



SOS VILLAGES
D'ENFANTS



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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1. Editorial

For this edition of our annual report, I would like, on behalf of SOS Children's Villages in Guinea as well as on my own behalf, to express to you our warmest wishes for the year 2024. May this new year bring grace and abundance for yourselves and for your respective families.

The year 2023 which has just passed was marked by significant challenges which we successfully overcome thanks to the dedication and commitment of everyone. If I may, I would like to look back at some of the key achievement that marked this period both in terms of our Community Program and Alternative Care within SOS Children's Villages.

In this context, a workshop to revitalize the Guinean committee for monitoring Children's rights, followed by that of support to the National Directorate of Children for the development of an ambitious program for mobilizing resources were held. This represents a significant step in our approach aimed at strengthening the foundations for the full execution of children's rights in the Republic of Guinea. Another significant event was the discussion workshop with the prefects, governors, representatives of key ministries and civil society. This meeting was an opportunity to discuss with these administrative authorities about the requirements for coordination and monitoring-assessment of child protection initiatives to strengthen the synergy of action between the key stakeholders.

Discussion workshops with community leaders on gender-based violence were also organized in the different areas where the organization operates in Guinea. This highlights our commitment to the protection and well-being of vulnerable children, young people and women from an intersectionality perspective.

Furthermore, the organization focused efforts on strengthening access and quality of basic education for children from vulnerable communities. As such, the members of more than fifty Associations of Parents and Friends of Schools (APFS) received support and necessary skills helping them to fulfil their roles and responsibilities. Promoting children's participation through Community Assemblies was another major aspect of our work in 2023. This demonstrates our commitment to early participatory democracy at local level.

Several other no less important initiatives also marked the year 2023. They range from everyday life skills coaching for young people to supporting Local Child Protection Committees (LCPC) and Local Children and Families Committees (LCFC) in the accomplishment of their missions.

What we accomplished in 2023 is the result of the commitment of the State, national and international partners and our teams who carry out exceptional work without regard. Together, let us combine our efforts to make 2024, more than 2023, an even more meaningful and hopeful year for all children and young people and particularly for those who have lost parental care or who are at risk of losing it. There is no doubt that with our determination and passion, we will continue to create a lasting impact in the lives of children and young people who are just waiting for our kind gaze.

My best wishes for a year full of success and achievements.

Enjoy your reading.



Richard WATCHINO

National Director SOS Children's Villages in Guinea

2. Introduction

SOS Children's Villages is a non-governmental and humanitarian non-profit organization working to protect and promote children's rights throughout the world. It was founded in 1945. It provides support and care to children and young people without adequate parental care in more than 130 countries and territories around the world.

The organization is operating in Guinea since 1985 and covers the four natural regions, with sites located in Conakry, Labé, Kankan and Nzérékoré. It works in the field of child protection, providing alternative care services for children and young people without adequate parental care, as well as strengthening families and communities to prevent the risks of family separation. Beyond these areas, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea actively participates in the various child protection networks existing in the country to carry out advocacy actions in favor of the children and young people of its target group.

To this end, the organization's various interventions are in perfect harmony with national and international policies, strategies and legal texts relating to the protection and promotion of children's rights. In addition, these interventions take into account the requirements and guidelines of the Convention of Nations on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Guidelines on Alternative Care, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. etc.) as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In addition, they contribute significantly to the implementation of the country's sectoral policies and strategies focused on health, education, child protection, the fight against poverty, and the empowerment of young people and families. All these interventions are above all aligned with the organization's 2023-2027 country intervention strategy, the ultimate expected impact of which is to enable children and young people without **adequate parental care to realize their full potential within families and resilient communities.**

This report thus highlights the state of the implementation of the various SOS Children's Villages programs in Guinea during the year 2023, while placing particular emphasis on the major achievements as well as the results obtained. It is structured around the following points:



3.3- The major achievements and results obtained by the organization during the year 2023

As part of its initiatives in Guinea, SOS Children's Villages implements three main programs: the Replacement Protection program, the Strengthening Families and Communities (Community Development) program, as well as advocacy and partnership. The overall objective of these programs is to ensure quality care and protection for children and young people in need of an appropriate parental environment, while contributing to supporting vulnerable families and communities to strengthen their resilience. The organization works to strengthen the structures of the national child protection system to improve coordination and monitoring-evaluation of actions to prevent and respond to violence affecting vulnerable populations (children, women and young people). Likewise, these programs aim to improve access to basic social services, to promote the socio-professional integration of young people, as well as to fight against gender-based violence.

3.1. Support and holistic development of vulnerable children and young people

As part of the support and holistic development of vulnerable children and young people or those who have lost parental care, SOS Children's Villages provides replacement protection to them, with the approval of the competent authorities. This program aims to ensure the development and well-being of children and young people who have lost adequate parental care, in accordance with their best interests.

It is based on family-type care for children and care for young people in an independent lifestyle under supervision within SOS Children's Villages facilities and in surrounding communities as well as support for children and young people in the process of their family reintegration.

These children and young people are supported by care professionals (social workers, youth educators, SOS mothers and family assistants) who adapt their interventions according to the needs and vulnerability of each child and young person, using individual development plans. As such, 236 children and young people including 95 girls were supported in 2023 spread across three SOS villages in Guinea (Conakry, Kankan and N'Zérékoré).

Beyond providing alternative care services, SOS Children's Villages places a strong emphasis on preventing family separation, particularly between children and their parents or guardians, in certain administrative regions of Guinea such as Kankan, Conakry, Labé and N'Zérékoré. This program, called PACOPE-SPE (Community Support Program for Child Protection and Child Protection Systems), is jointly financed by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg and SOS Villages



of Children World Luxembourg for the period 2022-2026.

Its main objective is to protect vulnerable children while promoting their harmonious development within resilient families. These families are thus supported and encouraged to fully assume their parental role and to integrate into strong and autonomous communities, which guarantee the protection of children and the promotion of their rights. This program supports families, encouraging them to fully assume their parental role and integrate into strong, autonomous communities that ensure the protection of children and promote their rights.

In 2023, the program directly supported 4,321 children and young people, including 2,072 girls from 893 vulnerable families. These families benefited from individualized support and regular monitoring to help them become independent and meet the essential needs of their children.

3.2. Fight against poverty and the socio-economic vulnerability of vulnerable families

In the Republic of Guinea, poverty and the socio-economic vulnerability of families due to low income considerably limit their ability to take care of the basic needs of children independently, particularly female heads of households. To this end, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea has carried out several actions in the fight against poverty and the socio-economic vulnerability of families.

In this perspective, the organization through its family strengthening program (Community Support Program for Child Protection and Child Protection Systems) has played a crucial role in improving livelihoods of these vulnerable families. This was achieved through the creation of village savings and credit associations, support for income-generating activities, as well as by strengthening family budget management skills. The initiatives of this program align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sectoral policies aimed at combating poverty and strengthening the socio-economic resilience of families and communities.

This program, implemented in the regions of Conakry, Labé, Kankan and N'Zérékoré in partnership with SOS Children's Villages Word Luxembourg, is funded by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Thus, this program directly supported 893 vulnerable families in their empowerment process, including 5,516 people

including 4,321 children and young people (2,072 girls and 2,249 boys) and 1,195 adults including 865 women.

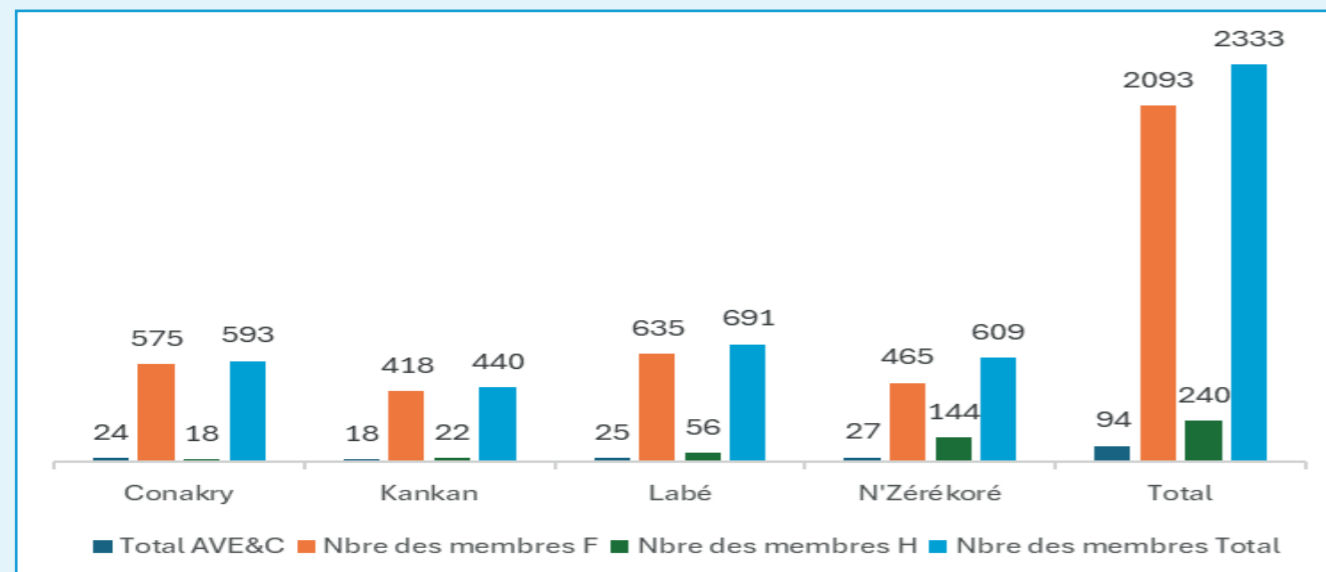
In summary, all actions undertaken within the framework of this program aim to prevent the separation of children from their families and to promote the quality of their care within their families of origin. In addition, these actions carried out allowed more than 21% of beneficiary families of 97% living below the national poverty threshold admitted in 2022 in the program to ensure per month at least 80% of the estimated cost of the basic needs of children at the end of the year 2023. They have especially contributed to the empowerment and financial inclusion of women, 72% of whom are family members.

3.3. Economic empowerment and financial inclusion of vulnerable women through Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA)

To progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5, aimed at achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, SOS Children's Villages is implementing its family strengthening program, called PACOPE-SPE (Community Support Program for Child Protection and Child Protection Systems). During 2023, our organization has actively worked on the empowerment of vulnerable women, as well as their financial inclusion through VSLA.

The organization provided its ongoing support and supervision to 94 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) whose members are mentioned in the graph below:

Graph: situation of VSLA members by region in 2023:



These structures have succeeded in mobilizing a total amount of GNF 1,538,737,500, equivalent to €165,955 during the year 2023 with an amount of GNF 741,537,000 or €79,521 of outstanding loans. These funds released by VSLAs allowed members to increase the productive assets of their income-generating activities, but also to optimally take care of the essential needs of their children. Beyond that, funds from VSLAs are used in the promotion and protection of children's rights by contributing to community child protection systems in their respective communities. As such, GNF 10,794,000 or €1,157 were made available to community child protection systems.

In addition to its role in mobilizing resources, VSLAs contribute to strengthening social cohesion within communities, but also constitute a crucible for the social mobilization of populations in the fight against abuses committed against vulnerable social groups.

3.4 . Development of Income Generating Activities for the economic empowerment of women

With the aim of strengthening the economic empowerment of vulnerable families, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea supervised 837 families/guardians who are promoters of IGA. These families benefited specifically from capacity building sessions on the profitability of their IGAs and on simplified accounting. The 27 inactive families/guardians (not carrying out IGAs) were supported through the rotating fund (starting fund) with a view to starting their IGAs.

Furthermore, the organization continuously supported the establishment and supervision of groups of 452 members at 16 IGAs, including 387 women from vulnerable families who are direct beneficiaries as well as those from the intervention communities.

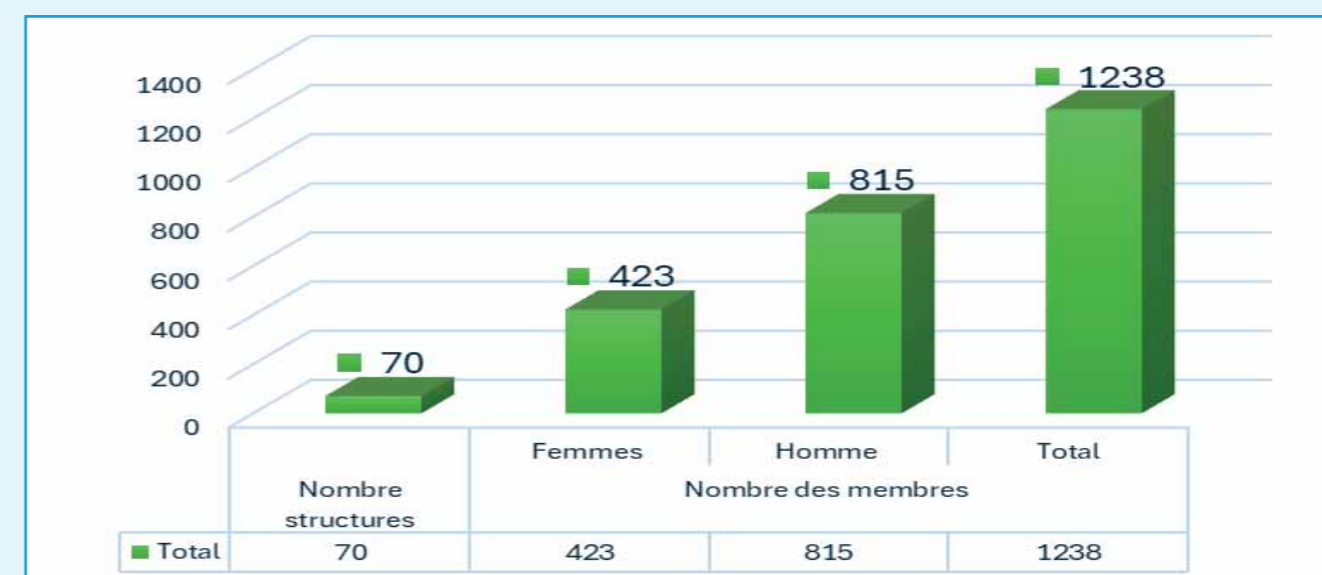


3.5. Strengthening the functioning of the bodies and/or branches of the national child protection system (GCPSy)

The Republic of Guinea has established a national child protection system (GCPSy) to guarantee the protection and promotion of children's rights throughout the national territory. This system is responsible for monitoring the child rights situation and providing prevention and protection services at all levels, from sectors/villages to the national level. However, observations reveal unsatisfactory functioning of these structures at all levels.

It is in this context that beyond direct support for vulnerable families, SOS Children's Villages has worked to revitalize these structures in its areas

of intervention in Conakry, Labé, Kankan and N'Zérékoré, during the year 2023. As such, the organization has revitalized and supported 70 GCPSy structures which are distributed as follows: a Guinean committee for monitoring the rights of the child (GCMRC), four (4) regional coordination child protection (RCCE), three (3) prefectural child protection coordinations (PCPC), nine (9) local child protection committees (LCPC) and fifty-three (53) Local Committees Children and Families (LCCF). The total number of members of these structures is recorded in the graph below:



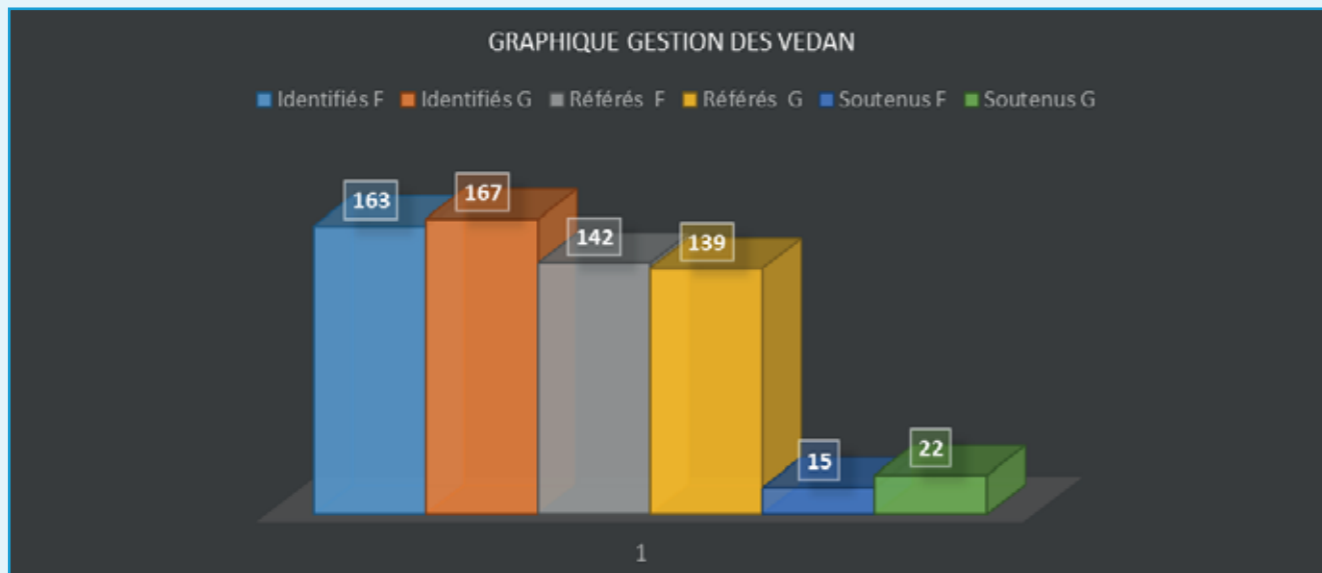
These structures contribute significantly to the prevention and management of cases of abuse against children while working to strengthen coordination between the different actors. Specifically, the LCCFs conducted awareness sessions on the rights of children and women, on the consequences of child marriage, the enrollment and retention of girls in school and the provision of basic needs of children. These awareness sessions reached **4,998 people, including 2 030 children**. They also contributed to the mobilization of resources for the protection and promotion of children's rights. As such, these structures mobilized a total amount of GNF **304,451,500 or €32,572** at the community level which contributed to the creation of basic social infrastructure (schools and culverts).

Furthermore, these LCCFs participated in the management of **56 VEDAN** cases. Among these cases, **27** were managed by community protection structures (LCCF) and the remaining **28** were referred to the relevant structures.

3.6. . Strengthening children's participation

In the option of promoting children's participation, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, SOS Children's Villages has worked to establish bodies and frameworks for children's expression. As such, 64 participation structures (prefectural and local children's expression frameworks and children's clubs) for child participation were supported in the intervention areas. These structures total 1032 children including 494 girls.

These child structures also contributed to the identification, referencing and management of VEDAN cases, as mentioned in the graph below.



3.7. Strengthening access and keeping children in school:

In alignment with the ten-year education program in Guinea 2020-2029 and SDG4 entitled "access to quality education", SOS Children's Villages supported the Guinean State in carrying out several important activities. The activities focused on the revitalization of associations of parents and friends of the school (APFS). As such, 53 APFS made up of 438 members including 167 women were monitored, supervised and provided with training on their roles and responsibilities. These structures have carried out several social mobilization actions on the education and retention of children in school, but also the construction of a school in Labé.

In addition, community structures, such as LCCFs,

contribute very significantly to activities promoting quality grassroots education. To this end, a school was built through community mobilization facilitated and coordinated by a CLEF in the Toulemou district, rural commune of Yalenzou, N'Zérékoré prefecture.

Furthermore, as part of improving the learning conditions of students and the working environment of supervisory staff with a view to promoting access to quality education for children (girls and boys), SOS Children's Villages in Guinea has obtained funding from the Orange Foundation for the implementation of an initiative entitled: Project for the Rehabilitation, Extension and Equipment of the Primary School of General Education in the Kakidi district, Kouroussa prefecture.

This project aims, among other things:

A

Renovation of one (01) old building with three (03) classrooms and a block of two (02) latrines which already exist on the school site;

B

Construction of one (01) new building with three (03) rooms, School management

C

Equipping the 6 classrooms with table-benches and the school management with IT tools and other office equipment;

D

Supplying the primary school management with solar energy and

E

Raising awareness among families and communities on the importance of children's schooling.

3.8. Youth empowerment and employability

SOS Children's Villages in Guinea aims to offer comprehensive support/care to children and young people benefiting from its programs to help them become independent and responsible within their community. This involves strengthening their capacities and supporting them to promote their development and employability according to their professional aspirations and their level of education. The activities undertaken therefore aim to encourage the empowerment of young people.

In 2023, the organization supervised 353 young people, including 171 girls in their professional training or trades as well as self-employment at the community level through PACOPE-SPE. Also, 43 including 16 girls benefited from advisory support as well as the provision of learning kits. In addition, 7 young people became independent, including 2 girls (set up on their own). It should be noted that support for young people is carried out on a case-by-case basis depending on the needs and level of study of each young person.

Regarding the replacement protection program, it supported 14 adolescents and young people,

including 3 girls, in the process of transition to autonomy. In addition, 55 adolescents and young people, including 28 girls, were monitored and helped in the process of reintegration into their families of origin, in the organization's various intervention sites in Guinea.

In addition, capacity building activities were carried out to promote the employability of young people. Thus, 25 adolescents and young people, including 14 girls, were trained in IT, entrepreneurship and video editing techniques. Two Youth Power projects were funded to support youth initiatives. Two partnerships have also been established with structures such as ASCAD (Civic Action Service Agency for Development) and the Don Bosco Vocational Training Center in Kankan, with the aim of promoting socio-professional integration and employability of young people.



3.9. Organization of campus vacations

As part of the support and holistic development of young beneficiaries of its various programs, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea organized the second organized edition of the vacation campus in N'Zérékoré from August 14 to September 11, 2023. This campus brought together 25 participants including 14 girls from SOS Children's Villages intervention sites and the Children's Parliament of Guinea.

They were specifically focused on:

Training days :

SOS Children's Villages mobilized resource people who took turns for 3 weeks around several themes which allowed children and young people to acquire knowledge and skills such as: the use of basic software such as Windows and Worlds , as well as cybersecurity including the use of the internet and social networks, video and image editing techniques, small business setting up and management, group management, sexual hygiene and positive attitudes towards sexuality, personal skills to react and defend oneself in the face of an insecure situation.

" Discovery" days

The ambition to introduce participants to the rich historical and cultural heritage of the N'Zérékoré region led us to the agro-pastoral center of Saint URSULE of Mount ZIAMA in Sérédou (Macenta), the sacred fish of Gogota and the natural bridge over the Cavaly river under the feet of the Nimba mountains in Lola, the Diani river, the source of the N'Zalykwèlè river, the regional museum, the Syli villa, the sacrificial sanctuary of N'Zérékoré, the facilities of the university center of N'Zérékoré, Espace Zaly and Zalyweb radio, the martyrs' square and the vestibule of the patriarch of N'Zérékoré.

During this period, children and young people benefited from training sessions on the fundamental notions of new information and communication technologies, leadership, entrepreneurship, communication, civics and as well as socio-educational activities (art, sport, culture, visits to tourist and historical sites, discovery, etc.). The activities of this campus were focused on training, career and tourist discovery days.

Career days

The most useful and instructive moments of this holiday campus were the connection between children/young people and professionals working in various fields including health, media, banking, entrepreneurship, NGOs and international institutions. These moments allowed these professionals to share with the participants their backgrounds and experiences in their respective fields. This encouraged children and young people to take a critical look at their career prospects.

In view of the results obtained and the satisfaction of the participants, the organization intends to organize this activity every year during the summer holidays.

3.10. Souleymane Koliko Barry, Guinea - Interview

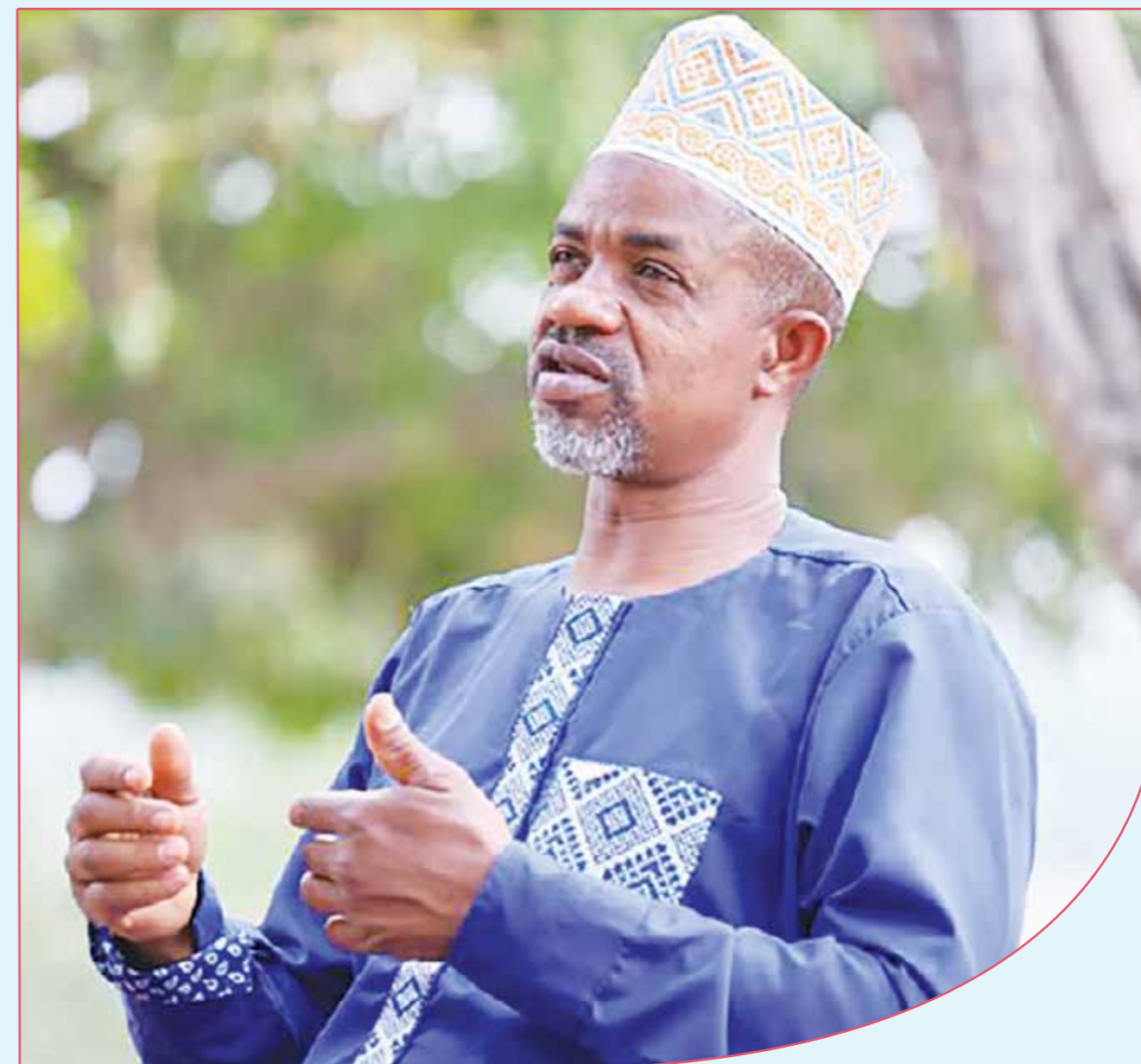
The PACOPE partnership between six SOS Children's Villages associations and Luxembourg's Ministry of Foreign Affairs lasted from 2017-2021. Its goal was to improve the lives of children and families indirectly, by strengthening their communities. Activities ranged from awareness-raising on child rights to the establishment of village saving and loan associations. In Koulidara, Labé region, Guinea, the Local Children & Families Committee (CLEF) was set up with PACOPE's support. Teacher and CLEF member Souleymane Koliko Barry talks about how the partnership helped to improve the situation for children in his community. Les activités allaient de la sensibilisation aux droits de l'enfant à la création d'Associations villageoises d'épargne et de crédit (AVE&C). À Koulidara, dans la région de Labé, en Guinée, le Comité local pour enfants et familles (CLEF) a été créé avec le soutien du PACOPE.

Souleymane Koliko Barry, enseignant et membre du CLEF, explique comment le partenariat a permis

d'améliorer la situation des enfants de sa communauté.

Our neighbourhood has undergone a significant transformation in recent years, moving from a situation where children were left to fend for themselves to a conscious and committed community. Before the programme, children had no knowledge of their rights and duties. The school enrolment was quite low, and the whole community – estimated at over 6,000 people at the time – only had 3 classrooms. We didn't bother to get birth certificates for our children, we were content to just give the child a name.

There was enough violence, enough neglect, cases of rape were recurrent, cases of abandonment of children too. Members of our community were afraid to denounce cases of violence to avoid any risk of offence from others. We were used to things, we had our own way of doing things. We weren't used to getting together, let alone consulting each other. So the first challenge we faced was acceptance.



“There was enough violence, enough neglect, cases of rape were recurrent, cases of abandonment of children too. Members of our community were afraid to denounce cases of violence to avoid any risk of offence from others.”

The other problem was referral: when a problem was referred to the authorities, they were rather slow to react.

SOS Children's Villages set us on the right path by teaching us techniques for mobilizing resources and also advocacy: how to react to problems? How to include everyone without neglecting anyone? Thanks to the tools and methods shared with us, we were able to rise to the challenges.

Thanks to the training sessions we attended and the awareness-raising activities, the community understood the benefits of respecting children's rights for their personal development. Raising awareness has enabled us to break down many stereotypes and prejudices. Through educational talks by social group, community dialogue sessions and mass awareness-raising (at mosques, baptisms, weddings and funerals, etc.) we have managed to reach almost the entire community.

“Raising awareness has enabled us to break down many stereotypes

We put in place mechanisms to protect people who witnessed and reported abuse, and measures were taken to restore the victims' rights.

Because there is now a child protection unit in our neighbourhood, there are rarely any cases of violence. Also, the issuing of birth certificates for children as soon as they are born has become a reality. With all these actions, we were able to gain the trust of the community, which no longer hesitated to denounce bad practices.



4. Safeguarding children and young people

Safeguarding children and young people is a duty that SOS Children's Villages respects at all levels to ensure that its staff and representatives, activities and programs do not harm or expose children and young people to at risk of harm, including harm caused by other children and young people receiving care or support from SOS Children's Villages, and to respond appropriately in the event of harm.

The child and youth protection policy was approved by the International Senate on April 25, 2023 to replace the child protection policy.

In September 2023, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea initiated a national workshop to popularize the new policy for safeguarding children and young people and the regulations. It brought together 25 participants including 5 women.

Over 5 days, several safeguarding themes were debated. These include: Guiding principles of the new child and young person safeguarding policy, requirements of the new child and young person safeguarding policy, regulation on child and young person safeguarding, presentation of the new misconduct management procedures followed by questions and answers, new procedures for managing incidents of misconduct, how to identify and formulate a safeguarding risk for children and young people, how to conduct the annual assessment process child and young person safeguarding risk assessment, child and young person safeguarding risk validation, child and young person safeguarding audit, child and young person safeguarding incident management tools, child and young person safeguarding challenges fair, roles and responsibilities of child and young person safeguarding teams and Management in the implementation of the policy, new regulation of visits to programs, monitoring techniques facilitation of workshops and awareness-raising sessions on safeguarding, rule of public speaking.

As for capacity building for other staff, children, young people on the child protection policy, the mechanism for reporting incidents between children and/or between children and adults within the programs 77 children/young people including 32 girls were trained. In addition, 95 internal employees, including 62 women, were trained.

Based on prevention, an annual assessment of child safeguarding risks was carried out on all sites involving all stakeholders (children, young people, SOS parents and staff) and all other functions at national level (ND, RHDO, FC, PD, CNS&E, sponsorship, ICT, etc.). This activity made it possible to have a child safeguarding risk register accompanied by a detailed annual action plan which considers the specific needs of the children and young people in the program and integrated into the national planning of the activities of the program. national association.

In addition, the National Association updated the local and national mapping of Child Protection systems carried out in 2019 by an external consultant. This update made it possible to identify potential players operating in the field of prevention and response/care for survivors of violence, exploitation, discrimination, abuse and neglect (VEDAN). The local, prefectural, regional and national consultation frameworks have been boosted by the PACOPE-SPE program.

To facilitate the reporting of child safeguarding concerns, the names, contact details and roles of all staff responsible for promoting and managing child safeguarding issues have been made available to all parties. stakeholders. Anonymous reporting boxes have been set up in all programs.



5. Sponsorship

Sponsorship is crucial and constitutes one of the major sources for financing SOS Children's Villages services in Guinea. As such, exciting new initiatives have been launched in the field of sponsorship during 2023. These activities include the organization of a national workshop on sponsorship and the creation of modular letters. In March of that year, the AN organized its first national workshop on sponsorship, bringing together all collaborators involved in these activities. This event fostered fruitful discussions on various topics, including improving sponsorship-related communications, while strengthening internal cohesion.

This had a positive impact on the mid- and end-of-year fundraising campaigns, as well as the creation of SPOLab digital content, to honor our commitment to more than 1,800 international sponsors supporting the children who benefit from our intervention.

Regarding modular letters, this is a recent major innovation in the field of sponsorship on a global scale. Each country office is responsible for ensuring its implementation at the local level. To facilitate this transition and guarantee a good implementation, the organization allowed the participation of the national sponsorship coordinator in a regional workshop in Cape Verde in July 2023. This led to the creation of the first modular letters by the organization at the end of 2023. In 2024, the organization plans to generalize these changes to all employees involved in sponsorship.



6. Partnership & Advocacy

6.1. Partnerships

With the aim of collaborating on common objectives with other entities, whether they are government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private companies or other civil society actors, our organization SOS Children's Villages in Guinea established seven (07) partnership agreements in 2023 (...). Among the agreements established, the local authorities in our areas of intervention have been placed at the center of our collaborative approach, thus contributing to the strengthening of accountability and decentralized local governance. The establishment of these diversified agreements demonstrates the innovation of community approaches of SOS Children's Villages in Guinea in favor of strengthening families and communities. Furthermore, the dynamic partnership engaged with the media strengthens our capacity to raise community awareness of crucial issues related to the rights and development of children.

As a future perspective, we plan to contribute to the revitalization of the Joining Forces network which is a powerful advocacy platform made up in Guinea of SOS Children's Villages, Terre des hommes, Childfund and Plan International. In addition, our joint commitments with agencies of the United Nations system will be continued with a view to strengthening our concerted actions in favor of the rights and well-being of children and families in Guinea.

This collaborative approach strengthens our ability to respond in a concerted manner to challenges and opportunities, thereby maximizing our impact in the humanitarian field. These strategic partnerships are crucial to supporting our mission and solidifying our commitment to sustainable development.

6.2. Advocacy

The National Association intensifies its efforts in favor of children's rights, A positive outcome for the year 2023.

The year 2023 marked a significant turning point in the organization's advocacy actions, highlighting its commitment to protecting children's rights. The National Association (NA) has made significant efforts, adopting a three-year advocacy action plan from the start of the year. This ambitious plan laid the foundations for numerous activities that led to encouraging results.

At the heart of these initiatives, workshops were organized throughout the year to revitalize the Guinean Committee for Monitoring the Rights of the Child. These sessions also supported the National Directorate for Children in the development of an innovative resource mobilization program. In addition, fruitful exchanges were established with local authorities, focused on the imperatives of monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These workshops brought together executives from sectoral ministries, social organizations, UNICEF, as well as governors and prefects of the prefectures where the family strengthening program operates.

One of the major achievements of these workshops was the design of a program to strengthen the national protection system, with an overall cost estimated at 4,675,445,000 GNF, or €500,457. This program aims to strengthen protection systems at all levels and throughout the national territory. Building on its relevance, the ministry in charge of children, through its Office of Strategy and Development (BSD), has made a commitment to include this amount in the national budget for the year 2024. Monitoring attentive to this process will continue.



At the same time, the organization has undertaken actions aimed at establishing a directory of foster parents, thus forming part of its national intervention strategy. This will help make host families operational, thus contributing to the protection and well-being of children.

Beyond the actions carried out at the strategic level, the children's structures supported by the organization actively participated in several activities during Children's Month and important commemorative dates.

These concrete initiatives demonstrate the NA's continued commitment to the effective realization of children's rights.

In summary, the year 2023 was marked by significant progress in advocacy for children's rights, with tangible results and promising projects for the future.



7. Human Resources

As of December 31, 2023, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea had a workforce of 137, more than 45% of whom were women. It recorded a very low average annual turnover of 0.91%.

In the dynamic of creating a safe working environment for staff and beneficiaries, the National Association has satisfactorily implemented its action plan for the protection and prevention against harassment, exploitation and sexual violence. In the same vein and for illustrative purposes, to reassure itself of recruiting staff who do not present any risk for beneficiaries and collaborators, the National Association subjected all candidates considered for the position to background checks including the investigation of morality carried out by a competent service.

As in previous years, the national team building was organized with the particularity this year of focusing for two days on capacity building for participants on three skills based on the values of the organization: inclusiveness, role model, benevolence/goodness. The opportunity was taken to reward employees who

distinguished themselves during the year as well as staff who are eligible to retire on December 31, 2023.

In addition, as part of strengthening the appropriation of policies and procedures on the one hand and with the aim of having a space for communication between the staff on the one hand, SOS Children's Villages in Guinea has decided to initiate Toolbox Meetings, a space for expression and sharing of experiences between colleagues. A Toolbox meeting is an excellent way of reminding a circle of colleagues in the morning by one employee in turn for a duration of approximately 30 minutes per session. Thanks to this initiative, a lot of discussion took place around the changes made to the procedures, policies and directives of the Organization.



8. Financial balance sheet

FINANCIAL REVIEW

SOS Children's Villages programs in Guinea are financed by international and local funds.

Subsidies from the SOS Kinder Dorf International (KDI) federation, which constitutes most of these funds, are intended for the implementation of alternative care programs. Added to this is the financing of the Community Support Programs for the Protection of Children/Child Protection System (PACOPE-SPE) of the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The subsidy of electricity and water in the SOS children's villages, and the tax exemption granted within the framework of the headquarters agreement between the Government and SOS Kinder Dorf International constitute the contribution of the Guinean State.

Other local resources consist of: revenues obtained from events, various in-kind donations from businesses & individuals and finally individual and institutional donations.

SOS Children's Villages strives to judiciously manage the funding made available to it. To do this, it has adopted procedures promoting adequate financial and accounting management.

The organization has implemented financial monitoring and internal control tools for rational management of resources with the aim of having a positive impact on the lives of beneficiaries and reassuring the various financial and technical partners.

8.1. Organizational revenue

The resources used to finance the 2022 and 2023 activities of SOS Children's Villages are as follows:

- ✓ International income
- ✓ Local income

International funds are funding obtained from the SOS Kinder Dorf International Federation and the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs through SOS Children's Villages World. This financing represents 97% of the resources mobilized in 2022 and 98% in 2023.

Local revenues made up of donations, government subsidies and asset transfers represent 3% in 2022 and 2% in 2023.

Below are the graphs illustrating the composition of local funds in 2022 and 2023

8.2. Spending by program type

In 2022 and 2023, SOS Children's Villages spent GNF 32,060,024,765 and GNF 32,423,260,628 respectively for the implementation of programs in

Guinea. The charts below describe these expenses by program type



9. Acknowledgments

We express our sincere thanks to the Guinean Government, particularly through the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and Vulnerable Persons, for their collaboration and essential support which greatly facilitated the implementation of our activities.

We would like to extend our warm thanks to all the people, whether anonymous or well-known, who have

generously contributed to bringing smiles back to children deprived of parental care, whether through sponsorship or support for children and young people. supported by SOS Children's Villages Guinea.

Our deep gratitude also goes to our generous partners for their support throughout 2023.

10. Partners

Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and Vulnerable People, SOS Villages d'Enfants Monde Luxembourg, Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Orange Foundation, Civic Action Service Agency for Development (ASCAD), Horoya National Daily, Unicef, Noom Hotel Conakry, Onomo Hotel, First International Bank, Salima Foundation (A roof for the orphan), **ChildFund**.

Partenaires



