

2017



Clean Water Support Request



PROPOSAL SUMMARY

TITLE OF PROJECT: Clean Water Projects

AREA OF INTERVENTION: Brong Ahafo Region - Ahyiam, Salam-Kuvom, Pruso, Kokuma, and Bodom

START AND END DATES OF THE PROJECT: January 1, 2017 – October 31, 2017

OVERALL PROJECT COST AND REQUESTED FUNDS: \$135,630.00

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THE SITUATION

In 2009, Africa's population exceeded 1 billion and continues to increase at a rate of 2.4% annually. Of this population, 341 million lack access to clean drinking water, and increases in coverage are not keeping pace with population growth.

Lack of Clean Water Results in Sickness and Poverty - The lack of safe water and proper sanitation in the developing world is felt most by rural dwellers and the urban poor. With few medical resources at their disposal, the poor are particularly vulnerable to chronic illnesses that hinder their productivity, making the escape from poverty even more difficult. Poor health leads to poor productivity. Those who become sick because of the bacteria found in dirty water, become too weak to exert themselves. It is estimated that around half of all patients occupying African hospital beds suffer from water-borne illnesses due to lack of access to clean water and sanitation. This is reducing the overall health and productivity of the adult workforce. Water-borne diseases like typhoid, cholera and dysentery are among the major causes of mortality and morbidity in Africa. Households in rural Africa spend an average of 26% of their time fetching water; and generally women are burdened with this task.

Lost Productivity and Development - With unclean water sources often miles from villages, many of the able bodied members of a village are forced to spend hours each day simply walking to and from the water source. For most, the trip is done twice a day. The United Nations estimates that Sub-Saharan Africa alone loses 40 billion hours per year collecting water. With much of one's day already consumed by meeting basic needs, there isn't time for much else. The hours lost to gathering water are often the difference between time to do a trade and earn a living and not. Without clean water, the possibility of breaking out of the cycle of poverty is incredibly slim or perhaps unlikely.

Dirty Water and Its Impact on Children - The World Health Organization estimates that 6,000 children die each day from water-related illnesses. They die from cholera, dysentery, typhoid, guinea worm, and hepatitis. Any one of these diseases can devastate a community's young population. One of the most common symptoms of disease is diarrhea. Many children in the developing world live with constant diarrhea caused by water-related illnesses. The young ones are plagued by dehydration, fatigue, and weakened immune systems. It is almost impossible for children with diarrhea or their parents to keep the watery feces from contaminating other people. Disease spreads rapidly.

In communities without easy access to clean water, it is oftentimes the children who are forced to walk the long distance to the source of dirty water and to haul it back to their homes. Water weighs 8.35 pounds per gallon, so a child providing a family of four with a sub-Saharan average of 16 gallons per day must carry daily 128 pounds of water. The heavy labor of carrying water such a distance often causes neck and back problems that afflict children their entire lives. Sending children long distances to retrieve water also puts them in danger of accidents and sexual assault.

Lack of Water Destroys the Opportunity for an Education - Every day, children are forced to travel many miles to bring water to their home or school. Doing so means lost time and this in turn leaves little time for education which is critical to changing the long-term prospects of developing nations. Because so many adults are sick from unclean water, children are often left to manage homes, provide food and look after the sick. The demands of retrieving water for their families leave little time or energy for studies. In addition, children are often too sick from water-related diseases to go to school, or embarrassing diarrhea keeps them home. In some cases, schools must be suspended or closed to stop the spread of disease. With the many additional burdens that a lack of clean water brings, education simply becomes less of a priority. This sets up an unfortunate cycle of poverty as without a proper education, there is little chance of improving one's situation later in life.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The water project encompasses five villages: Ahyiam, Salam-Kuvom, Pruso, Kokuma, and Bodom.

BENEFICIARIES	AHYIAM	SALAM-KUVOM	PRUSO	KOKUMA	BODOM
Number of Households	245	132	122	208	170
Number of Individuals	1,300	700	650	1,100	900

These villages are located in the Brong-Ahafo region bordered to the south by the Ashanti region, Eastern and Western regions, and to the west by the Ivory Coast southeastern border.

The Clean Water Project has four major goals:

- Community Management: to develop, implement and maintain a community-managed sustainable water supply system.
- Community Ownership: to involve communities in the decisions, the construction and the maintenance of the water supply system.
- Community Learning: to increase knowledge and practice of proper hygiene and sanitation through participatory learning practices, and training through community health workers.
- Capacity Building: to strengthen the community's capacity to administer community development projects.

The project is a comprehensive program combining health education with the construction of water systems. This combination is more successful at reducing water-related diseases than either alone.

Anticipated project impacts include:

- Increase potable water supply coverage.
- Decrease cases of water-related diseases.
- Increase the amount of water consumed per person from five liters to 15 liters.
- Increase awareness of the role that hygiene and sanitation have in the disease cycle.
- Decrease the amount of time women and girls spend collecting water, reducing their walking time from 1-4 hours to 15-20 minutes. By reducing their workload, women will have time to pursue other activities, such as farming and other income-earning activities, and allow them to spend more time with their children.

The project will be accomplished in two phases and take approximately one year to complete.

PHASE 1 - With the help of our Ghanaian partner, the beneficiary community will assess its existing water use and scarcity trends. As part of this, the community will undergo an extensive community development program. A water committee will be formed to oversee the other stages of the project and to head the community development program. The commitment and participation of the community in identifying, preparing, constructing and evaluating the project is crucial in ensuring the sustainability of the project. Further, the role of women in the water project is critical. Because women are traditionally responsible for collecting the household’s daily water, female membership on the water committee will be highly encouraged by our local partner organization through gender and leadership training courses.

Our partner will also work in the villages to select and train community health workers who will take on the leadership roles in the water committee and play an essential role in other activities. A crucial part of this stage is education about safe hygiene practices and their importance to an individual’s health. Once people understand the link between hygienic practices and disease, they are much more likely to maintain the water supply system and to build household latrines. Community health workers, with the help of hygiene educators, will provide community hygiene education through village meetings.

PHASE 2 - The water committee will develop a local maintenance and repair system. Our partner organization will train local technicians elected by the community to operate and maintain the water system. In past projects, the local technicians are most often women. Community members will also pay a water bill to cover these operation and maintenance costs.

PROJECT TIMELINE/BUDGET TIMELINE: January 1, 2017 – October 31, 2017

BUDGET

Well Drilling and Pump Installation	AHYIAM	SALAM-KUVOM	PRUSO	KOKUMA	BODOM
Rig Rental	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Rotary Drilling (250ft)	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Casting	1,270.00	1,270.00	1,270.00	1,270.00	1,270.00
Sealing Materials	0	0	0	0	0
Supervision	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Driver Shoe	175.00	175.00	175.00	175.00	175.00
Screen	540.00	540.00	540.00	540.00	540.00
Pump Test on Well	345.00	345.00	345.00	345.00	345.00
Grouting	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Disinfection	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00
Government License/Fee	415.00	415.00	415.00	415.00	415.00
Pay for Skilled Crew	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Diesel Generator, Electrical					
Pump and Accessories	7,600.00	7,600.00	7,600.00	7,600.00	7,600.00
Storage Tank and Housing	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00
Final Testing	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
Cleaning (done by volunteers)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22,605.00	22,605.00	22,605.00	22,605.00	22,605.00