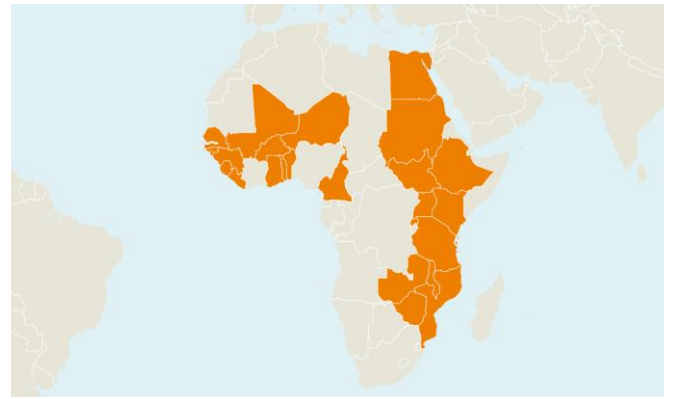


ANNUAL UPDATE BURKINA FASO

SANMATENGA



Together with your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Sanmatenga. Learn more about the valuable ways we work with children and communities.

This past year, addressing the ongoing humanitarian and security situations in Burkina Faso was a priority. Responding quickly and effectively to food insecurity in crisis regions was imperative, and we were able to strengthen resources for immediate aid.

Empowering youth to access their right to an education, and develop marketable skills, was key. Young people in Sanmatenga engaged in vocational training and entrepreneurship, working to create a more secure future.



790

Food-insecure households assisted with nutritional aid



2,033

People participated in the Cash for Work agricultural project



673

Dignity kits distributed to at-risk girls and women

“I RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP THAT MOTIVATED ME TO WORK HARD IN SCHOOL. I THANK PLAN FOR WHAT THEY DO.”

Florentine, 17-year-old Sponsored Child





NAME: MOHAMADI

AGE: 15 YEARS OLD

**DREAMS TO BE: A
TECHNICIAN**

“THIS TRAINING HAS MADE ME FEEL USEFUL AND READY TO WORK TO MEET MY OWN NEEDS AND THOSE OF MY FAMILY.”

Meet Mohamadi

Like the child you sponsor, Mohamadi is making steps towards achieving his goals and building a stronger future for himself.

After poverty and Burkina Faso's political instability cut short Mohamadi's formal schooling, he accessed vocational training and entrepreneurial support. Now, he is on a path toward economic independence.

Learning In Times of Crisis

Burkina Faso has been experiencing a security and humanitarian crisis since 2015. The deteriorating situation has had a devastating effect on educational access for young people.

Mohamadi's dreams were shattered when he left school and his parents could not afford to enrol him in vocational training. He saw himself as many of his older brothers and relatives who were forced to earn money through activities such as gold panning—dangerous work vulnerable to terror attacks.

Yet with perseverance and training, Mohamadi is now on a safer, more secure path. Through an educational empowerment programme, out-of-school children in Burkina Faso are able to access a more stable future.

On the Path to Success

The project empowers youth with resources and connections to learn and thrive. Over 800 pupils earned scholarships, and more than 500 out-of-school youth are training in trades from mechanics to market gardening.

Now an expert on cell phone repair, Mohamadi plans to open his own repair shop with the support of his trainer and the installation kit. He is also helping other youth achieve their dreams. He says: “I would like to see children in the same situation as me being looked after. I have a cousin who is going to work with me as my first apprentice and I am confident things will go well.”



Mohamadi learnt repair skills through vocational training

OUR PROJECTS IN SANMATENGA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE



Many families in Sanmatenga struggle to access education for their children. Youth living in vulnerable situations often drop out of school, drastically limiting their chances for an economically stable future.

This year, a key initiative focused on facilitating access to education for at-risk children. For example, school fees were paid for five girls so they can continue their studies.

64% of the population in Burkina Faso is underemployed, especially in rural areas. Through vocational training, youth learn skills to develop their own businesses.

Empowering youth with marketable skills, as well as opportunities to develop plans for their future, was vital. Vocational training engaged young people, who gained skills in beadwork, phone repair and mechanics, and who were then supported with installation kits to set up their own businesses. Access to education and opportunity empowered young people—especially those in vulnerable situations, ensuring they have access to a more secure future.



RESPONDING TO EMERGENCY



A complex humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso has profoundly affected security, livelihoods, and access to food. The Red Alert Response project contributes to strengthening the resilience of people affected by the crisis in the region.

This year, aid for internally displaced persons and food-insecure households provided immediate relief. In addition, health workers were trained for medical and health centres. Gardens were established in schools to provide nutritious foods.

Learning and Support Groups also provided resources for pregnant and breastfeeding women and their babies, helping to address malnutrition and provide quality care.

“The number of pupils at our school increased because of the displaced people and the canteen was no longer enough. Plan came to help us with food. Now, even with the large number of pupils, there is enough for everyone.” – **Rihanata (15), from Sanmatenga**



YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



The best is yet to come—and together we will continue to work for a brighter future for the children in Sanmatenga.

- Only 4.5% of the population aged 16-64 has received vocational training. Initiatives, such as the creation of new Village Savings & Loan groups, will promote the economic autonomy of women and young people.
- In times of crisis, children are especially vulnerable to violence and exploitation. Resources such as emergency shelters and strengthened child protection units will support communities as they address these dangers.
- Crisis regions have limited access to clean water. Drilling boreholes will increase the availability of drinking water for households vulnerable to food and nutritional insecurity.

Thank you for your continued support.



“I would like to thank the sponsors. Through their contributions, we’re implementing projects to build the resilience of the population in the grip of a difficult security situation.”

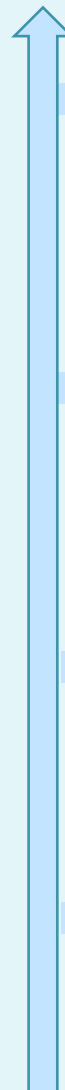
Aminata Rabo
Programme Area Manager

THE PLAN EFFECT



Your sponsorship commitment becomes long-term change—providing help for self-help. We involve children at the centre of all projects, bringing effective and sustainable solutions to families and communities. With Plan’s Effect, your commitment helps empower communities to transform their lives and futures.

THE LAST 12 MONTHS



JANUARY



240

Young people trained in income-generating activities

MARCH



50

People trained in Village Savings & Loan methodology

MAY



12

Women trained in beadwork to set up small businesses

DECEMBER



1,606

People accessing clean water thanks to five new boreholes