

Kaolack

Senegal

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

High poverty levels, coupled with limited access to quality education and health services, significantly affect children, particularly girls and young women. Many girls struggle to attend school due to a lack of menstrual health facilities, leading to decreased attendance and poor academic performance. Additionally, the absence of child protection mechanisms increases the risk of exploitation, especially for girls in the community.

In collaboration with the community, Plan developed educational initiatives that would create a more inclusive school environment. We provided 15 sets of learning materials and equipment to revitalize 10 playgroups in schools. Additionally, we established three sets of recycling and waste-cleaning equipment to support sanitation management in schools and public squares.

"My family has benefited from sheep breeding training programs, which has helped them provide us with adequate health and education services." - Soda, 12, Sponsored Child



A girl with her family's two goats.

Impact in Numbers

67,92

children screened for malnutrition in villages

27

women provided solar kits

1,840

people joined tuberculosis info sessions

Girls Become Leaders



NAME:

Adama

AGE:

16 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

An aviation engineer

“The poor situation of girls is the reason I was motivated to take part in Plan’s activities and strengthen my leadership and public speaking skills.”



Meet Adama

Adama, a 16-year-old girl, currently in high school, wants to become an aviation engineer. She lives with her family in Thies, and in her free time enjoys reading, and watching news on the television and social media.

In her community, caste is still a prevalent issue and acts as a barrier towards gaining access to inclusive education and services for all groups.

Barriers towards Gaining Equality

In Adama’s community, harmful societal beliefs, particularly related to caste, create tensions and discrimination. The devaluing attitudes toward certain groups undermine young girls’ self-confidence and hinder their potential in school, the workplace, and the community. Such beliefs also generate mistrust among community members and restrict girls’ independence.

Adama has been deeply affected by this situation, which has impacted her and other girls’ education and often leads them to drop out of school. She wants to work toward creating a more equal environment for everyone in her community.

Leading the Change

Adama is an active member of both the Champions of Change Club and the Joining Forces Senegal ambassador network, where she holds the position of National Secretary General. In these roles, she has cultivated strong leadership and public speaking skills, boosting her self-confidence and establishing herself as a key representative for ambassadors within her community.

Through her dedication, Adama has become a powerful advocate and a leading voice for change.



Adama participating in Champions of Change activities.

We Work with 8,233 Sponsored Children in Kaolack

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Protecting Children

In Kaolack, lack of child protection mechanisms including ones ensuring children's especially girls' safety in online social networks can lead to them being exploited or subjected to violence.

In collaboration with the community, Plan trained girls on various topics such as online safety, leadership and public speaking. We established 29 children's clubs and supported their participation in local development and other activities, such as letter-writing support for sponsorship communities and families.

The development of these awareness-raising messages was based on the specific local beliefs, traditions, and customs of the operating area, with young people, particularly girls, leading the initiative, to ensure a sustained impact.



Radio hosting awareness raising sessions in Kaolack.

30

girls were trained in online safety and public speaking



Learning materials given to girls in schools.

Supporting Education

In Kaolack, many children, particularly girls, are unable to find quality, inclusive education in schools. Additionally, the lack of menstrual health management facilities in schools often causes girls to miss important school days during their menstruation period.

Plan collaborated with the community to promote quality education for girls and boys that addresses gender equality and provides socio-economic opportunities for the development of both life and vocational skills. We also provided 1,000 menstrual hygiene kits for girls in secondary schools to increase their school attendance and performance.

Additionally, Plan has provided 100 table benches to enhance learning opportunities in schools for all students.



Awa, 17-years-old, from Kaolack

"Before this project, we often missed school due to our periods and the inability to afford sanitary pads regularly. Now, we no longer have to miss school during our periods!"

- Awa, 17-years-old, from Kaolack

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



A girl posing for a picture.

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

In Kaolack, many children and girls lack access to quality education in schools. Next year, Plan will continue advocating for quality, gender-sensitive, inclusive education for all children.

Many children in Kaolack are victims of violence and labour exploitation. Next year, Plan will continue to support young people's participation in local governments and become influential leaders.

Malnutrition is a major issue severely impacting childhood development. Next year, Plan will support the development of community health facilities focused on disease prevention and control, and maternal and neonatal health.

Message from Plan Staff

"With your support, we have developed diverse projects that have enabled us to take decisive actions for the benefit of children, particularly girls from vulnerable communities. These projects, along with your commitment to supporting children, have further strengthened the rights of children and girls in Kaolack."



Abdoulaye Diop,
Programme Unit
Manager,
Kaolack.

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

709

women reached
about breast
cancer awareness

58

women trained in
financial
education

68

youth trained in
inclusive job
opportunities

4,877

people were
trained in sexual
health