

Catholic Primary School St. Pierre
District Sinwè,
Municipality of Agbangninzoun,
Republic of Benin

The Catholic primary school St. Pierre is located in the Légo district of the Sinwè administrative district, which belongs to the municipality of Agbangninzoun. Agbangninzoun is located in the south of the Zou department. To get there, from Cotonou, take the main road that leads north. We drive past Godomey, Calavi and Allada until we reach Houégbo. At Houégbo, we turn onto the road to Toffo and follow it to Lalo. Before Lalo, a bypass road goes around the town. At the end, we turn right and are now on the new road that leads directly to Agbangninzoun. Before we reach Agbangninzoun, we see the public secondary school of Sinwè on the left. We drive past it. At the second intersection, a road on the right leads to the public primary school of Sinwè-Légo. We drive carefully past the intersection and take the first driveway after the intersection, which leads onto the grounds of the Catholic school complex.

The yard of the Catholic schools house a secondary school and a primary school. The Catholic school of St. Pierre was founded by French missionaries around 1940. It offered free education for all population groups in the country. After the independence of what was then Dahomey in 1960, Mathieu Kerekou's coup followed in 1972, which transformed the country into a Marxist-Leninist system. During this time, the church was expropriated and the St. Pierre school was continued to be run by the government. With the introduction of a multi-party democracy in 1990, the school was returned to the Catholic Church. In 2000, the school started operating again. At the beginning, attendance at the school was free, as before. But when subsidies from France were cut, the school administration was forced to charge school fees to the better-off families. The school fees are set up in such a way that richer families pay part of the school fees for children from poor families.

In 2024, our two NPOs completed a building for this elementary school, which they had already started to construct. This provides the elementary school children with excellent learning conditions.

The secondary school students approached us and asked us to renovate their old classrooms. (The building is marked with a pin in the satellite image.) This request was repeated by the school administration. Mr. Otmar Buschmann, the school's sponsor, then made an effort to find funds for the renovation. And he was lucky! The World Church Foundation of the Diocese of Mainz approved his request.

Planned measures:

1. Raising the walls, renewing the gables	3.600 Euro
2. Connecting a veranda to the building	6.000 Euro
3. Renewal of the electrical installation	4.500 Euro
4. New windowsr (33)	2.500 Euro
5. New roof covering (Eternit, asbestos-free)	11.850 Euro
6. Repair of floors (6 classrooms, 1 office room)	4.050 Euro
7. Exterior and interior painting	4.500 Euro
8. Unforeseen	2.500 Euro
9. Construction supervision	1.000 Euro

Total of investment

40.500 Euro

Aerial photo from Google Earth

