

## YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

Rural Littoral is home to about 1 million people in Guinea, a country where 55% of residents fall below the poverty line. Littoral's agriculture-reliant economy is threatened by the effects of climate change, which include landslides and flooding.

Since 2013, primary school enrolment in Littoral rose by more than 10% due to Plan's efforts, and your support. 43% of households now have access to safe drinking water and improved access to health facilities. This year, 216 children learned about their rights and safety.

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



# 276

Savings group members received funding for enterprises



# 24537

Students learned about preventing HIV/AIDS



# 40

At-risk girls were enrolled in vocational training centres



## 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, traumatic 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.

## 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 girls have asked to train under her to follow in her footsteps. The once lonely Guédouo is now married and a proud businesswoman.



*Guédouo prepares food to sell.*

**WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 3,765 CHILDREN IN LITTORAL**



# OUR PROJECTS IN LITTORAL ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

**55% of Guinea's population lives below the poverty line.** While this affects everyone, women and girls – particularly those with a low level of education – can tend to be excluded from income-generating activities, worsening their situations.

This year, Plan International set out to reach women and girls in Littoral with a spirit of empowerment. 40 at-risk women and girls were enrolled in vocational training centres and received critical materials and funding for training fees.

This year, vocational training courses and the celebration of the International Day of the Girl fostered confidence, safety, and agency.

Two-thirds of graduated students in Guinea struggle to find employment. Four unemployed university graduates received financial support to pursue pineapple cultivation. 10 girls received funding to pursue agropastoral entrepreneurship.

## SAFER TOGETHER



**98% of women and girls in Littoral are victims of Female Genital Mutilation.** This harmful and traumatic practice coincides with high incidences of domestic abuse, child marriage and intimate partner violence.

Plan International conducted 6 advocacy sessions with local politicians and community leaders to encourage the abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation as a practice. Simultaneously, 518 children celebrated the International Day of the Girl to support gender equity.

35 facilitators, including media representatives and youth club organisers, discussed critical issues around girl's rights, gender-based violence and inclusion. 250 children registered for their birth certificates, which will allow them to enrol in school and report instances of violence.



"I participate in Plan International's sensitisation sessions on the abandonment of FGM and early child marriage. This is drastically reducing violence. Most parents and religious leaders are giving importance to our cries, which is a good sign."

**- Mamayimbé, 17, from Littoral**

# YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



## FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



37%

Of Littoral's population is literate



21%

Of adolescent girls in Littoral have already given birth



95%

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



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

- 60% of young people in Guinea are unemployed. We will train sponsored youth in business management to create successful enterprises.
- Just 30% of Guinea's population is aware of the risks and prevention of HIV/AIDS. We will continue our Red Ribbon programme to educate community members about sexual health.
- Teen girls who are already mothers are unlikely to continue their studies. We will support new, young mothers by training them in income-generating activities.
- Climate change exacerbates a risk of flooding and landslides in Littoral. We will continue working with sponsored families to create disaster resilience strategies.

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



"Hundreds of young people are today sensitised on the consequences of youth delinquency and are trained on the challenges of climate change. 41 girls have become financially independent thanks to your valuable contributions in our area. Thank you."

**Yaya Diallo**  
Programme Area Manager, Littoral

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