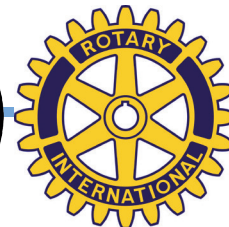


A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE FOR COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS



The Fada WASH Project: 2014-2015

This integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project addresses the dire need for clean water and improved sanitation in 5 rural villages in Burkina Faso's Fada Commune and eastern region. These villages were chosen because of their willingness to partner with the project, because they showed the greatest water and sanitation needs in the area, and because each village has a primary school with extreme need for improved WASH-in-Schools. To ensure good results and compliance with Burkinabè national standards we partnered with the Burkina Ministry of Water to oversee and monitor/evaluate all water & sanitation activities.

Water Services

- BARKA met with village leaders and stakeholders numerous times before launching any project activities to build relations, explain the project, and secure the full participation of the village through each step of the project
- The goal is for the communities to engage fully in the decision-making process and to take responsibility for the improvement of their own lives
- BARKA ensured that the project was implemented with **"free prior and informed consent"** - meaning that the people as a whole agreed to work together with project partners on the project
- Each village raised funds to contribute toward the project, ensuring true ownership of all project outcomes and achievements
- The BARKA Foundation conducted a "water accounting" exercise to identify every water point in each village through GPS; data was analysed to determine areas of greatest water needs
- BARKA assisted the village to create an autonomously elected water committee
- We trained this committee over 6 weeks to take responsibility for the management of the community's water resources and to represent the village at each stage of the decision-making process
- The water committee sensitized villagers of the need to collect small payments for the use of water, opened a bank account, and collected funds which will be used for future repairs to the well
- Each village's water committee selected a team of "hygienists" (which BARKA also trained over 4 months) to promote basic hygiene and serve as behavior change agents within the community

- Each village raised funds to contribute toward this project (approximately USD 700)
 - Half of these funds were used to train a mechanic from each village to be able to repair and maintain the well
 - The other half was given back to jump-start the village savings account started by the water committee
- 4 deep borehole wells were drilled in the locations of greatest need
- A local well driller conducted hydro-geologic tests to determine the best locations for a well in each village
- BARKA shared the results of the tests with each village; the water committee worked with the community to choose from the feasible locations
- After wells were positively drilled, tests were conducted to determine the flow rate, water quality, and recharge rate
- In a final step the pump was installed and a concrete superstructure with a reservoir for animals was constructed

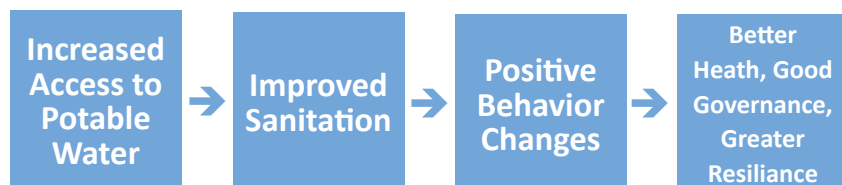
Sanitation

- Constructed gender-specific VIP composting latrines in 4 schools for students and teachers
- Gender-specific latrines in schools have been proven to lower drop-out rates of girls
- Worked directly with local grassroots groups (Parent Teacher Association, Students' Mothers Association, etc.) to make commitments to assist in the process
- BARKA works with local women's associations to provide handmade traditional soap for schools

Hygiene Education

- Established a robust and sustainable hygiene education program in communities and schools
- Trained teachers in 4 schools for ongoing hygiene education for all students
- Delivered essential supplies to schools such as locally produced handwashing stations, drinking stations, water jugs for safe transport and storage and cleaning materials for the classrooms and latrines
- Rural radio programming is used to engage villagers in debate and discussion about water resources, sanitation needs and hygiene principles; re-broadcasts expand impact throughout the region
- A theatrical performance was created to reinforce hygiene education and social messages: the need for good governance, the need to pay for clean water, and the key role women play in water resource management

Results



Through its community-led and holistic approach, BARKA facilitates the village to take ownership of the project and sustainably manage its own water resources.

How Extreme is the Need for Water in Burkina Faso?

The national standard is one well for 300 persons. In Mangouargou, a hamlet of the village of Koaré, which was a part of this project, a single well had been serving 1600 people.

Project Facts: Fada WASH Project

- Objective: Increase access to water, improve sanitation and awareness of basic hygiene in 4 villages of the Fada N'Gourma region.
- Project Partners: Rotary International, Crystal Rotary Club of Ouagadougou, USAID WA WASH, Winrock International, One Drop Foundation, Regional Direction of Water, BESER
- Duration: October 2014 to October 2015
- Estimated Number of Beneficiaries: 17,000 people directly by attending the performances; 31,000 indirectly
- Total budget: \$108,000 from Rotary International; \$38,000 from One Drop for theatre sensitization; \$100,000 in technical assistance from USAID WA WASH