Public Secondary School of Sowignandji

District of Aklampa, Community of Glazoué, Republic of Benin

Project location, initial situation and problem

Sowignandji is an amalgamation of three major towns (Sowignandji, Djanmandji and Agbagbadji) in the district of Aklampa, which belongs to the larger community of Glazoué. About 6,250 people live in this district. The city of Glazoué, central town of the municipality of Glazoué, lies north of Dassa-Zoume, which is about 209 km north of Cotonou, and has about 100,000 inhabitants. The region of Dassa-Zoume is characterized by large rocks. At Dassa-Zoume the road continues straight north to Parakou, another road branches off to the west and continues via Savalou northwards past Djougou to Natitengou. We take the road that leads north and after about 16 kilometers we reach the city of Glazoué. At the only roundabout in the town, a red clay road turns left westwards. We follow this road to Aklampa and turn right at the T-junction towards Bante. We drive through several villages before we reach Sowignandji. At the end of the village on the right side of the street we find the secondary school of the village. The one way from Glazoué to Sowignandji takes 2.5 hours due to the bad road condition.

Secondary School of Sowignandji was founded in October 2013. The students come from 10 surrounding elementary schools to prepare for the advanced level. The parents built one building with half-high walls, which houses 4 classrooms and an office for the director and the secretary. There is also a shelter without walls, in which 2 classes can be accommodated. All rooms are clean and well-kept. There are no toilets.

In the academic year 2018/2019, 306 children attended this school, including 154 girls. Students are looked after in six educational groups by 24 teachers, 4 of whom are paid by the government of the Republic of Benin. The remaining 20 part-time workers are employed by the village population.

Proposed measures

In order to alleviate the lack of classrooms in the secondary school of Sowignandji and to ensure lessons all year round regardless of weather conditions, the following measures were planned together with the PTA of the school:

The construction of

1. two buildings, each with four classrooms with power supply

Cost: € 80,000 (€ 40,000 per building) 2. two toilet annex with 8 cabins each

Cost: $€ 8,000 \times 2 = € 16,000$ 3. a borehole with a water tower

Cost: € 10,000

4. Costs of Building inspections: € 5,000

The estimated total cost is € 111.000 €

