



BIBÌ&BIBÒ:

a nursery for 50 children in Benin

Aleimar

Insieme ai bambini del mondo

WHO IS ALEIMAR

Aleimar is a voluntary organisation that has believed in a precise objective **since 1983: to support children in difficulty** without distinction of origin, religion, ethnicity and culture. "**Together with the children of the world**" is the mission that guides us and leads us to support children in their needs such as health, nutrition and education, helping them in their human, affective, social and cultural growth. **We are present in 11 countries around the world**, supporting 430 children through Distance Support (SaD) and another 2500 through our Development Projects in favour of families and local communities. In particular, **we have been working in Benin since 1993.**

Together with our local partners, over the years we have supported projects aimed at protecting the rights of children and the weaker sections of the population, improving their living conditions and promoting greater economic self-sufficiency.



BENIN

Benin is a low-income country in West Africa with 14.1 million inhabitants and is characterized by **high inequalities and poverty**. According to the UN Human Development Index, Benin's Human Development Index value for 2022 is 0.5, which places the country in the **low human development category**, positioning it at 184 out of 204 countries.

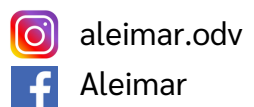
The **national poverty rate is 38.5 percent**, which increases to **44.2 percent in rural areas**. The unemployment rate stands at 2.4 percent, but there is a level of **underemployment** of 72 percent and 90.1 percent of people work in **informal employment**. **Food insecurity** remains high and almost 83 percent of households cannot afford a healthy diet. The school completion rate fell from 81 percent in 2016 to 62 percent in 2020, before rising again to 73 percent in 2021.

The country's economy depends mainly on agriculture, and in particular on the cultivation of cotton, making the country the leading cotton producer in the world. However, there is no shortage of challenges for the country's economy, given above all by **price fluctuations, high corruption and the difficult climatic conditions** of the area, which in many cases ruin crops.



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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Due to the lack of nursery schools in rural areas, many families cannot access early childhood care services, forcing children to accompany their parents to the fields. This exposes them to health risks, such as sunstroke from prolonged exposure to the sun. This situation limits children's educational and social development opportunities, who cannot benefit from a stimulating and safe environment. The scenario highlights the urgency of interventions aimed at improving access to childcare services in rural areas.

In response to this need, a twinning was established with Bibi&Bibi nursery school in Melzo (Milan), which led to the inauguration of **Bibi&Bibi nursery school in Kpossegan**, a rural village in Collines Department in central Benin. The facility **welcomes 50 children aged between 0 and 5, offering them a safe place to grow, learn and explore** from the first days of life, with the support of staff specialized in education and training. However, the infrastructure requires renovation work to ensure a more welcoming and suitable space for carrying out teaching and early schooling activities. Thanks to your help, by adapting spaces and management to the government's standards, Aleimar's work will obtain the necessary authorizations from the Republic of Benin.

AIM OF THE PROJECT

General Objective: Promote access to early childhood education in the Department of Collines, with particular attention to the village of Kpossegan and surrounding areas, improving children's cognitive, emotional and social development.

Specific Objectives:

1. Improve the quality of care and education;
2. Strengthen infrastructures and support services, ensuring welcoming, safe and functional spaces.

RECIPIENTS

- 50 children aged between 0 and 5 years from the village of Kpossegan and surrounding areas;
- 100 parents who benefited from the availability of an early childcare service;
- 2 teachers received a professional training.

ACTIVITIES

- 1.1 **Conduct daily learning and play activities** for children;
- 1.2 **Supply daily meals** to children hosted at the nursery;
- 1.3 **Train educational staff** through updating courses, ensuring that they are qualified and updated on the best early childhood education and care practices;
- 2.1 **Provide materials and equipment** necessary for the development of educational and recreational activities;
- 2.2 **Renovate the nursery infrastructure**, renewing essential services such as adequate toilets and rest areas.

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BUDGET

- 1500€ / 1605 USD = purchase small tables and chairs for 50 children, ensuring everyone has a comfortable and adequate place to conduct educational and recreational activities
- 1400€ / 1500 USD = support the work of two educators for one year, guaranteeing the continuity and quality of early childhood education and care
- 365€ / 390 USD = support the work of the cook, preparing everyday meals
- 720€ / 770 USD = nursery school canteen for a year for 50 children
- 460€ / 490 USD = hygiene products and medicines
- 16800€ / 17985 USD = carry out the necessary renovation work, ensuring the nursery has modern and safe facilities to offer children a welcoming and functional environment

TOTAL COST: 21245€ / 22740 USD



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