



**Sahara Advocates of Change**

*"Sharing Skills and Ideas to Change Lives!"*

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**Ghana Outlook**

*Assisting rural communities to enhance their future through education and self-help programmes*



Registered Charity Number  
1091636

# COMPLETION REPORT OF MECHANIZE BOREHOLE PROJECT



**BEBORA GOMMA, NYOLI PAANI, WA WEST DISTRICT, UPPER WEST REGION, GHANA  
DECEMBER 2020**



Bebora Gomma, a small farming community on a hilly side of Nyoli Paani in Wa West District, Upper West Region has not had any form of safe water since the community was established about 60 years ago.

They have been fetching water wherever they could and find it no matter what the color or condition the water was in. In the rain season the stream provides ample water, although not safe and full of the usual diseases when shared by wild and domestic animals. In the long dry seasons and the river dries they have been depending on a small dug's out that they have to dig to find water. The search for water is never-ending. It is time consuming and interrupts daily life such as farming and children going to school as the search for water three times a day is the priority. There is water available for sale in a nearby village of about 3 kilometers away. but most of the inhabitants of Bebora Gomma prefer to save the .50 pesewa charge for a 5-liter yellow container than spending it as it is not affordable for them over longer term. Patronage of the stream water, although not good is the cheaper option when money is scarce .



The dry stream



The valley



Bebora Gomma on the hill



Dug-out



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The dug out where water is coming



The stream during the rainy season

In February 2020, Sahara Advocates of Change (SAC), a valued partner of Ghana Outlook, was asked to visit the community and see for themselves the desperate need of the community. SAC programs manager Lina Beneb met with the community leaders to hear of their problems. Lina could quite clearly see the problem and she heard of the sickness and ill health that was causing the community through the lack of, and quality of the water that they have to consume.

The community begged Lina for help. Ghana Outlook UK was approached and ask if they could intervene and possibly provide a safe water borehole. Although it was not on GO's current project list, it was agreed by the Trustee's that should be prioritised following recommendations from SAC.

A meeting was set up with the community committee to agree the securing of the land for the community where the borehole would be possibly sited. As with all Ghana Outlook projects a MOU had to agreed and signed to ensure a commitment to self-help labor, training in the use of the bore hole, maintenance of it and applied charges to cover maintenance costs that would be recorded.





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A experienced contractor was employed, and costs agreed. Tests would confirm safety of the water and the depth should be such that water would still flow in the dry season when the water table drops.

It took two drilling sites before a satisfactory flow of water was found. Water was found at 8 m but drilling continued to 50m to make sure there was enough water in the bed for a mechanize borehole.

The joy of the community when water came out cannot be captured in one frame, even the drillers were overjoyed, as they know that through the entire area water is hard to come by.

All the water teats came back good, and the construction of the borehole commenced with community members giving a helping hand.

### **Commissioning of the borehole.**

Bebora Gomma inhabitants expressed their gratitude one by one during the program. Mr. Robert Anthony, representing the youth voiced out that he was very happy when he got to know that they are now getting water and it is flowing. He added that now the ladies are interested to marry men in Beborra Gomma while before they spurn on them and they have to get out of the community to marry as to not be rejected by ladies.

For Amina Yahaya, a seven-year-old girl, the water gives her so much joy as she can now fetch water nearby and not to walk far and the water for her was easy to fetch.

15-year-old Desmond Dery thanked the donors for bringing water into his community and now they can go to school on time as they do not have to wake up very early and walk far to look for water. He hopes that the donors will be blessed more so many communities will be able to get water and children like him do not have to suffer.

Madame Janet Dery, in her middle 30s who was married to the community and was criticize by her friends of marrying a man coming from a community without water said that when she decided to settle in Beborra Gomma not long enough (less than a year), she prayed that water should be nearby and she cannot believe that her prayers were answered when the facility was being constructed.

One Amudu Asatu who is in her early 70s narrated how they walk 7 kilometers to the nearby village of Ga just to get water. She can't believe that she will see the day that the water will come to her community.



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She kneels down and thank the donors for all the support in solving their water problem. She added after the turn over that every day in her life when she will wake up and before the rooster crow, she will thank God for the donors for giving them water.

For Werkari Baa-iremuro Paul who is also in his 70's and together with Madame Asatu, was one of the first settlers in the community narrated how they struggle with water in the community when they came to settle there. They used to make a dug-out in the stream during the dry season and they will put a water pot inside the dug-out for it to be filled the following day, but one wicked soul who was farming around the stream will pour the water away during the evening time and when they come to fetch the container the following day, they will be distraught of the sight that their water container is empty yet they persevere to live in the community due to the fertility of the land and manage to get water somewhere else. But now he said, his grandchildren and their children's children will no longer suffer the way they suffered. He cannot thank the donor enough but will ask God to continue to bless them.

Mr. Richard Sammy, Chair of the maintenance committee added his voice by urging his people to look after the borehole. Since the facility is very new, his people should value the facility. He vowed that they would maintain the facility well so it can serve more generations to come.

The emotional turn over opened by SAC programs manager advising the community members on the proper usage of the facility and its maintenance as well as narrated the brief history of the project. She also talked on the general health care and the importance of having clean water and good hygiene.

The program concluded with a ceremonial drinking of water by the SAC team and the community elders and the women fetching their first water.

### The Community Meeting

### Announcing the good news





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Eric discussing the MOU that must be agreed



The drilling



Driller workers jubilating when the water came out







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Platform construction, tank set-up, plumbing works, tiling and painting



Discussing maintenance of the borehole







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Signing of the MOU



The Hand Over





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THANK YOU, GHANA OUTLOOK! T  
The community gave two goats and a basin of yams



Fast facts:\*

1. There are about 79 people fetching on an average day
2. It takes 2.5-3 days before pumping again.
3. All people in the community are using the mechanize borehole water.
4. On an average day, a household fetch at least 50 liters. People fetch twice a day, 6-10 am and 3-6 pm. It will take at least 2 hours and 30 minutes to fill the tank.
5. Distance from main source to tank is 29 meters
6. Platform size is 4 ft. x 8 ft.