



# Water for Cameroon

Report & Update --- April 2016

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## Babessi village ..... Hand dug Well with Afridev Pump.

The community living close to this new Well in Babessi village are very happy with the safe drinking water they receive. They miss very much having Cristi and Tanya living there in Babessi and send their best wishes to them and their friends who supported the funding for the well and pump. This community was very active in the construction process. Water for Cameroon Ireland managed the construction work and the pump installation. This well will provide much needed water to this community for years to come. Technicians trained by Water for Cameroon Ireland have a private business and are available to repair the pump should that be necessary.



Babessi Video Links

<https://youtu.be/SluL7mldnlo>

<https://youtu.be/DjfrFPhFsrc>

**New Hope village** Is a small village close to Mbingo hospital. The Centre for Hope was founded in 1951 by Baptist missionaries when leprosy was a public health concern and misunderstood. Hundreds of patients were accused of witchcraft or being cursed with the affliction by God and abandoned here with damaged skin. It was only in the 1970s that a successful multi-drug treatment was developed. But Professor Tih Pius, who manages the Baptist church's health services in Cameroon, said the stigma has not been wiped out. "We are saying that their families should love them, they did not invite the illness, it came to them just like it can come to any of you the family member. And once we treat them, even if you do not have money for their treatment, please come and take them back home and take care of them, they are part of your family," he said. "And to the state, I just want to say if there is anything to do to support them while they are in the hospital we would be grateful. Any little support will be appreciated."

Leprosy is caused by bacteria and symptoms develop slowly. It can only be transmitted by close and repeated contact with nose or mouth droplets from an untreated person. **Source – [Voice of America](#)**

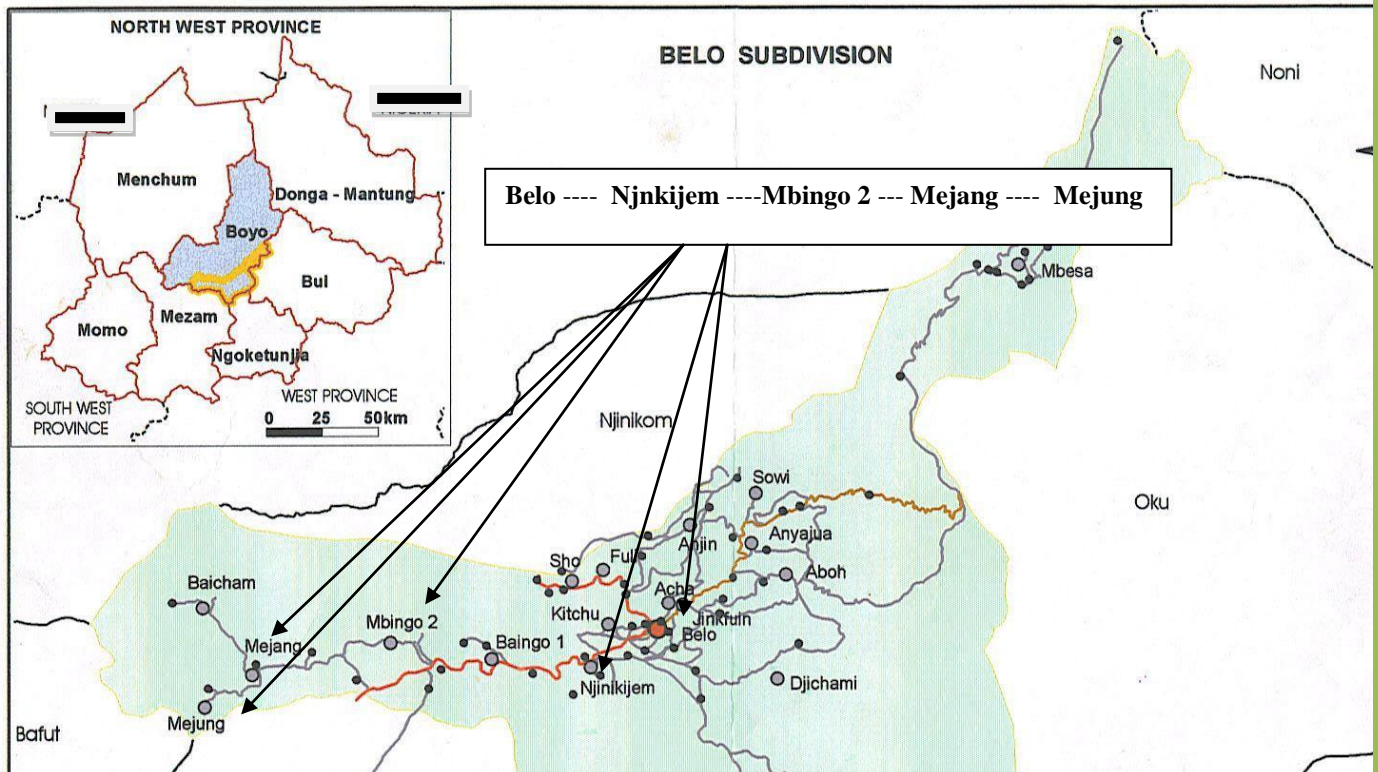
Water for Cameroon is delighted to partner with the Christian organisation **Covenant World Relief** and also the newly established local NGO in the Belo area **Hope for All**. We have committed to participating with communities in some water related projects. Our involvement is based on the principal of working alongside the communities having been asked by them for advice and support with their Water Sanitation and Hygiene challenges. Covenant World Relief funds these projects. Without this support, the work would not happen. The communities also support the projects with their financial and other contributions.



**Belo** The Belo municipality covers 29 villages with 96 quarters and has a population of about 90,000 inhabitants. There are basically 5 ethnic groups in the municipality. These are: The Koms, Mbessas the Fulanis, the Mejungs and the Mejangs. The dialects spoken include the Kom, Mbessa, Mejang, Mejung, Baicham and Fulani. Pidgin. Belo is situated along the Bamenda-Fundong road, about 50 km from Bamenda. Belo sub Division is surrounded by Fundong and Njinikom sub divisions to the west and to the east by Oku and Babessi sub divisions.

The partnership between Hope for All, Covenant World Relief and Water for Cameroon Ireland have worked hard to construct three Type B ( Rope and Pulley / Bucket ) wells in communities in Belo subdivision from early 2015 to early 2016.

### Belo ---- Njnkijem ----Mbingo 2 --- Mejang ---- Mejung



1



2



3

Some of the work funded by Covenant World Relief and Oakdale Covenant church Chicago

Video link <https://youtu.be/n1C-4Ue0sEs> Video shows the community at Mejung celebrate the new Well

**Photo No. 1** David and Sero with the teachers at a primary school. The well there has not been working for some time. (CWR)

**Photo No. 2** David with Pa Joe at his compound in Hope village. Pa now has a new water pipe at his compound. (Oakdale)

**Photo No. 3** Sero and David at the new Type B Well at Mejung with some of the community. (CWR)

## The Mesow Primary School Project.

Primary school education in Cameroon is free..... that's the official position. However the reality is very different. The cost for each child is about 25 Euro ( \$30 ) per year. Typically that will cover fees, uniform and books. For rural Cameroonian's with a large family and other household costs including medical treatment, it's a very big amount. Many children cannot attend primary school because of the costs involved. It was hoped that this new school would have opened with one class in September 2016. Because of a shortage of funds the school has now been scheduled to open in Sept 2017. This should allow enough time for the required funding to be put in place. This will be a Multi Lingual Education school.

### Multilingual Education connects children to learning

In multilingual education (MLE) programs, children begin school in their mother-tongue and then add English. \*

### MLE connects families to the schools

Often the language of instruction in the school limits the parents' understanding and participation in their children's education. In MLE programs the parents are not only able to communicate, but their knowledge is valued as well. \*

"It is wonderful! My child returns from school and teaches me our own Kom proverbs."

Father of a KEPP student \*

"When a child goes to a mother-tongue school, the child continues learning concepts based on knowledge the parents already taught at home. However, if it is a school that is not a mother-tongue school, all that the child had gathered, the basket of knowledge the child carried on his head to school on the first day, is emptied. It is thrown away."

Kain Godfrey Chuo, KEPP Coordinator \*      \* Source ... SIL Cameroon

**Pit Latrine** Open defecation is common in rural Cameroon. This practice needs to stop sooner rather than later.

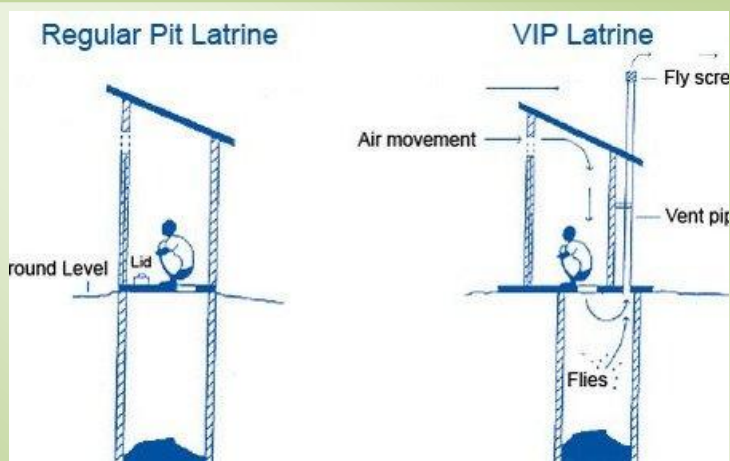
Having a toilet at a school is an important step in that direction. Many schools, especially schools in rural areas have either no toilet at all or the toilet is in very poor condition. Water for Cameroon is currently working with Covenant World Relief on ways we can help two schools have VIP latrines. Having a suitable latrine is only part of the answer to the problem. We also need to consider the entire Sanitation Chain. For sanitation to be sustainable in the long term, we need to consider more than building latrines.

For example, what happens when those latrines are full with sludge? Will they be emptied? What will happen to all the sludge when they are emptied? Will the sludge be treated and disposed of safely? Will it be used in agriculture to help grow plants? Are there innovative ways to deal with all these issues ?

Training programmes will be designed to help communities understand the importance of good sanitation practices.



Michael at the new school ..... two class rooms and office. Still work to do before these rooms are ready.



A new four cubical VIP ( ventilated improved pit latrine) toilet will be constructed at the school. This will be used by children at the new school and the existing Nursery. There are 50 children at the nursery. Currently there is no toilet.

## The New primary School at Mesow



**The Ndot Shop**

The Ndot Shop on Long street, Ndot town continues to progress very slowly. Margaret manages the shop on a part time basis. She is also a busy house wife, a farmer and is studying to become a primary school teacher. She will qualify in July 2016. The intention is to eventually have the shop fully stocked with parts for Pumps, Bio Sand Filter materials for Filter constructors etc. But the shop is more than a place to buy parts. It's a place to get literature about Water and Sanitation, about household water treatment etc. It's also a place where children come from time to time to play with toys and also read the many kids books available in the library. It's a place where people drop in to rest and have some water to drink from one of the 4 Bio sand Filters at the Shop.



**The microscope at the Shop**



The Drip Irrigation garden at the Shop has produced a very good crop. Corn and some vegetables were planted in January during the dry season. The Bucket Drip Irrigation Kits are for sale in the Shop.



**Kumbo Rotary Club**

In April, two meetings took place in Kumbo with the new partnership team of Kumbo Rotary, Water for Cameroon Ngoketunjia and Water for Cameroon Ireland to discuss the new program. Exact details of the proposed program have yet to be agreed. Further meetings will happen in July 2016. We are hopeful that the program can begin later in 2016 when funding has been secured.



**Kumbo Rotary, WfC-N and WfC-I meeting at Kumbo to discuss the new proposed program. Its hoped that this program will begin later in 2016**





Kumbo is the second-largest city in the North West Region of Cameroon and is the capital of Bui Division.

It's about 2000m above sea level and is situated approximately 110 km from Bamenda.

The population is about 85,000 people.

The Kumbo Rotary club has been active since 2009. WfC-N and WfC-I look forward to working with them on this new and exciting program.

## Balikumbat village

Water for Cameroon Ngoketunjia will soon be working with the community around the palace in Balikumbat to construct a new hand dug well. The general area on this hillside has very little water available for the communities.



The traditional Council and community members meet WfC-N at the Palace in Balikumbat.



The doctor and his assistant explain to two members of the WfC-N board of directors about the serious need for toilets at the Balikumbat health centre. The toilets are currently in very poor condition.



One of the "King Makers" at the Palace in Balikumbat.



**Clean Water 4life Cameroon** is a legalised association in Cameroon. It was founded by Silas Nfor Fai. Silas lives in Yaounde and is from Ndu. He has been working on water projects for some years now.

Silas attended a Bio sand Filter training workshop organised by Magdalene and James. Since that time Silas has made a number of filters and has also trained some people to make the Filters.

Silas and Water for Cameroon Ireland will partner on some projects . Silas is currently raising funds to purchase the JO-1 drilling Rig. The rig has been tested at a few sites in Ngoketunjia.



**Silas at Ndu Seminary. The Seminary has sought assistance from Water for Cameroon Ireland to help with the water challenges there. We visited the site in April 2016 to conduct a survey and meet the people involved.**



**Silas joined with WfC-I to visit Ndu and Belo in April 2016.**



**Silas and Don look over the JO-1 Drilling Rig.**

**Silas is currently raising funds to purchase the rig.**



**Silas visiting a community in Belo sub division. April 2016**

### Videos

Babessi Village ..... new hand dug well with Afridel pump

<https://youtu.be/SluL7mIdnIo> English

Magdalene talks about the Bio Sand Filters at the Ndop Water Shop

<https://youtu.be/-JZnprUAFTU> English

Dr. Aaron Tanner ( CAWST ) talks to Ms. Chui Magdalene ( WfC-N board member)

<https://youtu.be/NaEG0ftES3M> English

**Matthew 5:47..... And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others?**