

## YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This year, Plan International's interventions in Bam ranged from climate emergency preparedness to the prevention of gender-based violence and school dropouts. The area is still affected by the armed conflict and 15,820 displaced children have found safe places to play through our Child and Youth Friendly Spaces.

5,000 students received tutoring to mend a learning gap created by long-term school closures. 500 victims of gender-based violence are learning to generate income. 1,664 women's savings groups allow women financial independence and emergency readiness.

**Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Bam.**



# 15,820

Children participated in safe education spaces



# 2,750

Students received school supplies



# 13,352

Young people received psychosocial support



## 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 yet over, and that we must continue to respect barrier measures. They gave us hand washing stations, 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 4,401 CHILDREN IN BAM**



# OUR PROJECTS IN BAM ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



3,810 children in Bam received critical resources to stay in school.

## EDUCATION OPENS DOORS



**A culture of prioritising education for boys traps girls and women in restrictive social roles.** In Bam, families with limited funds tend not to see the value of sending girls to school, preferring for them to drop out in order to support their mothers at home.

This year, Plan International collaborated with thousands of local students and their families to ensure education as a right for every child. 810 girls at risk of dropping out of school received cash transfers to afford their school fees. 200 students received food to bring home to their families.

10 year old Safiata's father believed that her duty was to support her mother at home with childcare and cooking. After her father met with Plan International representatives, he changed his tune. Now, Safiata is learning to read and write at one of Bam's 15 new education centres.

## SAFER TOGETHER



**15,280 displaced children found safe spaces to learn and are happier.** Ongoing political unrest in Burkina Faso has led to the displacement of more than 1.7 million families nationwide. Upon arriving in Burkina Faso, these families remain vulnerable to hunger, poverty and violence.

This year, Plan's Child and Youth Friendly Spaces offered fun, nurturing spaces for 15,280 uprooted children to play and learn. The children had marked improvements in their well-being. 28 additional councils and networks have been created to focus on the protection of Bam's youth population.

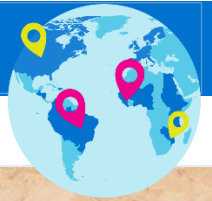
600 girls learned about gender equity, violence, menstrual hygiene and sexual health. 500 teen girls received menstrual hygiene supplies. 2,750 children received school supplies, while 250 youths received scholarships.

"I attend Plan's Youth Friendly Space. Through Plan's awareness raising activities, we learned things that we did not know before. We learned techniques on barrier measures against COVID 19 and about early pregnancies and menstrual management."

**- Yvette (16) from Bam**



# YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



## FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



68%

Of Bam's population has access to safe water



36%

Of young people in Bam are enrolled in secondary school



4,9%

Of infants born in Bam do not survive their first year



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

·The population in Bam is severely affected by the consequences of climate change. We will organize community awareness about climate change and adaptive farming.

·Gender-based violence is a significant problem in Bam. We will organise community awareness campaigns on sexual reproductive health and rights and female genital mutilation.

·Ongoing violence in Burkina Faso has led to the displacement of millions of people nationwide. We will provide at-risk families with kits containing essential household items and construction of shelters.

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



"We have been able to contribute to resolving some of the challenges of children, adolescents and young people in the province of Bam through concrete actions, thanks to your generous contributions."

**Clement DG Meda**  
Programme Area Manager, Bam

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