

**DONATIONS** 

Donations from Les Bleuets du Littoral School and its APE to orphanages in Port-Gentil

**NGO SCHOOL REPORTS** 

School activity report of PAULSARAH NGO

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP** 

Women's Seminar for Community Development

# ASSOCIATION OF MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOLS THE NIGHT OF MARTIAL ARTS

The Association of Martial Arts Schools of Port-Gentil, after 2 years of inactivity, offered a show to sensitize young people to the practice of martial arts

SIGNING OF A MOU BETWEEN THE TOWN HALL OF PORT-GENTIL AND UNICEF GABON:

"Child-friendly cities and communities" for a 3-year period. An initiative that aims to protect and promote the rights of children.

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THE NIGHT OF MARTIAL ARTS

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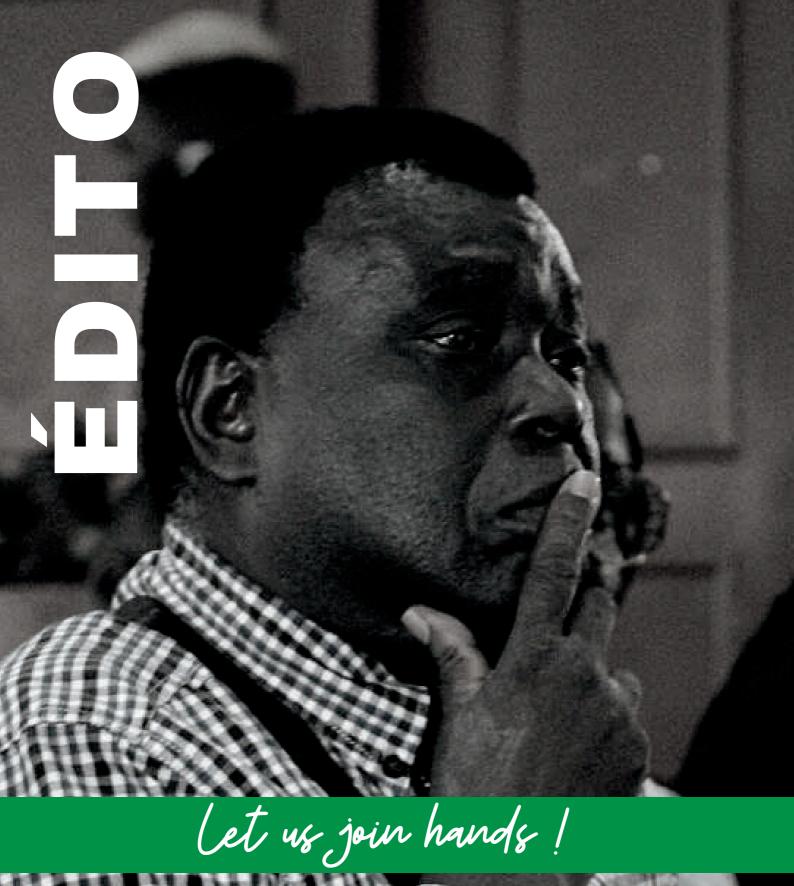
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#### "The best friend is the one who always reaches out to you" (Aristotle)

All crises have one thing in common: they open up periods of uncertainty. Very often, they correspond, for societies, to phases of introspection and transition. They are almost always associated with questioning. They lead, sometimes but not always, to the rediscovery of lost values.

The pandemic crisis due to the coronavirus, which humanity has not finished assimilating, does not escape these few rules. It has foiled many predictions, raised a thousand questions and trampled underfoot many certainties. It has inevitably changed many paradigms.

But it had the merit of bringing up to date a value that we had tended to lose, one of the cardinal values of eternal Africa: solidarity between human beings.

Because it affected, without distinction, the old and the young, the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor, the masters and the disciples, it reminded us, sometimes at the cost of painful and inconsolable tears, that all men are born equal and remain so for life before God.

And that the earth that will welcome them in their final resting place is the same for all. Oh, of course, the hand that gives is above the hand that receives, it is said. Yet in some communities, the hand that gives has its palm turned towards the sky, so that the hand that takes is above the hand that gives.

But what does it matter if it was the great who supported the small, if it was the strong who supported the weak, if it was the rich who helped the poor and if it was the masters who comforted the disciples, the issue was elsewhere: the survival of societies through gestures of solidarity.

But did we need a crisis like that of Covid-19 to glorify solidarity?

Always, here and elsewhere, day and night, against all odds, men and women have been holding out saving hands, sometimes in the face of general indifference, to those who, often out of modesty or dignity, do not dare to unfold their fists to beg.

It is the story of these modern-day heroes, who sometimes act in the shadows but move mountains, that Manibus TV humbly wants to put under the spotlight.

These men and women remind us that wealth and well-being are not the monopoly of some, and precariousness and disability the fate of others.

Through the pages of this magazine, they invite us to reflect on the fates that could have been those of a relative, a friend or simply our own, because, if heaven is, in principle, promised to all, no one is safe from a descent into hell, as long as one lives.

But they also invite us to share the happiness of those who have rediscovered the joy of life through a chance encounter or simply those who have something to share or a cheerful story to tell us.

They show us in many ways that it is our usefulness to others that justifies our existence on this earth. They do this without any calculation other than to serve, without expecting anything in return.

To those who face an opposite, temporary or definitive fate, they say: "Let's reach out to them"..

But they also know their limits and are aware that, alone, they will not succeed, as there are so many cliffs to climb.

So their appeal to the rest of society sounds like a call for awareness: "Let's join hands!".

### **CELEBRATION OF THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD**





Coordinator of CSOs in Ogooué-Maritime

On 16 June each year, the international community celebrates the Day of the African Child. In Port-Gentil, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) did not remain apart from this celebration. To this effect, they invested the CSO focal point with various animations related to the theme chosen for this edition, namely "Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children: Progress on Policy & Practice since 2013".

"Since 2015, many countries have put in place legislation to abolish forced marriages, including child marriages. However, there is still a lack of implementation of the laws. There is generally a gap between words and deeds. 27 out of 29 countries have laws in place but very few enforce them", Mr. Fidèle AFANOU, General Coordinator of the Coordination of Civil Society Organisations for Child's Protection in Ogooué-Maritime (COSCPEOM).

It was also an opportunity for Fidèle AFANOU to announce the official launching of the activities of the social television MANIBUS TV, on behalf of its promoter Chakir Omer PARAISO, President of the MANIBUS association, who was unable to attend.



## **CELEBRATION OF THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD**



Photo de famille - MANIBUS TV

"The promoter of this project, who is the MANIBUS TV Project Manager, is Chakir Omer PARAISO, a son of Port-Gentil, who is also the General Coordinator of the National Network for the Promotion of Children's Rights in Gabon (RESPEG).

It is an honour for us to launch this television here. So from today on the web, we will be seen in Japan, China, France, Benin... I thank you."

Mr. Fidèle AFANOU, General Coordinator of COSCPEOM

The day's activities ended with a group photo.

MANIBUS TV the social television !!!



Mr Chakir Omer PARAISO, MANIBUS TV Project Manager

### MANIBUS TV

#### **DISCOVERING YOUR NEW CHANNEL MANIBUS TV**

We are a multidisciplinary association of mutual aid and social action called Manibus (Hand in Latin). In order to strengthen the popularisation of the actions carried out, to improve the associative aspect and the actions for the development of Man, we are launching the first exclusively social television channel in the country.

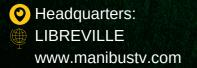
#### WHAT DO WE DO?

Our socio-cultural programmes include:

- With NGOs: Make yourself known
- The weather
- TV Reports
- News
- The Morning programme
- Board games (Children's rights)
- Thematic programmes
- Innovative projects and calls for donations



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www.manibustv.com











### **OUR PROGRAMMES:**

#### **SOCIAL-CULTURAL**

We share joy and good mood through entertainment programmes: interneighbourhood dance competitions, singing competitions for children, reading competitions, board games and sport, which remains a unifying activity for young people.

This cultural programme aims at the blossoming of children.

#### **COMPANIES / ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

We offer you coverage of all your social and cultural corporate events.

We support you in the creation of event concepts. We provide you with our field knowledge for your various social and cultural actions.

#### **EDUCATIONS**

Our children have rights that are unfortunately not well known. We are launching a programme aimed at discovering all the rights of children, through fun and innovative programmes. These programmes will be dedicated, not only to children, but also to adults so that they are aware of their rights.



It is at the gym of the Social, Sports and Cultural Association of Total Gabon (ASSCTG), that the various martial arts disciplines met for the show called The Night of Martial Arts. After two years of inactivity, it was important for the Association of Schools of Martial Arts and Combat Sports to close the sports season with an innovative concept.



"After two years of stand-by because of Covid-19, as soon as the barriers were lifted, we all started. With all the disciplines that are in Ogooué Maritime, we established an association of Martial Arts schools in Ogooué Maritime.

We are almost at the end of the year and before we close the season, we had to organise a small show."

#### Mr. Randy Médard NZE, Member of the Organising Committee

"Why participate? Simply because we are lovers of the Martial Art, we grew up in it. It is with this great pleasure that we came to perform today to pay tribute to all of them and also to pass a message to the youth to show them that there are many ways of entertainment."

Jean Richard, Participant



"When you practice martial arts, you avoid a lot of things. And these young people, by participating in this night of martial arts, it will stimulate them to practice sport."

Master Kach, Judo Instructor







"In martial arts, we learn to forge the mind, we learn to forge the body and to become respectful of the rights and to respect others. All these are things that we teach to martial artists."

Master DACKO, Participant

For the next editions, participants expressed the wish that partners and sponsors support such initiatives.

"It went well. I wished that creditors, all those who are in our economic capital, at the next Martial Arts night, would come to help, so that it could continue, and the party was beautiful."

Master MALEKOU, Participant

Thus ends the first edition of the Night of Martial Arts in Port-Gentil.

The appointment is made

for the next edition !!!



# FESTIVAL DES ZARTISTES

#### First Edition of Festival des Zartistes

The theatre school Les Zartistes organized on 17 June a great theatre show at the Joseph Paul and Marie Cécile ESSONGHÉ Foundation. **Objective: introducing the school to the general public.** 

"This year, since the context allows it, we decided to do what we called the big theatre show, because it was an opportunity to introduce Les Zartistes theatre school, which takes children from 3 to 24 years old."

Mr. Paul MABALA TOUKOUROU, President of the NGO Festival de la Jeunesse (Youth Festival).

The public of Port-Gentil, which attended this show, mainly animated by children aged between 3 and 24 years old, commended the organisation.

"Honestly, it was my first experience in this kind of scene. And it was really great I think. I would like to encourage more people to be interested in art and theatre because the theatre school offers something more, an opening for youth development and for the country as well."

Nathan KAKAYET, Spectator.



Jealousy between kingdoms, birthday surprises, travel, are among others, the themes developed with the support of PaulSarah NGO, the theatre group of the Victor Hugo mixed school and many others.







"They have that little something which is there. There are people who have natural aspects; you just have to put them on stage to develop them. Therefore, I think it is a good initiative and I obviously hope that next year we will have a more magnificent show and something wonderful. And congratulations to the whole team and to all those who have set this up."

Axcel FOLET, Spectator



### END OF THE YEAR AT LES BLEUETS DU LITTORAL SCHOOL

Closing ceremony of the academic activities of the year 2021-2022 at the school Les Bleuets du Littoral with in the background the organisation of various shows of dances, animations, sketches around the themes related to the objectives of sustainable development. The project has also been well welcomed by parents.

"It's always nice to see how children grow up and especially to talk about such sensitive subjects. Because when they grow up they will know that there are things that are good for the environment, good for them and good for their parents."

Ms NZONGA, Pupil's parent.

"It was very interesting, very enriching. And, after two years without shows open to the public, we really enjoyed it and especially the theme on the world, the fauna, the flora, on the worrying subjects of the moment, of the world in fact." AFINIZO AKENDENGUE, Pupil's parent.

"I am very satisfied, I really appreciated the organisation of this show and the whole organisation around it, including the charity for the orphanage of Tchengue."

Ms NGOMO, Pupil's parent.

100% is the success rate for the Primary School Certificate (CEP)! The school director did not hide her satisfaction and decided to grant a scholarship to 5 children from the Tchengue orphanage as part of her school's social responsibility.

"Our pupils are performing well, I dare to say it, I dare to shout it out loud, we have obtained 100% success in the CEP this year. The founder, Mrs. KIZOGO, and myself, the co-director, Mrs. BIACHE-SIMA, decided to offer five complete schooling to five children from the orphanage. Because we consider that we also have a social mission"

Ms. Geneviève BIACHE-SIMA, Director.

This news was welcomed by the people in charge of the orphanage.

"This help is welcome and we also thank all those who can help us with the boarding school. The boarding school is about fifteen children and young people who are there full time; we house them, feed them, care for them and also educate them."

Father Guy, Deputy Head of the Tchengue orphanage.

It was in a festive and friendly atmosphere that parents, teachers, administration and the bureau of the Parents' Association took their holidays after collecting donations of all kinds, always destined for the orphanage of Tchengue.



I am very satisfied; I really appreciated the organisation of this show and really all the organisation around it including the charity for the orphanage of Tchengue

Ms. NGOMO, Pupil's parent.



"Our pupils are performing well, I dare to say it, I dare to shout it out loud, we have obtained 100% success in the CEP this year. The founder, Mrs. KIZOGO, and myself, the co-director, Mrs. BIACHE-SIMA, decided to offer five complete schooling to five children from the orphanage. Because we consider that we also have a social mission."

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Sickle cell disease, also known as sickle cell anaemia, is an inherited genetic disorder of the red blood cells. It is characterised by an abnormality of haemoglobin, the main protein of the red blood cell.

On the occasion of the International Sickle Cell Day in Port-Gentil, the association Sourire d'un Enfant, in partnership with the International Junior Chamber, organised on 19 June 2022, at the Provincial Directorate of the Family, a conference with sickle cell disease and the CNAMGS (National Health Insurance and Social Guarantee Fund) in the background.

"Today is 19 June, World Sickle Cell Day. For this day, we have planned a conference which was organised in partnership with the International Junior Chamber of Port-Gentil. We registered 70 children. The event was attended by 59 children and their families. We were able to raise awareness about sickle cell disease and the activities of the next few days."

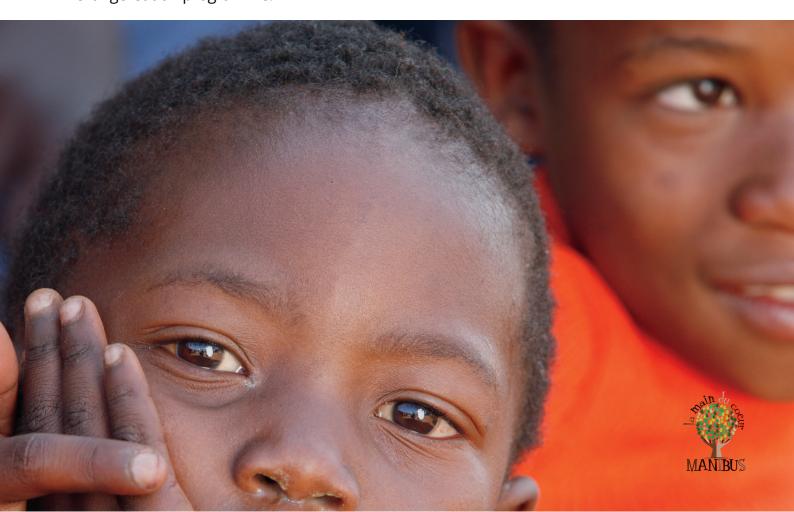
Mrs. Oldy NZAMBA Epse MAKANGA, President of the NGO Sourire D'un Enfant

The NGO Sourire d'un Enfant in partnership also with the NGO Samaritain's Purse, some 50 children received gifts as part of its annual world evangelisation programme.

"The association and the NGO Sourire d'un Enfant works in partnership with the Samaritain's Purse OL which, every year, sends gifts to Africa and this year we were among the partners. They gave us 70 gifts for the children of our NGO and for this morning, there should have been an OL representative but, knowing that this day fell on a Sunday and that they are, for the most part, pastors, they could not be present. But these are the kind of gifts that are meant to give a child a gift and to tell children about Jesus."

Mrs. Oldy NZAMBA Epse MAKANGA

From 20 June to 1 July, there will be a collection of medicines for sickle cell children and a blood donation operation at the Tchengue regional hospital to support this underprivileged segment of the population.





# SCHOOL ACTIVITY REPORT OF PAULSARAH NGO

The NGO PAULSARAH, which is specialised in schooling, support and monitoring of orphans and children from vulnerable families, presented the results of the 2021-2022 academic year to parents of pupils. Out of 45 children enrolled in the schools of the economic capital of Port-Gentil, 33 move on to higher classes. For an admission rate of 73%. This is the case of MANOMBA Kimberly Kimi, a 6-year-old girl enrolled in the first year of primary school, at the Grand Village public school.





"My name is MANOMBA Kimberly Kimi, I am in my first year of primary school and I am moving on to my second year", MANOMBA Kimberly Kimi.

To achieve its objectives, the NGO PAULSARAH has doubled its efforts by bearing the costs of schooling for this disadvantaged segment of the population.

"In July, she is 7 years old, so she has made it to the second year. I really thank the NGO. They took care of everything, the school supplies, the registration, they took care of everything", Jeanne Patricia, pupil's parent.

Concerning the parents who did not respect their commitments, the NGO simply handed over the children to them because of the violation of the agreements between them and the NGO.

"We have reviewed the work of each child, the children who are excluded today are those whose parents have not respected the charter and unfortunately we have no choice but to separate from them. They are simply released to their families or legal tutors." Scholastique MAGANGA, President of the NGO PAULSARAH.

It should be noted that PAULSARAH has started such social actions towards this segment of the Gabonese population since June 2018.



The Programme Femmes Actives et Citoyennes (Active & Citizen Women), called PROFAC, organised an experience sharing and capacity building meeting under the impetus of its partner the NGO MALACHIE, also through its programme of Autonomisation, Veille et Epargne Communautaire (Empowerment, Community Monitoring and Savings) called **AVEC**, on 25 June in Port-Gentil.

A meeting that aims to provide legal and entrepreneurial tools to women engaged in income-generating activities.





## Launch of the summer camp of the NGO Agir pour le Handicap à l'Ecole









From 1 July to 15 August 2022, the NGO Agir pour le Handicap à l'École is organising a summer camp for children with physical and/or psychological disabilities. An initiative supported by Hon. Jean Fidèle Otandault who personally attended the launch of the activities.

«"To give a little time to others, you have to do it with your heart. That is why I wanted to express it with my heart and I thank you. Congratulations to you!"

#### Hon. Jean Fidèle Otandault

In addition to games and leisure activities, this summer camp will allow the NGO to observe the children and to offer them care according to its capabilities as of the beginning of the next academic year. The NGO has already trained five young disabled people to become assistant cooks and pastry cooks.

"For children aged 16 and over we offer vocational training. So this year we have five young people, two girls and three boys who have finished training as assistant cooks and pastry cooks."

Annie ADANHODOU, President of the NGO Agir pour le Handicap à l'École

45 children with disabilities from low-income families are participating in the first edition of this summer camp. An initiative to be perpetuated.

"In homes, they really miss leisure time. Mr. Honourable with all due respect, we really wish that this activity will be perpetuated forever and that your support for us is truly heartfelt."

#### Donista ROTIMBOT, child's parent.

The ribbon cutting, the visit of the NGO's premises and the performance of some of the children were the highlights of this ceremony marked by the presence of the representative of the Governor, the administrative officials of the social services, the coordination of the civil society organisation and the parents of the children





# WOMEN'S SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Gabonese economic capital hosted on 18 June 2022 the fifth Edition of the Women's Seminar for Community Development (SFDC) organised by the NGO JM Entrepreneurship, in partnership with the US Embassy in Gabon.

"Having understood this, we launched the SFDC, which is the Women's Seminar for Community Development, in order to bring about change in the lives of these women, regardless of their social status."

Boniface NGANGA-NZEMBY, JM Entrepreneurship.

This seminar aims to promote entrepreneurship in associations and to achieve this objective, JM Entrepreneurship has brought in women who are a model of success to follow, such as the President of the NGO Malachie, Pépécy OGOULIGUENDE.

"I focused on transformational leadership, preparation in terms of life skills, the importance of networking, being part of the associative movement to be able to impact on community development."

Pépécy OGOULIGUENDE, Women's Seminar for Community Development.

"The initiative taken by the organisers of this conference workshop is truly commendable and we hope to have more activities of this kind in the future."

Ida Flore MAROUNDOU

"So, my intervention was to present the programme. The first one is the "I am able programme for young girls and boys with disabilities", teaching them a little training for professional integration. And the second programme, which we have called H'Elles, is a programme aimed at all vulnerable mothers, and also mothers who have children with a disability and mothers who are themselves in a disability situation, including all those mothers who are said to be economically weak. The idea is that they can create income-generating activities thanks to what we can provide them." Annie Edwige ADANHODOU

After Joshua MARTIN, President of the NGO JM Entrepreneurship, intervened by videoconference to encourage these women, his book entitled "Exprime ta passion et suscite des vocations (Express your passion and create vocations)" was distributed free of charge, a gold mine to be explored and which could serve as a guide for all these women.











What is a child-friendly city or community?

By signing a three-year memorandum with Dr. Noël Marie ZAGRE, UNICEF Representative for Gabon, Sao Tome & Principe and ECCAS, Mayor Gabriel TCHANGO has committed the economic capital to a challenge that should, if all goes well, lead the oil city to obtain the label "Child Friendly City". What is it about?

"Child Friendly" is a label awarded by UNICEF to a city, community or local governance system that is committed to respecting the rights of the child as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the UN on 20 November 1989.



Child Friendly Cities is a global network of more than 3,500 members in which the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children are an integral part of public policies, decisions and programmes

In order for Port-Gentil to become a Child-Friendly City, the town hall and UNICEF have developed a multi-sectoral action plan for children and young people to be implemented over the next three years. The time will then come for the evaluation by UNICEF headquarters to decide whether or not to award the label to the city. A challenge which, as the mayor of the economic capital pointed out, is not "a project of the town council alone; it is a matter of federating all the resources of the town of Port-Gentil around this initiative".

Through the voice of its Representative, UNICEF, a partner in the project, considers that "Our children must obtain this support, this environment, this quality, inclusive and participatory education, develop their skills, express their opinions and influence the decisions that affect them. The same goes for family, social and cultural life in their towns/communities, etc."







Would you like to sponsor a child or contribute to the success of one of our actions? Find us on www.manibus.ga





#### Read for you on www.la-croix.com

#### **Facts**

Every year, about 400,000 young teenagers between the ages of 10 and 14 give birth to a child in the world, according to a study published on Wednesday 15 June by the French National Institute for Demographic Studies (Ined).

They are so young that they have long remained off the population statistics screen. Every year, at least 400 000 teenage girls between the ages of 10 and 14 give birth to children around the world, according to two researchers from the Catholic University of Louvain, Bruno Schoumaker and David A. Sanchez-Paez. Their work was published on 15 June in the magazine Population et Société (Population and Society) of the National Institute for Demographic Studies (Ined).

Despite the tragic nature of these very early pregnancies, which not only jeopardise the education and future of teenagers, but also put them and their children at serious and sometimes fatal health risk, for a long time they were not taken into account.

"Because these births are statistically marginal on the scale of the world population and do not influence the evolution of demographic growth on the planet," acknowledges Bruno Schoumaker.

In interviews with women aged 15-49, all births are mentioned, including those that occurred before the age of 15. However, the range of uncertainty remains high. "These pregnancies are likely to be much more numerous," according to the researchers. The World Health Organisation estimates the number to be about twice as high.

# «We must assert the rights of young girls in our country »

- Awa

#### **MY OPINION**

Young girls are increasingly being raped at a very young age and some of them become pregnant or lose their lives at an early age. This is unacceptable in a nation of 2,000,000 inhabitants and even in the world.

These facts must be denounced and justice must be done.

We must assert the rights of young girls in our country.

We are senior sisters, aunts, mothers...

It does not only happen to others.

This is why we are asking for your support through this magazine in order to popularise the rights of young girls for a subscription of 15 000 FCFA/QUARTER (12 euros)

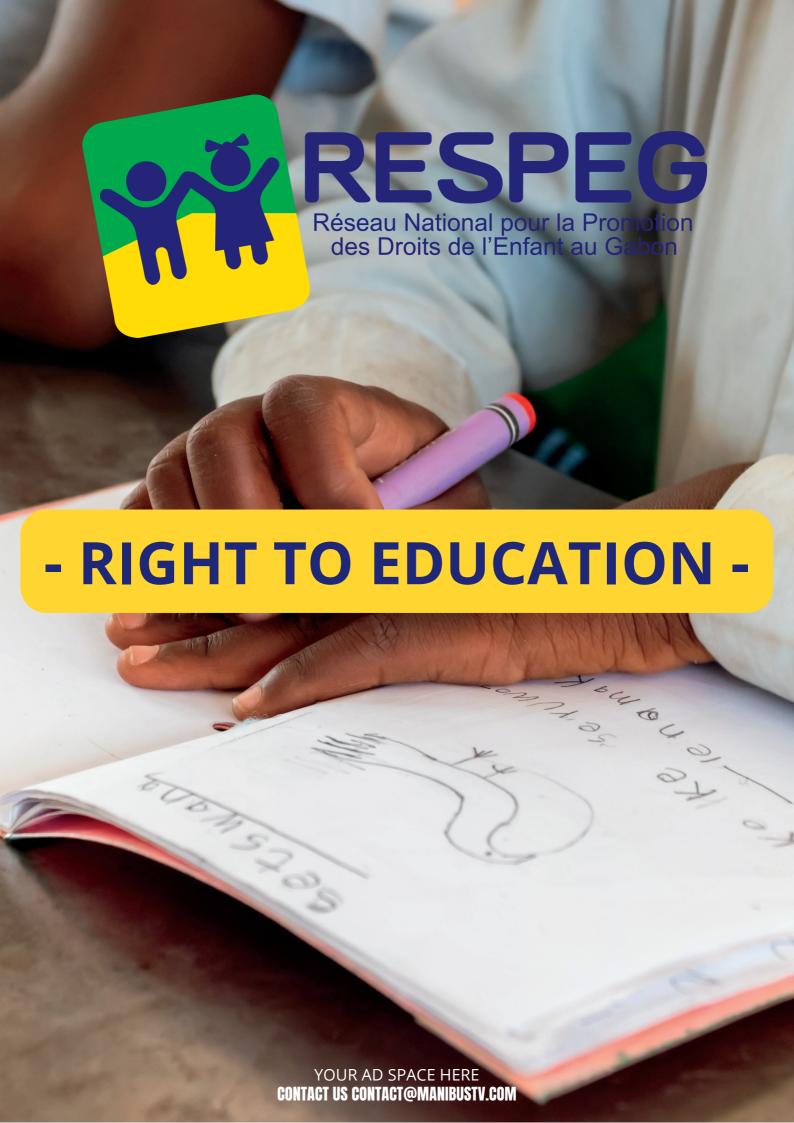
This will enable us to develop support programmes for teenage mothers.

Do not miss the next theme. Thank you for reading!

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