	14 %
	Asia Total	1 234 291	1 114 315	90	952 829	161 485	14 %
Global	Gender and SRHR (998PL515)	90 000	90 917	101	77 741	13 176	14 %
Global	Disability inclusion (998PL517)	47 000	45 269	96	38 709	6 560	14 %
Global	Climate resilience (998PL512)	43 000	37 598	87	32 149	5 449	14 %
Finland	Global citizenship education (998PL501)	313 829	275 114	88	235 245	39 869	14 %
Finland	Policy advocacy in Finland (998PL501)	161 832	156 925	97	134 184	22 741	14 %
	Global thematic Total	655 661	605 823	92	518 028	87 795	14 %
	GRAND TOTAL	5 807 289	5 590 608	96	4 744 223	846 385	15 %

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	Total budget		"Expenditure vs. budget %"			
Programme activities	5 807 289	5 590 608	72	4 744 223	846 385	15 %
Plan Finland						
MEAL and Quality assurance (998PL406)	155 833	102 784	66	87 889	14 895	14 %
Communications in Finland (998PL516)	352 000	322 684	92	275 921	46 763	14 %
Administration (998PL01)	770 468	716 490	93	612 657	103 833	14 %
Plan Finland programme salaries: Programme management, thematic and MEAL support to the international programmes (998PL518)	619 090	432 331	70	369 678	62 653	14 %
Total Plan Finland	1 897 390	1 574 289	83	1 346 144	228 144	14 %
PROGRAMMES TOTAL 2023	7 704 679	7 164 897	93	6 090 368	1 074 529	15 %
Max 10% unallocated	88 945	-				
Grant total	7 793 624	7 164 897	92	6 090 368	1 074 529	15 %

MFA Financing	€	
Transferred from 2022	548 977	
Funds 2023	6 000 000	
MFA funds available	6 548 977	
Expenditure 2023	-6 090 368	
Carry over to 2024	458 610	
Salary correction	tion -141 893	
Total carry over to 2024	316 717	

#### MFA Financial report 2023

#### **Summary of Plan Finland costs**

Quality Assurance		
Planning, monitoring, technical support and programme development	102 784,00	102 784,00
Global Citizenship Education and Policy advocacy		
Global Citizenship Education	275 114,00	
Policy advocacy in Finland	156 925,00	
	432 039,00	432 039,00
Communications in Finland		
Programme communications	322 684,00	322 684,00
Administration		
Programme related costs of administrative staff	56 392,00	
Share of administration cost of programme teams	278 145,10	
Fundraising activities	211 851,83	
Share of		
Premises	62 828,26	
IT	84 319,56	
Administration cost of management, premises and HR	91 143,32	
Misc.:Organization communication, donor education public, audits	51 038,22	
	289 329,36	
Administration costs total	835 718,29	
MFA approved administration costs 10%	716 489,69	716 489,69
Non-eligible administration costs	119 228,60	
PLAN FINLAND COSTS TOTAL		1 573 996,69

#### Self-funding 2023

1. Project specific self-funding	Donations
Mozambique - Mandziku - My Future (259PL149)	150 313,84
Ethiopia - Yene Raey - My Future (238PL151)	71 756,59
Zimbabwe - My Body My Future (265PL153)	107 234,28
Laos - Anakhot khong-khoi - My Future (745PL224)	124 518,63
Myanmar - Me Me Kanda, Me Me Anagat Pa - My Body My Future (635PL225)	36 966,80
Gender and SRHR (998PL515)	13 175,60
Disability inclusion (998PL517)	6 560,34
Climate resilience (998PL512)	5 448,67
PROJECT SPECIFIC SELF-FUNDING TOTAL	515 974,74
2. Project specific sponsorship funding	
Uganda - An amoko tama - I Decide (285PL150)	196 042,86
Ethiopia - Yene Raey - My Future (238PL151)	71 756,59
PROJECT SPECIFIC SPONSORSHIP FUNDING TOTAL	267 799,45
PROJECT SPECIFIC TOTAL	783 774,19
3. Plan Finland self-funding	
MEAL and Quality assurance (998PL406)	14 895,36
Communications in Finland (998PL516)	46 763,05
Plan Finland administration (998PL01)	103 832,99
Global citizenship education (998PL501)	39 869,25
Policy advocacy in Finland (998PL501)	22 741,42
Plan Finland programme salaries (998PL518)	62 652,99
PLAN FINLAND TOTAL	290 755,05
SELF-FUNDING TOTAL	1 074 529,24

