#### PLAN INTERNATIONAL

# ANNUAL UPDATE TOGO ATAKPAME





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

In Atakame only half of the children complete secondary school and only 56% have access to clean water. This year, seven new boreholes were drilled and we have coached 7,219 children and community members in water conservation. We provided climate-resilient agriculture training to 235 young people. Together with parents and local government, we worked to promote inclusive education, with a focus on girls and children with disabilities. We promoted entrepreneurship for young people and pushed for female leadership.

66,142

people have access to clean drinking water "CHILD PREGNANCY IS A HUGE ISSUE HERE. PLAN TAUGHT ME A LOT ABOUT TOPICS THAT ARE OFTEN TABOO FOR US." Alexandra, 13 years old, Sponsored Child



1,972

526

children participate in student councils

students learn in

upgraded schools

### **MY FUTURE IS BRIGHT**



## NAME: THÉRÈSE AGE: 15 Dreams to be: A Police officer

"BEING THE CHAIRWOMAN OF A GIRLS' LEADERSHIP ORGANISATION HAS CHANGED MY LIFE. I AM NO LONGER SO OVERWHELMED, AND <u>HAVE PASSED ALL OF MY EXAMS."</u>

#### **Meet Thérèse**

# Like the child you sponsor, Thérèse is becoming a confident advocate for her rights.

One-third of girls in primary school in her community do not continue to secondary. Through taking part in a leadership project, Thérèse has become a dedicated student.

#### I Am A Leader

When Thérèse had to repeat her third year of secondary school, the future of her education was at stake: fewer than 10% of girls graduate from secondary school in Plateaux, migrating to bigger cities to become domestic workers, getting pregnant at a young age or struggling to find employment locally.

Since 2021, Plan International's "Leaders of Tomorrow" club in Thérèse's community has been outspoken about the importance of keeping girls in school. Since becoming a member of the group, Thérèse is determined to complete her education.

#### We Have Big Dreams

In 2022, 100% of girls involved in the Leaders of Tomorrow club graduated from high school. In 2024, Thérèse plans to do the same. From there, she hopes to become a police officer, where she can defend the rights of girls and women in Plateaux. Thérèse describes her behaviour as having changed a lot since becoming a member of the Leaders of Tomorrow club: now, she's aware of the risks of teen pregnancy, and is very committed to completing her education. Today, Thérèse is also the president of a club for local Sponsored Children.



Thérèse is determined to graduate from secondary school.

## WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 8,001 CHILDREN IN ATAKPAME

## **OUR PROJECTS IN ATAKPAME ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE**



This year, 2,189 hygienic family latrines were built, reducing the spread of preventable illnesses.

## **CLEAN WATER CHANGES LIVES**



In Atakpame, just 56% of community members have access to clean drinking water.

Since July 2021, our "Healthy Children, Healthy Communities" project has focused on improving water and hygiene services for 74,281 people across Togo's Plateaux region, which includes Sponsored Children and families in Atakpame.

This year, we drilled 7 new boreholes in 6 communities and performed maintenance on 19 existing water taps. 175 community members in Atakpame celebrated World Water Day, where we discussed water conservation and drought. 195 children who participate in our Children's Governments leadership programme for students, including 104 girls, discussed water, sanitation and hygiene in their schools.







#### **SUSTAINABLE SKILLS**

Across the world girls suffer injustices every day simply because they are young and female.

Young people must have the opportunity to lead change within their own communities and to understand and defend their rights. We are committed to supporting the empowerment of children, with a special focus on girls and children with disabilities. This year, 73 young people practised sustainable vocational skills, using new gardening equipment to hone their new knowledge of market garden production adapted to their disability.

Apprenticeships were offered to young people with disabilities.1,040 girls took part in workshops about communication and safeguarding.

"Thanks to Plan International, I'm now a dressmaker's apprentice. Before, my parents couldn't afford to sign me up for a contract, so I'm very grateful."

- Abla (17) from Atakpame

#### **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 Atakpame.

• Rates of sexual violence remain high in Atakpame. With your support, we will combine sexual education workshops with empowering leadership trainings for girls and young women.

• More than 26% of young adults in Atakpame are unemployed. We will continue to work with young people in the community to discuss vocational skills and entrepreneurship.

• In the early years of a child's life, children learn skills that are critical for all aspects of their lives. Next year, we will continue to work with the youngest to improve children's health, nutrition, equality, learning and safety.

#### Thank you for your continued support.



"Thanks to your support, children, especially girls, are strengthened in leadership. In the future, we will continue to help create a safe and empowering environment for girls."

Amana Kpelega 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

