PROVIDING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER FOR LIKOKO VILLAGE COMMUNITY BUEA-SUD DIVISION, SOUTH WEST REGION REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Introduction

Soppo-Likoko is a village situated in the Sub Division of Buea. The village is located approximately 3,00 km from Great Soppo, 4,2 km to Small Soppo and 8 km to the University of Buea. Great- and Small Soppo including many other villages form the entirety of Buea, which has a population of about 180.000 people. The Town of Buea is a historic town located at the foot and eastern slopes of Mount Cameroon, the highest mountain in West and Central Africa. It was the capital of German Kamerun during German colonial rule, the capital of Southern Cameroon under British colonial rule, the capital of the Federated State of West Cameroon, and now regional capital of the South West Region of Cameroon.

Background Statement of the Problem

Clean Water Supply in Soppo-Likoko has been a major problem for decades that is manifested by a dangerous river called Wange with its origin from the foot of Mount Cameroon. During the rainy and dry seasons, Wange unpredictably overflows its banks in a massive scale due to heavy rains from the mountain. As a consequence the villagers earn up drinking rainwater that stirs up cholera and many other illnesses. In several occasions some of the villagers, particularly children and women, have been rescued from drowning as they attempted fetching water across the river. 100% of the villagers fetch their drinking water from a spring that lies across the main river Wange. (See photographs enclosed).



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Sources of Livelihood:

Families in the village are involved in small-scale agriculture by producing various crops with the hope of selling some when there is excess of production in local markets. These agricultural activities are supported by some of the village children, as they tend to give a helping hand to their parents during the holiday season.

The people of Soppo-Likoko village face other challenges ranging from lack of electricity supply, lack of good roads for the transportation of farm products to the surrounding local markets, transportation of sick people to hospitals, etc.

Profile of Soppo-Likoko Village:

Age distribution:	
0 - 4 years	22.7%
5 - 15 years	29.3%
16 - 45 years	45.8%
65+ years	2.2%
Households by type of fuel for lighting	
Electricity	0.0%
Kerosene	100%
Household by type of fuel for cooking	
Electricity/Gas	0.0%
Charcoal	1.1 %
Firewood	98.9%

Household having access to safe drinking water		
Piped water	0.0%	
Borehole	0.0%	
Well	0.0%	
Spring water	100%	
Household by main source of livelihood		
Subsistence farming	92.8%	
Commercial farming	0.0%	
Trading	3.3%	
Employment income	1.5%	
Family support	2.4%	
Mortality Rates		
Life expectancy	51 Years	
Infant mortality	59 per 1000	
Probability of death before 5 years	127 per 1000	

Project Aim

The Project idea is to construct a water tank connected with pipes that will convey the spring water from Wange river to a safe location in Soppo-Likoko village, where villagers can savely collect clean water to use for their basic needs as drinking, cooking, etc. The distance from Wange river to the location in the village where the water tank will be constructed is approximately ------?????

Project Implementation & Management Strategy:

There is a Community Network in Soppo-Likoko that will ensure full participation of community at different stages of the project and will also seek technical advice from experts.

The project will be implemented over a period of 4 months. However, the day-to-day management of the project will be the responsibility of the Soppo-Likoko Village Community.

Community Participation:

- Contribution of man-power by the Community
- ◆ Clearing the project site
- ♦ Educating the community members on safe use of the water tank
- ♦ Community network that will ensure the sustainability of the project and also keep the site clean.

The benefits of the project lie not only in providing clean water to the villagers but also in the following:

- Improving the villagers' health standards through provision of clean water
- ◆ Providing water on a safe platform for the villagers
- ♦ The project will also serve as a prototype to be replicated in other neighboring villages and districts that have similar challenges.

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Sustainability:

The sustainability of the Soppo-Likoko Water Project is based on the following:

◆ Contribution from the community members. The Village Council will mobilize the community to form a committee that will oversee the overall running of the project. This committee will also be responsible for collecting regular fees from its members to be used in maintaining the water tank. The water project will not serve as a means to generate funds for the villagers' other activities. The fees that will be collected will be used solely for maintenance purposes.

Expenses	Amount (€)
1. Personnel	8.800
2. Materials and Equipment	30.900
3. Training	2.600
4. Travel	7.400
5. Evaluation/Information Dissemination	2.200
6. General Administration/ Overhead	3.650
7. Other Expenses	2.500
8. TOTAL EXPENSES	58.050
9. Total Funding Requested	58.050
If applicable, please describe "Other Expenses":	Personnel – 3 consultants, 1 project manager, 1 project coordinator, 1 community mobilizer. Village Community, Materials. & Equipment – hiring technical experts, drilling machines, plumbing materials, general labor, etc. Other funding: Special water cement, Reinforcement rods.

Evaluation

African Bridge Builders e. V. (ABB) together with the Soppo-Likoko Village Council will be fully involved throughout the entire project to make sure that the objectives of the project are met.

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