

Rural Community Development Program

Nine Month Report to TRF

Cameroon

November 2009

We are pleased to provide our cooperating Rotary Clubs in District 6330 and District 7080 with a summary of the results of our first nine months of activity with our 3H Grant in Cameroon. This information was copied from the first year report to The Rotary Foundation prepared by Ab Moore, Rotary Club of Guelph.

Our network continues to grow and now includes 13 Rotary Clubs in District 6330 and 2 Clubs in District 7080. These clubs are Lions Head, Warton, Hepworth/Shallow Lake, Owen Sound, Meaford, Thornbury/Clarksburg, Tara, Southampton, Port Elgin, Kincardine, Paisley, Mildmay, Clifford, Guelph and Fergus/Elora.

This is a 3 year project with a total budget of \$350,000 US. During this reporting period, about \$125,000 of the budget has been spent.

Objective 1

In three years 20+ participating villages will have improved functioning community water systems with safe water as tested by the appropriate government agency.

1. Under SLF Implementation

- 7 village water committees were organized, comprising 48 members, and trained in the sustainable development and management/maintenance of village water supplies.
- 7 villages commenced active water installation in the first funding period.
- 4 village water systems completed during this period, Alafrumbi, Bafou, Afet and Akan.
- 10.95 km of water pipe has been laid and trenching continues on other sites.
- 19,605 direct beneficiaries and 8,968 indirect beneficiaries now have access to pipe borne, potable water. Total beneficiaries = 28,573.

2. Under SHUMAS implementation

- 6 village water committees were mobilized and trained to manage and maintain their new potable water system.
- 6 villages have water flowing to at least 2 public taps.
- 9.32 km of water pipes has been laid.
- 14,443 direct beneficiaries and 34,048 indirect beneficiaries now have access to pipe borne, potable water. Total beneficiaries = 48,593.

Of the 20+ villages targeted to receive potable water systems under the 3H project, 10 now have water on tap in the village.

A total of 77,166 people (34,048 direct and 43,118 indirect beneficiaries) have been assisted in having access to potable water on tap in the 10 villages. The average cost per person to the project for direct beneficiaries is \$1.58.

Objective 2

In 3 years 2,500 rural dwellers will demonstrate improved balanced diets based on established nutrition recommendations. Household heads will demonstrate improved food preparation and will be able to read simple recipes and correctly specify dry and liquid measure quantities in these recipes.

527 household leaders (89% women) have been trained in balanced diet preparation, with associated literacy skills. Thirty (30) women's groups have been trained in the use of food grinding machines and 30 hand-held grinding machines have been supplied to these groups (1 per group) for use by group members.

Objective 3

In three years 80% of 2,500 participating peasant farmers will show an increase of 50% in farm family income over their base line farm family income as recorded at the beginning of new training.

1903 peasant farmers have taken part in the training and in the implementation follow-up with 471 trainees each receiving 5 week old chicks as start-up capital. Another group received and planted 165 kg of improved maize for a second season crop.

Objective 4

At the end of three years the Blind Centre will have expanded its poultry operation from 1,000 to 3,000 chickens and will have developed a local market for the birds. The profit from this operation will provide the operating income to sustain the Blind Centre for the housing, feeding and schooling of 30 blind children and 10 adult blinds who manage the poultry operation.

The Blind Centre was responsible to arrange the expansion of the poultry house with funds external to the project and to date 2,500 cement blocks have been made and the expanded poultry facility is 40% complete.

Objective 5

At the end of 3 years, 27 disabled trainees from the Northwest Region will have demonstrated that they have established a small economic enterprise that provides them self reliance and a basic income level.

1. Six trade training workshops have been installed in the new SHUMAS Center in Nkwen and equipment purchased from the 3H equipment budget. The six trade areas are: Knitting, Embroidery, Shoe mending, Cane weaving, Hair dressing and Sewing.

2. Fourteen trainees with physical abilities, who do not have a skill or trade, were selected for the training program and given initial training in basic bookkeeping, basic leadership skills and basic managerial skills.
3. Training achievements. Products or services from each of the trade training areas are offered for sale to the public and there has been some enthusiastic response to the offering for sale of school sweaters, hair styling, cane weaving, school sandals and shoe mending.

Objective 6

In three years 80% of 200 youth, especially young women, will demonstrate their acquisition of vocational and entrepreneurial skills by establishing and operating a small scale manufacturing, agricultural or food processing business using the training and micro credit opportunities provided by this project.

Training in sewing and woodworking is underway with 5 female and 5 male trainees involved. Food processing training and provision of the feed mill has been delayed as funds were needed to secure water systems before the rains destroyed work underway. Funds spent in the period on the water systems will be restored by a reduced water budget in Year 2. The feed mill will proceed with Year 2 funds.

5 seamstresses and 5 woodworking trainees are ready to set up their own small business enterprises.

37 orphan children, 31 girls and 6 boys, who graduated from primary schools have been sponsored to attend Govt. Schools in Widikum, Ebang and Oshie villages.

Objective 7

In three years 20+ participating primary schools will have increased the proportion of girl children attending school as a proportion of the girls in the community attending school as compared to current participation rates for girls.

In the first year, school equipment has been provided and additional students are attending school. This is partially due to the water program which frees children from spending so much of their time carrying water long distances. Girl child attendance has increased and the ratio of girls to boys will be monitored over the three year period.



Community members doing backfilling of the pipeline.



Collection chamber.



Giant tank at Bamdzng.

Training of care takers in the field.

Tap construction work.



Water flowing out of a completed tap. Field evaluation works by Mr. Yemele Paul. Sarkong community jubilating.

