

## ORGANISATION INFORMATION

Position title	Youth Activist	Position type	Volunteer
Reports to	Si Qi Wen; Jennifer Merryweather	Hours per week	2 to 5 hours per week
Team	Partnerships & Influencing	Award classification	N/A
Direct reports	0	Budget	!
Date reviewed	20.12.23		

## ABOUT PLAN INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

### Who are we? What do we do?

Plan International is an independent development and humanitarian organisation that advances children's rights and equality for girls.

We believe in the power and potential of every child. But this is often suppressed by poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination. And it's girls who are most affected.

Working together with children, young people, our supporters and partners, we strive for a just world, tackling the root causes of the challenges facing girls and all vulnerable children.

We support children's rights from birth until they reach adulthood. And we enable children to prepare for – and respond to – crises and adversity. We drive changes in practice and policy at local, national and global levels using our reach, experience and knowledge.

We have been building powerful partnerships for children for over 85 years, and are now active in more than 80 countries.

### What does it feel like?

- You will get up each day feeling like you are helping create justice for children and equality for girls. You'll be able to put a commitment to making a difference for children and girls at the centre of your effort, decision making and focus.
- You'll feel part of a broader team - beyond just the people you work with every day - because you'll be in tune with what's needed across the organisation. You'll be able to use your skills of empathy, coaching, and energy where it is needed most.
- You'll receive quality feedback and seek to create feedback loops in your team and in the organisation too.
- You'll find strength in our diversity, inclusiveness and mutual respect.

### Here are some of the ways you will bring your best to this role:

- You will demonstrate a deep commitment to equality, human rights and gender justice in all you do.
- You will challenge power dynamics and processes that are unjust.
- You will share decision-making processes. You'll actively seek out strengths of your colleagues in a way that allows everyone to have some power.
- You will be willing to think and work outside of the traditional idea of teams. You'll enjoy coaching rather than directing work.
- You will embody a deep self-awareness and demonstrate the courage to be vulnerable.
- You will look for ways to evolve our ways of working.
- You have a willingness to learn and to share insights and experience with empathy and compassion.
- You will demonstrate a deep commitment to child protection and safeguarding in all you do.

## WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING IN THIS POSITION?

This volunteer role operates within the Partnerships and Influencing (P&I) Department at Plan International Australia. The Department drives advocacy work including, public campaigning and youth activism as well as strategic communications and media, and government relations.

Plan International Australia works hard to ensure that children and girls everywhere can learn, lead, decide and thrive. We work with young people to put them at the centre of the work we do, and this is what the Youth Activist Series is all about.

Participants in Plan International's Youth Activists Series (YAS) are critical volunteers who are trained and work to advocate for girls' rights both internationally and domestically.

The role is open to young people of all genders and identities between the ages of 16 and 24, residing anywhere in Australia. If you are under 18 years of age, you will need to seek permission from your parent or guardian to participate in the program.

Participants are covered under Plan International Australia's insurance policy for the duration of the role.

## TELL ME MORE

Throughout the Youth Activist Series (YAS), the participants will be heavily involved in supporting Plan International Australia's advocacy and policy agenda, which aims to improve girls' rights in countries around the world.

Participants receive intensive training in gender equality literacy, advocacy and government relations, media and public speaking, communications and content collection, and then go out into the world and tackle inequality head on. Participants meet with decision makers and participate in research, campaign and media activities in Sydney and Melbourne, building the movement for gender justice.

Key focus: In 2024, Plan International Australia's campaigning will have a particular focus on climate justice, gender justice and girls' education; to reduce the barriers preventing them from engaging in and influencing climate policy and advocacy.

We want everyone to have the opportunity to apply for this role. Do not underestimate yourself and your passion. You do not have to be an existing leader in your community, if you are passionate about gender justice and are wanting to learn the skills to make change in your society, please apply. We are here to support you, empower you, and provide a platform to amplify your voice.

We aim to be intersectional in all that we do, and ensure everyone's voice is amplified to strive for equality for all. We strongly encourage First Nations youth, youth of colour, LGBTIQA+ youth, disabled youth, and migrant and refugee youth to apply for this program.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### Be accountable

Youth Activists must be responsive, attentive and reliable volunteers who stay engaged with Plan International Australia and each other throughout the year. They must adhere to Plan International Australia's organisational values:

- Trust
- Collaboration
- Respect
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Innovation

### Skills development

- Compulsory attendance to the training weekend in February

- Attend workshops to receive training and work on research, advocacy and campaign design/strategies and other activities
- 1 x youth research project with global youth activists

**Stakeholder and media engagement (you will be supported to do all of these activities through training! You do not need to have prior experience)**

- Attend working group meetings between YAS and external stakeholders (min of 2 annually)
- Be available to be interviewed by news media, or write opinion articles, as required
- Writing content for social media and publications
- Attend and speak at public events
- Build meaningful and influential relationships with external stakeholders
- Engage and build relationships with the corporate partner over the year and be involved in promotional activities and materials (with consent)

### **Activist community**

- Communicate regularly and promptly with the Plan International Youth Officer
- Create opportunities for international YAS to be heard in Australia
- Communicate with youth activists globally
- Tap into your existing networks, and engage with other youth organisations, to help further Plan International Australia's and the Youth Activist Series' advocacy actions

### **International Day of the Girl (October 11)**

- Participate in International Day of the Girl activities (Week of October 11, 2023). This may include media opportunities such as op-eds or interviews, and stakeholder meetings and briefings

### **Youth Activist Series Group**

- This is our private Facebook group that exists to be a space to share updates, opportunities, and where you can all come together alongside YAS Alumni to share experiences, external opportunities, or general discussion.

## **HOW WILL I KNOW IT'S GOING WELL? (KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS)**

- Positive feedback from peers across the organisation;
- Participation in organisational wide activities and groups;
- Consistent attendance at training and learning opportunities.

## **SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS**

Plan International believes that in a world where children face so many threats of harm, it is our duty to ensure that we, as an organisation, do everything we can to keep children safe. This means that we have particular responsibilities to children that we come into contact with and we must not contribute in any way to harming or placing children at risk.

We take very seriously our responsibility and duty to ensure that we, as an organisation, and anyone who represents us, does not in any way harm, abuse or commit any other act of violence against children, young people or other vulnerable persons.

Everyone who works with, and engages with Plan, has a responsibility to ensure that children, young people and the beneficiaries that we work with directly and indirectly are safeguarded and protected.

High <input type="checkbox"/>	Details Enter details or type NA	
Police Check Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Working With Children Check Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Global Anti-Terrorism Screening Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Please Highlight:**

Category	Definition
Low	Occasional out of hours work, no more than monthly on average.
Medium	Frequent out of hours work, no more than twice per week on average
High	Highly frequent out of hours work, occurring at least twice per week or more, and a requirement to be on call in specific instances, such as being a core member of the Emergency Management Team.