

Project Information



Bolivia

Some of the reasons why Plan works in Bolivia

- Only half of all girls attend secondary school
- One quarter of children suffer stunting from malnutrition
- 902,000 children aged five to 14 are involved in labour activities
- 32 percent of the rural population do not have access to adequate water facilities

Overview of the country

The Republic of Bolivia is one of the poorest countries in South America. In spite of recent economic growth, almost 35 percent of the population live on less than US\$2 per day. A majority of these belong to Bolivia's indigenous groups which represent two thirds of Bolivia's population. The indigenous population have traditionally been excluded from economic and political development, and remain small-scale farmers, miners and traders. President Evo Morales, the country's first indigenous Bolivian president, aims to tackle poverty and to end discrimination against the indigenous population. But the traditional economic, political and social climate makes this difficult and challenges Bolivia's ability to reach a number of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Eight MDGs were agreed at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000. They range from halving global poverty and hunger to protecting the environment, improving health and sanitation and tackling illiteracy and discrimination against women. Bolivia is finding it particularly challenging to reach its health targets. Less than a quarter of the rural population has access to adequate sanitation facilities. Flooding in early 2007 exacerbated this problem, leaving thousands of people without access to clean water and sanitation facilities. Education is also a challenging area in Bolivia. Although three quarters of children attend primary school, the quality of the education is very poor and only 50 percent of children in rural areas complete their primary education. Almost 20 percent of women over 15 are therefore unable to read or write, in turn hampering Bolivia's progress towards improving the status of women.

How you can help

Thanks to our supporters, Plan is working with communities in Bolivia on many projects. Field staff and communities in Bolivia have identified the following project, from among those we are currently working on, as a priority for this financial year. With your help, this project will be of huge benefit to communities we work with in Bolivia.

Primary school construction in all Plan programme areas

Going to school in dangerously unstable, unhygienic or overcrowded buildings is discouraging for teachers and pupils alike. With about a quarter of children in Bolivia not yet attending primary school, there is a need for more schools and classrooms to be built. Constructing them to a good standard helps to promote the idea that education is of value, and using local workers stimulates the local economy. Involving local people, parents and teachers from the beginning helps establish a feeling of community ownership and pride in the school.

This project is integrated into our wider programme work, which addresses the specific needs of children living vulnerable lives in Bolivia. The support these programmes provide is thanks to the generosity of our supporters but with your help we can achieve even more. If you have any questions about our work, or your support, please contact us on 020 7482 9777, or visit www.plan-uk.org

Yes, I'd like to help a Plan project in Bolivia

Please complete and return this form to Plan, 5-6 Underhill Street, London NW1 7HS

I would like to give £ _____ (please indicate amount) to help construct primary schools in Bolivia (BOL0148)

Sometimes projects become fully-funded, and occasionally circumstance dictates that our priorities change and particular projects may have to be postponed or even abandoned. When this happens, funds may be transferred to other projects.

Please indicate how you would like to pay below:

- by cheque/postal order/charity voucher made payable to 'Plan International UK'. (Please write your supporter number, if you have one, on the reverse of the cheque and enclose it with this form.)
- by Visa / Mastercard / Amex / Diners / Maestro / CAF Charity Card: *(please circle)*

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Please tick here if you would like acknowledgement of your donation.

Thank you for all your support

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