

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

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

This past year, thousands of students continued their education in safe and inclusive schools. New classrooms and toilets are improving learning conditions. And teachers took part in training on children's rights and gender equality.

Girls also learned about their menstrual health, and sanitary period products helped 2,036 girls manage their menstruation and stay in school. Youth gained much-needed technical skills so they can get a good job and support themselves as they enter adulthood.

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



406

Girls learned about menstrual hygiene



258

Teachers trained on girls' rights and gender equality



240

Families received food kits



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 now understand that it is not only the degree I need to contribute to developing my community. 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 5,300 CHILDREN IN MARADI

OUR PROJECTS IN MARADI ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



KEEPING GIRLS SAFE



Mothers are keeping their children healthy and sending their daughters to school in Maradi

Early marriages and negative gender norms prevent girls from reaching their full potential. Gender-based violence at school often forces girls to drop out, leaving them without the skills they need to thrive as adults.

Plan International is working to keep girls in school and help them take charge of their bodies. Training sessions with teachers on children's rights and gender-based violence is helping to create safer schools for girls and boys. Parent-teacher associations and school management committees are also working to ensure schools are safe and inclusive.

Community awareness events are also sharing the importance of girls' education. And four new classrooms are helping to improve learning conditions for both girls and boys, so they can open the door to a brighter future.

SKILLS TO SUCCEED



Women in Maradi are regularly excluded from playing active roles in their communities. Gender discrimination, lack of education, and limited technical skills mean women struggle to enter the job market and support their families.

Through renewable energy, women in Maradi are gaining leadership skills and changing social norms. 83 women took part in training to become energy service agents, so they could implement and manage solar powered energy plants in their communities.

And 550 women formed new agricultural groups, learning more about irrigation techniques along with marketing. Women in Maradi are now taking on leadership roles and earning an income to support themselves and their families.



"I am very happy to be a participant of my village's platform. Thanks to this achievement, we will overcome the difficulties related to the recharge of mobile phones, the sale of ice cream, and machines to extract peanut oil. Thank you Plan International."

- Jamilla (32) from Maradi

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



89%

Of girls are married
before the age of 18



12%

Of children are
malnourished



25%

Of children drop out of
school



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

- One in four children drop out of school. We will promote the importance of education, especially for girls, and support teachers to create inclusive learning spaces.
- Around 23% of youth are unemployed. We will ensure young people get the vocational training they need to get a good job and earn an income as they become adults.
- Almost all young women in Maradi are married before the age of 18. We will work with community and religious leaders to campaign against this practice.
- Early pregnancies can cause serious health complications and even death. We will improve access to sexual and reproductive health education, so girls can make informed decisions about their lives and bodies.

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



“Your support has enabled us to make advancements in the promotion of children’s rights. For the coming year, we will strengthen actions to keep girls in school, strengthen food security, improve the reproductive health and well-being of youth, and empower

Lompo Raphael Evelyne
Programme Area Manager, Maradi

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