

**GUERNSEY OVERSEAS AID COMMISSION**  
**Interim report**

***Water and sanitation project for vulnerable populations in  
the Central, Northern and Eastern regions of Côte d'Ivoire***



*July 2016*

**Background:**

In Côte d'Ivoire, 35% of people living in rural areas do not have access to safe drinking water (MICS 2006). 7.5% of girls under 15 are in charge of fetching water for their family; and 43% of the population does not have access to appropriate sanitary facilities (MICS 2006).

The specific objectives of the project include the rehabilitation of 30 water pumps (to serve 8,400 individuals), the rehabilitation of 45 latrines (to serve 225 individuals), the training of 3,000 people and the distribution of hygiene kit/Non-food items for 4,000 individuals. The project target vulnerable farmers. Poor farmers and workers are less productive due to frequent illnesses. Without safe water and appropriate sanitation, sustainable development is impossible. Additional beneficiaries are farmers' families (women and Children). Mainly girls – are denied their right to education because they are busy fetching water or are deterred by the lack of separate and decent sanitation facilities in schools. Women are forced to spend large parts of their day fetching water (85.9% of women in Côte d'Ivoire are in charge of supplying their family with water).

Poor access to safe drinking water hygiene and sanitation increases children's exposure to diseases such as diarrhoea, malnutrition, malaria and even HIV. Diarrhoea is a major child and infant killer disease in Cote d'Ivoire caused by microbes which spread in water, food, on hands, on eating and drinking utensils, by flies and dirt under the fingernails. 88 percent of diarrheal diseases are due to unsafe water supply, inadequate sanitation, and hygiene. In Cote d'Ivoire diarrhoea kills around 87 thousand children under five years each year. Habitat Humanity Côte d'Ivoire (HFHCI) will implement the project in partnership with the local authorities, and the communities' members.

**1. Mobilization of communities**

Community mobilization engages all sectors of the population in a community-wide effort to address health, social, or environmental issue. The project Supervisor brings together local villages authorities and opinion leaders, religious groups, businesses, and individual community members. A lot of meeting have organized in the month of April and May to empower individuals and groups to participate in training, and rehabilitation activities and take some action to facilitate change. Part of the process, conducted by the Project Supervisor, includes mobilizing necessary resources, disseminating information, generating support, and fostering cooperation across communities' members. The communities are mobilized based on their need for water, sanitation and hygiene. The key point of this mobilization is also to reinforce the capacities of water pumps committees to empower the villages members to maintain the infrastructures rehabilitated and build.

**2. Pumps assessment**

On June 12-14, 2016, the Project Supervisor has conducted the diagnostics of water pumps in the Centre region. The evaluation revealed that within six (6) villages where the assessment has been conducted, there were not water Pumps committees for daily management of the pumps. The pumps have no management plan and the repairs are not followed. In the six (6) villages visited which are Adiakoun-Konankro, Kouakou-Ebinikro, Kouadio-Konankro, d'Essé-Kouadiokro, Booré-Akpokro and Niamansou, seven (07) pumps have been assessed, and Five (5) selected to be rehabilitated based on fund availability for this quarter.

The assessment of the pumps was conducted with the participation of local artisans selected and trained by HFHCI. The population of these villages has demonstrated a high level of participation in carrying out the work.

This activity has been facilitated by the community mobilization activities conducted by the Supervisors at the beginning of the project implementation.

### 3. Pumps rehabilitation

The volunteers work is one of the most important activities in the process. During this intervention, communities' members participate by helping the artisans to fix the water pumps. When the process is conducted with the involvement of the communities, it permits to ensure the sustainability of the infrastructure. Pump rehabilitation was carried out during all the month of June 2016, with the participation of community members (both men and women). Local artisans performed the repairs. The intervention consisted of two phases; (1) Purchase, transportation and delivery of pumps and equipment and (2) carrying out the work including the repair of the pump and the construction or rehabilitation of the fences.

In the communities of Kouakou Ebinikro, Booré Akpokro et Niamansou, the local authorities of the village have participated with the population in the activities. Village chiefs' support are essential in this process. They mobilized community members and assisted the project supervisor during the information dissemination phase and community meetings. Their engagement facilitate the work of the local committees to collect money and manage the pumps rehabilitated. In general, villages populations were very motivated during the process. In total for this first quarter of the project implementation, five pumps were rehabilitated. One pump per village selected.

Each pump rehabilitated will serve an estimated 280 families (56 X 5) approximately 1,400 persons. The community residents pay an annual fee of €2.30 to have access to water between 5 AM to 8 PM. The money collected will be used to maintain the pumps.



- **Community participation**

To build the toilets and rehabilitate the water pumps, each community is organized into two or three groups composed of at least ten persons. The building activities is organized every day by the village water pump Committee from 8.00 AM to 5.00 PM. The "sweat equity", or a number of volunteer hours the community contributes, averages around 100 hours per infrastructure. The non-skilled volunteer work includes:

- Site cleaning
- Brick making
- Digging of foundation
- Transporting water

- **Project monitoring**

The Program Manager and the Project Supervisor visited project sites to ensure the quality of construction and rehabilitation. During these visits, they verified the working groups activities, the rehabilitation activities conducted by the artisans and training processes.