

Poni

Burkina Faso

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

Climate change, economic hardships, and political unrest in Poni pose major challenges to children, especially girls, limiting their education and future economic stability.

The influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) further strains resources like food, health services, and sanitation facilities.

Plan, with community and government support, supported the development of educational and employment opportunities for youth, especially women. We trained 122 students, including 71 girls, in "Gender and Leadership in School Management" and supported 10 families of vulnerable girls with income-generating activities like pig and poultry rearing.



Children participating in Plan's programmes.

"As part of Plan's initiatives, I chose to train as a women's hairdresser. Now I am getting skills to start my own business." Kaligueta, 16-year-old, Sponsored Child.



Impact in Numbers

424

Girls supported with school financial grants

328

Teachers trained in early education methods

4,637

Children provided with nutritional support

Rediscovering the Joy of School



NAME:

Solange

AGE:

17 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

**Physical and Sports
Education Teacher**

“With the support of Plan, I was able to be accepted as a scholarship holder, all my fees were paid and I went back to school after losing a year.”



Meet Solange

Solange is currently in the fourth grade of secondary school and loves playing sports and singing. After her father passed away in 2013, her mother remarried and moved to another village, so Solange chose to stay with her father's family under the care of her uncle.

Solange dreams of becoming a physical education and sports teacher and puts all her effort into studying so she does not fall behind or risk being expelled.

Economic Obstacles

Thanks to her uncle's support, Solange progressed to the third grade of secondary school. However, while preparing for her 10th-grade exams, she learned that her uncle could no longer support her financially due to economic hardships.

This news was a crushing blow to Solange, who was deeply committed to her education. She feared for her future, knowing that without a proper education, her options would be severely limited. In this situation she would be forced to abandon her dream of becoming a teacher.

Learning For The Future

To improve access to education, entrepreneurship, and vocational training for sponsored children, particularly girls, Plan International has provided scholarships to Solange and other vulnerable children to help cover their school fees.

The scholarship has helped Solange rediscover the joy of attending school, and she is now more determined than ever to achieve her dream of becoming a physical education teacher.



Solange, 17, writing on a board in her school.

There are currently 9,935 Sponsored Children in Poni

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Supporting Education

Many young people in Poni struggle to access quality education. Children in vulnerable situations, such as young girls and those with disabilities, often drop out of school, severely limiting their chances for a stable economic future.

In collaboration with families and schools, Plan's initiatives aim to improve access to quality education for girls, children with disabilities, and other vulnerable children. These initiatives include bridging programs, support for educational supervisors, and providing schools with textbooks and other supplies.

This year, 281 children, including 144 girls, gained access to quality education through 10 newly established bridging centres. Furthermore, 25 students with visual impairments, including nine girls from AEMAG Boarding School, Sacré-Cœur School, and the provincial high school, received essential support such as food, specially designed educational supplies, and uniforms.



Teachers educating the students in schools.

1,252

Students benefitted from remedial classes



Internally displaced sponsored children happy to receive school kits.



Nafissata, 18-year-old, from Poni.

Youth Empowerment

Poor economic conditions and limited educational opportunities have led to many young people struggling with their long-term career development and economic stability. Through our Strengthening and Economic Empowerment of Sponsored Children initiative, Plan aims to build the resilience of vulnerable sponsored children by strengthening their entrepreneurial skills and financial education, and by supporting them to find employment opportunities.

Through our initiative, 235 students, including those internally displaced due to conflict or climate disasters, have received solar lamps. Additionally, 20 sponsored children have been trained in soilless crop production, entrepreneurship, and making traditional loincloths, while 42 women and internally displaced individuals have received training in soilless cultivation.

“ With the help of Plan’s training courses, and a sewing machine, I can work and make a bit of money for me and my family.” Nafissata, 18-year-old, from Poni

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Young woman participating in Plan's initiatives.

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

Societal taboos and a lack of knowledge about menstruation impact the overall wellbeing of young girls and women. Next year, Plan will collaborate with the community and schools to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene.

Economic hardship, political unrest, and gender discrimination have increased out-of-school children. Plan will partner with schools and the community to strengthen education and reduce dropout rates.

Political unrest has led to an increase in internally displaced persons (IDPs) and worsened food insecurity. Next year, Plan will strengthen food and nutritional services for vulnerable populations.

Message from Plan Staff

"Thanks to your generous contributions, we have once again responded to the concerns of the children of the South-West through concrete action in the areas of education, protection and empowerment. The children and their families are delighted. We look forward to a lasting friendship with you."



Meda DG Clement,
Programme Area
Manager, Poni.

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

1,650

Students provided
with school
supplies

281

Out of school
children enrolled
in speed schools

140

Teachers trained
in menstrual
hygiene

114

Children (IDPs)
supported with
scholarships