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<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANM</td>
<td>Auxiliary Nurse Midwife</td>
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<td>ART</td>
<td>Antiretroviral Therapy</td>
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<td>ASHA</td>
<td>Accredited Social Health Activist</td>
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<td>AWW</td>
<td>Anganwadi Workers</td>
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<td>CMHO</td>
<td>Chief Medical Health Officer</td>
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<td>IEC</td>
<td>Information Education Communication</td>
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<td>JOVT</td>
<td>Job-oriented Vocational Training</td>
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<td>National AIDS Control Organisation</td>
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<td>NCD</td>
<td>Non-Communicable Diseases</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
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<td>NHM</td>
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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR EMERITUS

Dear Reader,

I congratulate Plan India for presenting the Annual Report 2020-21 that highlights significant achievements of bringing gender transformative change in the lives of children, girls and young women.

It is heartening to note that even in the face of daunting effects of COVID-19, Plan India stood firmly and delivered its humanitarian and developmental imperative. In my opinion, Plan India’s strong commitment to help children, girls and young women realise their dreams makes it one of the leading civil society organisations.

While Plan India initiated some innovative ideas into action such as Digital Mitra which empowers girls with digital skills enabling them to create content on girls’ rights and gender equality, it has also started to accelerate the agenda of impacting the lives of 10 million girls and young women. Of the many national flagship events which Plan India along with its stakeholder showcases, the one which is close to my heart is the Children Literary Festival. It is an event wherein children immerse themselves in reimagining a gender equal world in textbooks, stories and images. I was fortunate enough to be a part of its second edition which was held in 2020 (Hyderabad), and was enthralled to observe and feel the overall enthusiasm of the participating children. Unfortunately, before we could move forward with further planning the COVID-19 pandemic struck us all.

I hope fervently that the COVID-19 subsides and we are able to resume the effort of reviving the children creativity festival with fresh vision and vigour.

I offer my best wishes to Plan India, its staff, supporters and the millions of communities that it has been serving for more than 42 years.

Best wishes

Govind Nihalani
Chair Emeritus, Plan India
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It is always a matter of great happiness to look back at a year that was a very difficult one and yet when Plan India made it to the first line. We faced unprecedented challenges like everyone else in the world did.

The year 2020-21 unfolded with the first and the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Plan India stood firm on its commitments and delivered on its purpose to fulfil the developmental as well as humanitarian imperative. It re-organised itself and immediately launched an ambitious humanitarian response programme to serve the most vulnerable families in distress and in need of immediate assistance.

And through a consistent and collaborative approach, Plan India was able to provide 4,000 tonnes of food aid in the form of nutritious food kits to the most needy and marginalised. It also supported the Government of India’s public service communication on COVID appropriate behaviour by training more than 2 million children, adolescent and youth on the need to wear masks, maintain social distance and follow hand hygiene practices.

Plan India also ensured the availability of critical medical services to the most marginalised, especially persons with life-threatening diseases like HIV. Through its flagship project Ahana, Plan India ensured the continuity of their treatment by home-delivering Antiretroviral to 32,818 persons affected by HIV. These included HIV affected pregnant women who were required to continue these medicines to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the disease.

I would like to congratulate Team Plan India for joining the front-liners and putting in concerted efforts to keep the country safe against the pandemic.

All of this would not have been possible without the incredible trust and support from our donors, government stakeholders, corporate partners, national agencies, local authorities and the wider NGO community. I take this opportunity to thank them for their unwavering support towards the mandate of Plan India.

I am confident that Plan India will continue to work relentlessly in its mission to achieve gender equality and development of the nation while bringing about a lasting and sustainable change for children, girls and young women.

Rathi Vinay Jha
President, Plan India Governing Board

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

One of the things that I enjoy most about my work at Plan India is the opportunity to partner and support girls, boys and young women from underprivileged families to overcome their biggest challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has created new and unprecedented challenges for the families and communities we serve, making it necessary to intensify our collaborative work with public health experts, government and donors to mitigate the adverse impacts. It is with enormous pride, I share that over the past year Plan India has firmly stood up to the pandemic and successfully implemented humanitarian and innovative solutions for some of the most needy and under-served families and communities.

In our country, given the diversity and opportunities, there is much in the social and economic development space that Plan India and our partners and friends could achieve. Over the past few years, we have made significant progress for girls, boys and young women. However there are certain issues that still persist and which are likely to be worsened by the pandemic, thus needing our collective response. Child malnutrition, education of girls, gender-based violence, child marriages and workforce participation of women are some of the problems that still impede India’s growth story. The Government of India has done well to curb these statistics through its flagship welfare schemes of Beti bachao, Beti padhao, Ayushman Bharat, Poshan Abhiyaan, Skills India, Jan Dhan, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Midday Meals. The social impacts for the poor and vulnerable people can be even more significant as civil society organisations, corporates and communities join hands and together contribute to the uptake of these government schemes and benefits.

Many people living in poverty and vulnerable situations are unaware of their rights and entitlements that are provided for their benefit by the government programmes and schemes. Organisations like ours are consistently working with key stakeholders to build this awareness and bridge the gaps. Also civil society can play an important role in helping change the mindsets and ending age old social customs and societal norms that constrain communities and hinder growth and development. Plan India seeks its relevance in bringing ideas of people’s welfare and pathways to inclusive development to the hearts and minds of children, adolescent girls, young women, local self-government, policy makers and donors.

As an organisation, our success is measured in how effective we are in bridging this gap. We consider our efforts successful when children and the youth, especially girls, lead and drive the change in their families and communities; and in the process are able to gain benefits for themselves and their peers. It is immensely encouraging to note that during the COVID-19 pandemic many children and young people who were part of our programs and projects are leading the change in their communities. These are the outcomes that we strive for and the motivation we need to go that extra mile! When a family and community decides to plan its own development pathway and makes sustained efforts to resolve them; that is when we are truly successful.
During, 2020-21, our primary focus has been on enabling and supporting children and their families to take effective steps to overcome the unprecedented humanitarian crises posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our response has been centered on ensuring vulnerable families have access to food and nutrition, hygiene and educational materials; and promoting awareness on COVID appropriate behaviour and vaccination. Additionally, we have supported government health service providers with masks, gloves and personal protective equipment to keep themselves safe from the virus while serving the people. More than 0.5 million vulnerable people have been supported by the Plan India team, which also include 30,000 persons living with HIV who were provided with life-saving anti-retroviral drugs at their own homes by our community health workers.

Also through our online education and skills development projects we have ensured continuity of education, learning and skilling for children, adolescents and young people. Innovative projects, namely Shikshanter, Saksham, Nutrition India, Safer Cities for Girls, Young Health Programme and others are setting an example as gender transformative projects that are changing the attitude and mindsets of the younger and the older generation. Plan India’s model on such programmes are being increasingly adopted by the global Plan community. The more such innovative programmes are replicated, the more ideas for improvement come through! It is not just an investment in children, but an investment of capability and confidence in the organisation to usher lasting change.

During the year, Plan India has implemented girl-centered community development projects in 5,600 villages and urban slums across 24 States, partnering with over 9,200 community-based groups and several government and non-government organisations. More than 36,600 young women and men were skilled through our vocational training programs, and 750,000 school children were supported to continue their education and learning at home during the lockdown periods. Project Uday with the aim of advancing financial inclusion of women and gender equality has enabled 44,450 most poor and vulnerable families to overcome the economic distress caused by the pandemic and ensure nutrition security and continuation of education for their children.

I take this opportunity to thank each and every mother, child, adolescents and young people who have been the real change maker and supported the Plan India vision and mission. Also my appreciation and thanks to all the friends, volunteers and partners of Plan India for the tireless work in extremely difficult times and ensuring the project and program activities achieve their purpose. I am also very grateful to the Government and our individual and corporate donors for their partnership and collaboration.

Plan India has a tremendously hardworking staff that always delivers work of the highest quality. I am extremely proud of the effort they put in every day to meet our purpose and objectives. I would also like to express my gratitude towards the Plan India Governing Board members for their strategic steer and guidance to our work.

As we move towards a new tomorrow, putting the pandemic behind, our endeavour would be to build back better with girls and young women and thereby reach out to more children, more families and more communities. The goals set forth in our Country Strategic Plan V and our aspiration to enable “10 million girls are able to learn, lead, decide and thrive” are certainly ambitious but I am confident that together, we can and we will have a positive impact on the lives of children and girls of India for the years to come.

Together we can create an environment where girls can Learn, Lead, Decide and Thrive!

Yours sincerely,

Mohammed Asif
Executive Director, Plan India
OUR JOURNEY

2019
- Partnered with NITI Ayog to further its Aspirational Districts agenda

2009
- Plan India released its first report on ‘State of the Girl Child in India’

2006
- Plan India engaged in a big way in humanitarian sector by responding to the Asian Tsunami

1996
- Plan India registered as a national organisation

1992
- Plan India’s first cohort of sponsored children proceeded to quality life

1979
- Plan International began operations in India

OUR APPROACH

Standards integrated in all organisational and programming components:

PARTICIPATION
- Working with communities, youth, self-help groups and community-based organisations

INCLUSION
- Tackling exclusion and gender inequality through all our programmes

PARTNERSHIPS
- Partnering with networks, civil society organisations, international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the United Nations

INFLUENCING
- Governments, corporates and foundations

ACCOUNTABILITY
- Strengthening Plan India’s systems and processes
OUR PURPOSE
We strive for a just world that advances children’s rights and equality for girls

OUR GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Assam
4. Bihar
5. Chhattisgarh
6. Delhi
7. Jharkhand
8. Karnataka
9. Madhya Pradesh
10. Maharashtra
11. Manipur
12. Meghalaya
13. Mizoram
14. Nagaland
15. Odisha
16. Puducherry
17. Rajasthan
18. Sikkim
19. Tamil Nadu
20. Telangana
21. Tripura
22. Uttar Pradesh
23. Uttarakhand
24. West Bengal

5,600 Villages & Urban locations
400 Districts + 9 Aspirational Districts
24 States

Plan India Presence
Plan India Offices
Plan India Project Areas

India Country Office
PLAN IN NUMBERS

PEOPLE REACHED UNDER STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1 MILLION

children and young people (aged below 24 years) were reached directly through various activities under Plan India’s strategic objectives

out of which

58% were girls and young women

TOTAL REACH

885,206
Early Childhood Development

817,621
Gender Transformative Child Protection

752,244
Inclusive Quality Education

697,371
Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights

36,652
Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship

1,492,350
Humanitarian Response

PROJECTS

166
Projects and programmes implemented in the Financial Year 2020-21 (FY-20)

161
Crores of total annual expenditure in FY-20

LOCATIONS

24 States, 353 Districts and over 5,000 Villages and urban slums benefitted from the projects and programmes

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

9,203
Community-based organisations of women, children, adolescents and young people

133
Local, national, and international NGOs, development institutions, universities and technical resource agencies

58
National and international Corporate Social Responsibility partners

30
National and state level government institutions, departments and agencies

PARTICIPATION

5,723
Community members trained in gender equality

CHILD PROTECTION

2,052
Staff in partner organisations and institutions trained in child protection

1,964
Community members and volunteers trained in child protection

90%
Of Projects and programmes with one or more activities are gender transformative in scope

COVID-19 RESPONSE

0.5 MILLION
People sensitised on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and vaccination
Due to COVID-19 pandemic, financial year 2020-21 ushered in fresh and unprecedented challenges for the vulnerable people, particularly girls and young women. It unleashed a massive global health crisis that requires large-scale behavioural change.

Plan India, as part of its mandate under Country Strategy V, is committed to advance rights, equality and justice for all girls and young women in India. Through rights based and gender transformative interventions on education, youth economic empowerment, sexual reproductive health and rights, gender based violence, nutrition and disaster risk management, Plan India hopes to help girls and young women become more aware of their rights. In order to mitigate the negative impact of COVID-19, we worked towards strengthening the agency of girls to navigate and overcome the crisis by working closely with their families, communities and government system.

While the government took measures to curtail the spread of COVID-19, Plan India launched Project Suraksha to fight against the first wave of COVID-19 and #HelpIndiaHeal during the second wave. Both the initiatives outlined the goal, objectives and scope of Plan India’s humanitarian response to support the poorest and the most vulnerable people to overcome the crisis. Project Suraksha provided gender sensitive public health and humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable families, in particular, girls and young women, so that the impact of the crises was minimised. On the other hand, Project #HelpIndiaHeal was aimed at directly supporting 200,000 COVID-19 infected and affected persons and their families. It indirectly supported 1 million poor and vulnerable families through COVID-19 prevention, vaccination and food security interventions.

During the last year, we focused on girls and young women (under 24 years) primarily from families challenged by social, economic, geographic and attitudinal vulnerabilities which were further aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We worked with young people to help them acquire knowledge and skills, built their agency, and created safe spaces and systems; thus enabling girls in particular to have a strong voice and participate in decisions that affect their lives and well-being.

We leveraged our learning and good practices from grassroots programming to extend technical assistance to state governments that needed our support in order to improve gender budgeting and governance indicators. This enabled us to put in place robust monitoring and learning mechanisms, leveraging cutting-edge technologies to continually assess and improve our work and efforts.

Our values are embedded in how we work and recruit people, challenge power imbalances, introduce participatory methodologies, and uphold feminist leadership principles in our project life cycle and organisation.
Project Shikshantar has been initiated to ensure continuity of education for children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project provided high quality remedial education to children enrolled in grades VI to X in Delhi, Bihar and Odisha, with particular focus on girls. The initiative is aligned with ‘Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao’ campaign of the Government of India including SDG 4.1 that aims to ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

55 Youth Fellows were trained to provide remedial classes, track assessment through online MIS, and apply multiple strategies to support children in continuing their education. These Youth Fellows are aspiring young volunteers from the local community and serve as part-time teachers. They recorded teaching sessions on topics related to Mathematics, Science and English and shared them with children over digital platforms. Through this innovative low-cost digital-enabled pedagogy, children’s interest in education is raised, resulting in improved learning outcomes in core foundational concepts in science, mathematics and also helped in acquiring socio-emotional skills. Each Youth Fellow supported around 100 children from marginalised communities. The majority of these children are girls from remote rural and tribal villages of Bihar and Odisha and deprived pockets of urban Delhi.

In addition, Plan India also provided scholarship of INR 4,000 to children enrolled in schools in 4 states – Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi and Jharkhand to help cover the costs related to their education during the COVID-19. The families were encouraged to utilise the scholarship amount for buying books, stationery, bags, school uniform for the children and also for any additional learning support the child may need.

“Taking these classes has made me realise that I can fulfil my dream of becoming a teacher. I too get to learn a lot while teaching the children," says Preeti, one such Youth Fellow from Shivanandpur village in Samastipur, Bihar.
 PARAMARSH

Project Paramarsh is developed to provide career guidance and counselling support to youth, particularly girls and young women in the age group of 15 to 24 years from vulnerable communities. The initiative is aligned to the Government of India’s initiatives such as National Career Service and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan including SDG 8 that aims to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and promote decent work for all.

Paramarsh enables aspiring youths, particularly the girls to choose the right careers and pursue higher education as per their aptitude and guide them to join the workforce with informed career options. Along with the career guidance, the youth are oriented on life skills, socio-emotional skills and are educated on their sexual and reproductive health and rights. The project sensitises parents to understand girls’ rights, prevent drop out of children from schools, motivate them to continue higher education and ensure their career growth in life.

“Young people are very adaptive. The project will be especially helpful for those who are not sure about their future plans. It also gives us the flexibility to change our course of study in case we find something that we are interested in,” said Sujata, a student from Delhi.

1,533
Youths provided with career guidance and counselling

985
Youths including 741 girls participated in the online assessment process and shared their profiles
Project Uday was launched to advance financial inclusion and financial literacy of women in vulnerable families in order to promote gender equality and gender transformative development. It is a direct cash transfer scheme that enables vulnerable families to improve their livelihoods and address other immediate needs like nutrition, educational requirements of children, adolescents and young women.

The project assisted women in overcoming the barriers to access and use banking services. Under the project, one woman member of each family was supported with the opening of a bank account and transferred cash worth 5,000 INR. The bank transfer helped increase their participation in economic activities and in augmenting the family income.

The financial support helped family members to not only ensure a nutritious and balanced meal for 30 days to a family but also reduced the chances of girls dropping out of the mainstream education system due to financial constraints.

“My husband lost his job during the COVID-19 pandemic and the floods also affected our cultivated land putting us under tremendous financial pressure. But timely support from Plan India’s Project Uday helped me in purchasing a sewing machine and now I am earning enough to sustain my family,” said Priyanka Devi, Bihar.

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- **44,450** Women supported with conditional cash transfer for nutrition and education for children and family
- **4,000** Bank accounts opened in the name of mothers
The second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic had adversely impacted Bhanumati’s (35) family as they had lost their income due to the lockdown and restrictions imposed on movements. Bhanumati lives in a small village of Ghatgaon block in the Keonjhar district of Odisha along with her husband and three daughters. The family had no means to sustain their living as Bhanumati’s husband, who worked as a daily wage labourer, had lost his job. Her two elder daughters, who were studying in primary school, were at the risk of discontinuing their education without any source of income to support their school fees.

Bhanumati was later identified under Project Uday and was supported with a direct bank transfer of 5,000 INR. This was a boon for her family in the time of crisis and opened up new opportunities for them. Bhanumati decided to start her own goat rearing unit with the money and bought three goats for 4,500 INR. She used the remaining amount to buy dry ration for her family.

“I have opened a goat rearing unit with the amount supported by Plan India. It helped me to earn and supplement the family income. I can now also save money for my daughters which can be utilised for their education, health and marriage in future. I am thankful to Plan India for this support,” she said.

Today, Bhanumati is hopeful of earning a good income from her new business and dreams of a bright future for her daughters.
SAKSHAM

Saksham is working for the economic empowerment of youth, particularly girls and young women by providing them skills to gain financial independence. It imparts market-oriented vocational training and entrepreneurial skills to youths from marginalised communities in rural and urban settings.

The programme not only encourages girls to take up skill training, but also provides linkages to employment for mainstreaming their participation in socio-economic development.

Project Saksham seeks to improve the skills of youth in IT-enabled services, Retail Sales and Marketing, Tally and Accounting and Logistic and soft skills such as spoken English, basic computers, communication skills etc. This has improved the opportunities for youth to gain employment and start entrepreneurial activities. The project at present is being implemented in Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Lucknow, Dehradun, Jaipur, Hyderabad and Bengaluru.

Saksham intervention has resulted in increasing youth’s access to career development opportunities, improved financial security and living standards. It has helped increase the mobility of girls and their decision making capacities. It boosts their confidence enabling them to earn and contribute to household income.

“I am very pleased to say that my experience of associating with Saksham has been excellent in imparting training on skill development and I feel it as a privilege in hiring their students working with us,” said Ms. Preethi, Sr. HR Executive from SAP Access.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 4,449 Young aspirants including 2,783 girls have been trained
- 3,091 Young people including 1,720 girls have been placed in decent employment

Young aspirants
Young people including girls have been trained

Young people including girls have been placed in decent employment
PERIOD
POVERTY
AWARENESS ON MENSTRUAL HYGIENE AND HEALTH

Plan India launched Menstrual Hygiene Education in India as part of striving for adolescent girls’ health and ending period poverty. The main aim is to ensure that girls are able to manage menstruation with confidence, dignity, safety and confidence. This is strategised through a gender transformative process resulting in a positive change in attitude, including stigma related to menstrual health and hygiene. The project aims to reach 20,000 direct beneficiaries and 700,000 indirect beneficiaries in Jharkhand and Delhi.

The initiative was launched on Menstrual Hygiene Day, 28 May 2021 through a webinar - ‘Let’s Talk Periods’ in partnership with senior government officials, experts and civil society organisations. The webinar focused on prioritising the importance of menstrual health and hygiene and minimising the related social stigma and taboo.

The project is spreading awareness about menstrual hygiene and health through inter-generational dialogues providing a platform for girls and their parents to openly talk about menstrual health.

"The project provided me opportunities to raise girls’ perspectives and challenges during their menstruation cycle, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has built confidence in me to organise meetings with mothers and daughters and have dialogues on adopting improved menstrual health and hygiene practices," said Roshini, Jharkhand.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

3,584
Adolescent girls and boys reached through awareness campaigns and Health Information Centres

“"
MENSTRUAL HYGIENE FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

Addressing the need for adolescent girls’ health, education and overall development, Plan India is implementing ‘Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene Friendly Schools’ in 6 government schools of Hyderabad to promote sexual and reproductive health among children and menstrual hygiene management among girls.

The project aims to showcase these government schools as Menstrual Hygiene Friendly Schools by improving their WASH facilities. The project looks to creating an enabling environment for girls through capacity building of teachers, girls, boys and management committee members on menstrual hygiene and reproductive health.

Being implemented in collaboration with the District Education Department, the project is guided by a baseline study in the implementation area. The study revealed that mensuration is still regarded as something impure in society. Girls do not have adequate knowledge about related hygiene practices and access to conducive environments and facilities at schools, which may cause adverse health and developmental outcomes for them.

“I was scared and felt ashamed when I attained menarche (first day of menstruation). I did not share my feelings with anyone but only a friend,” said a class 9 girl.
ADVANCING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Plan India works to increase knowledge and awareness of vulnerable communities on sexual and reproductive rights and family planning by diversifying the service delivery system, integrating different converging departments and strengthening institutional systems. Under the project called ‘Addressing Gender Based Vulnerabilities in Migration through Institutional Strengthening of Panchayats’ young men and women, particularly from the Dalit community, are mobilised and connected with the state government’s flagship scheme ‘Mission Parivar Vikas’.

The project builds the capacities of Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) within the National Health Mission (NHM) for quality family planning services. It engages community stakeholders, service providers and existing health facilities for supporting the awareness drive on sexual and reproduction health rights and also cater to the increased demand for family planning commodities and services.

The project is being implemented in 216 villages of Sheikhpura district in Bihar, where the majority population is of marginalised communities. The project is designed to improve access to Sexual and Reproductive health services involving multiple flagship programmes of the government – Mahadalit Vikas Mission; Mission Parivar Vikas, National Health Mission, Integrated Child Development Services and Jeevika – these programmes have a mandate of improving Dalit communities development, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and family planning outcomes as the focus.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

15,763 People registered under ‘WE CARE’ mobile application
10,824 People started adopting family planning methods
10 Family planning corners started in Health and Well-Being Centers (Primary Health Centres)
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

PROTECT Project is working to address this issue of cross-border trafficking from Nepal and Bangladesh and from within the country by creating strong and vigilant protection mechanisms and safety nets. This is being done by providing training to child protection service providers and duty bearers like Anti-Human Trafficking Units, Special Juvenile Police Units and Border Guarding Forces to ensure strong intercountry linkages to deal with the cases of human trafficking and repatriating the survivors.

Operational in the three states- Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal that share international borders, the project strives to bring changes at three levels; family, community and society. At the family level, the project ensures that children and families can identify risks, vulnerable conditions and consequences of child trafficking. At the community level, the project works to strengthen community safety nets and structures to prevent child trafficking, facilitate access to services and support reintegration through child-friendly participatory methods. Finally, at the societal level, it builds capacities of government officials and non-state actors like NGOs and Community-based Organisations so that they can respond to child trafficking, safely repatriate survivors and facilitate their reintegration process. The project also facilitate the creation of children’s collective and build their capacities to ensure their participation in developing safety plan for themselves.

The project started in January 2019 and is currently targeting 666 border adjoining villages of 150 Gram Panchayats in 6 districts of the three states- West Champaran and Sitamarhi in Bihar, Siddharthanagar and Maharajganj in Uttar Pradesh and Nadia & Murshidabad districts in West Bengal.

"With schools closed and no source of income for families have triggered an overwhelming sense of fear and insecurity among people. Plan India told us about the early signs of trafficking and available helpline numbers. I will spread this message during my interaction with community members and will definitely report any such case if I come to know about it," said Tripathi, ASHA Worker from Siddharthnagar district of UP.
NUTRITION AND MATERNAL HEALTHCARE
INCLUSIVE AND QUALITY NUTRITION

The project Reach Each Child intervenes in the first 1000 days of a newborn, utilising digital and artificial intelligence-based innovative modules in two tribal districts of Maharashtra - Nandurbar and Amravati.

It is strengthening the health, hygiene and nutrition status of pregnant women and children and has a target of 40% reduction in the number of stunted children under 5 years of age, and reducing and maintaining childhood wasting to less than 5%.

The project works on an integrated, multi-sectoral approach that involves communities, civil society organisations and government agencies. Its design employs distinct features like ethnographic research which seeks to understand the gaps, needs and on-ground realities of the lives of the families. Similarly, interventions are designed with a human-centric approach which involved talking to the community to capture socio-cultural insights before designing the programme. These research informed decisions, such as the location and timings of centres, resulted in enhanced adoption and social acceptability of the programme outreach and engaging first-of-its-kind female-only cadre of Community Nutrition Workers (CNWs).

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **75,021** Home visits done by 41 CNWs with an average of 10 homes visited visit/day
- **39,880** Under-5 children were reached by the interventions carried out under the programme
- **4,099** High-risk pregnant women provided support through multiple interventions
- **2,560** Under-5 children were provided treatment under the programme
- **2,422** Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Days attended by 41 CNWs and 4 Cluster Coordinators
- **91.4%** Out of 1,386 deliveries for high-risk women, 984 were at the institutions
- **91.4%** Pregnant women initiated breastfeeding within one hour of birth
- **27.6%** Increase from the baseline in breastfeeding
- **9%** Increase from the baseline in institution deliveries
SUCCESS STORY

Duddhi Madya Pawara (27) was a pregnant mother registered with the Reach Each Child Programme from Shelkui village of Nandurbar district in Maharashtra.

Duddhi gave institutional birth to twins in 2019 named Sita and Gita weighing 3.0 kg and 2.8 kg respectively. But due to COVID-19 and subsequent lockdowns, economic stability for many families, including hers, was at stake and the movement restrictions posed a great risk for the children’s health, development, growth and even protection.

The twins, Sita and Gita, were identified by the Programme’s Community Nutrition Workers (CNWs) last year. The CNWs are trained by public health experts and community development specialists to identify vulnerable pregnant women and children. The twins were suffering from diarrhea and were not given timely food because of which both children had fallen ill. The family was not able to avail any medical services due to non-availability of transport.

The twins were immediately taken to the nearest Primary Health Centre and provided with immediate care and treatment. Later they were referred to the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre (NRC). The family didn’t have money to support their treatment, so they were provided with vouchers from the Reach Each Child Programme which covered the medical costs and also provided transportation for hospital visits. Both the twins underwent 15-day treatment after which they recovered from the illness as well as from malnutrition.

Several follow-ups were made after the children were discharged, along with multiple counselling sessions with the family and neighbours. The family was counselled for six months with information such as food intake for children, special care in terms of hygiene, water and cleanliness, diarrhoea, and were also given zinc tablets.

As a result, the children’s weight became normal for their age, indicating healthy physical and mental growth, eventually leading to a happy childhood.
SAVING LIVES OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

Supported by Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), Project Ahana is partnering with National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) in reaching the country’s mandate of elimination of mother to child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV by 2024 March.

Through 8 sub-recipients, the project is being implemented in 14 states covering 357 districts - Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

With the help of its dedicated outreach team, the project has been successful in ensuring that more than 99% identified HIV Positive Pregnant Women (PPW) were linked with treatment, 83% infants received EID (Early Infant Diagnosis) within 2 months and more than 98% spouses and partners received HIV testing.

During the COVID-19 lockdown, public transport services were affected across the country, negatively impacting the access of PPW to health services. Ahana outreach team facilitated the HIV testing of 965,6340 pregnant women and ensured treatment adherence by delivering medicines at the door steps of the 32,818 People Living with HIV (PLHIV) including the PPW. It linked 12,836 PLHIV families with nutrition and ration services.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **9,656,340** Pregnant women (above 18 years) received HIV Testing
- **3,505** HIV Exposed Infants received Dried Blood Spot testing under EID within 2 months of birth
- **3,155** Women (above 18 years) were linked to ARV treatment and continued with Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission continuum of care package services
- **32,818** PLHIVs were delivered Antiretroviral (ARV) medicines at home during lockdown
- **12,836** Spouse/partners of PPWs (above 18 years) received HIV testing
- **12,836** PLHIV families directly benefitted through linkages with nutrition services or ration service initiated by the government during lockdown
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE
FRONTLINE WARRIORS

Given the unprecedented surge in COVID-19 cases and its adverse impact on the deprived families, Plan India, as part of its humanitarian mandate, started an awareness drive and distribution of food and hygiene kits to COVID-19 infected and affected families in the remotest parts of the country.

Working beyond the pandemic constraints, over 700 Plan India frontline workers and volunteers played a pivotal role in driving the humanitarian response in Plan India operation areas across 15 states. This included the distribution of food and nutrition kits and creating mass awareness on COVID appropriate behaviour among children and adults. They also led the on-ground mass awareness campaign in partnership with the communities in rural and urban areas and local institutions to protect children, girls, and young people from poor and vulnerable families.

Forming the backbone of Plan India’s humanitarian aid, the frontline workers made regular home visits to sensitise people on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. They addressed vaccine hesitancy by encouraging people to take the vaccination, helped with vaccine registration on the COWIN app and supported them with visits to the local vaccination centres. They used different outreach tools to spread awareness, like home visits and public announcements in the community, while following all COVID-19 protocols.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **333,902** People sensitised on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and vaccination
- **315,500** Sanitary pads distributed among girls and women
- **126,200** People distributed with personal hygiene kits
- **63,100** Hand soaps distributed
- **62,985** People supported with dry ration kits
- **45,881** People supported to get the 1st dose of vaccination
- **25,554** People supported with registration on COVID-19 app (COWIN)
- **16,620** COVID-19 infected people reached with food kits and nutrition kits
- **9,948** People supported with 2nd dose of vaccination
- **2,025** COVID-19 affected people reached with food kits and nutrition kits
- **700+** Plan India frontline workers and volunteers led the humanitarian response
JOINING HANDS FOR #HELPINDIAHEAL

In the fight against COVID-19 pandemic, Plan India worked with the various Government stakeholders and forged partnerships with district-level administrations, state governments, national institutions and organisations like NITI Aayog to guide its strategies and interventions in humanitarian relief.
ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

Plan India collaborated with NITI Aayog to improve indicators in Health and Nutrition in seven aspirational districts including Siddharthnagar (Uttar Pradesh), Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Hazaribagh, West Singhbhum, Kunti (Jharkhand), Karauli (Rajasthan) and Muzzafarpur (Bihar).

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS

COVID-19 pandemic led to the disruption of routine healthcare services with closure of routine outpatient departments, immunisation clinics, and antenatal services. Plan India, being a leading humanitarian organisation, collaborated with government hospitals and state administrations to extend support in strengthening the government healthcare institutions by providing life-saving equipment, thereby enabling them to have proper treatment facilities for COVID-19 patients.

To improve the capacity for COVID-19 treatment, we provided 36 oxygen concentrators, installed 2 oxygen generation plants (500 liters per minute) and also provided infrastructure supplementation (ICU beds and infrared thermometers) in 13 government healthcare centers.

Support was also provided to COVID frontline warriors such as doctors, nurses, lab technicians and other frontline workers who were engaged in preventive and curative treatment. This was done by distributing 336,520 masks and 26,000 PPE Kits across the country. The capacity for COVID-19 treatment was also strengthened by providing infrastructural supplements such as ICU beds and infrared thermometers in 13 government healthcare centers.
GIRL CHANGEMAKERS

To advance girls’ rights and gender equality, Plan India works with girls, young women and youth to drive its on-ground development initiatives. During the lockdown last year, young girls and boys joined hands with Plan India and shared video messages for promoting positive health-seeking behaviours, preventive steps to stay safe. Other gender related issues such as challenges faced by girls due to disruption of schools, and lack of access to menstrual hygiene were also taken up. This year too, young girls and boys supported Plan India in mitigating the health and humanitarian crisis by spreading on-ground awareness on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and strengthening vaccination efforts among marginalised and hard-to-reach communities.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

While the government took measures to curtail the spread of COVID-19, Plan India collaborated with community-based organisations at the grass root level to engage people in health messaging as part of the COVID-19 relief response. We worked closely with gram panchayats, self-help groups, youth groups, adolescent girls groups, mothers groups, local leaders, individuals and key stakeholders. These groups played a crucial role at every step of our relief work, from the selection of beneficiaries to implementation and management of the entire distribution process, at the same time ensuring adherence to COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. They also helped in the dissemination of information and fostering the promotion of COVID-19 vaccination among high-risk and marginalised populations.
Along with the COVID-19 lockdown, the destruction caused by Cyclone Amphan in West Bengal is expected to leave tremendous impact for years to come on the rural population living in the southern parts of the state.

Cyclone Amphan damaged various parts of the state and razed houses to the ground, destroyed crops, uprooted trees and electric poles. Thousands of people were left homeless, bridges washed away and low-lying areas inundated in waist-deep water. Many parts of the districts of south 24 Parganas and the capital city of Kolkata were flooded and 14 million people had to manage without electricity.

As part of Plan India’s disaster response management, an impact assessment was done to guide the relief work. It was noticed that the impact of the cyclone was more on girls and women as they lost their houses and household items, forcing them to live in crowded and unhygienic shelters. An unfortunate few even had to live on the streets.

Particularly focusing on the needs of girls and women, Plan India was one of the first organisations to reach out to the cyclone-impacted families with essential life-saving kits like food kits and non-food essential items.

**CYCLONE AMPHAN RESPONSE**

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### CYCLONE AMPHAN RESPONSE

- **5,666** Families were supported with food and non-food items.
- **2,128** BPL families supported
- **880** Female headed households
- **695** Pregnant and lactating mothers
- **539** Migrants’ families and homeless
- **376** Families with disabled members
Plan India, as part of its efforts towards building Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces for women and girls, is developing comprehensive approaches for reclaiming public spaces and ensuring women’s safety. Pink Toilets is one such initiative. It is trying to increase women’s physical and economic mobility by creating safe public spaces, thereby increasing their participation in school, work, and public life.

Meant for only women, these toilets do more than just provide privacy to them. Though they are also used by children, disabled people and transgenders, Pink Toilets provide special all-inclusive facilities for women’s sanitation practices. These toilets have sanitary pad vending machines to dispense pads at a subsidised rate and are equipped with a breastfeeding room, a changing room, disabled-friendly toilet seats and incinerators to dispose of used sanitary napkins to prevent pollution. These toilets are well lit and ensure the presence of a trained woman attendant during the operating hours for maintaining hygiene and safety at the premises.

Currently, there are 9 operational toilets in Delhi under the project. During the last year, 82,949 girls and women benefitted from the facility.

The initiative is not only ensuring accessibility of safe and hygienic facilities to girls and women but is also aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of transforming urban spaces and facilities to be more safe, inclusive and accessible for them.
Digital Mitra is an innovative idea empowering young girl changemakers with the knowledge of digital storytelling and social media platforms, thereby also addressing the issue of digital inclusion and the digital gender divide.

15 girl changemakers were selected from 8 states – Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar, Telangana, Rajasthan and Jharkhand and were trained in storytelling, campaign development and visual arts such as photography and videography using basic smartphones.

The project enabled them to advocate for girls’ rights and equality by providing them skills to create content on issues that matter most to them and their socio-economic well-being, such as gender inequality, violence and discrimination were the main focus of the content.

Girls, as part of the project, created more than 40 impactful videos highlighting social issues like child marriage, menstruation hygiene management, gender equality, sports for development, girls’ rights and safety and digital literacy. The content was aired through Plan India social media handles and also through girls’ individual channels receiving over 213K impressions and reaching 100K viewers.

“The best thing I liked about the project is that all of our concerns were properly addressed and we were taught in a very good manner. For example- how we can make our content more impactful and what are the precautions that we should take before posting on social media. I also learnt a great deal about video editing,” said Deeksha from Uttarakhand.
KEY INITIATIVES
On International Day of the Girl (IDG) 2020, Plan India had the privilege of joining forces with more than 20 Girl Changemakers who participated in the social media takeovers of 18 Diplomatic Missions, one Corporate, and an Online Media Platform. The Girls’ Takeovers are a testament to the power and potential of girls, and an emphatic challenge to perceptions about what is possible for girls and young women as decision-makers, leaders and change makers. The social media takeovers focused on the theme of #EqualUnlock, calling to ensure that girls’ rights and equality should be prioritised in a post-COVID world.

Hailing from 9 Indian states—Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh—Girl Changemakers interacted with the Diplomatic Missions, Corporates, and Media online, curated content for the social media on issues that matter to them and brought their keen insight and perspectives to the table.

Harnessing the power of digital media and focusing on the positive exchange of experiences, Plan India engaged four well-known influencers - Tashi and Nungshi Malik (the twin sisters who have triumphed Seven Summits and awarded the Nari Shakti Puraskar by the Government of India), Tania Sachdev (chess player, who holds the FIDE titles of International Master and Woman Grandmaster) and Ria Rajeshwari Kumari (Trapshooting champion). The sports celebrities interacted with the girls and shared their stories of overcoming odds and making it to the top.

The Social Media Takeovers included platforms of Delegation of the European Union to India, Embassy of Argentina, Australian High Commission, Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium, High Commission of Canada, Embassy of the Czech Republic, Royal Danish Embassy, Embassy of Finland, Embassy of France, Embassy of Israel, Embassy of Ireland, Embassy of Latvia, Embassy of Lithuania, Embassy of Mexico, Embassy of Netherlands, Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, Embassy of Sweden and the Embassy of Switzerland; the content platform The Better India – English; and the corporate H&M (Hennes & Mauritz Retail Private Limited).

9M accounts reached through conversations on #EqualUnlock across platforms generating 6.1K engagement

629+ conversations recorded on all platforms on 11 Oct, the International Day of the Girl 2020

208 stories on Instagram mentioned #EqualUnlock campaign
Plan India Impact Awards went into its fourth edition this year. The award honours the exemplary work of outstanding frontline workers and community volunteers who work tirelessly to make a real difference in society. The Awards aimed to provide last mile champions with an impetus to continue selfless work and reinforce the best practices in the field.

This year, the scale and scope of the Awards was further widened to include nominations from across the country. The categories were also increased to 10 with the addition of one special category for the last mile champions and another for recognising the efforts and contribution of Self-Help Groups.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines, the entire process of the Awards was done digitally, including calling of nominations, evaluation and hosting of the award ceremony.

Out of the 760 stellar nominations received, 30 outstanding last mile champions were recognised as Plan India Impact Awards 2021 winners. They led the uptake and delivery of much-needed services at the village, district, state and national level.

The winners were rewarded with a sum of INR 10,000 and the runners-up with INR 7,000 for each category. The Awards also benefited from strategic partnerships with several notable organisations and entities committed to advancing the development agenda. These include CSR Box, United Nations Global Compact Network India, Women’s Web, The Good Sight and Josh Talks.

The ten categories for this year included:

1. Best Anganwadi Worker
2. Best Accredited Social Health Activist/Auxiliary Nurse Midwife
3. Best Child Welfare Committee
4. Best Young Change-maker (Male)
5. Best Young Change-maker (Female)
6. Best Community Volunteer (including COVID Warrior)
7. Best Women’s Self Help Group
8. Special Award – Last Mile Champion for Girls Rights
9. Best Plan India Frontline Worker (Samagra Bal Vikas Mitras) and Other Project level Frontline Worker
10. Best Plan India Ahana Prerak
WORLD TB DAY CAMPAIGN

Supporting the Government of India’s initiative to eradicate TB by 2025, Plan India launched a month-long campaign on World TB Day 24 March 2021, to mobilise 100,000 girls and young women across the country to pledge their support for TB elimination. Plan India led the social behaviour change campaign in the communities and raised awareness on the three important aspects of TB elimination – prevention by early detection, treatment adherence and fighting against the related stigma. The campaign witnessed on-ground activities in 16 districts across 6 states.

100,000 Girls and young women participated in the campaign and showed their solidarity towards eliminating TB.
With the thought of “Together We can do More”, we partnered with Plan to implement the ‘Parivartan’ Model School Project at Haridwar.

It is always been a good feeling that our programme is achieving the desired results. Plan India have good reach and sharp understanding of the field which helped us to maintain the momentum of Education Delivery near to children home at villages during the tough times of COVID-19. We are successfully meeting our objectives of providing the Equal Opportunities to the children of the very remote villages, which is something very inspiring to us and the communities we work.

Gambhir Agarawal, Head-CSR, Relaxo

Deutsche Bank is privileged to partner with Plan India to help youth from disadvantaged communities find gainful employment. Over the last five years we have supported Plan India to implement projects that provide youth with vocational and skills training to improve their employability chances and overcome barriers like insufficient experience, incomplete formal education and underdeveloped communication skills, among others. Our employees are always eager to volunteer and conduct sessions on financial literacy, communication and workplace readiness. They also share their own professional experiences which bring an additional dimension to the learning experience.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Plan India has led a tremendous effort to provide virtual training to these youth, at a time when they need to find employment to protect their livelihoods. Truly inspirational and commendable efforts which serve to fulfill a key requirement towards the future of our country.

Khurshed Dordi, Group Chief Operating Officer, Deutsche Bank India
OUR PARTNERS

CORPORATE PARTNERS
Deutsche Bank
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Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
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Hennes & Mauritz Retail Pvt Limited
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Relaxo Foundation
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AstraZeneca India Limited
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INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Child Resilience Alliance
Fundacion Heres
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
National AIDS Control Organization (NACO)
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

GRANTS SUPPORTED BY PLAN

INTERNATIONAL NATIONAL OFFICES
Plan International France – Fondation Enticelle
Plan International Korea - Hyundai Motor Group, Mobis India Foundation, Hyundai Motor India Foundation
Plan International Netherlands - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Netherlands, NPL
Plan International UK - AstraZeneca
Plan International USA - TOMS Shoes; Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Plan International Germany
Plan International Japan - The Pokemon Company
Plan International Hong Kong - Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)
Plan International Norway

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS
MAHITA, Telangana
MARI (Modern Architects for Rural India), Telangana
REAL (Rural Education and Action for Liberation) - Villupuram, Tamil Nadu
VSP (Vikas Sahyog Pratishthan), Maharashtra
CYDA (Centre for Youth Development and Activities ),Kerala/Maharashtra
Mejoil, Maharashtra
CASAP (Community Aid & Sponsorship Programme), Maharashtra
AMIED, Rajasthan
Prayatn Sansthan, Rajasthan
Nav Jeevan Lok Vikas Santha, Maharashtra
IDF, Bihar
SBMA, Uttarakhand

PLAN IN DIGITAL MEDIA AND NEWS

Plan in Digital Media

Through our digital media assets such as social media platforms and website, we continued to mobilise support and raise voices on gender equality while also leveraging them for information dissemination on Plan India’s gender transformative programmes, critical partnership with the Government, corporate and the community at large.

Even during the COVID-19 lockdown, we actively engaged with our key constituencies such as Girl Changemakers to raise awareness about COVID-19 safety protocols and positive health seeking behaviour. Some of our lead social media campaigns had an overarching reach of over 6 Million.
Plan in News

100+ impactful stories on Plan India programmes, campaigns, innovative projects, girl changemakers and COVID-19 humanitarian response were published. The stories

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

- Resilience in Emergencies: 31%
- Sponsorship Communications: 1%
- Programme Operations: 5%
- Fundraising: 4%
- Inclusive and Quality Nutrition: 3%
- Protection from Gender Based Violence: 7%
- Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship: 4%
- Inclusive Quality Education: 10%
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: 34%
OUR BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Rathi Vinay Jha served in the Indian Administrative Service where as Secretary, Union Ministry of Tourism, she led the team on the ‘Incredible India’ campaign. In her assignment as Director to set up the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) the concept of Fashion Education was introduced for the first time in India.

Ms. Jha has also served after retirement as Secretary General of the World Travel and Tourism Council - India. She is the Founder Chairperson of the Indian Heritage Cities Network, a UNESCO NGO. She is on the Boards of a number of other Trusts and Societies addressing the development sector. She is currently the Chairperson of the India Foundation of Arts as well as a Trustee of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA).

Mr. JVR Prasada Rao is a Former Health Secretary, Government of India and Director General, National AIDS Control Organisation. He has made immense contributions in strengthening the health sector and in formulating India’s response to HIV/AIDS. He is a strong regional voice for prioritising public health in national policies in India and other Asian countries. Mr. Rao was invited to join as the Regional Director of UNAIDS where he led the UN response to AIDS in Asia Pacific countries. He has also held eminent positions in the UN as Special Envoy to the Secretary General, United Nations, and as the Regional Director of UNAIDS for the Asia Pacific region. He facilitated discussions on inclusion of AIDS elimination as a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for 2030 which was finally adopted in the UNGA declaration on SDGs in 2015. Mr. Rao is also a former Commissioner Secretary of a Global Commission on HIV and Law initiated by UNDP.

Mr. Madhukar Kamath has over four decades of experience in Advertising, Media and Marketing services. He is the Chairman Emeritus of the DDB Mudra Group and Mentor of Interbrand India.

A distinguished alumnus of Loyola College Chennai and XLRI Jamshedpur, Mr. Madhukar Kamath has over four decades of experience in Advertising, Media and Marketing services. He is the Chairman Emeritus of the DDB Mudra Group and Mentor of Interbrand India.

Mr. Madhukar has served as the President of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) and is the recipient of their Lifetime Achievement Award. He is also an erstwhile Chairman of ASCI (Advertising Standards Council of India) and the ABC (Audit Bureau of Circulation). As the Chairman of the Mudra Foundation and the Chairperson of the Governing Council of MICA, for over a decade, he helped build MICA into India’s foremost Strategic Marketing and Communications Management Institute. He also served as the President of MICA for the academic year 2016-17. As an Entrepreneur, he is now the Chairman of Multiplier Brand Solutions. He serves on the board of Music Broadcast Ltd. Appointed to the International Board of Plan International in July 2020, he is currently the Vice-Chair.

Mr. Ranjan Chak is an information technology veteran who helped start Hewlett Packard (India), created one of India’s most successful offshore development centres as VP (India Operations), Oracle Corporation, and has been a Visiting Fellow of the Judge Business School of Cambridge University. He has served as a director on the board of a number of technology companies, is currently a Venture Partner with venture capital firm, Oak Investment Partners, and is on the Advisory Board of Vencap, a UK-based investment firm.

Mr. Atul Kirloskar is the Executive Chairman of Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd. and Chairman of Kirloskar Ferrous Ltd. He has a keen interest in operations and people. Mr. Kirloskar channels his passion for excellence to help Plan India meet its objectives efficiently and effectively.

Ms. Shireen Jejeebhoy, PhD, is a demographer and social scientist with over 35 years of research and evaluation experience in the areas of young people’s health and development, women’s empowerment, gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. She has made significant research contributions on adolescent health and development, the empowerment of women and girls, and women’s access to safe abortion. More recently she has also shed light on the consequences of the pandemic for young people’s life. Ms. Jejeebhoy is the Founder and Director of Aksha Centre for Equity and Wellbeing, a non-profit organisation dedicated to enhancing the evidence and evaluating promising practices in her research areas. She is the Vice President of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, and a member of the Governing Boards of the International Institute for Population Sciences and the Population Foundation of India and serves on the Adolescent Health Advisory Group (Project Samagra, PSI). Previously, she served as Senior Associate, Population Council, India and Scientist, Reproductive Health and Research Department, World Health Organisation, Geneva.
Mr. Ajay Gandhi is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of Wings Infonet Pvt. Ltd., developers of the Wings suite of business software products and the Founder Partner of Gandhi and Gandhi, Chartered Accountants, Hyderabad. He is also the Founder Trustee of Manthan Foundation, a forum for public discourse, and a Trustee for Hyderabad Literary Trust, organisers of the Hyderabad Literary Festival. He has also served as Chairman, Hyderabad Branch of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and as Vice President of Andhra Pradesh Tax Bar Association.

Justice Madan B Lokur is a former judge of the Supreme Court of India and presently a judge of the Supreme Court of Fiji. He was appointed as Additional Solicitor General of India in 1998 and a Judge of Delhi High Court in February, 1999. He was the Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court and Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. He was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 4th June, 2012 and retired on 30th December, 2018.

He was the one-man Committee to suggest improvements in the working of the homes and organisations under the Juvenile Justice Act. He was a member and later Chairperson of the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee of the Supreme Court, Chairperson of the E-Committee of the Supreme Court and Executive Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

Mr. Ajay Kaul, in a corporate career spanning 30+ years, has served renowned companies like American Express, ModiLufthansa, TNT India, TNT Indo-nesia as CEO and as CEO of Jubilant FoodWorks (operating Domino's Pizza and Dunkin' Donuts in India). He has done his Bachelor of Technology from IIT Delhi and MBA from XLRI Jamshedpur.

Mr. Ajay is the man who fuelled India's voracious appetite for Pizzas, grew Domino's Pizza (Jubilant FoodWorks) from just 90 stores to 1100 stores during his 12-year stint from 2005-2017, making it India's largest and fastest growing food service company and largest Domino’s Pizza market in the world (outside of USA).

He is now working as Sr. Advisor and Director with a Private Equity company called Everstone Capital Advisors. He serves as Chairman of Domino’s Pizza Indonesia and Burger King Indonesia. He also serves on board of Burger King India. He is an advisor and investor in Chaayos, California Burnt, Daichini etc.

Mr. Ajay also serves on board of XLRI Jamshedpur and Plan India. Also, he is actively mentoring a few startups in his personal capacity and through Indian Angel Network for the past ten years now. He is an advisor to RADTAG, a close to 1 billion USD retail brand in the Middle East. He is also a Sr. Advisor to Boston Consultancy Group.

Plan India is a nationally registered not for profit organisation striving to advance children’s rights and equality for girls, thus creating a lasting impact in the lives of vulnerable and excluded children and their communities.

Since 1979, Plan India and its partners have improved the lives of millions of children and young people by enabling them access to protection, quality education and healthcare services, a healthy environment, livelihood opportunities and participation in decisions which affect their lives.

Plan India is a member of the Plan International Federation, an independent development and humanitarian organisation that advances children’s rights and equality for girls. Plan International is active in more than 70 countries.

Cover photo by: Nilay Sarkar
Other photos by: Nilay Sarkar, Meenakshi Brahi, Arvind Kumar, Deeksha Rawat and Plan India Staff
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