

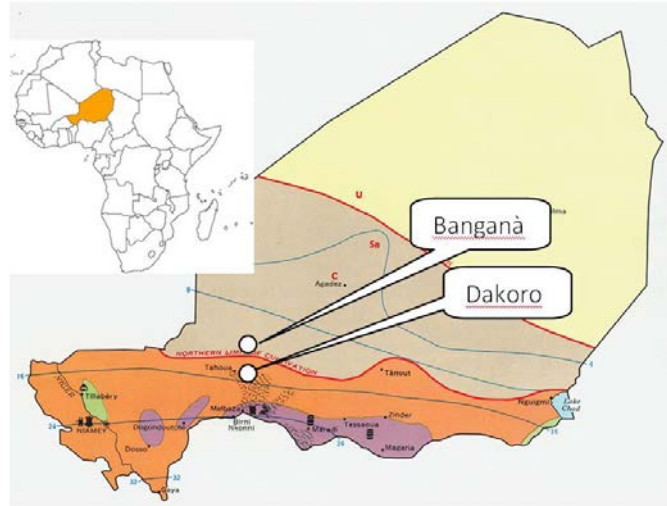
“The school? We will go on!”

Hassana said to Sokhna when she asked what they think to do given all the difficulties the school is going through.

This project is the continuation of a commitment that has a distant origin. It was in 2011 when, with two small associations, we managed to create a primary school in Banganà, a small village of Wodaabe nomadic herders in the heart of Niger.

After years and various vicissitudes, the school is always there and so are the students. For such a school, different even from most schools in rural Africa because of the peculiarities of its students, all children of nomadic pastoralists, this is already a success. But it remains a fragile school, not only because of the geoclimatic context aggravated by the global warming, but also because of the lack of interest of the government for the public education, especially with regard to the nomadic populations.

During these years, the economic crisis and its social and political consequences profoundly affected the solidarity towards the others, and even more so if the others are far away, outside our country. The students of this school are really far away from us, but they have started a process of emancipation that can bring them and their people to better living conditions without having to risk their lives, like this happens unfortunately for many in Africa and elsewhere.



A meeting in Niamey, in March, with two schoolgirls from the village of Banganà, in Niger, made it possible to know the real situation of the school and highlighted its weak points that must be addressed without delay to guarantee its future and improve the teaching (to watch the video "Aikije and Hassana speak out" go to <https://vimeo.com/367016574> password: hassana). It is precisely this meeting that has determined the urgency of extraordinary support for this school year and the need to launch this crowdfunding.

The budget

To achieve this project, thanks to the favorable exchange rate and even taking into account the unforeseen, always possible in a similar context, we have calculated a budget of € 3,000 to cover the entire school year 2019-20, and this is the goal to achieve with this crowdfunding.

The elements of the budget

- The support for the **school canteen** is and will remain fundamental. If the WFP reduces (as it has announced) its aid, only the support to the school canteen will allow the school to survive.

- o For a school that has nothing, not even a book for each student, it will be necessary to supply it with **teaching material** compatible with a context without electricity. The French cultural center Jean Rouch is available to provide it, but the distance between Niamey and Banganà is great and they need support for the transportation.

- o The succession of unmotivated and absentee teachers has lowered the initial level of the school and the three oldest pupils (Aikije, Hassana and Hatu) need to **finish the primary**



school in the small, nearby town of Dakoro to finally reach the middle school.

- o For the children staying in Banganà, there is the urgent need to find and hire a **second teacher**, paid by us, to do what the teachers sent by the government do not do. The priority will be given to female candidates.



Three films with the students

To better understand the context of the project, some images can be very useful.

With the students and the families of Banganà I have a personal relationship since 2009 and with them I filmed three documentaries that show their everyday life, but also their aspirations.

«Lokkol», <https://vimeo.com/79575729> password: tobo

«Lokkol 2», <https://vimeo.com/214167616> password: alkada

«Tobo», <https://vimeo.com/257387889> password: toboenglish

The participants

The Management Committee (COGES) of the Banganà Primary School. President: Inye Yuguda, Banganà, Dakoro District, Niger



Associazione Culturale Ghazala, Genoa, Italy <http://www.ghazala.it>



Paris Global Forum, Paris, <https://www.parisglobalforum.org>



Associazione Il Ce.Sto Onlus, Genoa, <https://www.ilcesto.org>