



DIAPAGA 25 / 08 / 2018

Dear partners and friends, by the grace of God through your financial gifts and intervention the ABB has seen great progress and achieved many things for the children and their mothers in the province of Tapoa.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2017 AND JUNE 2018

I. BIBLE CLUBS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ABB has been able to distribute Bible courses and give civic education to around 1,300 students in schools at Diapaga, Mahadaga, Tambaga, Kogori, Kindikombou, Morideni, Logobou, Kantchari and even near Fada in the village of Koaré.

Studying these Bible courses has strengthened the faith of many young Christians and has led to the conversion of many more. For others, it has brought positive changes in behaviour and attitude.

Our records indicate that we have seventy-five new Christians, but we know that the real figure is greater than this.

A parent called Diaboado, his wife and other parents, have said that the studies have led to an improvement in their children's behaviour. They have said the academic level of their children has also improved since they started the course.

Aïnaou BOUKARI, the daughter of a Muslim family, is one of those who came to faith. She was studying in year 7 and is now continuing to year 8. She is sponsored by the ABB and testifies that the Bible course helped her spiritually, but also in her academic work as well.



The girls have very much appreciated the course on relationships, dating and marriage. The studies have helped them understand God's plan for marriage.

Thanks to this course, a girl Maïmouna OUALI, sixteen years old and from a Muslim family, has become a Christian and also escaped a forced marriage that her parents were planning.



The inspectors and school directors have appreciated these courses in their schools because they have led to reduced behavioural problems.

ABB has been able to help provide team kits and balls for the district (Logobou 2) cup final. (See photo below; notice that we printed our logo on the shirts!)



II. SCHOOL FEES FOR ORPHANS AND OTHER CHILDREN IN NEED OF HELP (SPONSORSHIP).

For the school year 2017-2018, ABB was able to pay the school fees of seven secondary students and thirty-six primary children.

A widow named Therese YONLI in Diapaga, the mother of seven children, stated *“if it wasn't for the help of ABB, her daughter Philinne LOMPO would not have been able to continue her studies”*.

Timothy OUALI, who has no father, is the best academically of all the sponsored students. His mother, who makes and sells beer and has recently become a Christian, is thankful for the help with school fees for her son. Below is a picture of her. She came to thank all those associated with ABB for the success of her son in the exams.



She has a further request for help as, during a football match, Timothy fell and hurt his hip to such an extent that he needs an operation. This is going to require far more money than she can afford.

The mother of Ali LIDO also came to express her joy and thank us for the success her son enjoyed at his primary school exam.



III. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES HELPING TO DEVELOP SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN WOMEN

The programme helping women develop marketable skills has been planned to improve the income of the poorest women, in order that they can take better care of their children. In the programme, teaching is given to recognise and utilise local resources. Following training, equipment and raw materials are put at the disposal of women's credit groups, so that what was learned can be put into practice and really help them.

Training women in weaving traditional cloth

Thanks to your support, ABB has been able to obtain land, build and open a training centre for women. The first thirty-four were trained and twenty-four were given weaving machines, designed for women who unable to support themselves and care for their families. The others are waiting until funds are available.



Establishment of Savings and Loans groups.

ABB has been able to establish sixty-three savings and credit groups for women. They comprise 1,200 women, who are trained and actively participating. Thanks to their resourcefulness, twenty-five million CFA (£36,000) has been mobilised by these women.

This money has not only helped to pay school fees, but is available for medical expenses. It also permits further investment. These faith-based groups are also a means to help members grow in their faith. Those women who are not Christians hear the gospel through being in these groups.



More than forty Muslim women received Christian teaching in the savings groups.

Following the results achieved by the women, the pastors in the region of Kotchari have taken the initiative to create their own savings group.



OUOBA Posibo from Tansarga

“Thanks to the savings group I was able to get a loan that permitted me to buy the thread for weaving. That has enabled me to make some money to take care of my family.”

“Elsewhere, a group of women has started a gardening project. Thanks to the money from the savings group, they were able to pay for seeds and the extra labour needed to produce vegetables for us.”





Stock rearing is another activity, thanks to the activities of GVEC.



The mission of the Good Shepherd Association is to undertake programmes for children and their families that lead to children experiencing a holistic development for a brighter future. One of the principal partners is the local church, which is called to come to the aid of people in need and to love them as God does.

Accordingly, ABB has organised a second training workshop from 26th to 29th June this year in the conference room of Diapaga's town hall. (See photo below.)

The aim was to help lay leaders better understand holistic mission and to engage in practical ways, helping to meet needs within their own communities. The training was appreciated by participants. Some have already committed to engage with their local communities and to put into practice what they have learned.



Dear partners, conscious of our obligation to be accountable, we have written this report so that you can see the fruits of your generosity.

May God give you continued resources to support His work and to protect you and your families.

Requests:

For the school year 2018-2019 we ask your prayer and help to realise the following

- reach 1500 students with Bible courses;
- sponsor children in need: 36 primary and 15 secondary 918,000 CFA (£1300);
- train a further twenty women in weaving 2 200 000 f CFA (£3000);
- build accommodation for the women who will be coming in January for three month: eight rooms are needed at an estimated cost of 3 818 000 f CFA (£5,000);
- Start a further thirty new women's credit groups, providing training and the secure money boxes required for success 1 200 000f CFA (£1700).

Materials needed for running these programs:

- Office equipment: desks, chairs;
- Motorbikes;
- Computers and printers;
- Video projector, speakers and screen.

Association le Bon Berger,
Executive Secretary

YONLI Lamoudi