

## YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Kourittenga. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

Plan International has been working in Kourittenga since 1989. Over those decades, school enrollment rose 61%. Infant mortality dropped 46%, and access to clean water rose 65%.

This year, Plan International focused on issues from malnutrition to child marriage, displaced families and menstrual hygiene. 168 malnourished children and 621 victims of gender-based violence received care. 1,948 children learned about gender equity, safety and sexual health on our International Day of the Girl.

Your continued sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Kourittenga.



# 1883

Women  
received  
contraceptives



# 2732

Mothers  
received help  
to combat  
malnutrition



# 168

Malnourished  
children  
received  
medical care



## COVID-19'S IMPACT IN BURKINA

Hear from Oho Grace about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"This year, Plan came to our school to talk to us about COVID-19. They said that the disease is not over yet, and that we must continue to respect barrier measures. They gave us water stations so we can wash our hands and soap and gel. I thank Plan very much."

# CASE STORY: I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



**NAME: ZONABO**

**AGE: 16 YEARS OLD**

**HOBBY: TRADITIONAL MUSIC**

"Thanks to my sales, I have become an independent person and a happier person. I sensitise other internally displaced girls to try to do something, instead of staying at home. There are even two friends of mine who come to my stand to learn how to become traders, too."

## Meet Zonabo

**Like your sponsored child, Zonabo has been empowered by Plan International to change her life.** Since 2016, Burkina Faso has been overwhelmed by a violent political crisis. The unpredictable danger has forced more than 1.7 million families, including Zonabo's, to flee their homes.

## Safer Together

16-year-old Zonabo and her family escaped political turmoil four years ago. At that time, she had already dropped out of school. Having left behind the land they knew how to cultivate, Zonabo's family – like many displaced families – struggled to make ends meet. Through Plan International, Zonabo participated in a training on entrepreneurship, a vocational course that has now reached 1,500 displaced people in Burkina Faso.

Plan provided Zonabo with unconditional cash support, which she used to start her business. In total, 1,734 sponsored children – including Zonabo – have received financial and emotional support from Plan's programmes for displaced people. Through Plan's workshops, long-time locals and their new displaced neighbours are learning to build peaceful communities.

## You Can Count On Me

Initially, Zonabo used her seed funding from Plan to sell mangoes. Then, she went on to selling condiments, which she still does today. Zonabo also helps her mother – another graduate of Plan's vocational training course – to prepare cakes and oil.

Zonabo has become a role model to other girls in her new community. She is proud and confident to be able to contribute in her family. With this new financial freedom, Zonabo helps her loved ones build a safer, stronger life in a village free from violence.



*Zonabo at her stall.*

**WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 12,615 CHILDREN IN KOURITTENGA**



# OUR PROJECTS IN KOURITTENGA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



## BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES

**1,948 children celebrated girls' rights, safety and the importance of an education.** Kourittenga has high rates of child marriage, teen pregnancy, child labour and female genital mutilation. To combat these dangers, Plan celebrated the agency of girls with the International Day of the Girl.

During the course of the year, Plan trained 15 girls in public speaking, journalism and web activism so that they can confidently make their voices heard. 25 children displaced by violence in Burkina Faso received entrepreneurial training, which will soften the blow of financial hardship.

45 community leaders in 9 communes facilitated meetings on gender-based violence and how to prevent child marriages. This was a success for Anne, a 17-year-old who was in danger of being married. She received entrepreneurship training and has now started her own business.

From nutrition to girls' rights, community members in Kourittenga took steps to protect their youth.

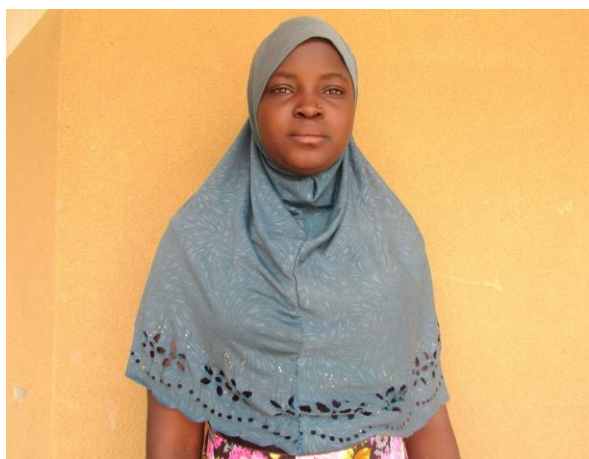
## FEEDING THE FUTURE



**18.7% of children in Kourittenga are chronically malnourished.** This year, Plan International's Nutrition and Food Security Project focused on improving the health of infants and children up to five years old.

860 groups throughout Kourittenga distributed fortified porridge to families and trained caregivers on its preparation. Plan provided these groups with food and equipment. 80 health workers were trained in the feeding and nutrition of young children.

3 cultural nutrition days provided ways for community members to learn more about the health and feeding of their children. 30 women received training to grow more nutritious food, and have since dramatically increased their harvest. 168 malnourished children received care.



"My little sister, aged 8 months, had a growth problem and was always sick. Thanks to Plan International, my little sister was taken care of at a health centre free of charge and is now doing well. I am happy to be a sponsored child because Plan International helps children." - **Fadilatou (17) from Kourittenga**

# YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



## FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



**6,5%**

Of infants born in Kourittenga do not survive their first year



**28%**

Of people in Kourittenga do not have access to sanitary toilets



**17%**

Of women aged 15 to 49 in Kourittenga use contraception



**Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.**

- Burkina Faso is ranked 147 out of 162 countries for gender equality. We will continue to combat systemic sexism by promoting education for all children.
- Poverty is high, with limited financial opportunities for women. We will continue to empower young women to pursue financial independence.
- Burkina Faso has the fifth highest rate of child marriage in the world. We will educate communities about equity and safety.
- Climate change is greatly affecting Kourittenga's land and agriculture. We will educate communities about climate adaptive agriculture and crisis response.

**We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter future for the children in Kourittenga.**



"Each year, we progressively notice positive changes in the lives of children and especially girls thanks to your support. Although there is still a long way to go, we remain confident that progress will be made to benefit the children, especially girls."

**Mahomet Ouedraogo**  
Programme Area Manager, Kourittenga

## YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS