

Country Strategic Plan Summary For 2010-2014

This document describes how Plan Burkina Faso and its partners will mobilize the different resources to improve the welfare and prospects of vulnerable children. It provides the strategic framework for consistent and continued action from 2010 to 2014

Brief History

Burkina Faso is located in the heart of Africa. Children form the largest percentage of about 53 from a population of almost 14 million people.

Though an agricultural country, the poor rainfall pattern makes the land very infertile. Food is therefore not in abundance thereby affecting the nutritional value of our children's food. The average number of years that a Burkinabe can live has improved from 48 years in 1985 to 50 years in 2006.

Our Programme

Plan has been working in Burkina Faso since 1976. It is now time again to develop a new 'Country Strategic Plan' between the period of 2010 and 2014. This can be achieved if we are able to identify issues that prevent children from exercising their rights and lessons learnt from previous programmes.

Plan, children and adults from the eight sponsored regions; **Sanmatenga**, **Namentenga** and **Bam** in the north, **Kourittenga** in the centre and **Poni**, **Noumbiel**, **Bougouriba** and **Ioba** in the south analysed the current situation of child rights. These have been grouped into the following areas.

The Issues

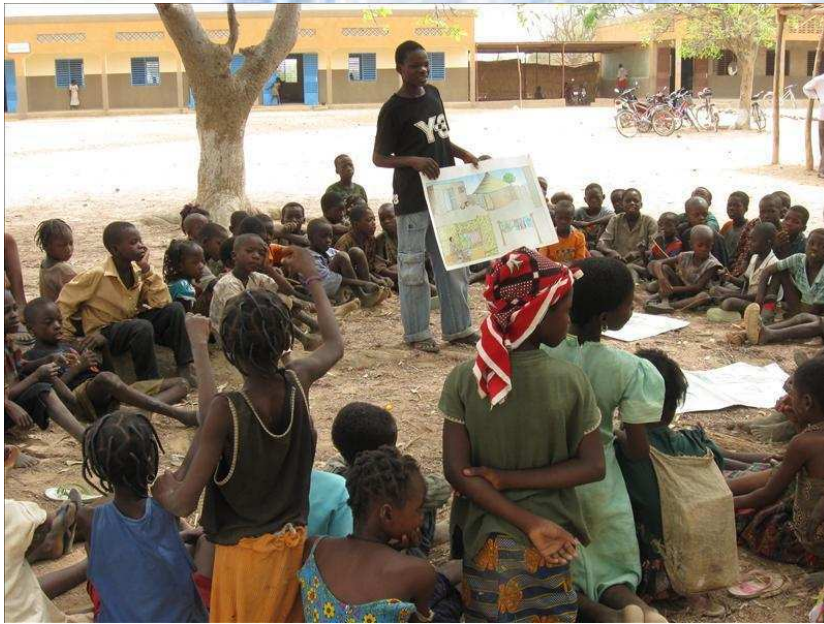
Child participation, survival, water and sanitation, education and protection.



In Our Classroom

Participation

The children can take part in projects but are not involved in taking decisions.



Children's Involvement

How To Address Them

In order to address these issues, we need to strategize on what we want to achieve. These are to protect the weak no matter who they are or where they come from and how to improve their standard of living especially in health and education. We also need to team up with like-minded organizations for quicker and better results. Last but not the least, we need to hold parents, guardians and the state accountable for their responsibilities.

The above has been expanded into six programmes

-**The first programme** under survival and development can be achieved by supporting the healthcare and social services to deliver.

- **On Quality Education**, we need to construct and rehabilitate school buildings from pre-school to the tertiary level, provide stationary, textbooks, teaching aids and trained teachers to man the school.

-**On our Rights and Protection**, we would build the capacities of children, youth organizations and government institutions to provide a protective environment for victims of violence and allow the children to be part of the decision making process.

-**The Fourth Programme** is to educate the youth on their reproductive health. Awareness campaigning among the youth on their sexual behaviours to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS.

- **Improved Living Conditions** means providing potable water, hygienic conditions and above all improve household revenue by encouraging savings and providing loans for business ventures.

- **The sixth** is to provide relief services when disasters like floods strike.

The Right to Survival

It's not the best. Diseases like malaria, anaemia and meningitis (severe brain disease) affects mostly children under 5 years and the results can be fatal. Although quite a number of latrines are under construction, hygiene and sanitation is far from normal due to lack of potable water.

Education

There is a big gap between urban and rural education and between girls and boys in school due to the fact that our culture demands that girls and women stay at home.

The right to protection deals with birth registration, child labour, trafficking, and female genital mutilation, living and working on the streets, sexual violence, and early and forced marriages.



Practical Hygiene