

**Public Secondary School 4 of Abomey-Calavi**  
**City Ward Aïtchédji**  
**district Abomey-Calavi Center,**  
**Municipality of Abomey-Calavi,**  
**Republic of Benin**

Aïtchédji is a town in the municipality of Abomey-Calavi in the administrative district of Abomey-Calavi Centre. The municipality of Abomey-Calavi is located in the department Atlantique in southern Benin. The administrative district of Abomey-Calavi Centre counts about 150,000 inhabitants. Currently there are approximately 2,480 inhabitants in Aïtchédji, including around 1,100 children and young people. The population makes a living from small-scale crafts and trade. Some people commute to the city of Cotonou to earn a living there.

For more than 20 years the land in the city ward of Aïtchédji has been reserved for the Secondary School 4 of Abomey-Calavi. However, the favorable location has prompted one or two politicians to sell parts of it. Two years ago, the idea of building a garbage dump on the land was developed. When the population got wind of this plan, they mobilized, reclaimed sold land and advertised a cash collection throughout the district with the aim of building the first building for the Secondary School 4. Until now, the children of this and the neighboring city ward Aifa had to travel long distances of between 3 and 5 km to existing schools.

In 2022, with a lot of effort, a building with 2 classrooms, an office and a secretariat was built. Many ideas were born:

- a district festival with music, sales and a tombola that brought the population together. The people of the ward enjoyed the festival so much that they want to repeat it every year to raise money to solve various problems in their neighborhood.
- A “corrugated roofing sheet festival”, that promoted the donation of:

1. new corrugated iron sheets that were lying around for roofing at home
2. purchased corrugated roofing sheets for this purpose.

The population of the district grew together around the founding of Secondary School 4.

The impetus for these activities of solidarity originated from the head of the district ward, Mr. Ahlonsou. He had visited Germany in 2019 and had experienced and participated in many activities of the Bildungswerk Westafrika e.V. and brought the ideas back to his ward.

On September 18, 2023, classes finally opened in Secondary School 4 and in no time a great number of students were registered that 2 initial classes (7th grade) had to be formed. Among the 98 students, 57 are girls. In order to prevent the shortage of classrooms, the population turned to our associations with a request to build classrooms.

To support the initiative of the people of Aïtchedji, we propose the following measures:

- Construction of 1 building holding 4 classrooms with electricity  
Cost: 52.000 €
- construction of 1 sanitary block with 8 cabins  
Cost 8.000 €
- Salaries of personal: supervisor:  $229 \text{ €} \times 6 = 1.374 \text{ €}$ , technician of construction:  $305 \text{ €} \times 6 = 1.830 \text{ €}$  gesamt 3.204 €
- Control: 2.000 €

The estimated total cost is 65.204 €

25 % of the total cost are 16.301 € .

**We are still looking for donations for this project**

