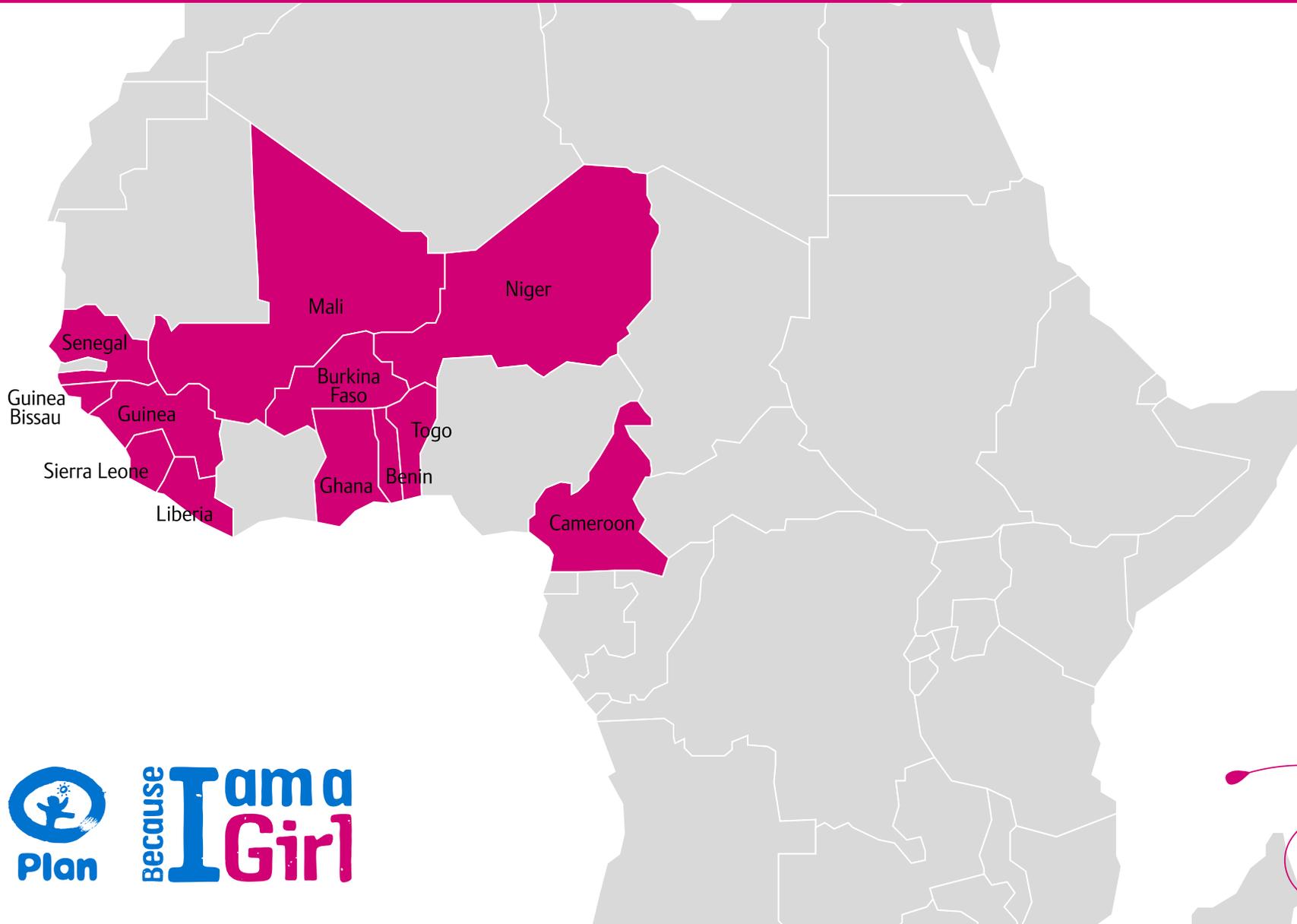


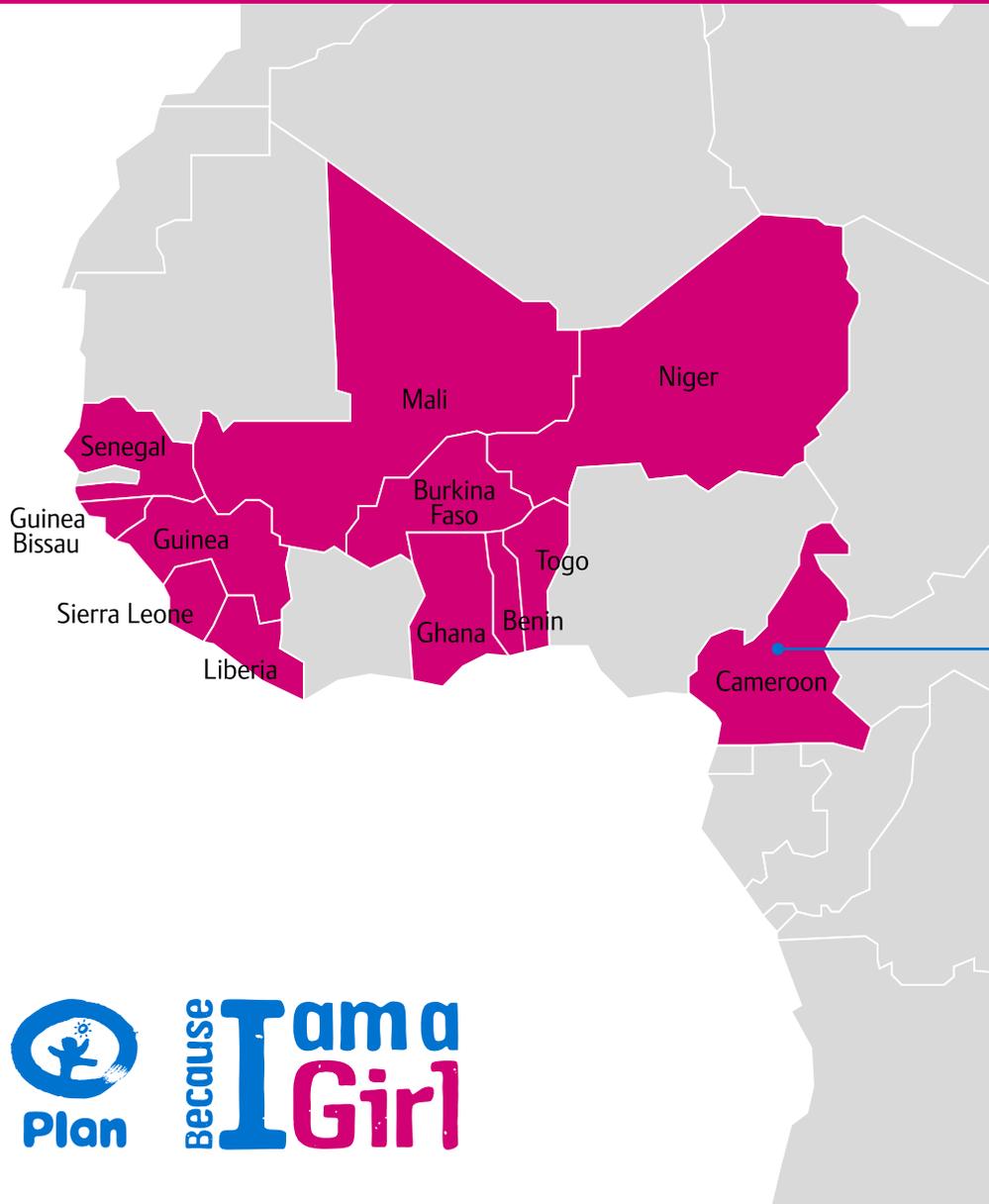
# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



BECAUSE **I am a Girl**



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Cameroon.** Plan Cameroon joined UNICEF and the Government to commemorate the IDG on 11 October 2013. Activities included Public Projections of short films in the council of Koza, and Maroua town on 10th and 11th October respectively, followed by educational talks with the population.

A round table discussion was also held in the regional radio station and a Press conference organized with over 20 media organs to raise communities' awareness on the importance of girl's education.

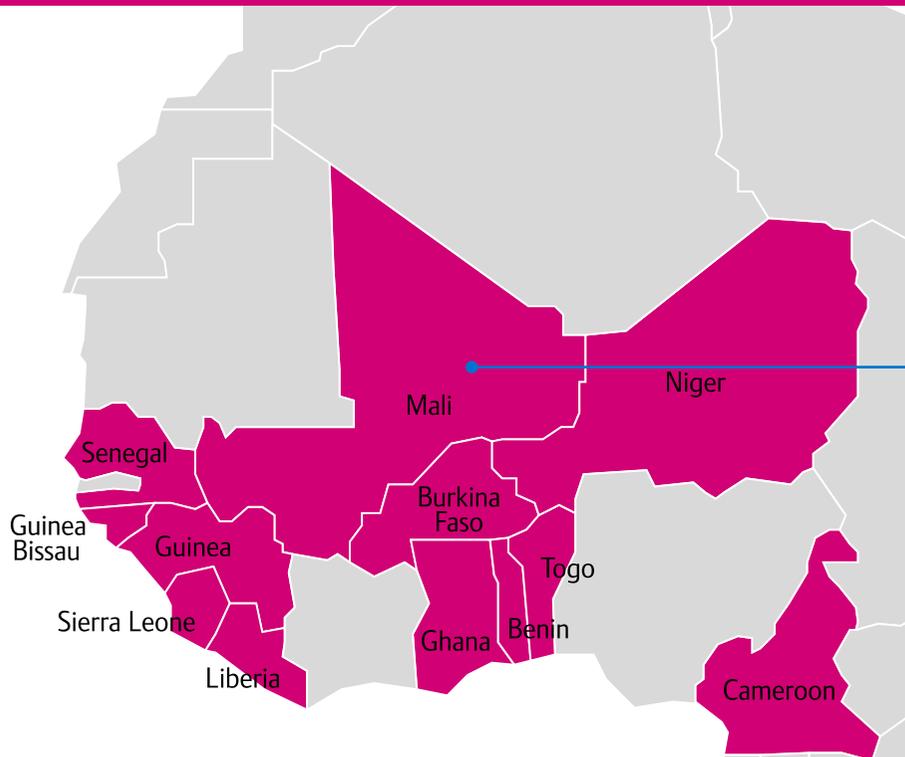
In addition, an SMS campaign was done in partnership with mobile phone operator Orange Cameroon, which resulted in awareness raising messages sent to the adult population of the 4 ZEP regions (Far-North, North, Adamaoua and East) –about 500,000 people.

Other planned activities included a caravan (advocacy Match), on the 30th October with Awae and Briqueterie Youth, closing with the handing over of a girls' memorandum to the Minister of women empowerment and family.

On the 31st of October, there was the formal launch of the BIAAG 2013 report and the award of prizes to the 50 best female laureates of the 2013 official examinations.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



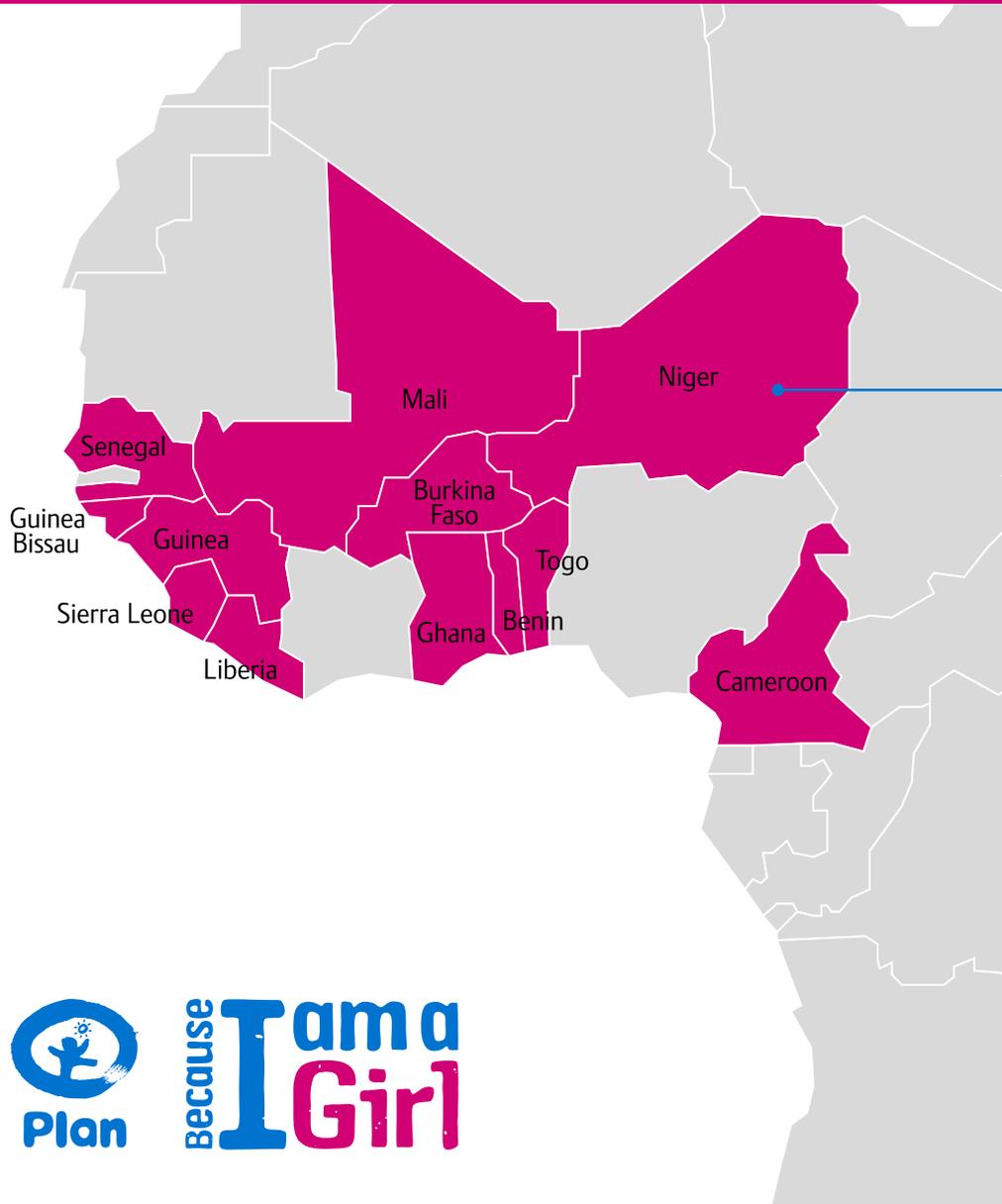
**Mali / WARO.** Plan Mali CD Mrs Fadimata Alainchar and Plan WARO Director, Mr Adama Coulibaly had an audience with the Prime Minister on 10th of October to present the report key findings and recommendations. On the 11th, three Ministers attended the official ceremony and BIAAG report launch alongside representatives from UNICEF and other International and local NGOs. Girls benefiting from the life skills training such as sewing “tie and dye” gave inspiring testimonies in front of the 300 guests invited for the occasion. In addition, a small exhibition was set up at the venue to enable girl trainees to present their products (tie and die fabrics). On the 12th, 150 km of Bamako, 300 young girls aged between 8 and 16 years walked across the city of Konobougou with powerful messages against forced marriage and violence in schools. They terminated the procession at the public square where they read a declaration, shared testimonies and performed choreography in front of the local authorities and Plan staff including Plan Mali’s CD and Plan WARO’s RD. BIAAG and DRM in WARO commissioned a 4 minute video on the situation of adolescent girls in Timbuktu and Mopti during the occupation of Northern Mali. The English and French versions of the video are respectively available on the following links:

[http://youtu.be/wy8MN-cln2s;](http://youtu.be/wy8MN-cln2s)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7\\_p-4XQQ04](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7_p-4XQQ04)



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Niger.** On the 10 of October, Plan Niger CD Mr Johnson Bien-Aimé had an audience with the Minister of Population, Women empowerment and Child protection to present the key findings and recommendations of the BIAAG report.

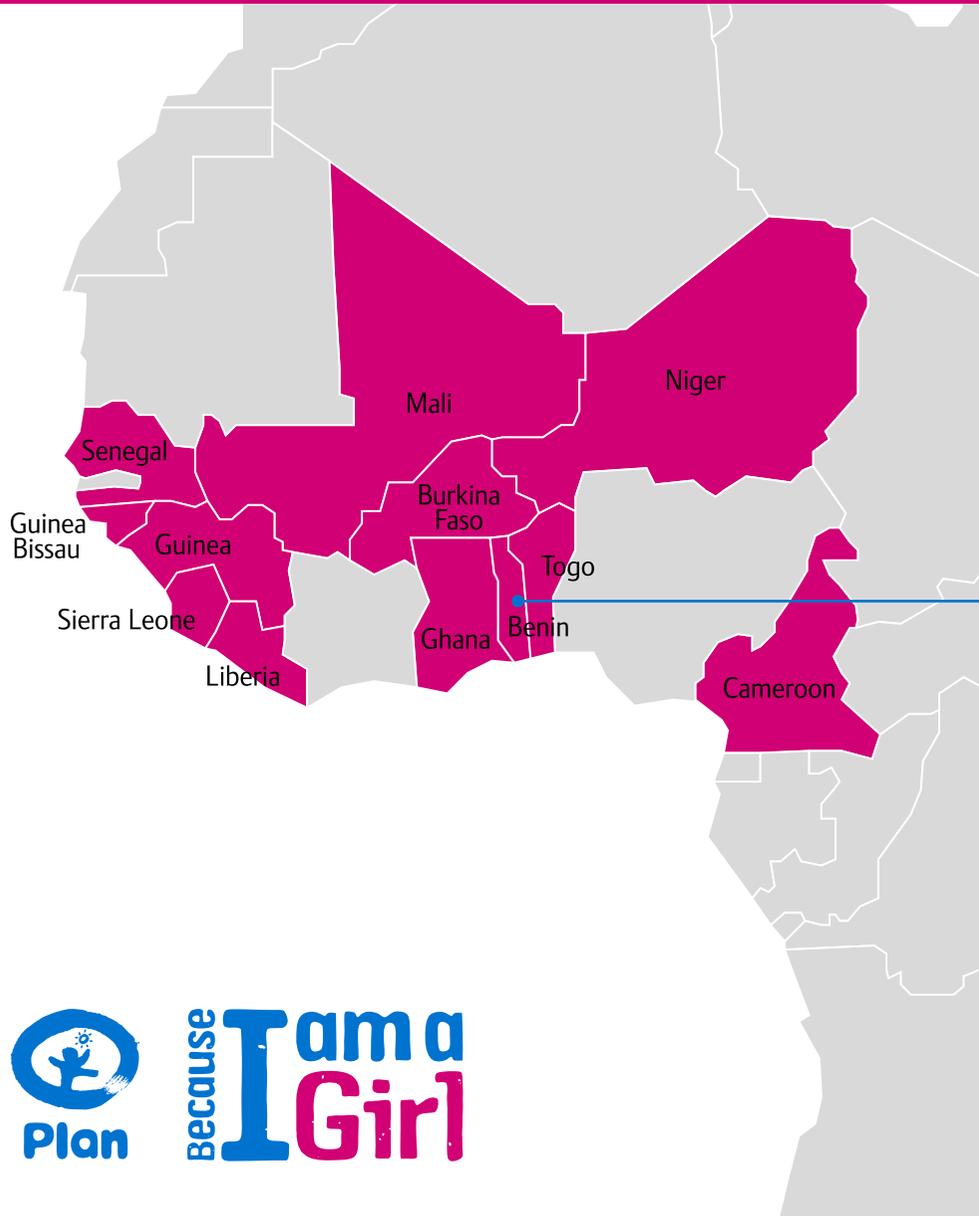
He also had an audience two days later with the Minister of secondary education to discuss the report recommendations. On the D Day, the First Lady Dr Malika Issoufou Mahamadou who is also the BIAAG Ambassador officially launched the BIAAG report in presence of five Ministers, the Governor, the diplomatic corps, partners and religious leaders.

Other key activities included celebrations in Dosso on the 11th, in Tillabery city and the refugee camp of Tabare barey on 23rd and 24th of October. Part of the program was a conference on Child marriage with the Juvenile court Judge (Juge des mineurs) of Tillabery and the Education Director of the district as panelists.

On 25th of October, The CD and PSM had an audience with the First Lady, Dr Malika Issoufou Mahamadou at the State House to discuss the Day of the Girl child (IDG) celebrations and further actions.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Benin.** The International Day of the Girl child (IDG) was celebrated in Couffo with local authorities and in Glazoue in partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs, & National Solidarity, as well as key partners.

The CD of Plan Benin Mr Rheel Drisdelle and the Minister took part in a procession leading to a ceremony to honour girls who performed well in their exams.

Other key activities included the official launch of a project to empower women to increase food security in the Lalo and Klouekanmé communities; a consultation forum with children's groups and local traditional leaders about innovations to bring to girls' education.

On 28th, a round table on the theme of pregnancies in schools was organized in Atacora (North of the Benin) with various actors including local authorities, activists and girls themselves.

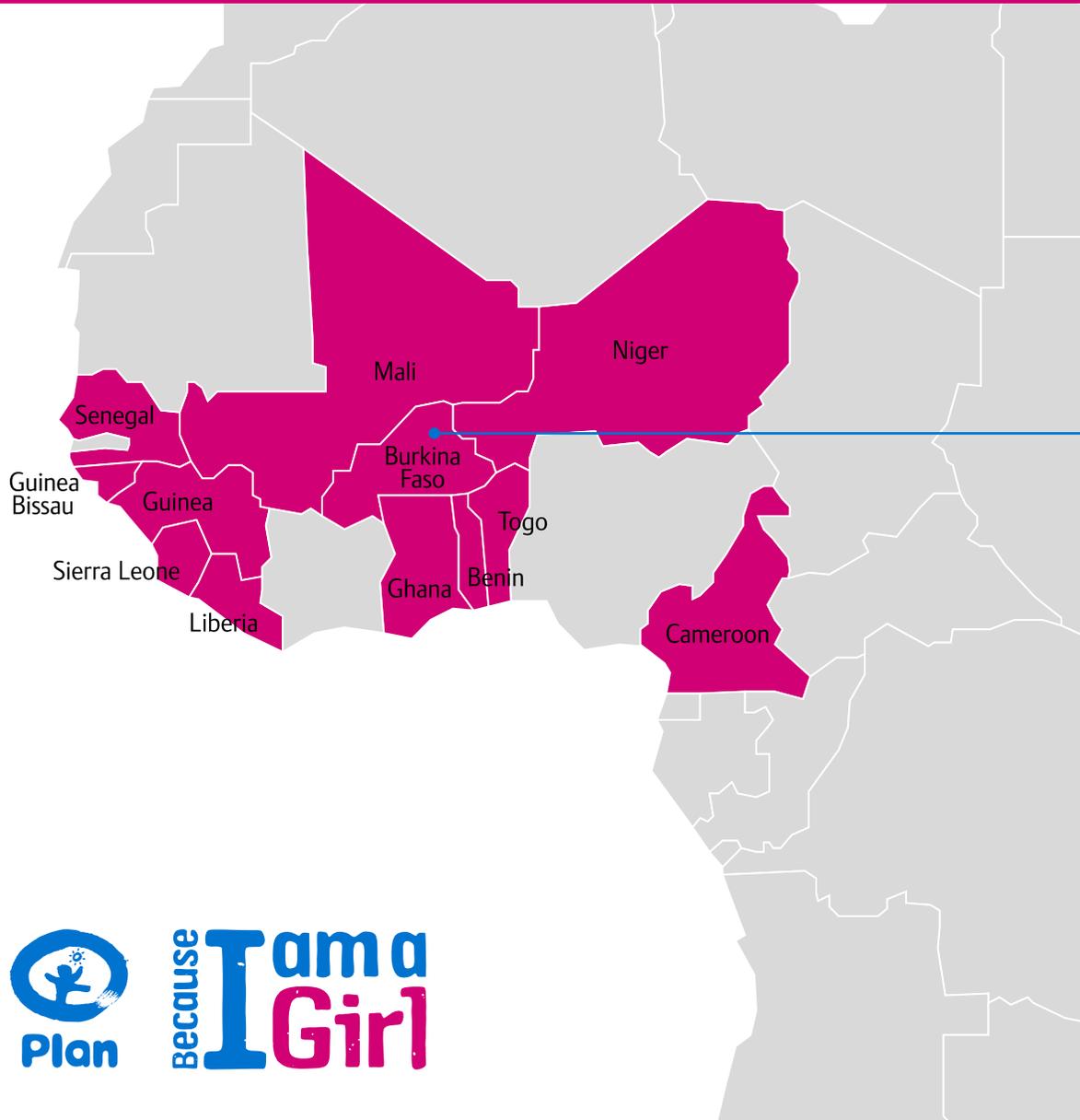
On the web, the BIAAG banner has been put on some popular websites and replaced the Facebook photos of all Plan Benin staff.

A TV show featuring Plan Benin's girl-related projects was also produced and will be broadcasted for the whole month of October.

The video is available on the following link:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JE\\_WjIRus](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JE_WjIRus)



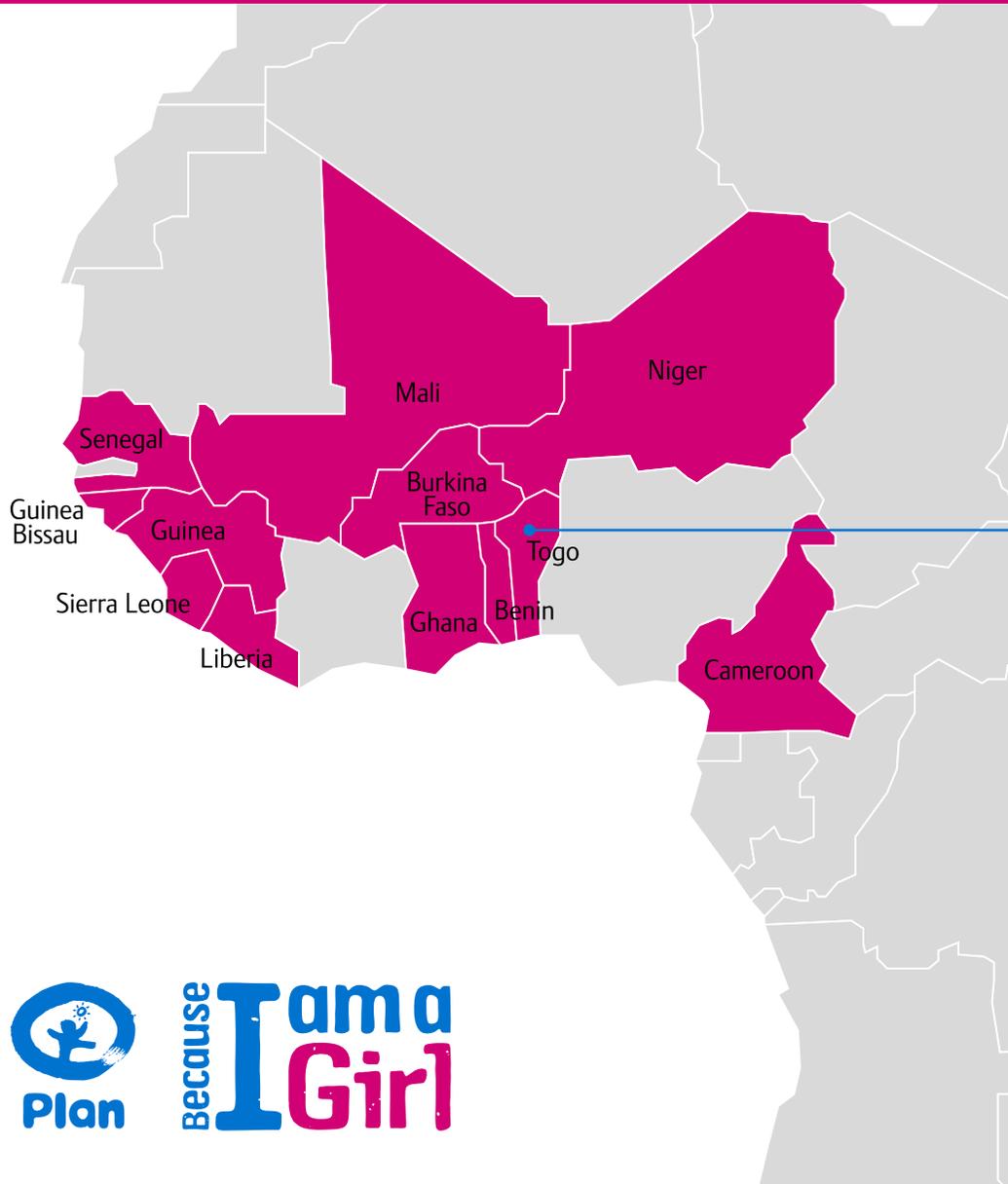
# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Burkina Faso.** On October 11th, Plan Burkina released a joint Communiqué with UNICEF calling for a prioritization of girls' education as a means to tackle poverty. Plan Burkina put on also a public theatre show performed before about three hundred young people and adults on the evening of 10 October. The show addressed one of the main barriers to girls' transition to secondary school: the dual problem of protection and accommodation (issues faced by girls that are hosted with relatives', tutors, full board schools.). Unfortunately the IDG official celebrations had to be postponed and later cancelled due to political related circumstances.



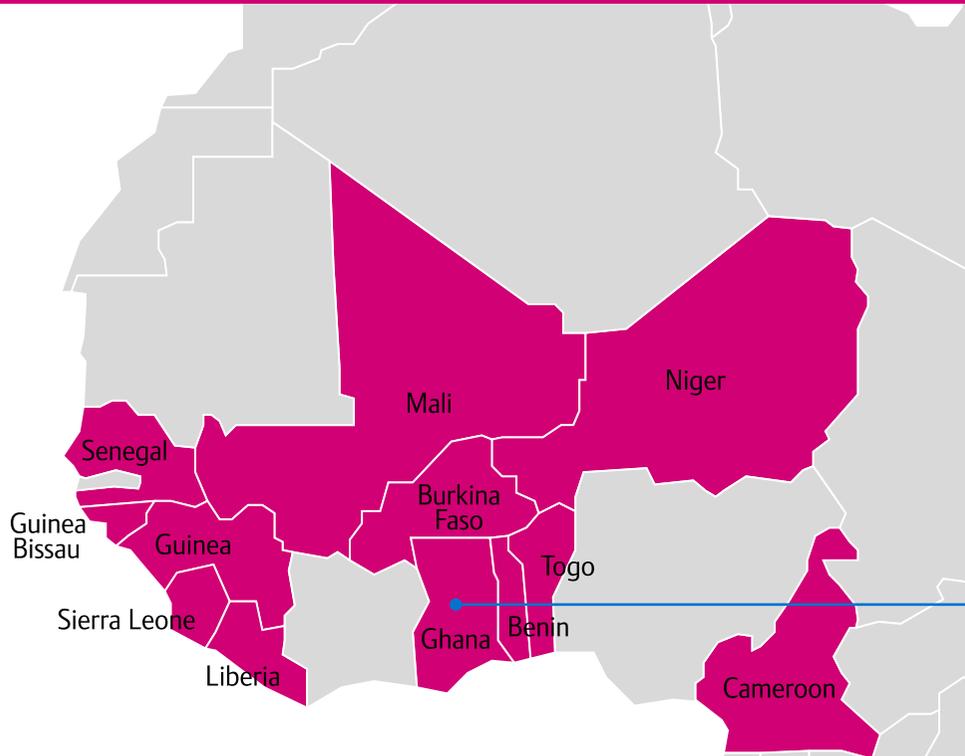
# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Togo.** The Day of the Girl Child was celebrated on 18th October in Togo with a week delay due to the political agenda. The organization was led by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Women's Empowerment and Literacy in close collaboration with Plan, UNFPA and UNICEF. An official ceremony was held at the Palais des congres with a public of more than two thousand people, five Ministers, the diplomatic corps and traditional leaders. The latter solemnly committed to contribute to removing cultural barriers that prevent girls from accessing and staying at school. Earlier a video on early marriage had been projected followed by a second on this year's theme Innovating for girls education and showcasing innovative programs on girls retention. Other key moments included the speech of the representative of National Youth Advisory Council and the closing speech the Minister of Social affairs, which announced the organization of a national competition based on the innovation theme - an idea suggested by Plan Togo.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Ghana.** The First lady Mrs Lordina Mahama launched the BIAAG report alongside representatives from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Gender, Children & Social protection.

Plan Ghana CD Prem Shukla and UNHCR's representative made a strong appeal to decision makers and humanitarian actors to provide targeted services for adolescent girls in the core areas of education, protection and sexual reproductive health.

The International Day of the Girl child (IDG) was also celebrated at the various PU's.

The high point of the celebration at the PU's were when adolescent girls made a call to the Government, Disaster agencies and the general public to take prudent measures to protect adolescent girls in disasters.

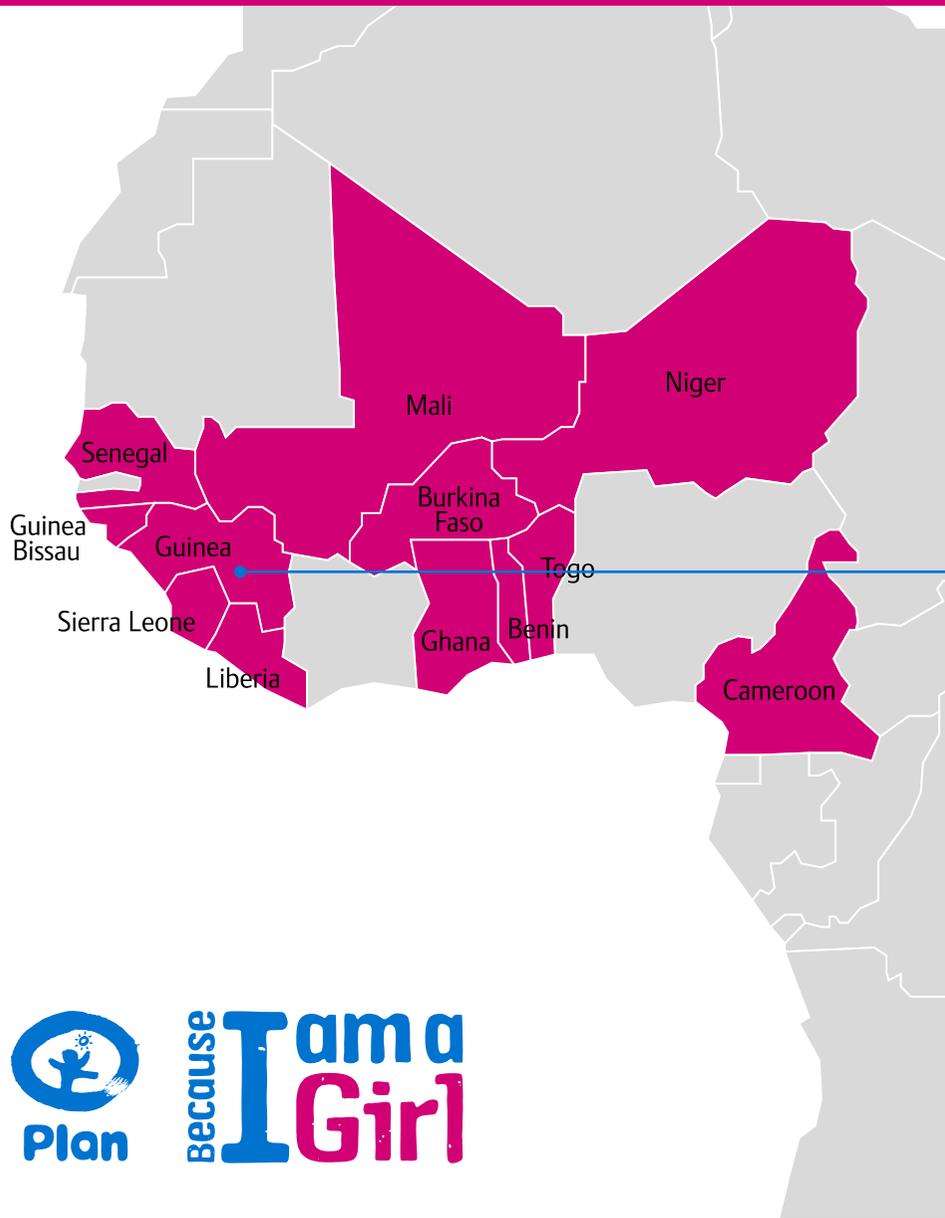
The occasion was also used to inaugurate a major grant funded project- "Girls football in development" in one of the PU's. Activities ranging from girls football competition, debates, role plays and community gathering took place at all the PU's to create awareness on the theme.

These activities received wide media coverage.

In addition a jingle has also been developed on this year's theme to be played on radio stations.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Guinea.** An official ceremony has been organized at the Palais du Peuple in Conakry in partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Women's Empowerment and Childhood and UNFPA to mark the International Day of the Girl child (IDG) and launch the BIAAG report.

Plan Guinea CD Mr Toure Ibrahima, in his speech, said that "supporting girls' education is one of the best investments a Government can make to end poverty and give hope to girls whose rights and aspirations are denied".

For its part, the President of the Children Parliament made an appeal to the Government and humanitarian actors to stop neglecting adolescent girls and boys and insure their rights to health, protection and education are respected during disasters.

Beside, SMS awareness raising campaign has been organized in partnership with the Telecom operator MTN.

This resulted with about 4 million awareness raising text messages on the importance of girls' education being sent. Plan Guinea also worked with two female artists and produced songs and video clips on BIAAG related issues.

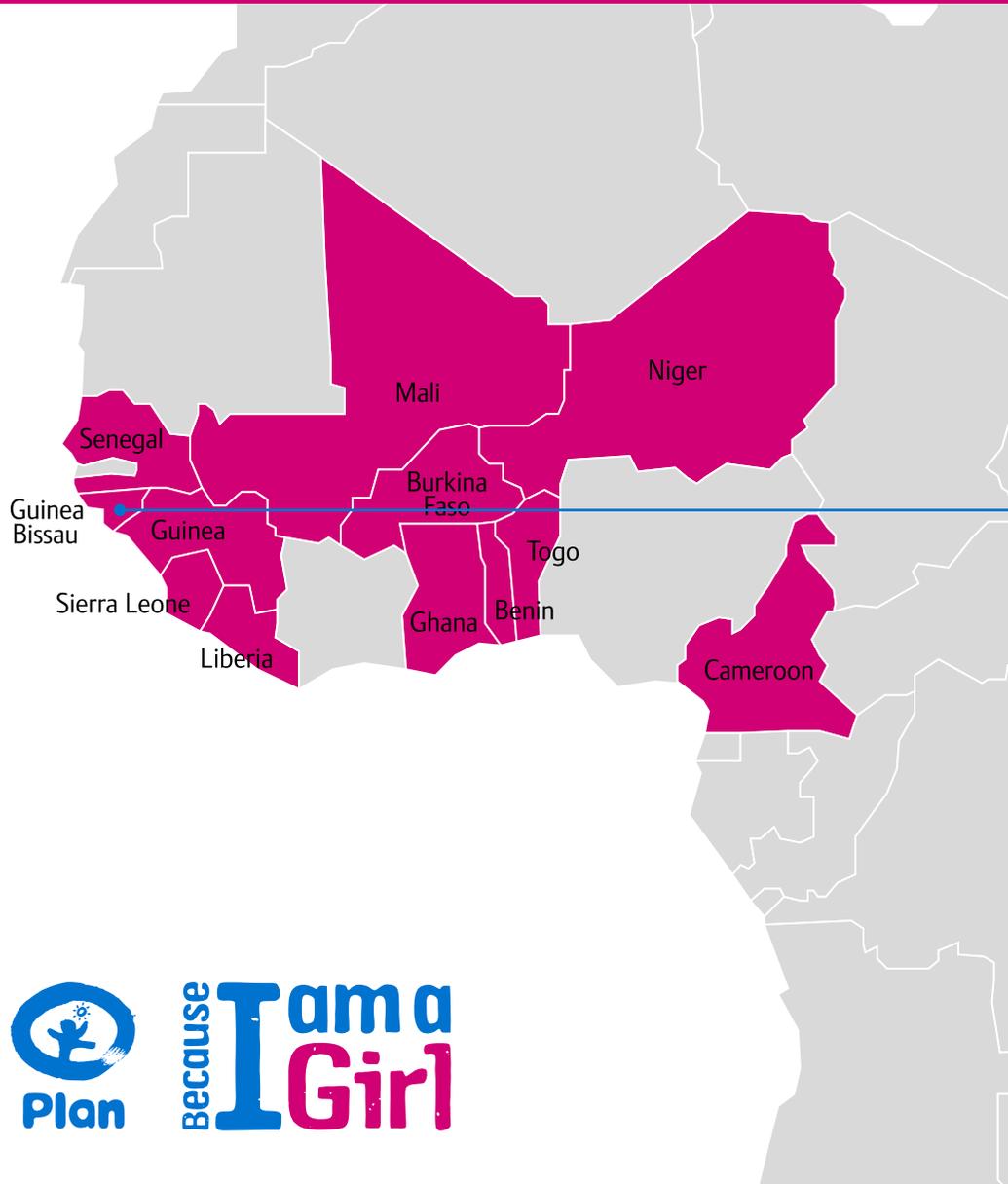
The videos are available on the following links:

<http://youtu.be/wy8MN-cLn2s> ;

<http://youtu.be/eA2-Wztaya4>



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Guinea Bissau.** An official ceremony has been organized in the French Cultural Centre in Bissau in partnership with the Ministry of Women and Social Solidarity, UNICEF and National Early Stage Parliament.

The Prime Minister honored the event with his presence. In addition to this event, a Girls Making Media group organized a public debate throughout Bissau city and radio programs to mark the date.

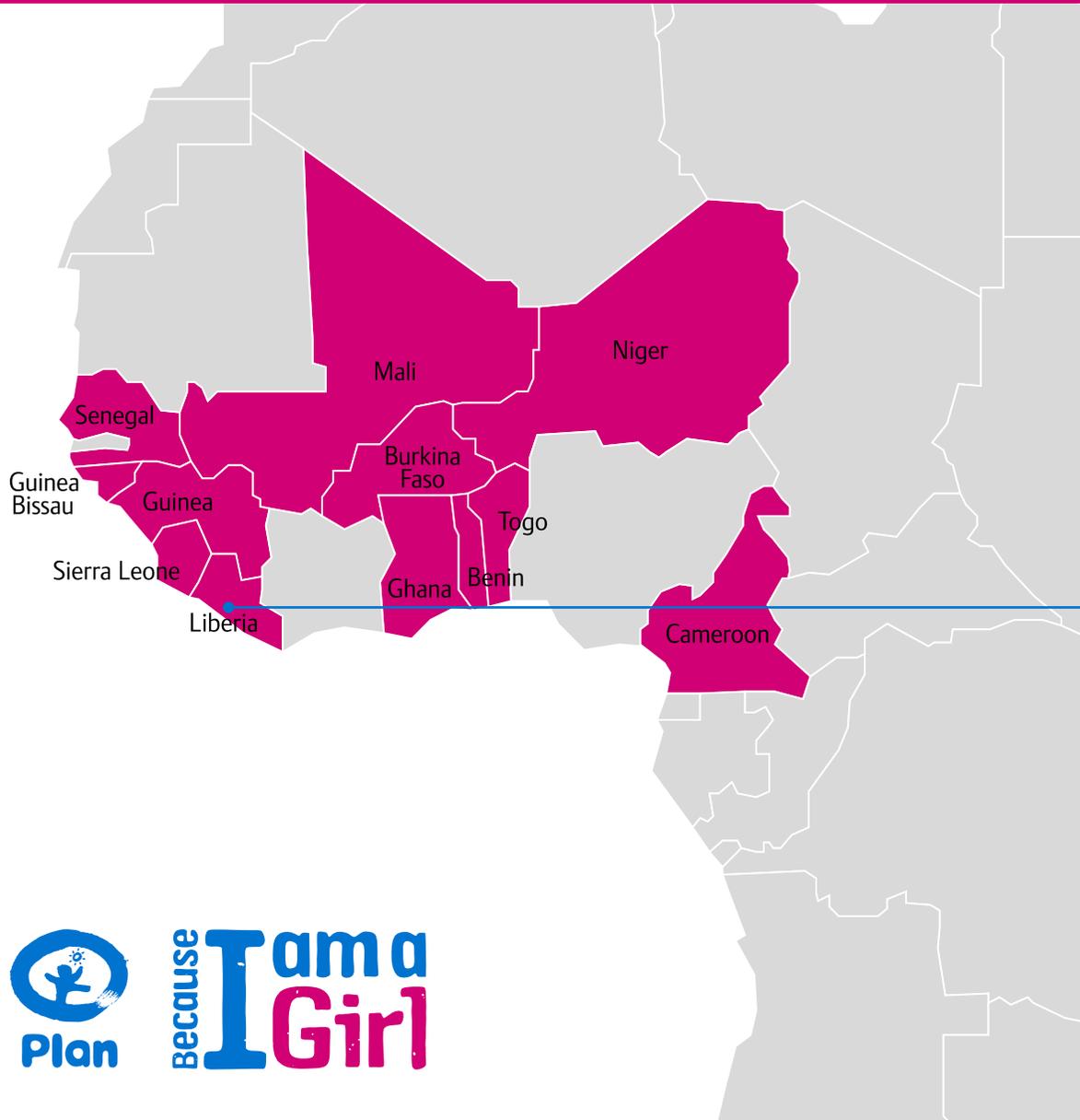
More than 80 radio spots were broadcasted and TV spots are still ongoing on the National TV to promote the BIAAG campaign.

The international Day of the Girl child (IDG) was also celebrated in Bafata, country's second main city and Plan program unit area (PU) with the participation of the Regional Governor, Plan staff, children, local NGOs, religious and traditional leaders.

Furthermore, Plan GNB promoted the creation of a join Advocacy committee that involves UNICEF and the Ministry of Women and Social solidarity to continue advocating for girls education in line with BIAAG action plan.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



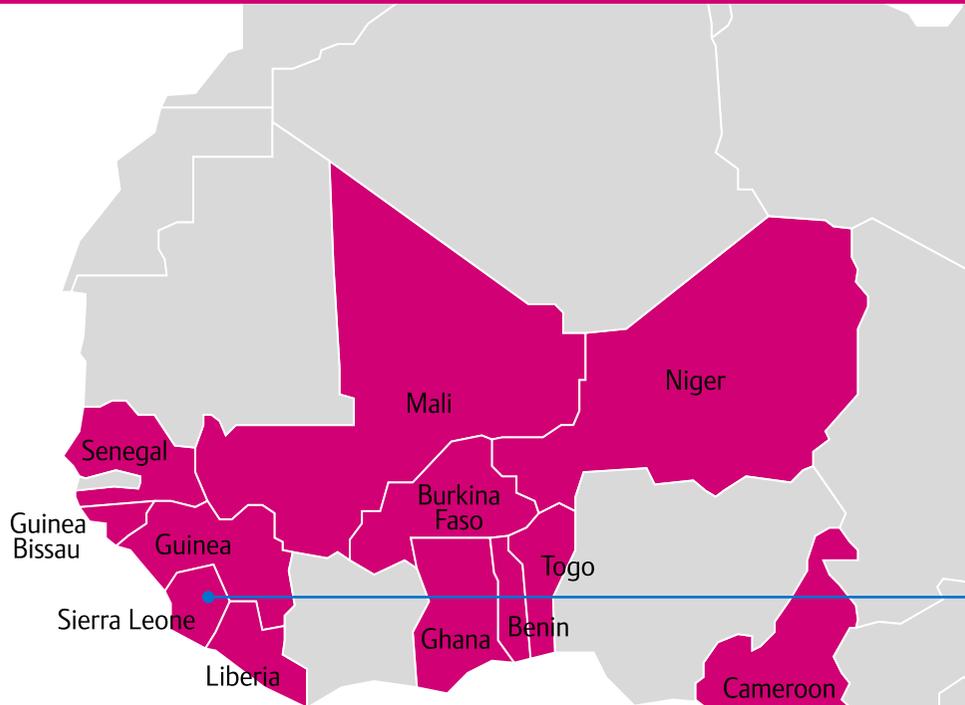
**Liberia.** A 16 years old adolescent girl was chosen as the keynote speaker for the 11 of October official celebration event to address the Minister of Gender and Development, representatives from UNICEF, International and local NGO's, and girls from the 15 counties (sub division) across the country.

Plan Liberia supported the development of a Manifesto for the development and empowerment of the girl-child presented during the BIAAG report launch ceremony.

In addition, various events were held across the four major counties to commemorate the International Day of the Girl child (IDG) including processions through the principal streets in all four major counties.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Sierra Leone.** Plan Sierra Leone has on the 11 of October celebrated the International Day of the Girl Child (IDG) with “pinkification” and an award ceremony at the organization’s country office in Freetown.

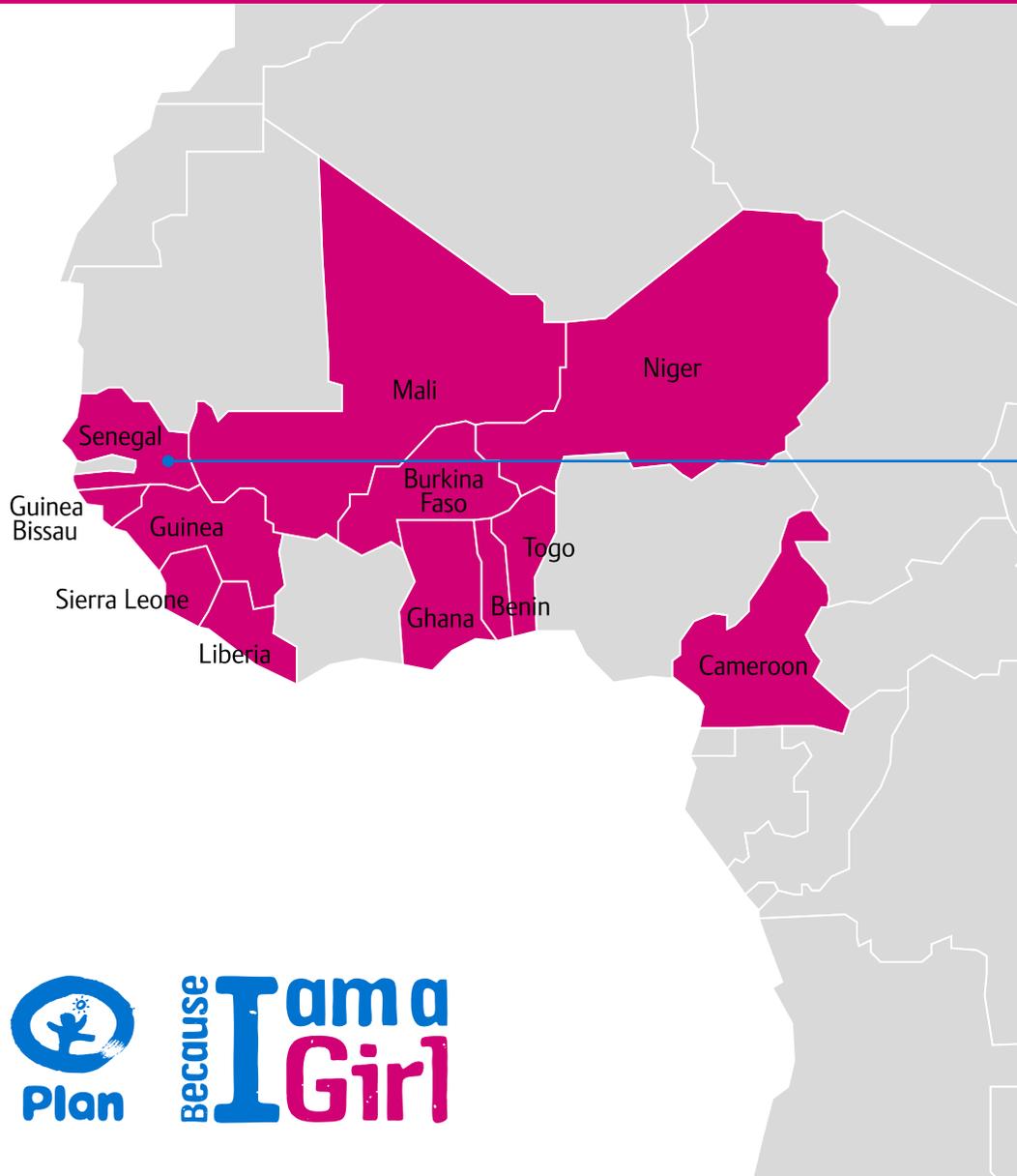
The ceremony attracted dignitaries from Government, Child Protection agencies and other key stakeholders dealing with girl-child education. The “pinkification” of Plan Sierra Leone CO was done by the Minister of Youth Affairs. Speaking on behalf of the Minister, the Deputy Minister expressed gratitude to Plan Sierra Leone and other donors who have provided supports to the Government that girls should be in school and not mothers.

Further, Plan Sierra Leone in collaboration with the Government and UNICEF supported an advocacy led event, during which adolescent girls (17-20 years old) from all the regions of Sierra Leone presented a position paper in front of the Ministers of Education, Ministers of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs and other stakeholders present.

Other activities included counseling sessions on sexual and reproductive health rights through the partner FAWE which spoke to a total of 91 girls and boys between the ages of 14 – 21 years.



# A snapshot of 11th of October celebrations in WARO



**Senegal.** A procession has been organized in one of the capital city avenues that culminated at the symbolic venue of the African Memorial (Place du Souvenir Africain) where the BIAAG report has been launched.

Attending officials included representatives from the Ministry of Education, The Ministry of Youth, The Ministry of Women and Childhood, key partners and the BIAAG ambassador, a former National Director of the Senegal public television.

The President of the Traditional communicators association gave a strong and memorable speech advocating for girls education and a change of status of women in the Senegalese society.

A school girl also was among the key speakers and made a case on the urgent need to send girls to school.

A video titled « Pieds dans l'eau » has been produced by Plan Senegal showing the situation of adolescent girls in flooded areas in Dakar suburbs.

The video is available on the following link:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Senegal.Plan>

