

# THE ATSIEKPOE CHPS-COMPOUND

## LET'S GET THE BALL ROLLING AGAIN ...



What Community planning meeting

When Friday 18 March

Where Atsiekpoe Community Square

Who 30+ community members/leaders, Cindy Panou (SSFA), Apollo Panou (Jolinaiko), Ad van Maaren (PUM)

### PURPOSE

It has been very quiet in terms of meetings and reports from SSFA since the Dunenyo Festival was successfully celebrated during the last week of 2015. Well, quiet in terms 'words', because the Atsiekpoe community has been very proactive. They have made very good use of the money that was generated during the festival. They purchased sand, cement and stones and moulded blocks for the foundation of the clinic.

**The meeting was organised to get together again, to share information on what has been accomplished and to agree on the short-term actions to take for us to get the ball rolling again...**

### STATUS UPDATE

During the well-attended meeting, Ezekiel shared an overview of the expenditures made from the onset of the project in September 2015 till date. The overview explains the total amount of GHC 8200,- that was generated by the community and the total expenditure of GHC 8260,-. A spreadsheet of these expenditures is available on request. In a nutshell, 105 bags of cement have been moulded into roughly 2000 blocks. A land has been cleared from bushes and trunks and a trip of stones has been purchased.

**The short-term aim of the community is to complete the foundation as a proof that they are dedicated and willing to sacrifice to bring this development to their community.** After they have finished the foundation, they will feel more confident to apply for funds and support from government bodies and civic organisations. First, they would like to use the funds that was promised by Jolinaiko Eco Tours during the festival (they promised to double the generated funds) and brainstorm on other funding ideas to be able to complete the foundation.

### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

The climate-smart CHPS compound remains a promising and very sensible project, and as the community stated: 'A dream we must accomplish'. Mrs. Cindy Panou confessed that during the past few months, everybody who is voluntary involved was also very busy with their demanding jobs elsewhere and she in particular was not able to make necessary time available for the Stepping Stones for Africa Foundation. To get the ball rolling again, we all agreed to confirm short-term actions leading to the completion of the foundation, which will be a very huge but feasible accomplishment.

These short term actions are:

- Obtain 2600 GHC from Jolinaiko that was promised during the festival and purchase stones, wawa board and cement (Who: Apollo Panou – before 25 March 2016)
- Obtain 1300 GHC for the purchase of irons rods, cement and other items. This money was given by a the brother-in-law of Mai Ensmen (Who: Cindy – before 25 March)
- Brainstorm by the community on how to raise funds at the community level during Easter followed by the actual fundraising. Funds to be used to compensate skilled labourers and building materials. (Who: Ezekiel and community – Easter)
- Organise a Lincoln girls scouting in Atsiekpoe at 9-10 April 2016 that will also generate funds to compensate labour cost (Who: Cindy – 10 April)
- Inform the district (planning officer and health director) that work will commence on the foundation (Who: Ezekiel – 29 March 2016)
- SSFA board members to meet again and get fundraising activities started for the rest of the project (Who – Cindy – April 2016)
- Start the work on the foundation...(Who – Community April 2016)
- **Next meeting at Friday 8 April**



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***'If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together – an African proverb on unity and community.***

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