



Stichting De Mangoboom

## NEWSLETTER 36 – FEBRUARY 2020

Dear friends of De Mangoboom!

Here is a new update about our children in Burkina Faso. We are grateful that you are willing to be involved in our work. We hope you'll enjoy reading this newsletter!

### FESTIVE DINNER

We already told you previously that there was going to be a real Christmas dinner. We also told you there was going to be chicken on the menu. Well, that turned out to be true. As you can see in the picture, enough chickens were provided. The children really enjoyed both the preparations and the dinner itself.



### THE TEAM

It is no small job to keep everything in the center running smoothly. Apart from the complexity of different age groups, there is a need for 24/7 care and guidance. Especially the little ones cannot do without it. That means that the caregivers have to take turns. We attempt to assign to each child its own caregiver.

In order to make this happen an entire team is present. Since there are different shifts they are never all present at the same time. To make up for this we have regular communal gatherings. Here you can see how big our team really is.



Now that you have seen all our workers we thought it'd be nice to show you our workers together with all our children. See the big picture at the bottom of the next page.

### TRAINING

Since we're talking about our employees, we are happy to inform you that we were recently able to provide them with training. *Action Sociale* (Child Services) had invited us to participate in a seminar about food, health, and hygiene. We sent a small delegation.

We used the teaching materials afterwards to organize our own training in the center. This way others were able to benefit from it as well. We did have to improvise – we had to work with a small laptop screen – but this way the information was passed on to the entire team.





### SITUATION IN BURKINA FASO

Sadly, the safety situation in Burkina Faso is slowly deteriorating. Notably in the north and the east of the country there are attacks on a regular basis. In the rest of the country, however, unrest is on the increase as well.

The attacks coincide with the arrival of fundamentalist Muslims from the Sahel region. But even groups within Burkina Faso are contributing to the instability. It is called the “jihadization of banditry.” Criminals and militia are using the unrest toward their own interests. Militia are providing criminals with money and weapons to gain territory. Criminals, in turn, use jihad to “morally” justify their plundering and violence. All this is getting worse due to the preparations for the presidential elections to be held by the end of this year.

Most of the attacks are directed at police stations and government institutions. However, there is an increase of attacks at schools and churches. It seems the government is not really getting a grip on the situation.

For now the children are not suffering direct consequences from this. The center is located in a small village in the south of the country. It is still quiet there. There are, however, many refugees that have fled to this place from unsafe areas. It is unclear as yet how the situation will develop in the period ahead.

### THANKFULNESS AND PRAYER

- ✝ Let's be thankful for the children, the staff, and the fact that this center is allowed to be a little paradise.
- ✝ Pray for the stability of Burkina Faso. That the attacks will decrease and that our work may be allowed to continue and most of all that the children will not have to be personally confronted with the nation's troubles.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS!**

**On behalf of the children in Burkina Faso.**

