

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

Plan has been working in rural Macenta, a province of 966,249 residents, since 1995. In just the last two years, the rate of primary school completion has risen from 57% to 64%.

95% of Macenta's population is now vaccinated against preventable illness. This year, 64,430 community members learned about nutrition, hygiene, menstruation, and the dangers of Female Genital Mutilation. 48,409 community members thought anew about the value of education for girls.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Macenta.



398

Children have learned about climate change and safety



5450

People learned about COVID-19 protection



64430

Community members attended lessons on gender equity



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN GUINEA

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

"Thanks to Plan International's support, I received protection kits (soap, protective masks, and bleach) and school kits (math box, pens, and notebooks). This has greatly helped my parents to reduce expenses and allowed us to avoid catching the disease. I thank Plan International and my sponsor for all they do for us."

CASE STORY: FINDING MY WAY



NAME: GUÉDOUO

AGE: 23 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: SPENDING TIME WITH HER FAMILY

"I thank Plan International for giving me a second chance. I have returned to my normal life and am reintegrated into my community. I am taken for a model young woman. Thanks to the support of Plan, I was able to find a new path, one that honours me and gives me back the joy of living."

Meet Guédouo

Like your sponsored child, Guédouo has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. As a child, loss led her away from the school system into exclusion and alienation. Today, she is a powerful saleswoman and a role model in her community of Macenta, Guinea.

Skills To Succeed

When Guédouo was 12, her parents divorced. Shortly afterward, her mother passed away, leading Guédouo into the foster care system.

Guédouo's foster family was destitute, and unable to provide basic resources to their new charge. At a young age, Guédouo had to leave school in order to provide for herself, which led her into dangerous, high-risk situations. Guédouo felt excluded and marginalised in her community.

Plan International's Girl Empowerment Programme specifically focuses on providing aid to children like Guédouo. Along with 79 other girls, Plan embraced Guédouo and provided her with vital skills in food processing. Six months later, the dedicated young student received her formal certification.

Knowledge Is Power

Today, Guédouo is a master of food processing. Plan International provided Guédouo with 8 million GNF (about \$920) to jump-start her own business in Macenta. Guédouo's fresh food business has earned her the admiration of her community. Long lines of villagers await to buy her produce every day, and she is able to support herself financially.

Inspired by Guédouo's business, three young girls have asked to train under her so that they may follow in her footsteps. The once lonely Guédouo is now married and a proud businesswoman.



Guédouo prepares food to sell.

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 11,665 CHILDREN IN MACENTA

OUR PROJECTS IN MACENTA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



SAFER TOGETHER

From climate change to infectious disease, the people of Guinea are vulnerable to disasters. Rising sea levels and increasing rainfall will hit the people of Guinea hard. Simultaneously, 30% of sick people in Guinea experience Malaria.

In an effort to prepare the people of Macenta for climate disasters, 398 locals were reached in training courses about climate change and its effect on children. 442 community members participated in discussions about the distribution of water resources, including 125 women.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, 5,450 Macenta residents were reached with information about virus protection and prevention. Due to these workshops and the distribution of COVID-19 prevention supplies, we did not record a single case of the virus in these communities or their affiliated families.

41,795 women learned more about protecting their children from malnutrition using powerful local foods.

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME



Close to 90% of Guinea's youth population reports experiencing violent punishment before age 15.

Additionally, 87% of adolescent girls told pollsters that they believe men have a right to beat their romantic partners. More than half of Guinea's young women are married before age 18.

It takes a village to deconstruct gender-based violence. This year, the people of Macenta collaborated with Plan International to implement 91 community protection structures to handle reported cases of abuse. 800 residents will be reached by this effort.

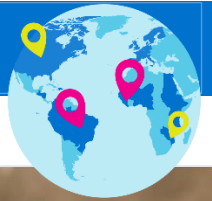
2,320 people learned about the harm of Female Genital Mutilation, while 30 at-risk girls received critical vocational training to become financially independent.

"I am one of the girls selected for Plan International's rehabilitation project in agropastoral training. I am very happy because Plan allowed me to prepare my future. This will make us autonomous and contribute to the socioeconomic development of our community."

- Fatou, 15, from Macenta



YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



16%

Of girls in Macenta are enrolled in secondary school



15%

Of women in Macenta are married before age 18



95%

Of women in Guinea ages 15-49 are victims of FGM



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

- Deforestation in Macenta has led to more floods, bush fires, and heavy winds. We will implement 5 community resilience plans for climate disasters.
- The rate of girls who are forced into child marriages is increasing in Macenta. We aim to reach 15,000 community members with lessons about children's rights.
- A vast majority of women in Guinea are victims of Female Genital Mutilation. We aim to organise 27 alternative initiation rites that do not involve this practise.
- 60% of girls in Guinea graduate from secondary school. We aim to discuss the value of education with 20,000 local community members.

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



"We are so grateful to sponsors like you. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to bring change that lasts a lifetime to children in Guinea. Despite many obstacles and crises, girls in Guinea are breaking down barriers to advance their rights."

Faya Barthelemy Tonguino
Programme Area Manager, Macenta

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