

Tillabéri

Niger

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

Armed groups and escalating violence in the region are putting many children at risk. Additionally, flooding and dry spells have led to a high number of children suffering from chronic malnutrition. We have responded to 3,042 households in Niger with emergency cash transfer and more than 8,000 families have received food-kits.

Violence prevents many girls from accessing education – often girls are forced to walk long distances to school placing them at an increased risk of violence. Last year, we still saw a 10% increase in school enrolment among young girls in the region. Various provisions like accelerated learning, safety measures, improved income, support with scholarships and school kits, accompanied by raised awareness among local communities, are all efforts to help drive change.

“The remedial courses have improved my school performance. With better reading and writing skills, I am now at the top of my class.” - Balkissa (10)



Students in a bridging class.

Impact in Numbers

4,235

women in credit and savings associations

36,454

adults trained in girls protection

940

school girls receive menstrual hygiene kits

Advocate for Girls' Education



NAME:

Rahina

AGE:

22 Years Old

DREAMS TO BE:

A Teacher

“Because of our collective efforts as volunteers, our municipality is the cleanest and people are becoming more and more aware of the importance of schooling.”



Meet Rahina.

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

Rahina is in the final year of her high school. In her free time, she enjoys sewing and reading. Rahina was inspired by her parents to work as a community volunteer. Her peers chose her to be a member of the children's and youth club, which strengthened her school and working life. She has four sisters and two brothers.

Challenges for the youth

Less than 8% girls obtain upper secondary education. Driven by poverty, these young girls drop out of school to get married. Early marriage and low levels of education hinder girls' empowerment and hurt their children keeping them in a cycle of poverty. Thousands of girls lack the agency to make their own life decisions and have few opportunities to participate in social or professional activities. Rahina's club holds sessions to promote education for young girls, recognise violence against women, and organise awareness in sanitation and hygiene.

Rahina's team at work

Together with Rahina and her youth organisation, we strengthen partnerships with municipalities, local non-governmental organizations to make services more democratic. We also partner with radio stations and decentralise technical services for better outreach. These community-managed projects carry out activities prioritising participation of children and youth. By building capacities of the youth through income generating activities, they are able to stay enrolled in schools and continue their education. As a result, the school enrolment rate has improved by over 10%.



Rahina and her classmates prepare for their exams.

We Currently Work With 8,640 Sponsored Children in Tillabéri

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Healthy Development

Low rainfall and long dry spells have resulted in massive food insecurity in the region. Border closures, rising food prices, population displacement and civil security have added to the existing plights of the local Nigeriens.

This project directly provided food support in communities and school so that vulnerable women and young girls can benefit from it. To support with income generation activities for a more sustainable future, communities are benefiting from livestock rearing (sheep and goat kits), school garden sites and newly-installed water pumps to facilitate regular supply of water.

Inclusivity and self-reliance is our utmost priority. Therefore, with support from the community, we develop attitudes so that young Nigeriens, in all their diversity of gender, age, and disabilities, can manage their income and participate in various skill-building activities in six municipalities of Tillabéri.



Boys showing off their new irrigation system.

25

youth received sheep for improved income



A girl receives individual school kits from the project supervisor.

Child, not Bride

Often early marriage results in teen pregnancy and brings to halt the education and dreams of young girls.

Other common occurrences like regional conflict, safety issues, and lack of safe school environment further contribute to the falling rate of enrolment rate in this region.

To prevent gender-based violence, this project facilitates easy re-entry and integration of pupils into the education systems. With access to accelerated and bridge education, 550 students have improved their school attendance. Poverty keeps hundreds of students out of school, food kits support them with their meals and help parents prioritise school.

The project's approach places girls at the centre of change. But it also involves parents, community and religious leaders as well as teachers to identify professional training activities for out-of-school children. The collective efforts have resulted in fewer cases of child marriage. More and more young pupils are retained in school, and able to make informed decisions.



Nahimatou in the classroom with her classmates.

“We had lost all hope of being able to study again, but now we find ourselves at school every day like the others who follow regular official courses.” -Nahimatou (12)

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Education is critical in tackling harmful gender norms, and empowering girls to drive change.

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

Ensuring the safety and security of young girls is our top priority. This year, we will provide girls and young women with basic literacy skills to help them manage income-generating activities independently. We will also support students with school canteens, study kits, hygiene kits, and scholarships to promote barrier-free learning.

Additionally, we will raise awareness among teachers, child protection committees, and local communities on gender equality, child protection, and sexual and gender-based violence to better safeguard girls' rights.

Message from Plan Staff

"Your contribution has brought about multiple changes in the lives of the children of Tillabéri in the promotion of their rights for more equality for girls and more access to education."



Maidaji
Alio, Programme
Unit Manager

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

1,413

improved
knowledge on
classes' value

458

girls in remedial
courses for maths
and reading

7

garden sites
equipped with
water pumps

4

literacy centres
opened to
improve reading