



URBOND CHILD EDUCATION



Volunteers Trip
Impact Report 2024

About Us

URBOND is a charity working to advance racial harmony and diversity, thereby promoting a community which is strong, cohesive and inclusive, both domestically and abroad.

Through its Youth Development, the charity is driving opportunities, wellness and success for the youth and their future.

In the Republic of Guinea, the Child Education¹ is achieving this by working with partners and local communities to provide educational support and resources to children who would otherwise go without.

2024 Volunteers Trip to the Republic of Guinea

From the 10th October to the 23rd October, nine dedicated volunteers from seven different nationalities, all living in the UK (Portsmouth, Southampton, and Wales), embarked on a transformative journey to make a profound impact on children in underprivileged communities across the Republic of Guinea.

Campaigns for the Volunteers' Trip

- Manufacturing menstrual kits and providing employment opportunities for local communities
- Assisting in the construction of a new school in Koutayah
- Delivering workshops to identify and remove barriers to girls' education
- Leading dental hygiene workshops for children in Dubreka's public schools
- Hosting community events to raise awareness about the importance of education for all children
- Running sport coaching camp for children and young people

Through their unwavering dedication, compassion, and hard work, these incredible individuals brought hope and meaningful change to those who need it most.

Day 1: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – A Gruelling Yet Triumphant Start

The first day of 2024 marked an intense, yet incredibly successful beginning for our URBOND volunteer team. Our journey started at 12:30 am, as we gathered at URBOND headquarters to pack an impressive 18 large suitcases and 12 hand luggage, filled with essential supplies. These included materials to sew menstruation kits, basketballs, jerseys, trainers, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, all vital for the various projects we were set to deliver during this impactful trip.

At 1am, Pete's Airlink, who generously sponsored the volunteers' travel, arrived to transport us to Heathrow Airport. After a smooth three hours at the airport, we boarded our flight to Paris Charles de Gaulle, arriving safely at 8:20am. With an 8 hours layover in Paris, our team took the opportunity to recharge before embarking on the next leg of our journey.

At 3:25 pm, we boarded Air France flight AF0592 bound for Conakry, Republic of Guinea, landing at 8:40 pm. There, we were warmly welcomed by URBOND's Interim Country Representative and drivers who assisted us with our luggage. After loading the vehicles, we began the journey to Dubreka, arriving at HB Hotel at midnight.

Despite the long and exhausting day, we managed a quick dinner before heading to bed, knowing that the next day would begin early at 7 am. With our first day behind us, the excitement for the work ahead was palpable, and the team was eager to continue making an impact.

"I am more than happy to offer our help, as a local company education is something we are very passionate about, we want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to attend school irrespective of their individual needs." Jo, Manager Pete's Airlink.

Special thank you to Jo and everyone at Pete's Airlink for sponsoring our volunteers travel to Heathrow. We appreciate their generosity.



Day 2: Volunteers Trip to Guinea - Welcome and meeting the local authorities

Due to long travel times on the first day, our volunteers had a lay in and started the day at 9am with a nice group breakfast. At 10am we headed to URBOND training centre for the volunteers to meet some of URBOND Guinea staff and network. As an organisation this is pivotal to our work as it allows our volunteers to gain a deeper understanding of URBOND Child Education.

At 11am we met with the head teacher and some teachers of our partner school to introduce our volunteers. After the introduction with the teachers, we went into each of the classrooms to introduce our volunteers to the children we have been supporting.

At 12pm we took a drive to the sewing centre we are putting in place for the best interest of the children from underprivileged communities. We met with five newly employed sewers who will be working at the centre sewing sanitary kits. The centre is coming together nicely, very impressive to see the decoration.

After the sewing centre we headed to the local authority to introduce our volunteers and talk about different projects we will be running this year. The General was very impressed with the charity plans and asked to call up a meeting with all the local leaders to make sure all the local authorities are involved for the best interest of the local communities. The meeting is scheduled for Monday 14th October at 10am.

The majority of Guineans are Muslim, we decided to finish the meet and greet in time for Friday prayers. At 1:15pm we headed back to the hotel for lunch and some rest as the weather was getting a bit hot. During lunch after the prayers, heavy rain and thunderstorms started at around 3pm and carried on until 7pm. We had dinner at 8pm, had some social time. When we thought it was time for bed the basketball committee arranged an emergency meeting to discuss some important amendments to the basketball camps. The meeting took 45 minutes, attendees were Ousmane Drame, URBOND CEO, Rob Milner, Portsmouth Force chairman, and three figureheads from Dubreka sport disciplines.



Day 3: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – Making a Lasting Impact

Despite the storms cutting our previous day short, Day 3 started with a renewed energy and determination to catch up. After a team meeting to align on our projects and goals for the day, we left the hotel at 9am, with two cars packed with basketball equipment, toothbrushes, and toothpaste ready for a full day of work.

Our first stop was the URBOND Training Centre, where we unloaded the supplies. Next, we visited La Gendarmerie and the local Police station to formally introduce the volunteers and brief them on our activities. It was important to ensure local authorities were informed and supportive of our efforts.

At noon, Patrycja led a three hour dental hygiene workshop. Over 150 children attended and were educated on the importance of dental care. They each received toothbrushes and toothpaste to help instil these habits in their daily routines. The children left the session more confident, and we hope they'll carry these health lessons forward in their lives.

After the workshop, we took a brief break to connect with the children on a personal level. We played football, ran around, and even taught them a few words in English. It was a fun and rewarding way to break up the day and build rapport with the kids.

At 5:30pm, the much-anticipated basketball camp kicked off, led by Rob Milner, chairman of Portsmouth Force Basketball. The camp focuses not only on coaching young players but also training local coaches. This knowledge sharing is vital for continuing basketball development in Dubreka, keeping young people engaged and promoting their physical and mental health. For the most talented, the camp may open doors to professional opportunities.

The evening ended with a friendly scrimmage between the coaches, an exciting conclusion to a productive day

While Rob was delivering the basketball camp, Alec, one of our volunteers, and Mariama Bah, URBOND's Interim Country Representative, travelled to Sekou Ahmed Toure Airport International in Conakry to welcome Delyth, UK Days for Girls' Country Coordinator, who is joining us from the UK to help establish a sanitary kit sewing team in Guinea. Her expertise will be instrumental in this vital project aimed at improving menstrual hygiene education and resources for young girls.

Overall, Day 3 was another successful day packed with progress, learning, and community engagement.



Day 4: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – A Day of Progress and Community Engagement

The day began with a warm welcome for Delyth, the newest addition to the URBOND team. After a communal breakfast, the team set out for the URBOND centre, where Delyth was introduced to the group and briefed on the upcoming delivery of menstruation kits to the local community.

At midday, the volunteers split into two teams. One team headed to the sewing centre to begin producing menstruation kits and conduct educational workshops, while the other group took to the school grounds for a litter picking session with local children. This effort not only helped tidy up the school but also provided a cleaner, more inviting environment for the students.

Later in the afternoon, all the volunteers gathered at the sewing centre to witness a significant milestone: the production of the centre's first sanitary kits. With Delyth's guidance, local seamstresses learned how to cut, sew, and assemble liners for the sanitary shields. This historic moment marked the beginning of a new chapter for both the sewing centre and the city of Dubreka. Already, the centre has provided employment for five women from underprivileged backgrounds, while also contributing to menstrual hygiene and education for girls who previously had to miss school during their periods.

At 2pm the local General visited the sewing centre to see firsthand the impact of the partnership between URBOND and Days for Girls. He was given a tour of the centre, where he saw the progress being made in both sewing and menstrual health education. After lunch, the General was presented with a Days for Girls menstruation kit as a token of appreciation, and he expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm for the positive changes happening in Dubreka.

Later in the day, the volunteers and the General attended the second session of the URBOND basketball camp. The camp included both classroom lectures and on-court practice, where players were introduced to systems like the "5 and out." Unfortunately, a storm cut the session short, forcing the volunteers, coaches and players to take shelter.

While waiting for the storm to pass, the volunteers engaged with local community members, discussing their lives, interests, and the challenges they face. This impromptu interaction provided a deeper insight into the lives of the people they were there to help, fostering a stronger bond between volunteers and locals.

As the storm showed no signs of clearing, the group decided to head back to their accommodations. The evening ended on a lighter note, with food and social time, marking the end of an impactful and eventful Day 4 of the URBOND trip.

This day not only brought immediate change but also laid the groundwork for long-term community development, particularly in empowering women and improving education in Dubreka.



Day 5: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – URBOND’s Impact and Progress

The fifth day of the volunteer mission in the Republic of Guinea started like any other with a nutritious breakfast and a detailed planning session. Volunteers were set to meet with local authorities, conduct more workshops on dental hygiene, continue the training at the sewing centre, and coach basketball camps. The agenda was as full and busy as ever.

At 10am, the team met with key local officials, including the General and representatives from various ministries, at the local authority building. The meeting focused on the impact URBOND has had in different communities and emphasised the need for stronger support from local authorities to expand the organisation’s efforts. URBOND highlighted that its independent approach working directly with beneficiaries has proven successful and requested the authorities to continue following their lead on future projects. The goal was clear: better communication and teamwork would lead to greater benefits for the country’s children.

The strategic meeting was productive, offering an opportunity to reflect on the past three years of URBOND’s work in Guinea. It also helped solidify the working relationship between URBOND and the authorities, setting the stage for even more impactful projects in the future.

Afterward, volunteers split up to tackle their assigned duties. Delyth and Mariam were dropped off at the Sewing Centre to continue training local women on manufacturing sanitary kits. The day’s focus was on expanding this programme to empower more girls and women in the region.

Meanwhile, the remaining volunteers prepped for various workshops at the URBOND centre. The CEO met with the school’s headteacher and staff to discuss upcoming activities. Rob geared up for the basketball camp, Patrycja prepared the dental hygiene workshops, while Aidan, Kingsley, Smangele, and Izzy engaged with the children. Alec, as usual, documented everything to ensure no detail was missed.

In a touching moment, the team witnessed the importance of their work firsthand. A young girl at the school, terrified after experiencing her first period, was visibly distressed. She feared her mother would accuse her of inappropriate behaviour due to the sudden bleeding. Thanks to the education provided by URBOND, the teachers were able to calm her down and explain the situation. Even more fortunate, there were sanitary kits available, supplied by the sewing team, which helped the young girl regain her confidence and return to class with dignity. This incident underscored the life changing impact of the sanitary kit programme and the importance of menstrual education in the region.

Later in the day, the basketball coaches’ camp resumed. The coaches, punctual and prepared, showed clear progress from previous sessions, confidently coaching the children. The volunteers were thrilled to see the camp objectives being met, with the coaches embracing their roles and the children actively participating.



Day 6: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – URBOND annual conference held at the British Embassy

The volunteers kicked off their day with a hearty breakfast, preparing for a full day of activities.

In the morning, they set off for Conakry, dressed in formal attire. During the drive, they witnessed the vibrant yet challenging sights along the way: street vendors selling uncovered meat at roadside stalls and children tapping on car windows, asking for money, a glimpse into the local realities.

Upon arrival at the Embassy, they were warmly welcomed by John, the British Ambassador in Guinea. He helped organise URBOND conference attended by representatives from multinational corporations and national NGOs. This provided the volunteers with the opportunity to discuss their projects and share insights into the positive impact their work has had on participants.

The conference soon began, with John addressing the group, emphasising URBOND's crucial role in Guinea and the tangible difference it is making in people's lives. Ousmane Drame, URBOND CEO followed with an overview of the charity efforts since its arrival in Guinea, supported by statistics that showcased the impressive progress and contributions of the charity.

Each volunteer was then invited to introduce themselves and share the personal motivations that brought them to Guinea. One by one, they reflected on the importance of URBOND's mission and the significance of their work in supporting local communities.

The conference also allowed NGOs to present their causes and explore opportunities for collaboration with URBOND, recognising that working together can amplify the reach and effectiveness of efforts to improve outcomes for communities across Guinea.

On the way back to the hotel in Conakry, the volunteers stopped for dinner, joining the locals in celebrating Guinea's victory over Ethiopia in the AFCON qualifiers—LA GUINÉE!!!

With spirits high after a satisfying meal and the excitement of the win, the team made their way back to Dubreka, bringing an eventful and fulfilling day to a close.



Day 7: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – Dental Hygiene and trip to URBOND new school

The day began with a nutritious breakfast. The volunteers then headed to the URBOND centre to deliver two dental hygiene workshops. One of the workshops targeted solely young girls, this was important to increase girls' participation in school.

At the same time as the dental hygiene workshops, Delyth was working with the sewing team to carry on building their skills in producing sanitary pads. Every precaution is being taken to ensure we can produce good quality kits for the local women and young girls. The work rate of URBOND to help the locals in Dubreka is increasing.

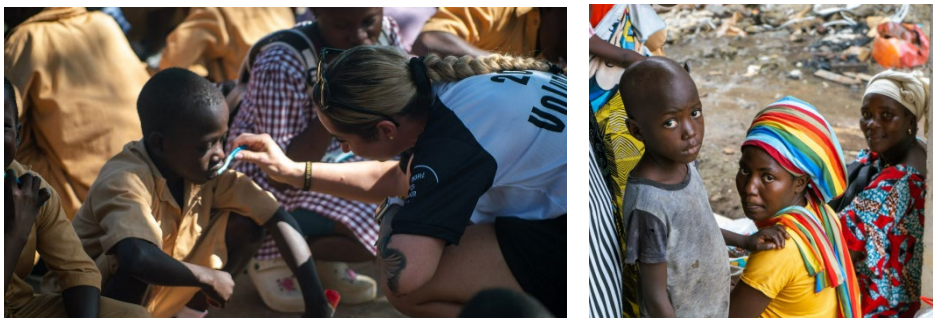
In the afternoon the volunteers took a drive to the school being built in Koutayah. The volunteers witnessed how remote of the location of the school is and understand what the local children have to endure to receive an education and why URBOND are building a school there. While on the drive we witnessed young children walking on a busy road from a school to their local village which was 8-10km away. This was heartbreaking to watch. The Koutayah local community

welcomed the volunteers warmly with music and food. The volunteers had a tour of the school and engaged with the children. Patrycja held a dance party!

After greetings and food, a meeting was held with the local leaders. They were speaking to the volunteers about local issues, where URBOND reached out and agreed to help. The only thing the locals had to offer was their prayers, which the volunteers were very thankful for. They prayed for the volunteers so that they can continue their good work.

At the school the volunteers visited the borehole built by URBOND sponsored by GRP Solutions. The borehole was built because the locals never had access to clean water, previously they would have to travel long distances for water, something we sometimes take for granted in the UK as we just go to the tap in our kitchen. Before leaving POOW Media held an interview with Drame and the leader of the locals to talk about the impact of URBOND in Guinea.

To end the day the volunteers returned back to the hotel for good food and social time around the pool. Time to unwind after an emotional day.



Day 8: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – URBOND’s Mission in Full Swing

On the eighth day of URBOND’s initiative in Guinea, the team’s first stop was the URBOND Centre, where we successfully delivered more dental hygiene workshops. The sessions aimed to educate young people on the importance of oral care, focusing on the long term health risks associated with poor dental hygiene. Remarkably, some children had their teeth cleaned for the first time, marking a milestone in the project.

The team’s second destination was the GLS School in Dubreka, where we delivered a dental hygiene lesson to over 100 students. The impact was profound, as it became apparent that some of the teenagers were learning to clean their teeth for the first time. Originally, URBOND had planned to base their operations here, but we eventually settled at Ecole Primaire d’Application.

Later in the day, the volunteers visited a local radio station where Ousmane Drame, URBOND’s CEO, spoke live on air. Drame used the opportunity to raise awareness about URBOND’s mission, highlighting the charity’s upcoming sporting events aimed at promoting child education.

The volunteers then gathered at a sewing centre for lunch, where they observed the sewing team in action. URBOND’s partnership with Days for Girls UK continues to thrive, as they work together to ensure that young girls stay in school by providing sanitary pads, a critical aspect of the charity’s focus on gender equality and access to education.

The day culminated in a basketball exhibition game back at the URBOND Centre. The event was designed to raise awareness about child education in Guinea, a cornerstone of URBOND’s mission. As the evening progressed, the atmosphere turned celebratory with music by Rob, who DJed, and plenty of food to bring the day to a lively close.

URBOND’s work continues to make strides in improving access to education and equal opportunities for all in Guinea.



Day 9: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – Visit from Maxton Milner, the Deputy Head of Mission

On Day 9 of the volunteers' trip to the Republic of Guinea, the team continued their efforts to support education and community development in Dubreka. The day began at 9am, with the group heading to the URBOND Training Centre to prepare for a visit from Maxton Milner, the Deputy Head of Mission in Dubreka. The agenda was packed with activities, including a guided tour of URBOND's facilities, dental hygiene workshops, a Coaches Basketball camp, and a football event promoting child education.

At 9:15am, Maxton Milner and the Embassy staff arrived at the URBOND Training Centre, where they were warmly welcomed by the volunteers. The tour included visits to the training centre and the basketball court. A key highlight was the head teacher's office, constructed by URBOND, where the delegation met with school staff to discuss the organisation's impact on children's education in Dubreka since 2019.

By 10am, the group visited the sewing centre, where URBOND has been making significant strides in producing sanitary pads. This initiative is crucial, as many women and girls in Guinea lack access to menstrual products, a situation that often prevents young girls from attending school. The visit provided the Embassy team with insights into the project's future growth, reinforcing the belief that this initiative will be transformative for many girls and women in the community.

Following the sewing centre tour, Maxton, the Embassy staff, and the URBOND team met with local authorities. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss URBOND's ongoing projects, and the General expressed his gratitude for the organisation's continued support of vulnerable children in Dubreka.

A poignant moment of the day came when the group visited Dubreka port. This location holds significance as the spot where many young people cross the river by boat to reach school. Tragically, some have lost their lives in the process, a stark reminder of the challenges faced by children in the region. URBOND's initiative to build a new school in Koutayah aims to alleviate these dangers and provide a safer path to education.

At 11:30am, volunteers returned to the centre to deliver dental hygiene workshops to teachers and parents. The day's goal was to train 100 people in dental care and provide them with the knowledge so they can carry on delivering to the children. By addressing basic hygiene needs we are helping remove barriers that prevent children from feeling comfortable in school and fully engaging in their education.

The day concluded with a football exhibition match at 5pm, held to raise awareness about the importance of education for children. This event is central to URBOND's mission, emphasising that sustainable community development relies on access to education for all.

Overall, Day 9 was another impactful day in the volunteers' journey, as they worked alongside local authorities, educators, and the community to create lasting change.



Day 10: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – International Girls Day and Community Empowerment

On the tenth day of their trip to Guinea, URBOND's dedicated volunteers gathered at the community centre at 8am, ready to bring to life the annual celebration for International Girls Day. Working alongside children, parents, and teachers, they prepared chairs, tables, and decorations for the event, aiming to underscore URBOND's belief: education is a fundamental right for all, regardless of gender, background, or beliefs.

Education remains a critical mission for URBOND, particularly in addressing social issues like child marriage and child labour, which can disrupt young girls' access to learning. The day's agenda focused on sensitisation campaigns, designed to engage and educate parents about the importance of sustained education for all children. Highlighting this theme, the event also celebrated the opening of a new sewing centre, an initiative that has already provided full-time employment for five local mothers. This centre offers these women not only job security but also training and income, empowering them to support their children's educational journeys.

By 10am, the sewing centre was ready for its grand opening. Local officials, community partners, and media representatives attended to witness the launch. Ousmane Drame, CEO of URBOND, delivered a heartfelt speech, emphasising the sewing centre's significance in empowering local women and girls. Dubreka Prefecture General, Mr. Ali Camara, followed with words of appreciation, commending URBOND's dedication to creating life changing opportunities for underprivileged children. The ceremony reached its climax with the ribbon cutting, marking a milestone in the community's journey toward empowerment and growth.

Following a guided tour of the centre, guests enjoyed refreshments and networking. By then, everything was set for the main event back at the URBOND centre, where over 1,000 attendees, including local parents, eagerly awaited the celebrations. Three distinguished panellists, including Moussa Yéro Diallo, a prominent journalist and activist in Guinea, spoke passionately about URBOND's impact. They emphasised the critical role of adults and parents in supporting children's educational paths, as real change relies on community wide support.

Throughout the day, expressions of gratitude filled the air. A lively atmosphere was set as local artist Guastomic entertained the crowd with music that got everyone dancing and singing. The event wrapped up with certificate presentations, recognising individuals who have contributed significantly to URBOND's mission, from seamstresses to IT trainees and community advocates.

The grand finale featured a volleyball exhibition match, Soumba vs. Conakry. The match, aimed at raising awareness for child education, thrilled the crowd and concluded with a score of 3-1 in Soumba's favour. It was an inspiring end to a day that brought the community together, reaffirming the power of education, support, and celebration in building brighter futures for all.



Day 11: Volunteer Trip to Guinea – Marathon and Basketball Events Drive Child Education Awareness

The day started early for the URBOND volunteers, who gathered at 5am, energised and ready for the third annual Dubreka semi-marathon. This annual event always holds a special significance, as its goal is to raise awareness about child education. After a quick coffee, the team made their way to the starting point, the local authority building, known as La Prefecture, where they were greeted by an eager crowd that included many of the children and parents benefiting from URBOND's educational initiatives.

Participants pinned on their URBOND provided t-shirts and race numbers around 6:30am. At 7am, a warm-up session led by members of the Guinean sports federation kicked off the event. Music, dancing, and the traditional Mongo exercises set a lively tone, emphasising the importance of physical and mental health for all participants. This moment brought together not only the volunteers and participants but also underscored URBOND's commitment to promoting education and well-being in the local community.

Throughout the 15-kilometre route, participants stopped at checkpoints where instructors led energising exercises, boosting morale and engagement among the runners. The marathon ended with a vibrant closing ceremony that included speeches, dancing, and music attended by more than 1,000 people, including local officials, sports ministry representatives, and the director of competitive sports in Guinea.

After a well-deserved break at the hotel, the volunteers returned for an afternoon focused on child education awareness. URBOND organised a basketball event featuring three games, including under-15, under-18, and adult matches. Despite the morning's activities, community members showed up in impressive numbers to support the games.

Following the matches, 17 coaches who had been part of coaches training workshops received certifications, marking a significant achievement and celebrating the hard work of both the coaches and the programme organisers. With their new qualifications, these coaches are now equipped to deliver training to local children and students from nearby schools, contributing to the long-term sustainability of URBOND's educational efforts in Guinea.

Day 11 ended on a high note, with volunteers, coaches, and local community members energised by the success of the events and hopeful about the impact these initiatives will have on future generations in Guinea.



Day 12: Volunteers Trip to Guinea – Volunteers Reach Milestone in Guinea with Dental and Educational Outreach

Volunteers kicked off Day 12 with an early start at 8am, setting out to make significant contributions in both education and health. Arriving at URBOND centre by 8:30am, the team divided into two groups to maximise impact. One team focused on revitalising the school's library with a deep clean, while the other team headed to Primary School General Lansana Conte (GLS) to continue delivering essential dental hygiene workshops.

With a target of reaching 1,000 beneficiaries, volunteers sacrificed their lunch break to ensure they met their goal. At the library, the team swept, scrubbed, and tidied every corner, preparing the space for learning opportunities. Following the cleanup, volunteers organised English reading sessions for the children, aiming to improve literacy and language skills in the community.

Meanwhile, at GLS, a dedicated team led by volunteer Patrycja tackled the final sessions of the dental hygiene workshops. Reaching the 1,000 people milestone was essential, as dental infections pose severe health risks for local residents. Their efforts, which addressed proper oral care practices, mark a significant achievement in promoting long term community health.

With their goal accomplished, the volunteers returned to the URBOND centre, proud of their hard day's work and the tangible impact they had made. Later that evening, the team was invited to a dinner hosted by the General, providing a moment of relaxation and gratitude after a fulfilling day of service and say goodbye.

Key Takeaway: The team's accomplishments in education and health on Day 12 underscore the critical role of volunteerism in transforming communities, one workshop and lesson at a time.



Day 13: Volunteers' Farewell in Guinea – A Memorable Goodbye

On the thirteenth and final day of their mission, URBOND volunteers in Guinea began their last morning with a later breakfast, scheduled for 9am. By 10am, they gathered for a final visit to the URBOND training centre, where they shared heartfelt goodbyes with the dedicated staff and the children they had worked so closely with. The centre had been a focal point of the trip, and parting ways brought a bittersweet feeling for everyone involved.

The volunteers then visited the sewing centre, another important part of the community outreach programme, to bid farewell to the skilled sewing team, who had become an inspiring part of their journey. These farewells underscored the connections made and the impact left behind.

Around 1pm, the volunteers returned to their accommodation to pack up and prepare for their departure. At 6pm, they arrived at the airport, where they had the special opportunity to meet with the airport's chief. The volunteers expressed their gratitude for his unwavering support and the exceptional hospitality he extended to them on each visit, ensuring that their travels were seamless and comfortable.

Boarding flight AF0593 at 10:25pm, the volunteers left Guinea with heavy hearts but unforgettable memories. Their journey continued with a 12hour layover in Paris, where they boarded the connecting flight AF1180 bound for Heathrow Airport at 6:15pm the following day.

Reflecting on the experience, the volunteers acknowledged the transformative impact of the trip, not only for the children they served but also on their own lives. The bonds formed, the lessons learned, and the shared moments with the community will remain with them long after they return home. This journey marked the end of one chapter, with hopeful anticipation for future opportunities to make a difference.



2024 Volunteers Trip Impact

URBOND Child Education continues to make a transformative impact in the Republic of Guinea, bringing primary education, health, and opportunities to underprivileged communities. Every year, our work grows, touching more lives and creating lasting change.

The impact areas were education, infrastructure, and sensitisation campaigns.

Empowering Girls through Reusable Sanitary Kits

To tackle one of the biggest obstacles young girls face in accessing education, we established a local sewing team dedicated to producing reusable sanitary kits. This year, we trained five local women, provided them with full-time employment, and set an ambitious target of producing 1,000 kits monthly. With these kits, more girls will stay in school, and generations will benefit.

Thank you to our long term partner Days for Girls for their great support. Special thank you to Delyth Pannett, UK Country Coordinator at Days for Girls for making this possible.



Workshops for Parents and Community Leaders

Education is a community effort. This year, we hosted workshops for 103 parents, teachers, and community leaders to break down barriers to child education. We also certified 25 local women to teach young girls how to manage menstruation and recruited 25 local volunteers to carry our message forward as URBOND Child Education ambassadors.



Dental Health Initiative

Dental hygiene is a critical yet overlooked need in Guinea. This year, we reached 1,000 children with dental care education and distributed 1,000 toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes. This initiative empowers children with habits that will improve their health for years to come.



Sports for Community and Growth

In communities across Guinea, sports inspire children and foster unity. We led intensive basketball training camps, certifying 17 new coaches and forming six teams, with 80 children recruited to play. These coaches will now work in public schools in underprivileged areas, offering ongoing opportunities to youth.



Raising Awareness of Child Education

In areas where child labour is common, we are changing mindsets. During our trip, we held four community events with over 2,000 attendees including parents, teachers, and local officials to stress the importance of education and empower families to prioritise it.



Building a Future in Koutayah

Construction is underway on a new school in Koutayah, where there is currently no educational infrastructure. Once completed, the school will educate 500 children every year and create employment for 15 locals. This school is a symbol of hope and the start of a brighter future for hundreds of children. Plans for inauguration is October 2024.



Thank you

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our incredible sponsors, supporters, partners and volunteers. Your generosity, dedication, and hard work have made all the difference, and we couldn't have done it without you. Your unwavering support helps us make a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for everything you've done to make this trip a success. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us!

