

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a light blue school uniform, is smiling and raising her right hand. She is in a classroom with bookshelves in the background. A large teal circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'HANDS UP FOR GIRLS', 'UWS', and 'GIVING CIRCLE' in a circular arrangement.

**HANDS UP FOR GIRLS**  
**UWS**  
**GIVING CIRCLE**

UWS is a registered UK charity: 1187721



**Education provides a way to make the shift between the world we have and the world we want.**

**It's the difference between two possible futures.**

A future of poverty, inequality, isolation and exclusion.

Or a future with education - prosperity, equality, inclusion

**By joining Hands Up for Girls you will become part of an important collective, powering our vision of a world with zero education poverty.**

Your generous support will help us focus on inclusive education, to ensure no girl is left behind. UWS is proud to work closely with local communities, families, and governments to ensure that girls in remote areas have the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

From building, operating, and transitioning schools in Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, and Madagascar, to promoting inclusive education initiatives like Girls and Mothers' Clubs and dropout prevention programs, we're making a long-term impact.

Hands Up For Girls will show the world that when girls receive equal education and opportunity, they can achieve anything. We know their potential is limitless, and with the support of women around the world, their future will be too.

**We hope you will join this truly special initiative.**



## ABOUT

# HANDS UP FOR GIRLS

***Hands Up For Girls* was created with one powerful mission: To ensure that every girl, no matter where she's born, can access her right to education.**

We are a collective of like-minded visionaries who believe that educating girls is the most powerful investment for a better future.

**We know an educated girl is an unstoppable force.** When you educate a girl, you empower her to transform not just her own life, but her family, her community, and ultimately, the world. She then becomes an empowered woman, a changemaker.

**The three core goals of *Hands Up for Girls* are:**

- to scale access to quality education for girls.
- to create safe and supportive learning environments where every girl feels empowered to succeed, and
- to drive sustainable, community-led change with women at the heart, that fosters long-term growth and resilience.

Joining our circle creates a ripple effect, making you part of a global movement. Our ambitious goal: raise £1 million in five years to empower 10,000 girls by 2030.

But we can't do it alone - we need supporters who share our commitment to gender equality and lasting change. **Will you raise your Hands Up for Girls?**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

# 130 MILLION GIRLS

**around the world are raising their hands for an education. But their voices are ignored. Their futures are decided for them.**

## **EDUCATE THE FUTURE CHANGE THE FUTURE**



Exclusion from paid work costs women £4.7 trillion in lost earnings. But when 10% more girls attend school, that country's GDP increases by an c.3%.



One in every 3 girls in developing countries is married before the age 18. Education is shown to reduce child marriage by 60%.



Educated mothers are 50% more likely to immunise their children. Their children are twice as likely to survive past the age of five.





## OUR WORK

# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

**Every child has the power to determine their own future.**

UWS is proud to have achieved gender parity in student enrolment across our schools. However, we recognise that girls face many additional barriers to attending and thriving in the classroom. That's why we work with students, parents, teachers and entire communities to help all children to feel safe and included.



**74,000+ CHILDREN**

reached with education since 2008



**49:51 GENDER PARITY**

51% of UWS students are girls



**324 SCHOOLS**

embedding gender-transformative education



**1,300+ TEACHERS**

improving with gender-inclusive teacher training



**300+ MOTHERS & GIRLS GROUPS**

leading long-term advocacy for education



**TOGETHER**

# HANDS UP FOR GIRLS WILL:

Empower girls through education, dismantle barriers, transform lives, and create lasting, systemic change. Here's how we will measure your support to help shape a brighter, fairer future for all:



OUTCOME 1

## **EDUCATING 10,000 GIRLS**

**Hands Up For Girls is committed to ensuring that over 10,000 girls have access to quality education by 2030.**

By amplifying the voices of girls who are often unheard, we unlock their potential and provide them with the tools to shape their own futures. Education enables girls to break free from cycles of poverty, early marriage, and violence, giving them the confidence and resilience to lead their communities and become agents of change.

Your support helps scale these opportunities for girls in remote and underserved areas, giving them the chance to thrive and lead with power.



OUTCOME 2

## **SAFE & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

**Creating safe, inclusive, and supportive schools is essential for unlocking the full potential of every girl.**

Hands Up For Girls is ensuring that classrooms become spaces where all girls can excel. We provide teachers with gender-responsive training, equipping them with the skills to foster inclusive learning environments that promote equality and challenge harmful gender norms.

Additionally, we offer tailored support to meet the diverse learning and wellbeing needs of students, including training on menstrual health and gender equality, while also involving boys in the conversation to challenge traditional gender expectations and build a more inclusive community for all.





### OUTCOME 3

## DRIVING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-LED CHANGE

**Education goes beyond the classroom - it's about empowering girls and their communities to drive long-term change.**

Hands Up For Girls is building a grassroots movement for gender equality by engaging mothers, girls, and communities in advocacy and support.

Through leadership clubs and training, we provide girls and mothers with the tools to challenge harmful traditions, promote girls' education, and foster a culture of equality within their communities. These clubs create safe spaces for vital discussions on issues like child marriage, sexual health, and gender-based violence, while equipping women and girls with the confidence to advocate for their rights and ensure lasting, systemic transformation.





## OUR IMPACT

# MEET PELAGY

**In Madagascar, 66% of girls are married before the age of 18, with limited access to education leaving them vulnerable to poverty and inequality.**

Pelagy, a 12-year-old girl from a coastal village in southwest Madagascar lives with her mother, sister and father. Her mother, Pela, never had the opportunity to go to school. She cannot read or write. She says this makes life challenging and she has always dreamed of a better future for her daughter.

**Aged 10, Pelagy wasn't in school and couldn't read, write, or count. When asked about her future, she thought of selling fruit and raising a family – just like she had seen with her mother and just as her friends were making plans to do so too.**

Then, everything changed when UWS built a school in her village. Today, Pelagy is thriving at UWS Beangolo School.

***"It's been two years since UWS built our school. It has changed education in our village. I've noticed that I can now read and write without problems. Our teacher is always there, and we study so many subjects. My favorites are Malagasy and Mathematics – although I'm not too keen on History!"***

**Pelagy's story is a powerful reminder that girls education starts in the classroom, but it's impact goes far beyond.**

*\*This child's name has been changed in line with our child protection and safeguarding policy.*



A group of six young girls, likely students, are walking along a sandy path in a rural village. They are all wearing brown short-sleeved shirts with yellow trim and buttons. The girls are of various ages, ranging from approximately 10 to 15 years old. They are smiling and appear to be in good spirits. The background shows a dirt road, some simple wooden and corrugated metal buildings, and dry, scrubby vegetation. The lighting suggests it is daytime, possibly late afternoon or early morning.

**“MY DREAM TODAY IS TO  
BECOME A MIDWIFE.  
I WANT TO HELP THE YOUNG  
GIRLS IN MY VILLAGE  
AND FIGHT TEENAGE  
PREGNANCY”**

**PELAGY AGE 12  
STUDENT IN  
MADAGASCAR**



## WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL YOU MAKE?

Our model is grounded in principles of low-cost, high-impact

**£3,000**

Could support the development of Mothers & Girls groups across schools.

**£5,000**

Could train teachers across 10 UWS schools developing quality and gender responsive methods.

**£10,000**

Could support the education of 100 girls for a whole year.

## JOIN US

# HANDS UP FOR GIRLS

We can't achieve the goals of *Hands Up For Girls* alone. We need passionate individuals who share our vision and believe, as we do, that investing sustainably into girls' education is the key to driving transformative change - not just for girls, but for entire communities.

**Will you raise your Hand Up For Girls with an annual minimum commitment of £3,000?**

### A message from a UWS Supporter:

*"UWS is providing children with opportunities to transform their lives... I was blown away to see how closely they work with local communities to provide their first-ever access to primary education. Through this, the children have so many more opportunities, giving them a real sense of hope and helping these communities break free from poverty."*

### Become a part of Hands Up For Girls today

To learn more about the Hands Up For Girls Giving Circle and how your vital contributions will create lasting change, contact us at: [philanthropy@uwsglobal.net](mailto:philanthropy@uwsglobal.net)

Together, we can shape a world where every girl has the opportunity to thrive, unlocking a more equal, prosperous future for all.



## OUR PROMISE TO YOU

As a member of Hands Up for Girls, you play a crucial role in ensuring UWS can invest in transformative, inclusive education. We promise to keep you closely connected to our work and the Hands Up for Girls network. You will see the ripple effect of your support and its real impact on girls' lives. This is just the beginning of our offer to you.

**As a member of the Giving Circle, you will receive:**

- **Invitation to exclusive annual networking event** – An opportunity to meet like-minded circle members and UWS leadership.
- **Dedicated Philanthropy Manager** – A personalised journey with UWS, ensuring you are the first to hear about our latest work and you have a voice at UWS.
- **Exclusive Circle Updates** – Meaningful and detailed reports from our global team, showcasing the collective impact of the circle and milestones.
- **Opportunity to Take Part in a Exclusive Members Trip** – Visit a UWS school to experience the impact of your contribution first hand.

**Changemakers  
don't wait  
for the future.  
They create it.**





## ABOUT UWS

UWS works to ensure children living in remote and marginalised communities have access to quality, inclusive education. Our local teams collaborate with partners, communities and governments to build schools, train teachers and strengthen education systems. UWS currently works in Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar and Madagascar.

For more information,



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[uwsglobal.net](http://uwsglobal.net)



@UWS

**THE FUTURE  
IS A DECISION.**

**YOURS.**

**Make it a world-changing one.**

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