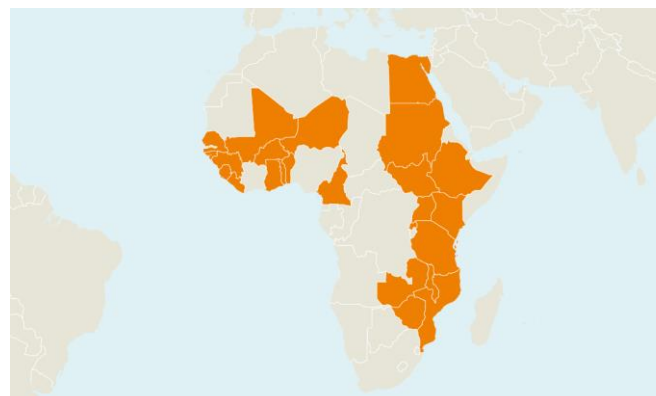


ANNUAL UPDATE

SENEGAL

LOUGA



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

This tropical part of Senegal is home to around 1.1 million people, around 24% of children are enrolled in secondary school. This year, our projects in Louga focused on supporting youth leadership, reducing maternal mortality and stopping the spread of tuberculosis. In regions where we focused our efforts, no maternal and neonatal deaths were recorded in the first months of 2023. 1,556 community members with symptoms of tuberculosis were connected to health care facilities, and hundreds of children joined local children’s clubs.



14,060

Homes and offices visited to conduct on-site health screenings



692

Victims of gender-based violence accessed support services in Senegal



243

Young people empowered at inclusive vocational training centres

“AS PART OF PLAN’S NEW YOUTH RECREATION SPACE, WE REPAIRED OUR COMMUNITY’S HEALTH HUT.”

– Sokhna, 13 years old, Sponsored Child





NAME: NATHALIA

AGE: 16

**DREAMS TO BE: A
TEACHER**

“AS A YOUNG GIRL IN THIS COMMUNITY, I NOW HAVE BETTER HEALTH, BETTER EDUCATION, BETTER PROTECTION AND MORE SELF-ESTEEM. I FEEL RESPECTED.”

Meet Nathalia

Like the child you sponsor, Nathalia is taking steps toward achieving her goals.

Children in Nathalia's community did not have safe places to play, so she took matters into her own hands.

Fear Stops Here

For too long, Nathalia and her friends felt they didn't have anywhere to go during their free time. In their seaside community in Dakar, too many children had drowned while playing, and young people were beginning to fear the water.

Nathalia took it upon herself to collaborate with a network of current and former Sponsored Children, as well as Plan International, to support safer recreation for young people in her community. As a result, children, parents, teachers and local leaders held meetings to talk openly about child safety and protection. Community members then formed inter-generational Child Protection Committees, which established plans to report and resolve violations of children's rights.

We Are Leaders

In addition to these meetings, Nathalia and her friends participated in workshops about adolescent and sexual health, which included empowering activities to foster communication and creativity.

While swimming safety was a key concern for Nathalia and her friends, they achieved so much more: today, Dakar's new Child Protection Committees have been able to intervene in a number of cases of children's rights violations.



Nathalia is also passionate about dance and she is known for her talent and creativity.

OUR PROJECTS IN LOUGA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



As tuberculosis cases in Louga remain high, thousands of community members were tested and treated for active infections.

SUPPORTING PREGNANT WOMEN



The Better Maternal Health project seeks to reduce maternal mortality in three districts in Louga. Between now and 2025, we will be working with local health care providers in these regions to improve resources and retrain nurses and midwives.

We spoke with 862 young people and adults to discuss reproductive health and gender-based violence, including child marriage and female genital mutilation.

In one commune, the local government passed a law prohibiting child marriage and female genital mutilation. In the first months of 2023, zero maternal and neonatal deaths were recorded in our partner communities.

WE ARE THE FUTURE



This year, Plan International's children's clubs in Louga aim to connect at-risk young people with empowering opportunities.

We collaborated with 783 children belonging to 57 children's clubs in several communities in the Louga region. 573 women and 210 men helped us facilitate important conversations about youth advocacy, leadership, civic duties and future planning, where we created action plans to keep young people on the path for success. 128 young people specifically discussed gender and inclusion, and another 130 young people talked about personal development and the power of leadership.

“Plan's Children's Clubs are very useful to us. We make beaded bags, belts, flower pots and help parents register their children's births.”

- Fatou (14) from Louga



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 Louga.

- Here, at least 50% of young women do not have stable sources of income. Next year, we plan to relaunch our Village Savings and Loans groups for financial literacy and mutual aid.
- More than 70% of young people involved with Plan International Senegal do not have formal employment. We aim to help 75 young people perfect their CVs and practise writing cover letters.
- As another part of our mission to reduce youth unemployment, we aim to provide climate-resilient vocational skills to 800 young men and women in Louga.

Thank you for your continued support.



“This year, significant progress and changes were made. Next year, we will strive to reach more children to support their educational performance, health and leadership.”

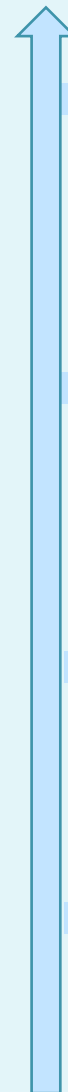
Fatou Kine Ndiaye
Programme Area Manager

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



FEBRUARY



48

Young women participated in leadership workshops

MARCH



340

Children participated in local children's clubs

APRIL



128

Community members talked about gender and inclusion

APRIL



211

Adults learned about Louga’s child protection policies