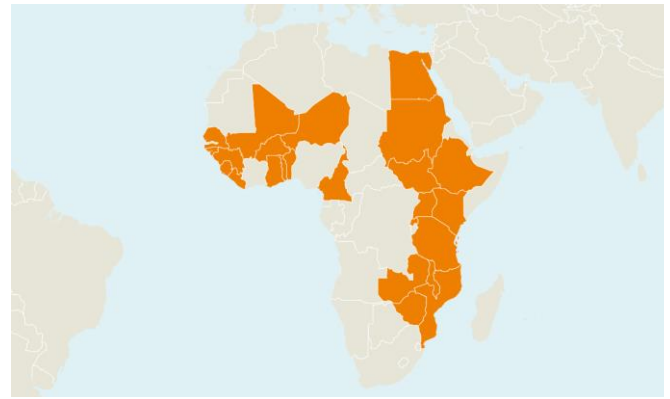


ANNUAL UPDATE BURKINA FASO

ZIRO



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

Addressing consequences of the ongoing crisis in Burkina Faso was a priority. Key initiatives empowered communities with tools and resources to keep children safe and promote gender equality. In addition, the youth empowerment projects fostered economic independence in young people with skills development and income-generating activities.

This year, young people in Ziro made real progress, working together for a brighter future for their communities.



102

Peer educators trained on sexual and reproductive health rights



100

Internally displaced women received kits with blankets and mats



65

People advocated against Female Genital Mutilation

“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 ZIRO ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



30 young Internally Displaced Persons and host women began raising goats as an income-generating activity.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE



The humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso profoundly affects economic security. Internally Displaced Persons and host communities are under pressure. Many young people lack access to training, jobs, and stability.

The Youth Empowerment in West Africa (YEWA) project empowers young people through skills development and vocational training. Youth gain the knowledge and skills to influence governance and advocate for a more stable future.

This year, 279 people learnt about land tenure and the prevention of land-related conflicts, and 218 people participated in social cohesion training. Young adults learned about contract farming to improve access to profitable markets. Members from 35 youth organisations were trained in community living and income-generating activities in order to strengthen governance and financial autonomy.



PROTECTING CHILDREN

Children deserve to live in a healthy environment free from violence. Yet many children in Ziro experience violence, and harmful practices and attitudes persist.

Initiatives to strengthen community child protection systems were implemented this year, addressing violence with advocacy and education. Community child protection units trained on violence prevention, and leaders developed methods for preventing sexual harassment, abuse, and exploitation. In schools, educational talks focused on early marriage, gender-based violence, and early pregnancy.

This awareness promoted a protective environment among families and communities, addressing harmful practices and keeping children safe.

“I now know where and to whom I can turn in the event of violence against myself or one of my classmates. What caught my attention were the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and early marriage for young girls.” – **Monique (17) from Ziro**



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 Ziro.

- Burkina Faso has 2.8 million child brides. In partnership with community and religious leaders, advocacy campaigns will address the harmful effects of child marriage on the well-being of girls.
- Only 4.5% of the population aged 16-64 has received vocational training. Vocational training on weaving, soap-making, sewing, and gardening will advance the economic autonomy of women and youth.
- Many children in Burkina Faso suffer from malnutrition, anaemia, and micronutrient deficiencies. Mothers and pregnant women will have access to resources to prepare enriched porridge for nutritional support.

Thank you for your continued support.



“I would like to thank you because your contributions have given hope to thousands of unemployed girls, enabling them to acquire new skills in setting up micro-businesses.”

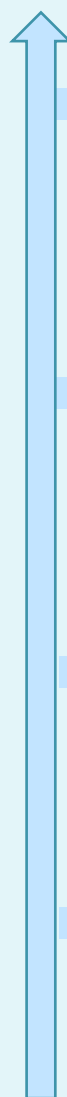
Souleymane Zoromi
Programme Area Manager

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

323

Households with at-risk children supported with aid



MARCH

61

Community pre-school teachers accessed training



JUNE

20

Youth trained on the rights of people with disabilities



OCTOBER

160

Young people participated in the International Day of the Girl

