



Community Micro-Irrigation Solar Project for Women of Kabinou

Goal: \$48,000

Installation of two (2) Solar Power Irrigation Systems for the “Lagmtaaba la Nongo” women cooperative group of the village of Kabinou, Centre-West Region, Burkina Faso.

1. Background

The condition of women in the rural areas of Burkina Faso poses a challenge, as they play a key role in running households and make major labor contributions to agricultural production. The women in the village of Kabinou are vulnerable to poverty and hardship. Community Building Group has begun a series of actions to secure water and deploy irrigation and solar energy technology to help these local communities.

Small-scale irrigation vegetable production is one of the major activities that occupy women in rural when water resource is available. Community Building Group (CBG) has worked together with all stakeholders and volunteers to build rainwater catchment basins in Burkina Faso. CBG has forged partnerships with underserved rural desert people in the Sahel.

This project is focused on improving the situation of rural women in the village of Kabinou through equal access to productive resources, especially irrigation technology with solar energy, as well as to gainful incomes which are crucial for their household wealth fare.

2. Project Goal

The goal of this project is to empower the women's productive capacity in a small-scale irrigation system powered with solar energy for vegetable farming activities for more food and also free the women and girls from the manual irrigation burden which is hampered women socio-economic development and girl's education.

2.1. Specific Objective

- Geospatial layout design of the irrigation schemes for the village of Kabinou
- Install two brand new solar power irrigation systems (*drip micro-irrigation and sprinkler*) for the “Lagmtaaba la Nongo” women cooperative group of the village of Kabinou
- Install two smart controllers for irrigation scheduling and water management
- Build local capacity on the operation and maintenance of the new solar power irrigation system, and best productions practices including organic farming practices
- Promote the local ownership and sustainability of the project after completion



3. Main Beneficiaries

Ultimate beneficiaries will be the women cooperative group of the village of Kabinou known as “**Lagmtaaba la Nongo**” with more than 300 members. These women are seen as the driving force of the socio-economic activities in the village and surrounding area.

4. Project Area

The village of Kabinou is located in the Department of Ramongo, Centre-West Region, Burkina Faso. Why the choice of this village? The village of Kabinou is near Kamsi, a pilot village where CBG has successfully built a rainwater catchment, powered the primary school with solar energy, and then installed two solar power irrigation systems for the women of the cooperative group of Kamsi which account for more than 500 members. Our result has echoed and transcended across the area, and most villages have requested us for help.

5. Why this Project?

The micro-irrigation technology with the solar power pumping system for vegetable production can help the rural area to combat poverty, hunger, and disease and also stimulate sustainable development. Indeed, with the impact of climate changes, rainfed crops production has been hampered either by erratic rains or drought. Empowered local people with a solar power irrigation system is seen as one of the most robust adaptation measures that can make the rural area more resilient to weather stresses and calamities. In addition, the outbreak of the COVI-19 has now made it very hard to found food locally, with price skyrocketing.

There is therefore a need to support women in a rural area in Burkina Faso within the context of climate change that has increased negative impacts where the reliance is mostly intensive labor for little crops yields harvest. Such a situation jeopardizes household livelihood and the education of the girls and sometimes it results in a complete withdrawal of the girls from school.

The project is intended to provide productive instruments to a rural area as a key strategy for the economic empowerment of rural women in the Center-West of Burkina Faso. Enabling irrigation production potential in the village of Kabinou will allow the women to grow 3 to 4 production cycles, and also with the possibility to diversify their cropping systems with more crops including but not limited to tomatoes, onion, lettuces, cabbage, cucumber, eggplant, hibiscus.

6. Expected Impact

The immediate results are the removal of the burden of manual crop watering by girls and their mothers. In general, the women and girls spent between 8 to 12 hours a day on the farm, and manually irrigation is the main task that makes them busy all day. Women’s poverty is reflected in the household wealth fare, and they are now mostly occupied by the vegetable farm activities

which are also intense labor for carrying water to the plant, as there they have no modern irrigation equipment. They fetch water from a deep well and manually carry it to their garden. Adding to that, they have no knowledge of the irrigation technologies that can help them alongside with the smart irrigation water at the highest optimum efficiency, and with no cost on pumping daily irrigation water. So, the income-generating activities toward this micro-irrigation project will have a direct impact on rural socio-economic development. The project will benefit 4000 residents of the village of Kabinou and the surrounding area, and it will directly benefit more than 300 women, and 800 girls to secure food, and create socioeconomic activities in the village of Kabinou and surrounding area.











