

Community Participation for Child Protection in Benin

Project Goals

World Learning works with a Beninese partner organization to implement community-based training and technical assistance that guides anti-trafficking activities in the commune of Ouinhi.

The project has three primary objectives:

- Increase awareness of the risks of child trafficking in eight communities in Ouinhi.
- Prevention mechanisms for and services to victims/at risk children
- Improved institutional collaboration to combat child trafficking.

Project activities

Activities implemented in collaboration with local committees are:

- Awareness raising campaigns, which incorporate public dialogues between official representatives/ traditional leaders and the population, cultural events like theater plays and skits, radio spots, public testimonies of trafficked children, and a publication about the situation on trafficking in Benin;
- Support for at risk children, victims and their parents through small grants for poor families and local anti trafficking activities (like community activity funds to facilitate after school courses for at risk children or income generating activities for poor families to prevent child trafficking)

were reached through Awareness campaign, the small grants awareness raising activities reached 40% of the community population).

The local communities are now able to manage child protection activities on their own. A highlight was the successful reintegration of 12 trafficked girls into their communities. The community offered them and their families to support their education and reintegration. The girls (age 13 to 16) are now in a life skill training center and receiving professional training in tailoring and hairdressing occupations.

In order to prevent trafficking of children the local anti trafficking committees are now collaborating with government representatives and traditional leaders, supported by an established database to document families with children at risk and victims of trafficking.

For more Information, pls. contact Steffen Krueger Steffen.krueger@worldlearning.org

Project Impact

The project reaches out to a high proportion of the population in Ouinhi (2,000 people)

Community Action for Child Protection in Benin	July 2006 – January 2008	\$159,982
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