10th December 2019: Today marks the end of this year’s observation of 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV). Plan International Malawi undertook various activities to promote conversations on GBV and reflections on efforts seeking to address GBV.

Plan International Malawi Country Director Phoebe Kasoga noted that this year’s commemoration provided another fresh reflection and renewal of collective efforts in ending GBV.

“Our efforts have to be aggressively inclusive and on-going. The progress made in the fight against GBV gets compromised by the culture of silence by both males and females. We need to engage more fresh and inclusive approaches to break even in ending GBV. Therefore, the just ended 16 days have rejuvenated the cause in as far as ending GBV is concerned,” observed Kasoga.

Plan International Malawi’s activities at a glance within the past 16 Days of Activism against GBV include supporting the national launch of the 16 days of activism in Ntchisi; engaging with youth in communities through open day campaigns that took place in Mzimba, Lilongwe and Dowa districts; conducting SheTalks event in collaboration with stakeholders and youth organizations which all highlighted both strides made but also challenges still faced at different levels in addressing GBV.

Plan International Malawi, using #CountMeIn, also amplified sexual harassment as a form of GBV by engaging male influencers in driving the message through its online platforms.

Each of the key male influencers had a special message to share in relation to 16 days of activism against GBV.

“Plan International Malawi appreciates all the male influencers that took part in the #CountMeIn placard display voluntarily. Everyone counts in ending GBV.”

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About Plan International: 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 know this is often suppressed by poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination. And it is girls who are most affected.

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

We support children’s rights from birth until they reach adulthood, and 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 80 years and are now active in more than 75 countries.