



Working together to make lasting change

By sponsoring Leah, you are partnering the communities of Kapchorwa to lead positive change. Key priorities and activities include:

Strengthening the voice of women and girls: women and girls continue to lack a voice in their family or community decisions. Your partnership with women and girls is helping to form groups and forums, which provide the space for women to speak freely, learn about the laws that should protect them, take part in training, and work together to transform their own, their children's and their communities' futures.

Developing livelihood opportunities: Families in Kapchorwa are transforming the way they farm the land. Women, who make up around 70% of the agricultural work force, are developing climate resilient agriculture, securing land ownership, and improving production methods to maximise their incomes.

Demanding change: Communities of Kapchorwa are working to make their voices heard by local leaders and governments. This will enable communities to hold leaders accountable and influence how public resources are spent in their community, including improving investment in education and healthcare, which will have a direct impact on the wellbeing of children living in Kapchorwa.

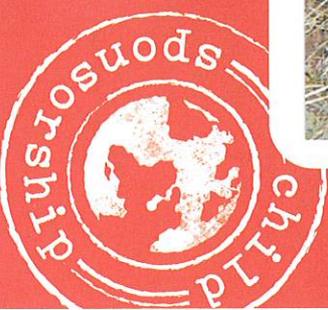


actionaid



Meet

Leah



All about Leah



Hello!

Welcome to this special introduction to Leah, where you'll get to learn a little more about her life, their family and community.

Leah was born in 2016, and lives with her family in Kapchorwa, Uganda. Leah's family speak Kupsabiny, a local language. English and Kiswahili are the official languages of Uganda.

Kapchorwa is approximately 310km northeast of Kampala, Uganda's capital and largest city. Located in the Rift Valley at the foot of Mount Elgon, this mountainous landscape is one of the most beautiful in Uganda.

Uganda has experienced relative political stability and economic growth in recent years. But with agriculture employing around 80 per cent of the workforce and many rural families having no access to safe, clean water or adequate food supplies, life remains challenging for Uganda's poorest communities. Through child sponsorship, we are working in partnership with families living in Kapchorwa to tackle these issues and develop solutions to overcome them.



Education

Leah currently attends a local primary school. Primary education is free in Uganda, which has had a positive impact on enrolment rates. However, investment in schools has been unable to keep up, so children will often face overcrowded classrooms, high pupil/teacher ratios and a lack of learning materials.

Through your sponsorship of Leah, ActionAid is working in partnership with parents, pupils and teachers to improve the quality of education and tackle the issues that lead to school dropouts.



Earning a living

Farming provides the main source of food and income for families in Kapchorwa, with the main crops being maize and beans. Families without land depend on working for others to earn an income. When food is short, families will eat just one meal a day – usually millet and cassava porridge. It is typical for families to keep some livestock, such as poultry, goats and local Zebu cattle to supplement their income.

Homelife

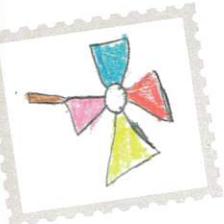
Leah's home is made from mud walls, with a thatched roof. These houses typically have a living room, and a space for sleeping. Cooking is done outside. Families usually build their houses in compounds, so they live close together.

Water is scarce, particularly during the dry season. Women and children, like Leah, are responsible for collecting water from the boreholes that exist; most of these are some distance from their homes.



Changing lives in Kapchorwa

ActionAid is working in Kapchorwa, in partnership with families like Leah's to improve farming skills, develop alternative employment opportunities, improve education and work with communities to hold leaders accountable. The rights of women and girls are at the heart of everything we do, and our programmes are developed to ensure women and girls have an active voice in the future development of their communities.



If you would like to write to Leah, they would love to hear from you.

The address is: **ActionAid, UK Child Sponsorship Office, Chard Business Park, Jarman Way, Chard, Somerset TA20 1FB**

