

Biteng Cameroon

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

In Biteng, limited financial resources restrict access to education, especially for vulnerable groups like children and young women. Early marriage increases girls' vulnerability to gender-based violence and financial dependence, further restricting their educational and job opportunities.

In collaboration with the community, Plan supported vulnerable children's education by providing school fees, school supplies and other equipment, such as solar lamps for extended study hours.

Additionally, 400 individuals, including children and young people, raised awareness about children's rights to encourage community and leader engagement in protecting vulnerable populations.



Women making cassava sticks.

"The notebook distribution in schools and the soap-making training were very useful to me, as I can sell the soap I produce."

- Hadjara, 17-year-old Sponsored Child



Impact in Numbers

84

**young people
trained in soap
making**

155

**girls trained in
preventing gender-
based violence**

1,278

**girls received solar
lamps**

Girls Become Entrepreneurs



NAME:

Fadimatou

AGE:

22 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

An entrepreneur

“I’ve been able to set up my business and sell cosmetics online. I also don’t hesitate to help my younger peers with advice whenever they need.”



Meet Fadimatou

Like many girls in Cameroon, Fadimatou is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.

Fadimatou, a 22-year-old aspiring entrepreneur living with her parents in Yaoundé, Cameroon, has a passion for reading in her spare time. She dreams of starting a professional training centre focused on manufacturing cosmetic and household products.

Her goal is to empower young girls by providing them with training and helping them become entrepreneurs.

Lack of Economic Opportunities

High poverty rates and early marriages have led to many young people, especially girls, dropping out of school, severely limiting their economic and social opportunities. Fadimatou is one such girl who had to leave school because her family could no longer afford the fees.

Apart from these challenges, there are also no training centres for Fadimatou to further develop her entrepreneurship initiatives and help other girls.

Working Together to Succeed

Through Plan’s training sessions, young girls and women who dropped out of school, like Fadimatou, gain vocational skills to support them in earning an income and becoming financially independent.

As a result, the young girls who participated in these training sessions have started their businesses, including in making and selling soap. Additionally, girls who had dropped out of school received financial support, enabling them to complete their education.



Fadimatou participating in a soap-making training programme.

We Currently Work With 2,388 Sponsored Children in Biteng

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Supporting Education

In Biteng, poverty and violence against children, particularly young girls, lead to restricted access to essential resources such as education, which leads to lasting challenges for their income opportunities and financial independence.

Plan collaborated with the community to support 22 children, including 10 girls and 12 boys, by paying their examination fees to receive their primary school graduation certificates. These initial diplomas indicate an important milestone in children's lives, enabling them to move up to secondary school.

Furthermore, 362 girls received school supplies, including notebooks and pens, to ease the economic burden on parents at the start of the school year, a time when financial strain is especially felt in the community.



Young girl with school materials in Biteng.

2,026
children received solar
lamps to study at night



Members of the protection committee after sensitisation session.



Anastasie, 16, during the celebration of the National Day of Cameroon.

Protecting Girls

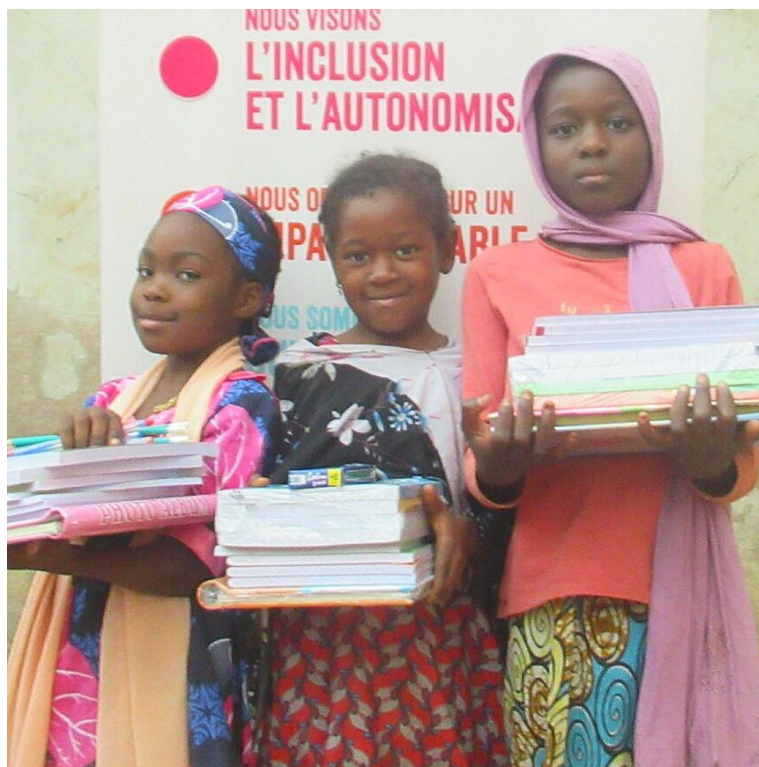
Due to practices like early marriage and gender norms that increase women's financial and social dependence, women in Biteng are at a high risk of gender-based violence.

Plan worked with the community to form 16 protection groups of 240 girls and 160 boys, advocating for increased protection for children, especially young girls and women. These groups have been essential in establishing community-based child protection mechanisms and strengthening girls' and women's organisations in Biteng.

Furthermore, 271 young people and families were educated on the causes of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with awareness-raising activities being focused on the theme "Investing to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls." The young participants demonstrated a strong interest in this issue, resulting in lively exchanges.

"I now understand my rights, and how to defend myself. I learned that I can report an adult who has mistreated a child, which could not be done previously in my community." - Anastasie, 16, from Biteng

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Young girls with school supplies in Biteng.

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

In Biteng, 36% of young girls have children before turning 18, affecting their well-being and opportunities. Next year, Plan will advocate for gender-sensitive norms, practices, and parenting programmes for men.

Young girls and women do not have access to equal employment opportunities. Next year, young women will acquire vocational skills through workshops, and women's groups will receive support in the production and sales of mushrooms.

In central Cameroon, 35% of women experience physical violence. Next year, Plan will strengthen community organisations to support girls and women in engaging with local leaders and their communities.

Message from Plan Staff

"We thank our sponsors for their contribution to enhancing children's knowledge of their rights to education, protection, and sexual and reproductive health. We will continue to support children in education, health, and safety in the coming year."



Charles Chiappi,
Programme Area
Manager, Biteng

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

100 children received food supplies

30 health workers trained in sexual health services

36 women trained in mushroom production

158 girls trained as Champions of Change