

# BUILDING IMPACT TOGETHER



**buildOn**

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**! Schools3 !**  
**! Écoles3 !**  
**! Escuelas3 !**

TOB



Dear Schools3 Board,

It is with great pride and joy that I share this impact report with you and the friends of Schools3. I think back fondly to the first conversation I had with Jon Raggett in 1999 when he shared his vision for bringing education to remote communities in Mali. He was passionate about lifting children out of extreme poverty and a strong believer that education was the first step in that journey.

Flash forward 20 plus years and we have partnered with Schools3 to build 72 schools (and counting) in remote communities of Mali, Senegal, Nicaragua and Malawi. Today there are almost 10,800 children, parents and grandparents attending those schools, 45% are female. Collectively community members have contributed 183,488 Volunteer Work Days to build these schools.

Since Jon's passing we have continued our collective work under Ann's leadership and in close collaboration with Tory and others. While we all miss Jon terribly, we are comforted in knowing that his legacy continues to bring much needed education to children living in extreme poverty. We are also hopeful that our collective work will enable more children to have access to education in the years to come.

Thank you for your belief in our mission and your commitment to breaking the cycle of poverty, illiteracy and low expectations through service and education. We are grateful to Schools3 for your trust and support.

In appreciation,

Marc Friedman  
Chief Revenue Officer  
buildOn



## 21 YEARS OF BUILDING IMPACT TOGETHER

Since 1999, buildOn and Schools3 have partnered to provide rural villages in economically developing nations with much needed access to education. With each school built, the gender gap is narrowed and community members are empowered to become leaders in breaking the cycle of poverty, illiteracy and low expectations.

**72** SCHOOLS  
COMPLETE

**10,795** STUDENTS  
ENROLLED

**183,488** VOLUNTEER  
WORK  
DAYS

# Kankelena, Mali

With nearly half the population living below the poverty line, the West African nation of Mali is one of the least developed countries in the world according to the UN Human Development Index. A lack of proper classrooms, especially in rural villages, has kept Mali's literacy rate below 40 percent. Like many children in these small villages, twenty-one years ago the students of Kankelena were learning in dilapidated classrooms made from mud bricks and thatched grass. It was a 10 kilometer walk to the nearest village with proper classrooms and many children did not attend school at all. For the community of Kankelena, circumstances finally began to change in 1999 when they were able to partner with buildOn and Schools3 to build their first real school block. Today, 191 children attend school in Kankelena!





# An Empowered Community



Since 1999, the community members of Kankelena have continued to work hard to bring education and opportunities to their village. In 2004, they partnered with buildOn to build a second school block (pictured above). The following year, 115 parents and grandparents participated in buildOn's Adult Literacy Program where they learned basic reading, writing and math skills, as well as how to create small businesses that could help to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.



# Class of 1999

These are the first students to attend the new school in Kankelena.

Today they are nurses, teachers, police officers, and members of the military. They are also proud parents with children of their own who now attend the school their own grandparents helped build back in 1999.





# Wodiouma Moussa Samake

Wodiouma Moussa Samake was one of the first students to attend the new school in Kankelena. He was six years old at the time and proud that he was able to attend the school his parents helped to build. As he continued his studies, Wodiouma discovered his own passion for teaching. He says, "I wanted to give back to my community and country, and I think the best way to do that is through education and teaching. One of the missions of teachers is to fight for progress. By becoming a teacher, I can now fight for the progress of my village." Since graduating, Wodiouma and his peers have continued to invest back in their village.

Through their education and partnership with buildOn, the former students of the Kankelena school learned how to mobilize their community and have created an association to collect money to improve the quality of their village market by adding a new roof. They are also currently working to create new gardens that can provide income and food during the dry season, and they are raising funds to build a library for the school and offices for the headmasters and teachers.



# Moussa Traore

Moussa Traore still vividly remembers the mud and thatch classrooms that he first attended as a six-year-old student in Kankelena. The rooms were dark, dusty, and easily penetrable to the cold winter winds that left many children sick. Only about 50 students were attending school at that time due to the lack of classroom space. While he was too young to help build the school, Moussa has clear memories of his parents helping on the worksite by gathering sand, gravel and rocks. When he was in the sixth grade Moussa realized that he wanted to become a teacher himself. He currently teaches near the capital city of Bamako and is the proud father of two children. Moussa says that he believes that building schools in rural villages like Kankelena is important because, “It enables communities to educate their children, as many as possible. And also to give them a better understanding of the world, and to get out of poverty and become self-reliant.”



# Continued Impact

In 2020, Schools3 continued their impact by partnering with buildOn to construct four much needed schools in Mali and Malawi. One of these schools is in the community of Magadala, a small village in the Sikasso region of Mali. The 110 children (69 boys and 41 girls) attending school in Magadala struggled to learn in overcrowded, dusty, mud hut classrooms with crumbling walls and leaky ceilings (pictured below). In February 2020, their circumstances began to change when community members signed a covenant with buildOn and Schools3 to build their first real school block. As part of this covenant, the community will not only contribute any local materials such as sand, rocks, and water, but will also commit to enrolling more girls in school. Construction has already begun and the community members of Magadala have been working hard each day to build their new school. They eagerly await its completion and the improved education it will offer their children.





**Thank you!**

**Merci!**

**I ni ce!**

**Zikomo!**

**Jërëjëf!**

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