



**WEND BE NE DO**  
**BURKINA FASO**  
**PROJECT REPORT**  
**FOUNDATION TIENDA ASILO**  
**DE SAN PEDRO OF CARTAGENA**  
**DECEMBER 2018**



Report of the follow-up visit to the WEND BE NE DO (**WBND**) project in Burkina Faso, of the partners Carlos LLANO, Alberto HERNANDIS, Andrés Pedro MUÑOZ and Aurelio SANZ, of the Foundation Tienda Asilo de San Pedro of Cartagena (**FTASP**), Spain, in December 2018.

### **A CONSOLIDATED PROJECT**



WBND already has a thirteen-year trajectory in Burkina Faso, being a benchmark as a project of care for the people affected by HIV-AIDS in this African zone stricken by poverty, corruption, and insecurity... 271 adults and 341 children, adolescents and young people are our concern as more than sixty volunteers in Spain, seven in Burkina Faso and the



local team formed by five people. "To be with", to accompany, to put ourselves in their skin, not to remain insensitive to the suffering of others, to partake in their joy: that is WBND. The beginnings were very hard, but today we can say that the project advances, that people are improving in all aspects.

### **A PROJECT THAT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE**

We consider that education and training are fundamental to the future of the children and young people of WBND. Currently there are 160 children in school, of whom 50 are in vocational formation in specialised centres in Kongoussi, Kaya, Korsimoro and Ziniaré, training to be



professionals in auto mechanics, electrics, welding, sewing,



cooking, confectionery or carpentry. Four are in health training (nursing). Two are studying at the University of Ouagadougou, and two others at the Major Seminary in Ouahigouya. Some of them have finished their studies and are working in places where they can carry out their work. Six have

completed their vocational training and are already working independently. Three mechanical workshops have opened: in one of them, in Rouko, we were at the inauguration, and two have set up their carpentry workshops as a business.

These are important achievements that make it possible for people in the future have the chance of a dignified life. Thus our insistence together with the local team of WBND to encourage the pursuit of further studies. We visited the centres on the ground and have noted that there is a great interest to continue studying, training, each person to their ability. The project takes care of the boarders



where they are staying and receive the training. This is one of the most important objectives of WBND, besides taking care of health, nutrition and psycho-social support. WBND has gone from being only giving assistance to being a path of human promotion for the future of lives that would not have the opportunities to realise their potential fully in their rights, in their health, in their having dignified work. Most important is the task of

rescuing children out of child labour in the gold mines, which puts their lives at risk. Quite a few of them have been rescued.

In the adult world we note that through the help of WBND in the various activities, such as the Group of the Word, where they share about their lives, ask for advice, help each other, or the group of volunteers who, mostly, are beneficiaries of WBND, or food donations, or medical consultations and treatment, with adequate medication and regular check-ups, microcredits to get work resources off the ground and support their families, there is a before and an after to being with the project. We have felt overwhelmed by the deep gratitude of all the beneficiaries, especially when we visited Bouba's grandmother, who showed us the immense affection that she has for us. This woman teaches us each year to continue backing WBND and to fight for what is really worthwhile.



## A PROJECT THAT IS TAKING SHAPE

The beginnings of WBND date from September 2004. We



developed the project with the team of the Charles de FOUCAULD Fraternity of Burkina Faso, and we chose the zone of Bam, to be being where there were the most people infected by HIV and, also, an



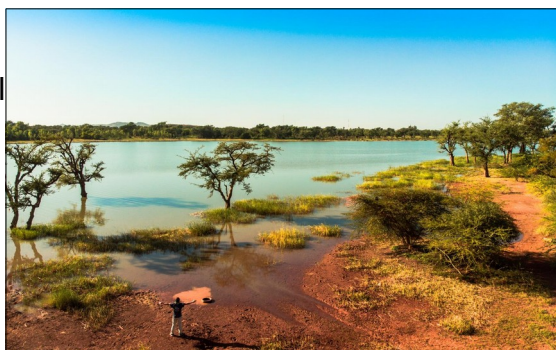
area of 250,000 inhabitants in a situation of extreme poverty. In the Tienda Asilo Foundation of San Pedro de Cartagena, in Spain, we take as one of the priorities to work in international cooperation, and that is how from the beginning of the project we have been striving to maintain with our resources almost the whole (95%) of the WBND project. Organizations like that of Carlos, Childhood Smile, in Madrid, the City Council of Cartagena, parishes in Spain, such as that of Santiago el Mayor, Madrid, or San Juan de la Cruz, Jaén, the association ZKTK, of Valencia, the Congregation of Reparatory Sisters of the Sacred Heart, and numerous donors, make it possible for the FTASP to meet its quarterly expenses. Our meeting with the local team, with Suzanne, the coordinator, Thomas, Jacques, and Lucie leaders, Jean-Éduard, the accountant, and the volunteer Guillaume, was a time to share the life of the project and study the difficulties, the achievements, the immediate future and the challenges we are facing, both in Burkina Faso and in Spain. The welcome of clients at the multipurpose centre moved us and charged our batteries for the days of our time in Burkina Faso from the very first moment.

## A PROJECT THAT BREATHES

The prospects of quality of life of the people of WBND are improving. We notice it in the children, in the young, in the adults, in the joy of their faces, in the expressions of gratitude. They infect us with their zest for life and with the peace with which they face the problems of life. They come from 50 villages, some of them 80 km from the Multi-purpose Centre of WBND, by bicycle, on foot or, at best, by motorbike, knowing that they do not make their trip in vain. They rely heavily on Suzanne, the soul of the project, on the 'whites' from Spain who contribute their resources, visit and spend time with them in their villages without feeling like foreigners. We're happy because they're happy.



The last day in Ouagadougou, the capital, we were invited by Cardinal Philippe OÜÉDRAOGO, the legal holder of WBND, to share his table, to discuss Burkina Faso today, the problems of his people, the great hopes that are now opening for the African Church with Pope Francis, the needs of the project, FTASP's other projects and our personal lives. His welcome and cordiality made us feel at home.



By the lake of Bam, in WBND, we returned to leave a piece of our heart, and we received a part of the heart of deep Africa.



## Reporters:

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Childhood **S**mile



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**WEND BE NE DO**  
**"TO BE WITH"**