

“See Our World”

“An essential part of Plan’s work is to help create spaces for children and young people to discuss together the issues which affect their lives, then ensure adults respect their views so that children may be involved in community decision-making. This communication has been prepared with and by children directly and is intended to give a general sense of the kinds of issues children discuss and how they work together.”

Malaria, A Threat to Life

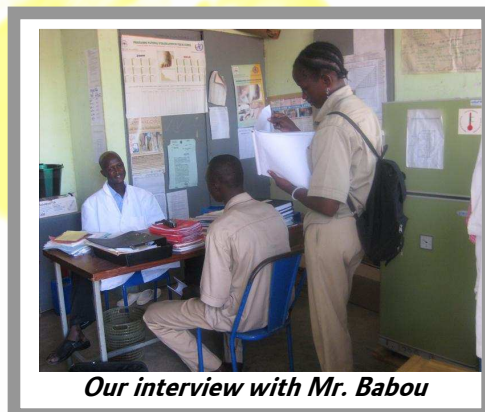
Hello dear Sponsors;

About 18 young reporters from our children’s club wrote on different topics including malaria – a killer disease - in our school’s (Koupela secondary) magazine.

We will share with you our experiences on the disease. In Burkina Faso, you will find us in Kourittenga, popularly known for KILLISSI (a delicacy of grilled meat with groundnut paste).

Research

We had an interview with Mr. Babou, a senior nurse at the Andemtenga health centre on the rate of malaria cases in our region.



Our interview with Mr. Babou

Effects

“My 3-year-old daughter Aminata B. is ill and has been in the hospital for four days.

I have spent quite an amount of money on her, which has affected the family’s income.

I have to stop work to take care of her”, says father **Mr. Moussa Barry** from Donsin.

Our reporting team learnt that little children are mostly affected especially during the rainy season.

Symptoms such as fever (high temperature), headache, diarrhoea, stomach ache and in some severe cases loss of blood, make up for about 60% of all reported cases)



Akiogbé and Friends

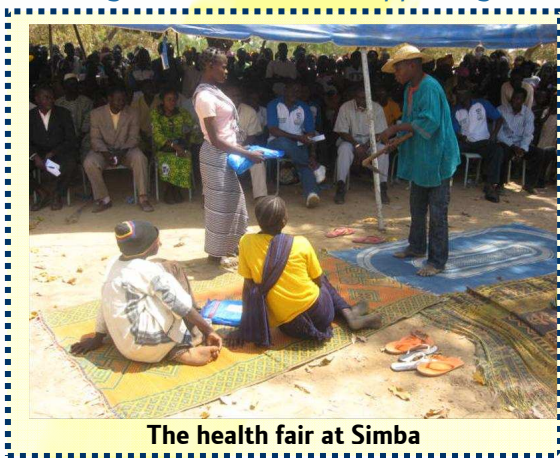
Akiogbe S. – a 10-year-old pupil from Koupela said, “I had terrible stomach pains and headaches.

My vomits were yellow. I became worried because our schools examinations were due.

My parents sent me to the hospital and the doctor said I had malaria. I was given some medicines and I felt better.

Fighting Malaria

We are grateful to Plan for supporting us to sensitize the public on malaria through



The health fair at Simba

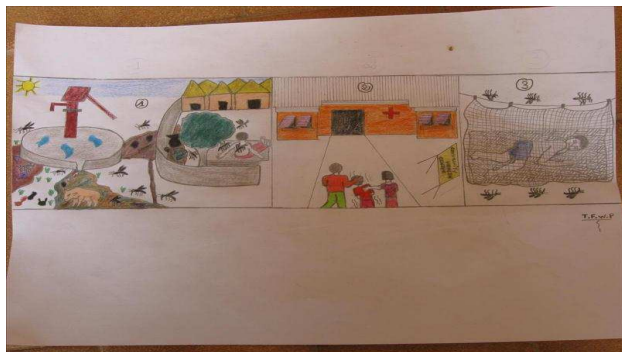
- i. Our children’s broadcast known locally as **Bibir radio**. We discuss issues on our right to health. This takes the form of a game show. Participants who performed better received prizes such as school kits, clothes, radio sets and many more.
- ii. We practice school governments. Child ministers are selected from different sectors like health, education and the like. They lead in creating awareness in their specific areas.

Clement W– 13 year old president of Lelguem school

government says “my government works well, we perform sketches to educate our siblings to sleep under mosquito nets and keep their houses clean”.

Causes and treatment of Malaria by 15-year-old Tirogo W. from Tiibin

- i. Mosquitoes breed in dirty water and give us malaria.
- ii. Let us keep our environment clean when you see the symptoms, move quickly to the health centre
- iii. Let us sleep under treated mosquito net for protection.



Tirogo’s Drawing

Winners are awarded.

11-year-old Seni T. from Bonmessin said, “we can no longer stand the mosquitoes. I took part in the Laafi Raaga and I won a mosquito net. My family and I will use it to protect ourselves.

Our hope for the future

The government has instituted a national programme to fight malaria. These are; a research centre at Nanoro, team up with partners like Plan Burkina on awareness creation on malaria and the annual celebration of the African Day against malaria.

“This document was reviewed and edited by Plan Staff“.

- iii. There is also a big health fair called **Laafi Raaga** in the “moore” language. It is to promote mother and childcare. Quite a number of activities in football, cycling, singing, poetry and drawing are competed for.

Poem on Malaria

Malaria is a deadly disease
 Caused by the bite of a female
 anopheles mosquito
 Which breeds in stagnant water
 Malaria today malaria tomorrow
 Will you ever stop?
 The hospitals are full of malaria
 You have killed many children
 You are a murderer!
 Prevention must be our aim
 Clean our homes and sleep in
 mosquito nets
 Discover a vaccine for both children
 and adults
 Together we can overcome malaria
 This is our battle, this is our dream

**By Martine – 16-year-old student
 from Kourita.**