



ONG EDUCATION ET DEVELOPPEMENT

2020 Activities Report



Introduction

The coronavirus pandemic has terribly shaken the whole world in 2020. Even in early 2021, it continues its gruesome devastation. The activities of the Non-Governmental Organization EDUCATION ET DEVELOPPEMENT (ONG ED) were not spared: they also suffered the consequences of covid-19 when they devoted to dealing with it; we will talk about it in this report.

I - Activities of the Board of Directors (CA)

On Thursday, December 03, 2020, all members of the Board of Directors met for an Ordinary General Assembly at its NGO headquarters, Maison Houessilo Sodji in Kpodaha1, Ayomi District, Dogbo Municipality, Couffo Department.

- **Examination of the activity report for the year 2019**

The presentation of the activity report for the year 2019 is made by the Secretary General of the NGO. This report was unanimously approved by all other attenders at this general meeting. It mainly covers the activities and problems of the health center of the NGO ED in Taïfa (Djougou), in the north of Benin.

II- Activities of the Executive Board

In 2020, the NGO acted mainly in the following areas:

2.1- School canteen



Schoolchildren in the schoolyard in Kpodaha

The lock down of the population and the fear aroused by the coronavirus (covid-19) pandemic has had negative impacts on the population: people

believe that it is the end of the world, and their income-generating activities have slowed down.



Schoolchildren feasting on meals



Distribution of meals to schoolchildren





To protect the people from the devastating contamination, the government has closed schools; and for examination reasons, it first allowed the opening of the school for the examination classes. And then, it was the turn of the other classes, while the examination classes remained closed.

At the Kpodaha public school complex, there are 681 schoolchildren who are concerned and who have benefited from the aid of the NGO ED.

Thanks to the intervention of the NGO ED, no schoolboy has dropped out of school. All the schoolchildren have well attended the lessons, and the results were more than ever satisfactory: 100% success in the CEP exams. Note that the conditions were particularly difficult because of covid-19. This is the very first time that such results have been achieved since the establishment of this school in 1972.

To support those schoolchildren in the exam class, with the help of the American foundation **Globalgiving** and that of Professor Lisa and her friends, the NGO ED quickly established the canteen for a time. This great school does not have any canteen. Elsewhere, schools that are not school complexes have them.

2.2: Sanitary measures

In order to protect students and pupils from various diseases, ONG ED decided to provide schools with water points. The reason for this decision is due to the fact that there was no water in the schools. One might wonder how schoolchildren behave after defecation, for example.

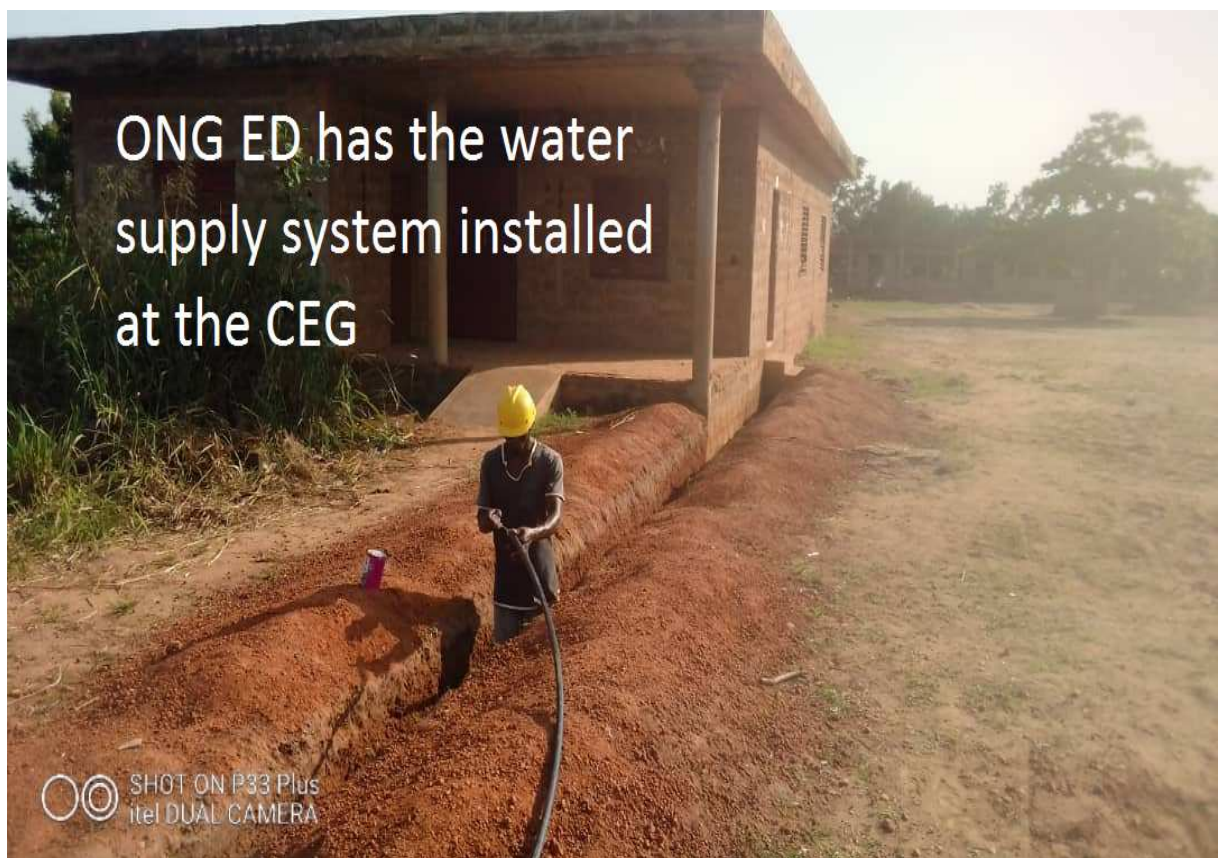
In addition, since handwashing has become a requirement when there is no water, how can school schoolchildren perform this important "barrier gesture"?

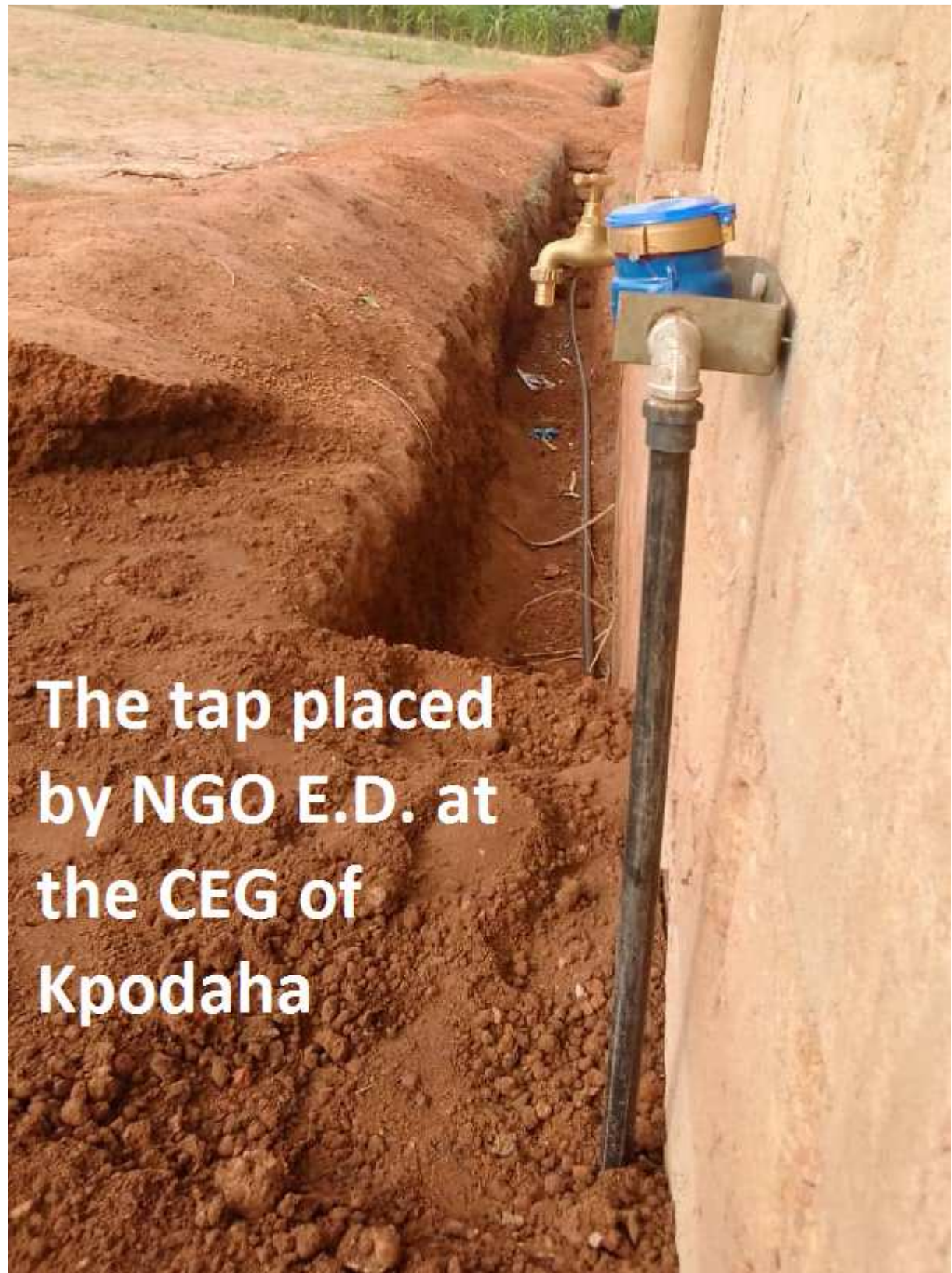
It is to answer this question and others that, with the support of the Friends of the United States of America, ONG ED provided water to the school complex of Kpodaha and the CEG of Kpodaha with its **119** students.





The water trench to the CEG







Water supplied by ONG EDUCATION ET DEVELOPPEMENT to Kpodaha CEG



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ONG EDUCATION ET DEVELOPPEMENT has a long trench dug to drain drinking water at the public school complex in Kpodaha



The masons of the NGO
ED build the faucet walls
for the schoolchildren



SHOT ON P33 Plus
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2.3: Other school aids

Having approached the public elementary school of Kpodaha, ONG ED received its complaints about the glaring lack of furniture for both teachers and schoolchildren, and of school supplies needed by schoolchildren. So at the request of the authorities of this school complex, the NGO ED provided mathematics instruments to the students in the exam class.

ONG ED had 50 tables and benches repaired when that public elementary school needed 150 tables and benches.





Bricks support spoiled tables-benches in a classroom



Schoolchildren sitting on the floor for lack of furniture



Classroom without tables-benches (furniture) forces schoolchildren to sit on the floor



Schoolchildren carrying a banner of thanks to ONG EDUCATION & DEVELOPPEMENT and to donors from the USA

The lack of furniture is a crucial problem in the public school complex of Kpodaha, as there are classes without furniture and schoolkids sit on the floor; there are teachers who have only furniture for mere schoolkids. It is a challenge that remains to be met both at the level of this school complex and at the level of the College of General Education (CEG) of these rural villages in Dogbo (Benin). At the CEG, much remains to be done to protect students from bad weather.

2.4: Support for the economic development of women

The precariousness of life imposed by the new situation generated by the pandemic has made ONG ED resort to grouping women for income generating activities.

Let us remember that it was not in the habit of these women to gather around a common activity in a constituted group. This is an initiative by NGO ED.

These were women who went in scattered rows, ranks, each one on her own way. Pooling their resources is seen as necessary for their economic emancipation.



To begin with, ONG ED brought together 25 women to establish food security through the activity of preparing "gari" (cassava flour). This grouping of women triggered the desire of women to come together to carry out income-generating activities.

ONG ED has estimated that the women, once comfortable, would take care of the education of their children. As a result, the number of out-of-school children will decline as will the number of emigrants.

Just a small financial means was granted to these women gathered to put them to work.

However, they lack the necessary means to work, which they request from ONG ED.

III- Future projects

As far as possible, we plan:

- to focus more on the issue of the environment in the departments of Mono and Couffo,
- to continue to seek funding for our projects,
- to reopen the health center,
- to build a training center for women and youths,
- to train the population on local income-generating activities and especially to revive the craft and art.

In any case, we need subsidies in order to achieve our objectives. We intend to put everyone to work in a different way.

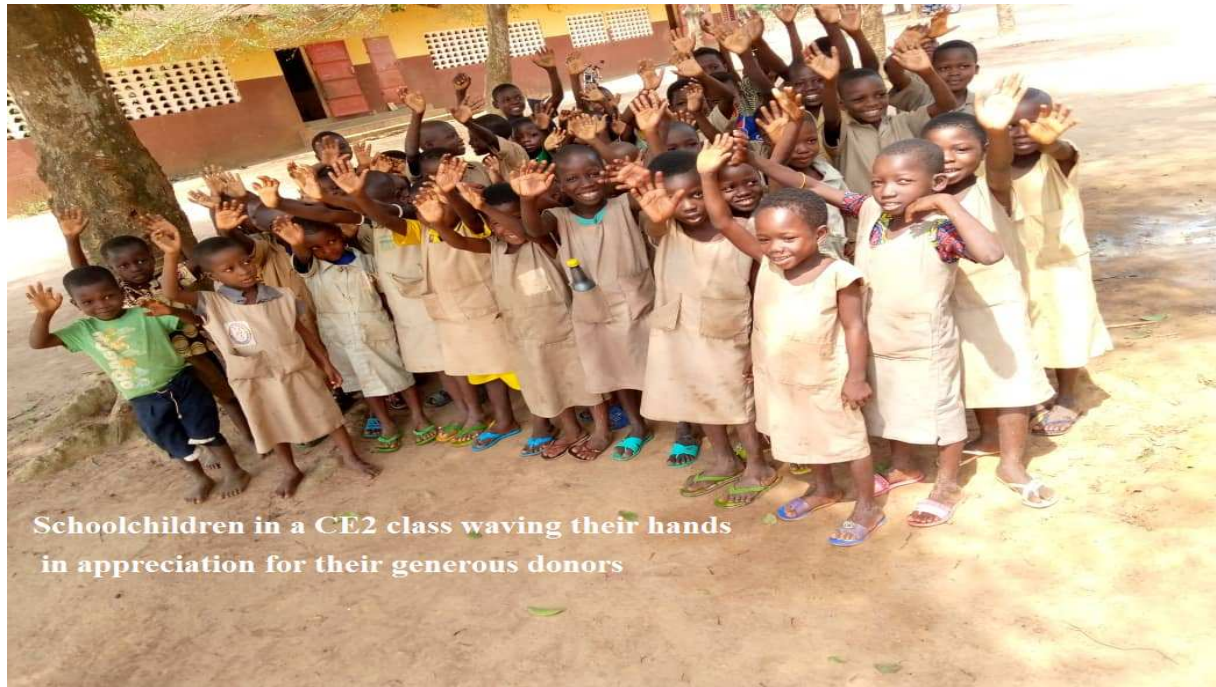
Conclusion

Before concluding, we would like to thank the obvious generosity of the people of the United States of America. It is these Americans, especially Professor Lisa and others, who are very well familiar with the school life in Benin; who have made possible what is done for 900 schoolchildren and students, and for women.

Despite the heavy burglary it suffered in 2012 in Azové (Aplahoué), ONG EDUCATION ET DEVELOPPEMENT (ONG ED) has the will to act for the well-being of the population and it needs grants.

To well do, ONG ED needs capacity building for research and granting. This will allow it to better organize itself to fulfill its mission.

For that, the help from authorities is necessary to support it and to make it autonomous in the long run.



Schoolchildren in a CE2 class waving their hands
in appreciation for their generous donors



Disadvantaged women
grinding cassava by
hand for "gari"