

## Statement from Plan

Delivered by Nigel Chapman, CEO

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Plan believes education is the foundation of development so we have always prioritized it as such; we recognise the urgent need for increased education funding and pledge to invest significant additional resources in education over the next three years.

### Plan's commitment and prioritization

- Education is the foundation of development, everything else stems from this...(personal story / anecdote)
- Our education programmes are developed with the children and community they affect, and focus on: equal access, quality and national education governance.
- We show our commitment by spending more on education than any other programme theme. In the last year we spent over \$113 million, and reached over 56.6million students.
- But we have realized this is still not enough.

### Pledge of commitment

- We are gravely concerned about the \$16 billion funding shortfall and how governments and the World Bank are not living up to their past funding commitments, and call on everyone to make sure they do not go back on the pledges made here today.

- We pledge today to spend at least \$55 million more over the next three years on education and learning programmes which will benefit the most vulnerable and marginalized children around the world. We see this as a necessary step up if the MDGs are going to be met, and hope to inspire others to do the same.
- We further pledge to launching a global campaign on girls education next year, called Because I am a Girl, which will see the whole organisation campaigning for legislation change which will benefit 400 million girls by 2015.
- If we all stand by our relevant commitments there will be a substantial shift in the world's education and the world's development: let's all stand by these pledges, no matter what.