

1st work report
(October 1st to November 19th, 2024)

**on the completion of a building holding 4 classrooms and construction of toilets
for the Catholic primary school St. Pierre
administrative district Sinwe-Lego
municipality of Agbangnizoun
Republic of Benin**

On October 1st we drive to Sinwe-Lego to start work on the building of the Catholic primary school. The abbot, who runs the school, is delighted to see us arrive. All the clauses of the contract are quickly recalled. Then the abbot shows us the room where the building materials can be stored and where our workers will sleep. Afterwards our chairman, the supervisor, the iron bender and the form worker start the search of cement, iron and form boards. I sit in the shade of a large tree and enjoy the coolness. Soon the first deliveries of cement and iron arrive.



Together with the bricklayers, we take an over view of the building:



The window openings are too wide and there is no iron anchor below the window openings, the doors are too low, the building structure is good.

After the sand arrives, building blocks are made.



The iron benders first make the iron inserts for the small anchor. Then the inserts are connected to the iron in the pillars. The anchor is then formed and cast.



The walls are raised and the supports for the roof are installed. Then the iron anchor below the roof is prepared.



After the iron anchor has been cast, the gables are built.



All gables are finished.



The doors were enlarged



A wall to protect the foundation is built around the building and the staircases are connected to the building.



Hard work is also being done in the toilet pit.



The toilet pit is plastered using sikalite and sikalatex and then closed.



The toilet block is built on top of it.



The ramp is also being built onto the building.



The building now has to dry for a month before the roof can be put on. On November 11th the time has come. The carpenters travel to Sinwe-Lego. Our supervisor is among them. Immediately after their arrival they look for planks for the roof truss, take them to the sawmill and the carpenters oversee the cutting. A few days later the cut planks arrive at the construction site. They are coated with insect repellent.



Then the cross ties are made



The cross ties are lashed by means of the iron rods of the pillars. The longitudinal planks are attached.



The entire roof structure is finally attached to the building with smooth iron rods.



Then the roofing sheets are screwed on.



The joy is great once the work is successfully done.



The building from the front and back side.



The toilet block also got its roof.



Since the construction team is still working on another project, it will be a few days before the plastering work can begin.

Many thanks to all donors who made this work possible.

With kind regards from Benin

Astrid Toda