

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This past year, thousands of girls and boys were able to continue their education in safe and inspiring spaces. Campaigns on girls' rights are reducing gender-based violence at schools. And new classrooms, toilets, and textbooks are improving learning conditions.

More than 1,800 people now have healthy and nutritious food at home thanks to new gardens. Technical training is also helping young people use their new skills to earn an income and support themselves and their families.

We know the best is yet to come and your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Dosso.



2,400

Girls received menstrual hygiene kits



15

Young people gained technical skills



4,127

Students took exam preparatory classes



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN NIGER

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

"Since the beginning of COVID-19, we have not recorded any cases in our community. But with the supervision of our teachers, we continue to respect the protective measures to fight against this pandemic and use the systems put in place in our schools with Plan International's help."

CASE STORY: HELPING MY COMMUNITY



NAME: MOUCHTAHIDA
AGE: 24 YEARS OLD
HOBBY: READING

"This project has taught me a lot of lessons. I believe that with the knowledge from this project, I can improve my community's water and sanitation challenges."

Meet Mouchtahida

Like your sponsored child, Mouchtahida has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Mouchtahida defied expectations in her rural area and was one of the best civil engineering students in her undergraduate class. Now she's pursuing her master's degree, and wants to help build sanitary toilets across her country.

Health and Hygiene

For girls like Mouchtahida, getting an education is a challenge when water isn't close by. Fetching water is often a chore given to girls, and traveling long distances means girls have less time to attend school or complete their homework. Dirty water can cause deadly diseases such as diarrhoea and typhoid.

And without sanitary toilets, many people practice open defecation, further contaminating nearby water and leading to health challenges.

Growing up, Mouchtahida read about how civil engineers can develop water and sanitation infrastructure to overcome these barriers. Throwing herself into her studies, she ignored her peers who told her that civil engineering is only for men.

Community Leadership

Mouchtahida wanted to help her community, but she knew she needed something more. So she joined the Sustainable Development Action Club.

Through this project, Mouchtahida gained skills in community engagement. She is teaching others how to manage access to water. Thanks to her sharing these technical skills, young people are now building their own household toilets. Good hygiene habits have improved, and people are healthier.

Mouchtahida is forging a path for other girls to stay in school and achieve their future goals.



Mouchtahida teaching students good hygiene practices

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 11,680 CHILDREN IN DOSSO

OUR PROJECTS IN DOSSO ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



Kitchen gardens are helping families stay healthy and send their children to school

HEALTHY CHILDREN



Widespread poverty in Dosso impacts many aspects of life. Most girls who marry before the age of 15 come from struggling households who cannot afford to send their daughters to school or feed their families.

Through new kitchen gardens, 1,804 people, including 638 girls and boys, now have access to nutritious foods at home. And 272 girls gained sewing skills, helping them earn a small income to support themselves and their families. Some girls even purchased small livestock, helping to improve their food security and afford their basic needs.

48 mothers are also taking on leadership roles, working to keep schools in good working order, and encouraging other parents to send their daughters to school. New classrooms and toilets, along with school supplies and textbooks, are also helping thousands of children stay in school and open the door to a brighter future.

SAFE SCHOOLS



Negative gender norms in Niger leave girls at risk of gender-based violence. At school and online, girls face abuse and harassment.

To help girls feel safe at school, awareness raising sessions on girls' rights and gender equality reached more than 260 students. 24 young people gained leadership skills to strengthen the fight against gender-based violence. Through training on digital skills, a new mobile app is used to alert students on incidents and provide support for those experiencing violence.



A further 20 girls learned how to use digital tools to raise awareness of their rights. Their new social media campaign has now reached 2,000 people. 82 students also learned how to use computers and stay safe online.

"We didn't know about leadership or gender-based violence before. Thanks to the training, today when we see an act of violence at school or in the village against children, we report it and discuss it to find an approach to solve it. This brings peace to our area."

- Rahana (16) from Dosso

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



73%

Of girls are married by the age of 18



37%

Of children are malnourished



39%

Of children are not in school



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

- Child marriage rates in Dosso are among the highest in the country. We will continue to empower girls to stand up for their rights, and work with community and religious leaders to campaign against this practice.
- We will also advocate for the government to raise the minimum age of marriage from 15 to 18 for girls.
- Around half of teenagers drop out of school. We will support school management committees to improve the conditions of schools so they are safer and more inclusive spaces for children to learn and thrive.
- Widespread drought is causing a hunger crisis throughout the region. We will support communities to develop resilient forms of agriculture to improve food security.

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



“Thanks for providing happiness to girls and boys in Dosso. Major projects carried out on education and food security are changing lives! Children now have safe classes to develop their skills and women are earning an income to reduce malnutrition.”

Moctar Djibo Zakari
Programme Area Manager, Dosso

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