

Bohicon

Benin

Positive changes are happening in Bohicon. Learn more about how we're supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equality-driven work.

For example, the Plan for Girls programme engaged girls and young women to learn about and promote gender equality and girls' rights. This long-standing project continues to make an impact in the community, as participants organise awareness sessions and develop advocacy plans.

In addition, pupils are establishing school governments and parliaments to make improvements in their education—especially for girls and young women. As a result, more students are staying in school and succeeding. Vocational training and support are also making a difference: 261 girls trained in income-generating activities, with 30 young people learning solar energy and installation in Bohicon.



Today's children become tomorrow's leaders.

"With Plan's support, I'm now in 6th grade. My classmates appointed me president of my village children's club."
— Reobothe (12)



Impact in Numbers

30,000

pupils aware of the drawbacks to early pregnancy

4,240

young women participated in leadership sessions

46

latrines built in 23 schools

Investing in her Future



NAME:

Carole

AGE:

24 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

An entrepreneur



“When the project first started, during our training sessions, I saw young women speaking out. This gave me courage.”

Meet Carole

Like many women in Benin, Carole is making steps towards achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself and her family.

Carole left school when she had her first child at age 20. In her community, many young women leave school or apprenticeships because of early pregnancies. Without education or income-generating work, however, these women become economically dependent on their families.

Challenging Gender Expectations

Carole joined one of the 60 Youth Saving and Loans Association (YSLA) groups set up by the project Plan for Girls. These groups enable adolescents and young people to save money and take out loans. Carole took out a loan to develop her small business—after repaying the loan, she took out another one and expanded.

The group inspired Carole to see a future of economic independence. “I said, if other women like me can have a job and become respected people, then so can I, even if I’m a stay-at-home mom.”

Empowering the Next Generation

Now, Carole is a member of the Girls’ Advisory Committee, where she represents her peers and helps to amplify their voices. Along with other women from the project, she helps identify the challenges facing adolescent girls and young women concerning economic empowerment.

Carole’s hope is for more young women to benefit from the same opportunities—and as a community leader, she is committed to helping the girls in her village become financially independent and invest in their futures.



As a member of the Girls' Advisory Committee, Carole proposes actions to improve economic independence.

We Work With 13,097 Sponsored Children in Bohicon

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Girls in Bohicon are advocating for their right to decide, plan and lead.

Through the Plan for Girls project, girls and young women are learning about gender equality and rights, empowering them with the resources to advocate for equality. Participant Sabine says, “Thanks to these actions, we now know how to defend our rights as well as our duties.”



6,104
parents attended sessions
on education awareness

Renewal of school government and parliament

Félicité is a leader girl in her community.

Student-led school governments foster pupils' participation and success.

This year, 276 school governments were established in schools, and 17 advocacy sessions were organised for secure school environments. More than 800 intergenerational dialogue sessions were organised. In addition, new classrooms and school kitchens have been built, and pupils are learning marketable skills and accessing materials and equipment to succeed.

— Félicité (15)

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Training school government and parliament on their roles and responsibilities.

Together, we're working to create a more just world.

In the coming year, we will strengthen youth empowerment for sexual and reproductive rights, so they can make autonomous decisions about their bodies, sexuality and relationships.

We will support Comprehensive Sexuality Education in schools, including technical support for teachers.

We will help facilitate access to school kits and textbooks for children through community initiatives such as school stores and education funds.

We will empower young people to access vocational training, create their own businesses, and develop leadership skills.

Message from Plan Staff

"We continue putting particular emphasis on young people's employability. Sponsored children and their mothers were trained on renewable fuel and photovoltaic energy. This is part of environmental protection and will provide households with additional sources of income. Gratitude to our sponsors for their continuous support."



Mireille Houngbo Amou,
Programme Area
Manager,
Bohicon

The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

Progress in Numbers

3,300

women equipped
for economic
empowerment

8

health centres
equipped

3

classrooms built
and equipped

4,320

dignity kits
distributed to
young women