



Global Grant Name: Cameroon Nkolmeseng WASH Project

Global Grant Number: 2570586

GLOBAL GRANTS COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Use this form to report community assessment findings to The Rotary Foundation when you apply for a global grant.

Assessing the strengths, weaknesses, needs, and assets of the community you plan to help is an essential first step in designing an effective and sustainable global grant project. See [Community Assessment Tools](#) for full instructions and helpful tips.

This form will help you report the results of your community assessment, and it's required when you apply for any humanitarian or vocational training team grant. Complete a separate form for each beneficiary community (e.g., school, health care system, or village), using information that is both current and specific to each community. Remember, you can't use global grant funds to cover the cost of doing an assessment, but you can use district grant funds.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Describe the characteristics (such as geographic information, main sources of income, population size, and access to education/health services) of the specific community where this project will take place.

Nkolmeseng is a community in the Center region of Cameroon in Yaound V Council. The main source of income of this community is farming of crops like plantains, beans, maize and cassava as well as petti trading. The population is about 10,000 inhabitants. There is a significant increase in the investment in the areas of education mostly by the private sector and village development associations in this community. The health system and adequate means still remain challenging in the community. Lack of portable water with constant water borne diseases are largely affecting children and income of parents as more money is spent in hospitals for treatments during pandemics

COLLECTING COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT DATA

When you conducted the assessment, who in the community did you speak to? At least two different community representatives and beneficiaries who are not involved in Rotary (such as teachers, doctors, or community leaders) should be included in the discussions.

Kumbo Rotary club in collaboration with NICDA organized a series of meetings and consultations with the local council and the community, to assess their priority needs. During these meetings, we spoke with the Mayor, school teachers and health experts, community leaders, the Water Management Committee, the local and traditional administration. In an enlarged meeting with the community, discussions were open and frank and focused priorities needed in the community. Amongst other needs, provision of clean affordable water was the priority as it would solve many water, sanitation and health problems of the community and alleviate the plight of women and children. Focus was on provision of clean water from underground source.

When in the last year did the discussions occur?

June 2024

What methods did you use to collect information from community members (such as community meetings, interviews, or focus groups)?

Direct meetings, interviews, group discussions. We also used consultation of local experts and actors on the ground.

TARGET POPULATION

Who is directly benefiting from the project? List the groups that will benefit (such as schools, hospitals, vocational training centers, cooperatives, or villages).

Describe the process of how the beneficiaries were identified.

The beneficiaries were identified during the various meetings with benefits based on stand tap clusters, schools, markets, village center, health facility and places of worship. Women and young girls were identified for menstrual hygiene management and natural fertility workshops.

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS, NEEDS, PRIORITIES, AND PROJECT DESIGN

Describe what matters to members of the community as they were expressed during the assessment.

Water is a major problem in the communities as they rely on surface wells and exposed springs that are shared with animals for their daily use. They expressed the wish for the fetching time to be ameliorated as they spend more than 30 minutes to obtain water and trek long distances. The water quality is poor as they are exposed to water borne diseases evidence from health center statistic. Women and children also decried the fact that the water carrying burden rests on their shoulders offering them little time for economic and social ventures. School children often miss their first lesson because of the time and distance to fetch water.

Open defecation in the field is also a great concern as it pollutes the shallow wells and streams in the community.

Basic hygiene and sanitation education needs to be strengthened to promote health in general in the community.

Menstrual hygiene was equally a problem as many women and girls cannot afford to have menstrual pads and this leads to loss of dignity and other opportunities amongst them.

Education and Health are also a problem with poor infrastructure and lack of personnel. . Farm to market roads are also a hindrance especially during the rainy seasons.

Describe the community's strengths and resources.

The communities have a good agricultural background that helps generate and increase family income.

Well-structured executive and membership of existing water management committees that need to be strengthened.

Village development associations with elected officials that runs development projects, easy coordination and resource mobilizations for the current project

The traditional authorities are well-structured and respected and are a gateway to the community. They play a very important role in the development of their village.

Good mastering of existing problems as they were earlier identified and elaborated in the local council development plan.

Well-structured place or worship executive.

There is available land for development of the water infrastructure, farming and grazing.

Available transport means especially bikes that ply the hinterlands.

Population is ready to volunteer and contribute both in cash and in kind for this project.

Collaboration with the local administration and the council is excellent.

Describe any challenges and gaps in the community's behaviors, skills, and knowledge.

The communities are faced with a serious threat of climate change with most springs drying off and the water table dropping, this has rendered many families without water for daily use and for the cultivation of vegetables especially in the dry seasons. Despite the threats these communities lack the sufficient knowledge to fight the global climate challenges due to lack of education and knowledge.

There is also a lack of resources to get clean water as it is expensive to carry out studies, drilling and distribution of water to water carrying points.

Education and health standards are very poor due to poor personnel, equipment and infrastructure.

Local skills for such projects are also nonexistent or poor.

These communities are also hard to reach and government services target big centers for infrastructure development that will bring in income to the government or multinational companies thereby leaving them at the mercy of nature.

Open defecation is also prevalent in the community and their toilets are shallow with open wood crossings.

The community school also need furniture, more classrooms, a playground and didactic materials for teachers

WHAT ISSUES WILL THE PROJECT ADDRESS, AND HOW DOES THE COMMUNITY CURRENTLY ADDRESS THOSE ISSUES?

This international Global Grant-funded project will provide clean affordable and reliable water, Menstrual Hygiene Management and, Disease prevention Workshop as well as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Training.

This international Global Grant-funded project will provide clean affordable water sustainably all year round in the community, Menstrual Hygiene Workshop as well as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Training for 460 pupils and 2500 community members who are unable to address these issues due to lack of skills and financial means

PROVIDE THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE PROJECT DESIGN AND HOW IT WILL SOLVE THESE ISSUES.

The project will provide engineering review, hydro-geophysical & hydrology analysis, and any additionally needed input on operations and maintenance designs to ensure the project is successful and sustainable. The primary objective is to develop a sustainable water supply system for the communities by drilling a deep borehole into the underground water table, develop and install a submersible solar energy pumps to extract water. Build an elevated tower with PVC storage tanks designed to distribute water by gravity to the community by an underground pipeline, including the local schools, health clinic and places of worship market and community center.

The second objective is WASH training for the local water committee and villagers to improve water-related disease awareness and education, including a workshop on menstrual hygiene and creating sustainable feminine hygiene pads. This initiative merges water provision and knowledge with public health to provide sustainable, community-led WASH awareness and action in rural Cameroon that provides year-round health and productivity services.

Third objective is to provide sustainability training with emphasis on operation and maintenance operations, with training of the communities, water management and caretaker committees, and organize the communities into a governance structure with rules and regulations to manage the water project.

Fourth is to provide a circuit rider training on all water carrying points to ensure water is paid for to assure sustainability in the management operations.

DESCRIBE THE LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (SUCH AS OVERSIGHT, FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, AND EXPECTED BEHAVIOR CHANGE) AFTER ROTARY'S INVOLVEMENT ENDS.

The Water Management Committee (WMC) will establish a per household water user fee to cover expenses after being trained;

- 1. Operating costs (caretaker's wages) and maintenance materials and replacement parts,**
- 2. Annual contributions to a Repair/Contingency allocation.**

In the initial rate setting the repair/contingency allowance for major repairs will be based on an estimated 3- year rolling average of repair and replacement costs. As the system establishes an actual repair and replacement cost record, the annual contribution estimate will be adjusted to reflect the actual costs.

3. The WMC shall be equipped with appropriate training and tools to sustainably do operation and maintenance to assure self-reliance with guidance from the cooperating organization.

4. The financial responsibilities shall be vested on the WMC under the supervision of village development associations, with 5 years monitoring and evaluation by the cooperating organization.

5. A positive behavior outcome is expected with the availability of clean affordable water for the community fostering improvement in health standards of the community, more income generation, greater economic ventures for children and women.

6. The dignity of women and girls should be restored as they will be taught how to self-make their reusable pads.

7. The water carrying burden on women and children and women shall be lessened giving them more opportunities in life.

8. Improvement on hand washing behavior and prevention of the spread of germs.