

THE ATSIEKPOE CHPS-COMPOUND

REPORT 9 - FOUNDATION WORK IN PROGRESS



SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

Poor accessibility to health care was identified and prioritized as the main development challenge by people in Atsiekpoe. Their wish to establish a health center was supported by other stakeholders in the district such as the Ghana Health Services (GHS) and other health care facilities. Since improving accessibility to primary health care is also the main objective of GHS, the decision was made to combine strengths and establish a CHPS-compound which stands for Community-based Health and Planning Services. This is a basic clinic staffed and managed by government in collaboration with the community under the condition that construction of the building is the responsibility of the community itself. Apart from the ambition to establish a basic clinic, the community also anticipates health educational programs and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) solutions and these three aspects are part of the health project Stepping Stones for Africa (SSFA), Jolinaiko Eco Tours and the community have designed together.

The first project is the constructing of the clinic (CHPS-compound).

This project has been segmented into three major phases:

- (1) Constructing the sub-structure (foundation)
- (2) Constructing the super-structure (building)
- (3) Furnishing and finishing (including landscaping, water supply and sanitation)

At this moment, we are working on the first phase; the sub-structure. So far, the main founders were the community itself and Jolinaiko Eco Tours. The assistance offered by SSFA was mainly guidance and organisational support. External funding is needed for accomplishing the next two phases.

“The community has exhibited a great desire to see the project accomplished. With their own funds and spirit and support from Jolinaiko Eco Tours, they made a remarkable progress”

WHAT IS NEW

- ✓ The foundation of the clinic has reached the stage where **casting concrete is the next line of action**. This indicates that the following work has been done: preparing the land, digging the foundation trenches, moulding and laying of blocks and filling in of sand.
- ✓ **It took the community three months to reach this level**, and they relied on communal labour:
 - The community engaged both skilled and unskilled labour. The skilled labourers were paid while great majority of the unskilled work was done on communal labour basis with little incentives in the form of refreshment as motivation. Youth from Atsiekpoe who are working as skilled labourers in Accra returned and assisted the team.
- ✓ **Funds were made available through small-scale and informal fundraising activities** by the community and Jolinaiko Eco Tours. Also, Jolinaiko Eco Tours financed the organisational cost and donated a significant amount during the festival. SSFA in The Netherlands will provide the remaining funds that are needed to complete the sub-structure.
- ✓ **The community has instituted a small committee to ensure accountability and responsible spending** who in consultation with the SSFA and Jolinaiko Eco Tours are responsible for the spending and the purchases of items for the project. Wisdom Kpegba represents SSFA on this committee and is responsible for the monitoring and evaluation activities of the project.
- ✓ **Stepping Stones for Africa** is now officially registered and recognised as an NGO in Ghana. This attracted an additional fee of 1000 GHC that was paid by Jolinaiko Eco Tours.

MONEY MATTERS

The information below explains the funding sources and the total amount of money raised and spent.

- ✓ **Community Development Funds**; the drive of the community to develop has motivated them to establish a community fund many years ago. Funds were sourced among natives of the community during their annual festival and other occasions. The community also instituted a tourism fund where tourists who visit the community pay a token into for developmental purposes. Funds from these sources have amounted to **GHC 9,457.00**.
- ✓ **Jolinaiko Eco Tours** donated a total of **GHC 2,800.00** for the purchase of building materials, as well as to the project overhead costs contributing to **GHC 1,800.00** in total from the onset of the project.
- ✓ The presence of Jolinaiko Eco Tours in the community comes with the regular visit of tourists to the community. A total amount of **GHC 3,357.00** was donated by the Girl Scouts of Lincoln Community School who organized a charity cake sales at their school, and a few philanthropist who lodged in Atsiekpoe and decided to contribute towards the project.

SOURCES OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Community Funds	9457.00	203 bags of cement	6157.00
Jolinaiko Eco Tours – building materials	2800.00	Stones and chippings	1980.00
Jolinaiko Eco Tours – project and overhead	1800.00	Iron Rods	996.00
Tourists and philanthropists	3357.00	Sand	2500.00
		Nails and Wood	248.00
		Tools (shovel and wheelbarrows)	562.00
		Labor cost	2216.00
		Miscellaneous	456.00
		Transportation of building materials	499.00
		Project and overhead costs	1800.00
TOTAL OF FUNDS	17,414.00	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	17,414.00

- ✓ Through **Stepping Stones for Africa** in The Netherlands, we have secured the necessary funds that is needed to complete the sub structure which involves casting concrete. The estimated budget for this work is given below:

ITEM	AMOUNT
120 Bags of cement (GHC 30.00 per bag)	3600.00
4 trips of chippings (GHC 1,500.00 per trip)	6000.00
20 boards of wawa wood (GHC 25.00 per board)	500.00
Labour	1500.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
TOTAL	12,100.00

LET'S MOVE ON

Our aims and actions for August-September 2016:

1. Registration of SSFA in Ghana

- Almost done! We submitted all our documents, received an inspection team from Social Welfare Adenta and paid the 1000 GHC fee. It's left with granting the certificate/license.
- Let's meet during our first board meeting planned for September to agree on board membership and executive positions.
- Opening a bank account.



2. Finalize the sub structure (September)

- Funds have been secured to complete the sub-structure.
- Purchase of materials and work is planned for September

3. Launch a comprehensive clinic fundraising campaign (September)

- Finalize the budget and proposal of the entire clinic project (August) and start a comprehensive fundraising strategy including crowdfunding and social media (September).



Everybody heads up!

We achieved this level with very limited outside support, but we need extensive funding to complete this clinic. An innovative GHC 250,000/EUR 60,000 project that is going to serve Atsiekpoe and the nine surrounding communities. A detailed proposal is available next month!