

VOICE FROM THE COMMUNITY

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Communities in Action

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SMC MEMBER/PARENT
SANTROKOFI GBODOME

The intervention by CSA and ILP, all of the QUIPS programme, in my community has brought great changes in the lives of teachers, children, SMC/PTA and the whole community of Santrokofi Gbodome in the Hohoe district.

Before the QUIPS programme, meeting attendance by parents was very poor. After the coming of CSA however, there has been a tremendous improvement in parents' attitude towards meeting attendance. The SMC has become functional and works jointly with the PTA and Unit Committee. The SMC/PTA hold joint meetings and together they undertake school improvement projects.

The training workshops organized by CSA for SMC/PTA has served as a guide to equip us to perform better in our community. It has also helped me to learn a lot like:

- ◆ As an SMC member, I now know my roles and responsibility.
- ◆ How to develop links with teachers to help improve teaching and learning.
- ◆ The ways SMC/PTA generate income for school through open days and harvest.
- ◆ The need to find accommodation for teachers in the community.

The course organized for teachers by ILP has also brought efficiency in the delivery of lessons by teachers and the children's response to lessons. School children now study at home and their spoken and written English has presently, greatly improved.

With the CSA Microgrant and the community's contributions, the SMC/PTA have constructed furniture for the upper primary and teachers. Furniture for the lower primary is also currently under construction.

Storage facilities for all the 6 classes and the office have also been constructed. TLM and some textbooks were also acquired. This has uplifted the quality of teaching and learning in the school.

All thanks to CSA and their facilitators for the love and dedication to community development and I wish the GES and the District Assembly will try and extend this programme to various schools in the District to help make FCUBE a success. ☺

Most importantly, we should take note that CSA leaves the community after 2 years. This leaves room for us to actively participate in school improvement efforts. For as CSA leaves, we, the community members, will have to put all hands on deck to sustain the pupils development



The time needed for the children to study in the evening is as important as the time spent in the classroom. As parents we have the responsibility to supervise our children's evening studies.

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Communities in Action

**PTA CHAIRMAN
METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL
WAMANAFO**

Our PTA, and the school in general, are benefiting immensely from the QUIPS Programme. Before the QUIPS/CSA programme, our PTA was working, but the executive was not properly formed. We had three (3) members forming the executive. The rest of the members were inactive and did not attend meetings.

Also, the parents did not attend PTA general meetings. Sometimes you will go to PTA meetings and only 20 parents will attend. Their reason is that they are being invited to only pay PTA levies and other fees, which is the duty of the government.

But now, with the QUIPS/CSA programme in the school, most parents have come to know that they do not attend PTA meetings only to discuss school finances but general educational issues affecting the welfare of their children and what they as parents have to do to help the children. This has improved meeting attendance over the few months the programme started.

Again, the executive of the PTA has been re-formed properly as a result of the QUIPS/CSA intervention. Now every executive member is working well because we know our Roles and Responsibilities. ☺

QUIPS has made us aware of the fact that the schools are for us, not the government; therefore we have to help our own children.

**VICTOR KOFI KATTAH
PTA SECRETARY
TEFLE**

Ever since the introduction of the USAID/QIUPS programme in the Tefle school community, the people have demonstrated that they have the ability when it comes to mobilization and giving out their best towards

school improvement.

The human resource base of the community and the abundant talent in the town have been well tapped to support the programme. In a matter of two months, during the second term holidays all the Christian churches in Tefle led the way to all stakeholders of education to celebrate two separate festivals to raise funds for the project. In all, a little over 4 million cedis was raised to support the provision of furniture for the pupils in the school.

The forum was also used to offer Godly counsel to parents and pupils to do more in respect of education in the area.

The churches, Drivers Union, Students Union, Bread Bakers Association and other philanthropic organizations and individuals generously donated various items to help procure teaching and learning materials for the school.

Our expectation is that all these inputs would not be the end, but a means to achieving and overhauling the fading and sinking image of Education in Tefle. This will enable the town to regain its lost glory in the history books of Education in the country. Kudos to QUIPS and the entire Tefle community. ☺

**MR. TIMOTHY YEBOAH
PTA FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Before the QUIPS/CSA programme, parents did not visit their wards in school. Only the PTA executives did that. Now with the inception of QUIPS/CSA programme in the community, parents do visit the school to find out how teachers are doing and discuss the performance of the pupils. A visitor's book is also kept in which visiting parents sign.

Thanks to the QUIPS/CSA programme, teaching in the school has also improved and extra classes are being conducted for the pupils. Apart from the fact that teachers now prepare very good lesson notes (as confirmed by the headteacher) and deliver good lessons, they are also very punctual and regular to school.

**AYEKOO QUIPS/ CSA/ ILP/
SMC/PTA ☺**

Teacher Observations

KWAME SAMPSON

TEACHER

WAMANAFO METHODIST PRIMARY

Even though all six teachers on staff are trained and experienced and were doing their daily work the way it should be, the QUIPS programme has come to reveal that really there was something to know better still. This I discovered during QUIPS-ILP workshop organized for we teachers. The effects of this ILP workshop are: it has built self-confidence in teachers towards their work and exposed teachers to variety of progressive teaching methods and learning materials. The confidence of teachers and their way of teaching have also built self-confidence in pupil-teacher relationships and also developed in children the will to learn. A very thank you to the QUIPS-ILP workshop.

The change did not affect the school only, lots of self realisation also came upon the community members as well. It has made the community to realize their role in the running of the school. And so, community- teacher relationship has improved drastically. Visits to the school, motivation of teachers and response to PTA general meetings, etc., have all improved.

Pupils can now speak English freely in and outside the classroom. Children no longer have fears towards the learning of mathematics. They approach it with all readiness and preparedness.

The greatest achievement is that the school now stands out as a model school in the whole town and circuit.

The school is very grateful to the Ghana Government and USAID for the QUIPS Programme; their recent attitude seems to say. ☺

KUSI BOAKYE WILLIAM

TEACHER

BEREKUM ST. MONICA'S PRIMARY

In fact the QUIPS programme has come to help me gain more experience as a professional teacher does. Before this programme I thought I was doing my best without the concern of the parents or the children. No form of encouragement came from parents.

Now things are moving very well in the school. Parents visit the school to know what is going on in the school.

Because of the relationship between the parents and the teachers, the children have put an end to truancy and indiscipline. I give homework to the children and the parents also see to it that the children do the work. It is my hope that the QUIPS programme will be extended to other districts, especially the deprived ones.

I say a very big thank you to all the sponsors of this great programme. ☺

ALEXANDER F.R ATTIPE

TEACHER

KODROBI D/A PRIMARY

The teaching staff actually gained a lot from the coming of the QUIPS /CSA/ ILP Programme.

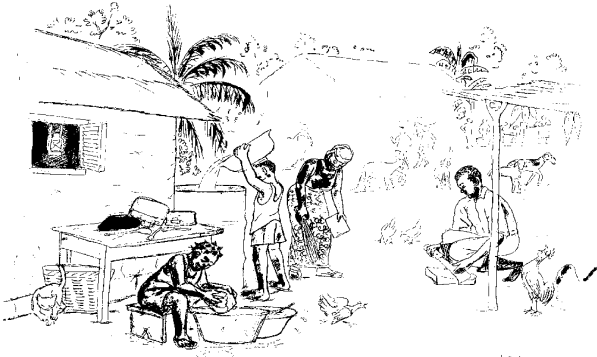
Through the intervention, lesson plans preparation, teaching, and supervision in class have become very easy.

The children are improving upon their English as medium for expression. Numeration is also easy for them, because they do a lot of home works.

Parent representatives visit pupils at their various learning centres in the evenings to ensure that children are studying. ☺

IT TAKES A LOT OF DEDICATION TO TRAIN A CHILD. WE HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY AS TEACHERS AND WE MUST NOT FAIL THE CHILDREN. THEY NEED US.

Pupil Observations



House chores need to be shared equally among children in the house. Both boys and girls must be given equal responsibilities in the house. This will get both of them to school on time and give each of them equal chances of performing better in class. Both children will also get enough time to learn in the house. Parents must also help with the performance of chores.

XEDZRO CLINTON PUPIL, SOUTH TONGU

At first, the teachers taught us without the use of any wall pictures, material examples or other teaching and learning materials. We never see teachers coming to class with any such materials. But now we have most of these materials hanging in our classrooms. I believe this is happening because of the help that has come to the school from CSA/ ILP. Now learning is easier and the sitting arrangement allows us to learn from each other. Each of us can now read and work mathematics better. Formerly our teachers didn't give us any homework but now they do a lot.

Presently we have our parents providing our school needs readily than before. Thanks to QUIPS/CSA/ILP.

We also received a set of drums, football and some dual desks from the DEOC and District Director in the South Tongu District. We are very grateful to all of you. ☺

ADDO PRISCILLA P5 PUPIL, ASUOFORI

Actually, I was very happy when my school was chosen as one of the partnership schools.

Before the QUIPS programme, we were not given enough homework to send home but now our teachers do well to make sure that we have enough homework for the evening after school and the weekend.

Also, at first I didn't know what a library book is, but now almost every week I get the chance of reading one book.

I can also now tell the calendar names as well as read dates on the calendar.

I wish this programme spread to other areas of the country to enable our friends to also get the opportunity to improve on their learning. ☺



As children ours is to finish our evening chores quickly, take our bath, pick our homework books to study and then sleep early so that we can go to school early the next day. Parents must always insist on this.

**BE VERY GOOD CHILDREN
AND REMEMBER THAT
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER**