

## BRINGING CHILDREN IN TOGO CLEAN WATER

A BOREHOLE, WATER TANK AND HYGIENE TRAINING FOR COMPASSION CENTRE TG-106



*These girls have clean water, thanks to you!*

The red dirt from the dusty streets of Lomé would stick to the children's feet as they walked several kilometres to gather water for their families. Often the wells where they gathered water were uncovered and filled with dirty water. Children would complain of stomachaches and miss school.

In Togo, only one in three people has access to clean water. Many people don't know how to properly store water once they have it, and many don't practice basic sanitation and hygiene practices that could save a life.

CONTINUE READING 



*Hand-washing stations were constructed so children can wash their hands after they use the washrooms and before they eat.*

At Compassion centre TG-106 on the outskirts of Lomé, there was no clean water source close by. The centre had to buy and transport water from afar, without a sanitary way of storing water at the centre. Parents were worried sending their children to the centre on Saturdays, and the cooks had a hard time getting enough water to cook and wash up with. What's more, children didn't have a way to wash their hands after using the washrooms or before eating.

## THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING THESE CHILDREN WITH CLEAN WATER!

Thanks to your generous heart, these children now have access to clean water that won't make them sick. Your support provided:

- A borehole that provides potable water
- A tank that safely stores water
- Hand-washing stations
- Hygiene training for parents, children and staff

## YOUR SUPPORT IS ALREADY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Since the borehole was installed, only one child has gotten sick from a water-related cause—compared to five children who were sick with diarrhea or stomachaches the two months before it was drilled. This reduction in sickness will make a huge difference in the long-term health of the kids at this centre. They won't have to miss school because they're sick, and their lives won't be threatened by preventable diseases.

Your support will not only keep children healthy, it will save this centre money. Each month, the centre was paying \$16 to \$20 for water. Now this money can go towards other urgent needs of the children.

**You gave 472 people access to clean water.**



*Children are able to gather water when they need it.*

- 222 children have access to clean water when they visit the centre.
- 250 adults—parents, church members and Compassion staff—can gather water at the centre for their families.

In the future, the centre may also sell water to the community to help maintain the borehole, as well as earn an income to further help kids.

### **You educated 280 people about health practices.**

Through your support, parents, children, church members and kitchen volunteers were trained in sanitation. They learned how dirty water can make you sick, how to properly store water and how important it is to wash hands after using the washroom and before eating.

Compassion centre staff were also trained in proper maintenance of the borehole so that it will keep operating for years to come.

### **Your help is a huge relief to children in need in Togo!**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR THÉOPHILE K. HESSOU

This project has positively affected the life of the whole church. Things are now so easy as far as our need for water is concerned. Before the drilling of this borehole, we needed to go fetch water all the time, especially for our sanitation facilities. This was such a big problem. Now, there's no more worry. The sanitation cabinets are cleaned and proper. This will avoid so many diseases.

The workers and the volunteers, especially the cooking staff, are no longer stressed when Fridays arrive, because getting enough water had been a crucial issue. The children are very enthusiastic about the clean water.

Church members and parents are more and more engaged, and the community is testifying that God is at work in our church. The donors have sown a seed, and the fruits will benefit thousands of people. May our Lord Jesus Christ bless you.

## MESSAGE FROM CENTRE COORDINATOR KOSSI-KOUMA LELEOUWA

The community has very much appreciated the borehole, as we have freely given them the water from the first days the borehole was completed. Many said this is what churches should be doing to help communities. This has positively changed the thoughts of people towards the church. Two families have authorized their children to attend our Sunday school.

May God bless those who made this possible, and may He give them back a hundredfold of what they have spent. May God bless their families and their activities as well.

## MESSAGE FROM AMÉYO ABALO, FATHER OF COMPASSION CHILD

Life was very difficult because boreholes are very far from the place where we live. My children and I suffered a lot to find potable water. By the grace of God I am not far from the church, and it is very easy for me to go and get water now. We are very much unloaded from the burden of fetching water.

Through the water hygiene training, I have learned how to keep water safe and how to keep our food and the environment from germs and contamination. Because we are applying these rules, I am noticing that my children are no longer falling sick very often.

This borehole means good health, success at school and success in life. Those who funded this intervention have saved many lives, and they will surely be blessed.

## MESSAGE FROM KOSSIWA KOUKOKPO, COMPASSION COOK

Before the construction of the borehole, we had all the troubles a large family can have when they lack access to water. We were using any kind of water available, and that was a source of many diseases, especially for our children. Now things are much better as I can fetch water whenever I need it. The issue of water scarcity for my family is solved.

And cooking at the centre is like paradise! We are no longer compelled to go afar to get water for our Saturday activities.

My neighbours are speaking more positively about the church than they did before. Some say that if they start going to church, they will surely choose ours because the leaders are concerned about the well-being of children and the population as well.

Taking into consideration the training we received about water hygiene, we are very careful about the water we use and the way we handle the food we eat. We are making sure that our surroundings and environment are kept very clean and proper.

This intervention means health for my whole family, and those who made this possible should know that their money was not used in vain but has made activities at the centre much easier than before, and the community is benefiting from it as well.



*Thank you for bringing clean water to 472 people!*



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