# DATCHA LATRINES PROJECT PHASE II FINAL REPORT



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For SOMAGG

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# DATCHA SCHOOL LATRINE PROJECT 2018/SOMAGG

# I. SCOPE

The Datcha Latrine project Phase I completed in January 2019 was a success. This was to provide the school EPP DATCHA CENTRALE/C with descent sanitations by constructing a five (5) cabins latrine block.

The phase II of the project is to provide good sanitations for the community of Zongo Obi as a whole at DATCHA a town found in the Central Region of Togo a country in West Africa. The donors kept fulfilled their promise by initiating the second phase of the project in October 2019.

This project was funded by Dr. Kimberly and benefactors and was executed by SOMAGG.



Fig. 1- View of the community members.

# II. <u>DESCRIPTION</u>

A VIP latrine block of Four (4) cabins, a replica of the previous one constructed in the school was built on a piece on land donated by the Chief of the Zongo Obi community.

Each cabin has two (2) holes connected directly to the septic tank. One hole is closed and will be opened when the septic tank of the other one is full. By the time the septic tank of the second hole will also be full, the faeces in the first hole would have dried up, turned into sand and could be collected to be used as manure.

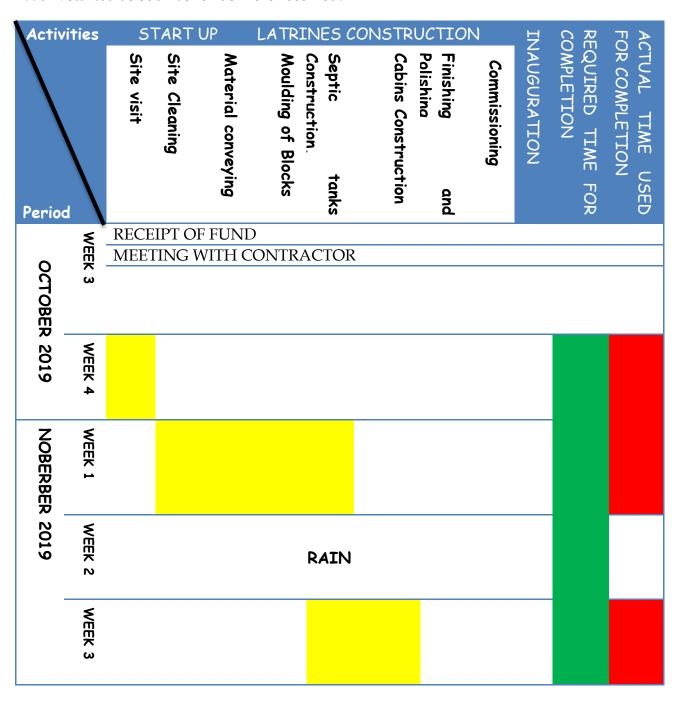


Fig. 2- Plan view in 3D

# III. <u>TIME FRAME</u>

The project was executed in a total of 45 days. This time frame was higher than the phase I which was 26 days because of the rain which stopped the work most at time and also the texture of the land. The project started on 30<sup>th</sup> October and ended on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Work started as soon as funds were received.



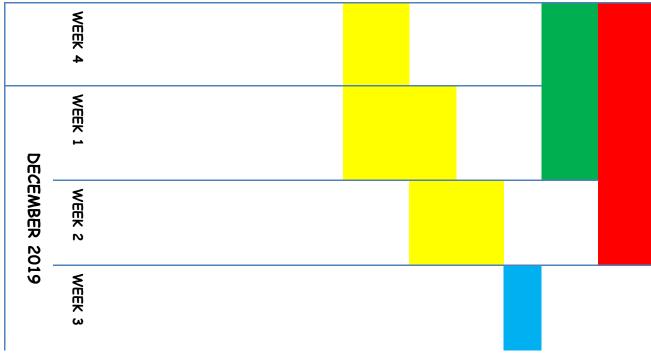


Fig. 3- Time chart.

# IV. START UP

Some preliminary works were done before the beginning of the building of the latrines as in the construction of the first one.

- Site visit
- Site Cleaning
- Material conveying

### A. SITE VISIT

A meeting was set up with the community leaders on a visit by the SOMAGG team with the contractor upon receipt of the funds on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The Chief donated a piece of land for the rising of the structure at the appropriate site where the latrines will be located.

It was an opportunity to provide jobs for some of the community members. Selection was done to recruit the community members who are willing to work as labourers or who have skills required on the project.



Fig. 4- Meeting with community leaders.



Fig. 5- Measuring of the piece of land donated by the Chief.

### **B. SITE CLEANING**

The recruited community member worked vividly to prepare the site so that construction works could beginning as soon as possible.

This started on the 1st November.



Fig. 6- Beginning of site cleaning.

# C. MATERIALS CONVEYING

The remoteness of the Datcha locality always required to acquire and convey all the building materials from the nearest town to the building site. Materials (cement, sand, gravels, iron roads, tiles, paints, pipes) were acquire from the nearest Town, sent to the site and stocked in rooms provided by some community members on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November.



Fig.7- Sand unloaded by truck.

# V. <u>LATRINES CONSTRUCITON</u>

The latrines were constructed according to the architectural plan designed. This construction was divided into different stages and same as in PHASE I.

- Moulding of Blocks
- Septic tanks Construction.
- Cabins Construction
- Finishing and Polishing
- Commissioning

# A. MOULDING OF BLOCKS

The moulding of ordinary and concrete blocks which will be needed for the whole work started on  $4^{th}$  November when the sand and cements were conveyed to the site. The moulding of the blocks was finished on  $6^{th}$  November.



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

Fig. 8 - Fig. 10 Moulding of blocks.

# **B. SEPTIC TANKS CONSTRUCTION**

A pit was dug with a total capacity of 44.8 m<sup>3</sup>. A concrete frame was made in the pit with elevation of the poles which will support the cabins' concrete floor. The pit walls were elevated by laying blocks round the interior surface except the floor. The pit was then divided into five (5) compartments which will serve as septic tanks.

This work was delayed for 7 days due to the hard texture of the land and the non-stop rain which distracted the work.

This was completed by 19th November.



Fig. 11- Digging of the pit for Septic tank.



Fig. 12- Septic tank walls building.

### C. CABINS CONSTRUCTION

The cabins' foundations were laid on the pit walls from 20<sup>th</sup> November followed by the cabins' floor concrete which was made to cover partly the pit with the uncovered part left as opening to the septic tank (pit).

The cabins walls were elevated and another concrete layer was made to roof it. Small movable concrete plates were made to serve as cover for the septic tanks.

Pipes were connected at the back of each cabin from inside the septic tank to the cabins' roof level. This will serve as air and heat evacuation canal from the tanks.

A wall was built in front of the cabins to protect from direct opening of the cabins outside. A separation wall was also built to divide the gents' side from the ladies side. The cabin's construction was completed by 1st December.



Fig. 13- Laying of cabin's foundation.



Fig. 14- Cabins walls' elevation.



Fig. 15- Cabins walls completed.





Fig. 16 Fig. 17

Fig. 16 - Fig. 17- Back view of uncompleted cabin walls.

### D. FINISHING AND POLISHING

Metal doors were fabricated locally and fixed on the front walls and on each cabin. A total of height (6) metallic doors were fixed.

The whole building was plastered from inside the pit to the roofing, inside and outside.

Tiles of 1m high were laid inside the cabins' walls and completed with oil paint to the roof.

Water paint was used to cover the outer parts of the building.

Sign plates were made with the donor's name, year of completion (DONATED BY DR KIMBERLY AND BENEFACTORS, THANKS TO RIM AND SOMAGG FOR THEIR COLLABORATION 2019), gender directions (FEMMES, HOMMES) and fixed on the appropriate walls.

The finishing works started on 2<sup>nd</sup> and ended by 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



Fig. 18- Plastered cabin walls.



Fig. 19- Back view of cabin plastered walls with septic tank



Fig. 20- Metalic doors fixing.

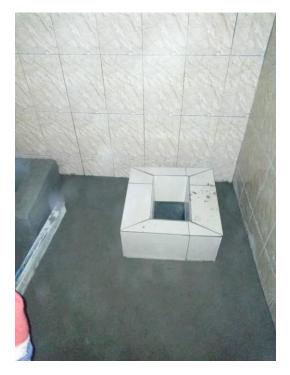


Fig. 21- Interior tiles fixed.



Fig. 22- First paint coating.



Fig. 23- Latrines back view with closed septic tank



Fig. 24- Cabin's inside view



Fig. 25- Cabin painting.





Fig. 26

Fig. 27

Fig. 26 - Fig. 27- Gender Labeling board fixed.



Fig. 28- Donators' plaque fixed.

# E. COMMISSIONING

The SOMAGG Director and project Coordinator went to inspect and commission the finished work on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

After critical inspection of the realisation compared to the construction plan, the SOMAGG team commissioned the Latrines on 13th December 2019.



Fig. 29- Outside view of completed latrines.



Fig. 30- Inside view of completed latrines



Fig. 31- Side view of completed latrines.



Fig. 32- Pit filled with water by rain.

# VI. CONSTRAINTS

- The heavy rain experienced in November was a great handicap to the work.
- Labourers have to fetch out the rain water from the septic tank and wait for the inside to dry before proceeding with the work.
- The water cumulation in the tank and the on and off rain delayed the work for many days.

# VII. <u>INAUGURATION</u>

The SOMAGG team lead by Father Odilon went on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2019 to Datcha for the inauguration of the Latrines.

The whole village gathered with Fr Phillip at the village public place. They were delighted as they saw the team arrived and welcome them with songs.

A welcome address was given by father Phillip who introduced the SOMAGG team to the village. He explained to them how the whole work came about and spoke also about the donors.

He then left the floor for the Chief of the community who expressed how grateful they were because for so long they have suffered with sanitation problems. He also thanked the Donors through SOMAGG by saying that they are very much impressed by the work SOMAGG is doing so far because they have witnessed many Agencies which got funds to help some community but they did not realise the project or they realised it half way or not as expected. So far they are seeing how SOMAGG is implementing projects around their village one by one and they vividly recommend the delicacy in SOMAGG's work. They pray for blessings and good health of the Donors Especially Dr Kimberly who took it upon herself to raise fund for the betterment of their community.

Fr Odilon followed his address by thanking the community first of all for their cooperation during the implementation of the project. He thanked the workers who put their skills at the disposition of the team and also for their job well done. He continued by explaining how the Donors have this community at heart and their full support to help to improve the way of living of this community. He explained how the task is not easy for Dr Kimberly to raise fund but she put it upon herself to make the community and its problems touch the heart of all the donors who have not ceased to support the motive.

He then asked them that the best gift they could offer the Donors is to maintain these facilities that are built in good condition so that in case the Donors visit one day to meet the community they will be happy and proud to see the facilities in good

condition and well maintained. The maintenance will not also be only for the Donors eyes but also to keep them safe and healthy because no one will offer a gift which will later be prone to be a source of diseases. He concluded by thanking the Chief who donated the land on which the latrines were built.

His address was followed by the villagers' address that expressed their gratitude and promised to keep the facilities in good state. They also expressed their appreciations to the Donors and wished they could one day meet them especially Dr Kimberly in person.

After this address, the community was thought on how to properly maintain the latrines in good and clean conditions, how and when to empty the septic tanks.

A vote of thanks was given by one elder who said they can never finish appreciating what the Donors are doing for them because it feels like a dream to be moving from one project to the other which was not expected. It feels like a burden is taken off their shoulders each time. He prayed for God's blessings upon Dr Kimberly, all the Donors, Fr Phillip, and the SOMAGG team.

The whole community proceeded toward the facilities for the blessing which was led by Fr. Odilon assisted by Fr Phillip. A general visit by the SOMAGG team and the community was done after the blessing.

The SOMAGG team officially trusted the realisation to the care of the Chief of the community who gladly accepted it.

With the African hospitality nature, the appreciation of a gift of such nature is shown by celebrations which crowned the end of the ceremony.



Fig. 33- Fr Odilon interacting with father Phillip



Fig. 34- Community gathered for the occasion.



Fig. 35



Fig. 36



Fig. 37-

Fig. 35- Fig. 37- Fr Odilon blessing the facilities.

# VIII. CONCLUSION

The SOMAGG team took it upon itself to show the love of the Donors to this community by making this project a success. The fact that the different needs of the community are met bit by bit from water to two blocks of latrines, one for the children in school and one for the community when all hope were lost is a great revival and the hope of a better life. Seeing smiles on the faces of these community members was a heart touching event and motivation to work on such projects.