



Situation in **China**: What you need to know about the PIP-Law

What is the situation?

In November 2021, the government of the People's Republic of China enacted a new "Personal Information Protection Law" (PIP-Law). According to this law, data of Chinese citizens may not be stored outside the country.

This particularly applies to sensitive data, such as information on children under the age of 14. Transferring or sharing this data outside China is subject to a data security check and special permission from the relevant authorities.



The Child Protection project responds to the needs of local children, their families, child officers, and social workers by conducting activities on child protection, family education, gender equality, and awareness-raising campaigns on bullying prevention.

– Tao, Plan Staff Member, Yunnan

The current status

The local government of the areas where Plan operates has asked us to suspend the collection of data for the annual progress reports for the time being. Implementation is expected to resume once the detailed guidelines of the PIP-Law have been introduced. This will ensure that all our activities comply with the new law.

Plan is working closely with lawyers and the relevant government departments to obtain special permission to collect, store and transfer this data outside of China. In the meantime, we continue with Plan projects and programmes with children, youth and communities.



(Tao, Yunnan's Programme Unit Deputy Manager)

Families of Sponsored Children affected:

12,697

What has been Plan's reaction?

Plan is working to positively impact the sponsored communities we work in and to benefit children, adolescents and young people.

In the past few months, the Plan International China team has been responding to the situation in a variety of ways. We are engaged in legal consultations to find the best way to get the permission needed for resuming the data collection-related work.

The management team has been negotiating with partners, proposing innovative sponsorship options, and discussing relevant issues with other non-profit organisations. Throughout the entire process, Plan maintains communication with local government partners.

Above all, we are working together with partners to ensure the children and families are still able to access projects and programmes.

Are sponsor letters reaching the affected areas?

No, not at this time. Due to the strict implementation of the PIP-Law, sponsors are not allowed to send letters to the sponsored children.

We understand how happy children and sponsors are to receive and send correspondence, so we can understand that this news is disappointing. We will send you up-to-date information as the situation changes.



(Children participating in a Child Protection Project in Yunnan)



My favourite project is the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education Project. Through cooperation with the local education bureau, the project supports schools to carry out teacher training, STEM courses for girls and other activities. The implementation of this project makes me look forward to the potential of children, especially girls, to choose science and technology careers in the future.

– Fang, Plan Staff Member, Shaanxi



(Fang, Shaanxi's Project Officer)

What are Plan's focus areas?

The Plan China Team is making every effort to ensure that projects are implemented as planned, empowering children and their families in areas of:



Early Childhood Development



Child Protection



Education



Youth Employment