

**Public secondary school of Assodé**  
**Administrative area of Komdé**  
**Municipality of Ouaké**  
**Republic of Benin**

From Cotonou we travel about 200 km on the arterial road northwards past Godomey, Abomey-Calavi, Allada and Bohicon to Dassa-Zoumé. This region is characterized by rocky hills. The enormous granite blocks inspire the imagination of huge mountains long ago. At the big roundabout of Dassa-Zoumé we turn towards Savalou and drive another 261 km past Savalou, Bante and Bassila to Djougou. The road is good up to Bassila and we are happy about the brisk progress. But from here the road can hardly be called as such. The remaining 86 km take 2.5 hours. In Djougou we turn west towards Togo. After 35 km we reach Ouaké. We left Calavi at 6am and arrive tired and dusty at Ouaké by 5pm. Due to the long distance, it is advisable to stay in a hostel here.

The following day we set off to Assodé with a local guide. The road took us for 40 minutes (17 km) through villages and bush land. The further we leave the city of Ouaké behind, the more the appearance of the villages change. Apart from the market square and the little hospital, they no longer have a village center. The houses are far apart of each other, as the family's fields are laid out around each house. The population lives from agriculture and animal husbandry.

We are welcomed by members of the PTA, the principle and other responsible persons of the village.



There exists a school building holding three classrooms that was built by the parents and toilets with two cabins. The building looks neat and clean. We take a seat in one of the rooms to exchange ideas.

We explain our guidelines and principles. The people are very confident and believe that our visit alone is an indication that they, too, are part of the world. The only building was clean and well-kept. But it is clearly not enough to house all the students and those of the upper grades migrate to other secondary schools. Girls then stay at home because their parents don't want to expose them to the dangers of a long way to school. 146 students are enrolled in the academic year 2020/2021, 60 of them are girls. The

decrease of the number of girls in the 10th grade is alarming. The students are supervised by 13 teachers.

class	7th class	8th class	9th class	10th class
boys	39	15	18	14
girls	29	15	11	5
total	68	30	29	19

We toured the school grounds. It is sloping to the side of the existing building, but parallel to it would be a good location for a new building. Across the street is the village health center, which is looked after by a nurse. The school is connected to the water distribution system of a neighboring village, where there is a water tower.



In order to improve the learning conditions of the students of this secondary school and to offer girls the opportunity to attend school up to intermediate secondary certificate, we propose to construct:

- a building holding 4 classrooms  
Cost: € 42,000
- two toilet blocks with 8 cabins each.  
Cost: € 18,000
- Construction control costs: € 5,000

**The total cost of the project is € 65,000.**