EDITORIAL

TIME TO COMMUNICATE!

Accept greetings from the Batibo council. Here we are once again to inform our community that the Batibo council Municipality is growing stronger by the day. The coming of this council news letter is a saluted initiative. This is one of the greatest tools we have longed for in this municipality to tell the world of the great job we are doing daily to better our lives and the lives of those who look up to our council for survival. Through this council news letter we can be able to reach out to thousands in their meeting houses, in their quarters, and in the various carved out constituencies of our councillors. Through this medium, councillors will have to merely dish out copies to the people in their constituencies and everyone shall get to be informed on the various activities of the mayor and the council. This news letter that shall be coming up quarterly shall play a great deal in curbing rumour mongering. You shall know everything first hand. You shall know what project is going on, who is executing it and who is to benefit as well as when it starts and when it shall finished.

I therefore encourage everybody to get on board, put hands on deck and let's develop this most cherished municipality of ours. As we are all happy to have seen another year let's hope that may the blessings that come with the coming of the New Year visits everybody in this municipality and together we board one train and drive the municipality to greater glory.

Mayor
Batibo council

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In May 2017, the councilors sat for the 2016 administrative, management and stores accounts session of the council to validate the administrative accounts of the mayor for 2016. This session equally brought together sectorial heads, traditional rulers and religious authorities. Councilors in session adopted the 2016 accounts 403,873,349 as to total revenue collected and 1,946,886 as expenditure plus the brought forward sum of 43,172,031 millions.

The councilors equally validated the plans of the mayor for the creation of a soap factory in collaboration with the Korean Development Agency (KOICA) Cameroon. As of now, the equipment for the soap factory has been brought down to Batibo as the council mobilizes her own share of the contribution towards the realization of this income generating activity. The soap factory shall bear the name "Korea-Batibo council soap factory" and shall be located at Mbunjei. This is the benefit of the cooperation between KOICA and Batibo council. Earlier in 2016, the Batibo council was sent two volunteers, Soweon and Kim Garam, with Soweon working as a community development volunteer while Kim Garam was working as an art teacher in GS Batibo. Apart from the soap factory, the council have benefited from an Achu species processing plant built with the oven in Kugwe and the grinding machine located in Batibo. This project aims at adding value to the raw materials produced within the municipality. Of note is the fact that the soap factory whose main raw material is palm oil also aims at this.

In the dimension of climate change, the council is currently planting 2000 Prunus Africana at the council forest in NJimaboro to reinforce the forest already created. This is the council’s own contribution towards reducing grass house emissions and fighting climate change. In 2016, the council benefited from the planting of 7000 trees from Bip and earlier the executives have far back in the year 2000 created the forest. Trees planted this year were taken from the council nursery that equally had tree spices.

**INVESTMENT**

Sponsoring projects that have a lasting impact on the community such as water projects, roads and education have always been the vision of the current mayor Tanjoh Fredrick Tetuh. Ending 2016, the council had constructed water points at Kewoh in Mbunjei, a spring catchment at Ofen Tiben, rehabilitated the Ambo – Angie road, rehabilitation of the Koakom – Angie road, opening of the Gwoku Numben Palace road and construction of the Gerifeh Bridge, supply of 50 benches each to GS Batibo Town, GS Nyenjei, GS Keonom, GS Guzang GP I. on the sidelines of BIP for 2016, the following projects were realized, Rehabilitation of 4 classrooms at GS Guzang GP I, construction of IHC Kugwe, rehabilitation of IHC Ewai, supply of wheel chairs to the disabled, creation of council forest with 7000 trees, rehabilitation of the NnenKurowan Guwu Ambo Road and the supply of didactic materials to primary schools. The construction of the Tingwei Water Supply scheme and the Construction of the Tingwei Bridge equally were done using decentralized credits.

For 2017 the projects currently sponsored with funding from government (BIP) include the construction of a block of two classrooms and equipping with 44 benches at GS Nyenjei, construction of a market at Nyenjei, construction of IHC Kuruku, construction of IHC Ashong, rehabilitation of the Mbunjei – Guzang road, rehabilitation of the fishery center at Batibo and the organisations of the competition of the best livestock farmers.

For the council, the following projects are either finished or ongoing; supply of 2000 meter flex 25mmX4 cable to the Atangha community for extension of electricity, the construction of a VIP toilet at the Motor Park with water system, the rehabilitation of the Batibo Council Library, construction of 10 ring culvert at Mbengok.

Other projects to be carried out by different development agencies include the construction of a water system in Mbengok, construction of a classroom and toilet at GS Mbengok, construction of meat sales slab at Guzang, etc. by LIFEDEP. The construction of GS Number Complete, supply of water from Anong to Nyenjei and a bore hole at GSWumungong will be sponsored by GP Derudep III.
FOCUS

Partnership With Development Stakeholders For Sustainable Emergence

The government has set its Emergence Target for 2035. Many policies are being designed to foster this vision. The 2004 Council Law devolved powers to councils. While joining our voices with others to shout for a pragmatic speed upon this, we of the Batibo Council feel we have to take the first step.

But when I talk of the Council, what comes to your mind? Many people, depending on their social status, age, religious and political backgrounds have their different conception of what the council is, and what role is assigned it.

We want to give the best, that is why from our mission we came out with the vision of, “promoting a modern municipality, accessible, clean and healthy with a vibrant economy and a good standard of living by providing necessary infrastructure, adequate resources and quality education for the enhancement of the common good and professionalism of the Batibo people for the benefit of the nation”.

This cannot be possible if we keep waiting on the government or the small Additional Council Taxes that have become irregular as the last rains before the dry season.

To solve this pandemic, we have stretched our hands out to all development stakeholders: corporate organizations, individual personalities. Thank God our appeal is already yielding fruits. We love to sincerely thank all of you who in one way or the other have heard our clarion call: PNDP, KOICA, LIFIDEP, GP DERUDEP, different individuals etc.

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PNDP IN THE COUNCIL

The Batibo council clinched position number 6th, in the first edition of the performance basket competition organized to assess the understanding of councils of the use of the SIM_ba software in improving council accounting, the appropriation of PNDP of the participatory development approach of PNDP and the promotion of good governance and transparency.

According to the results obtained by the Batibo council during the restitution of the evaluation of councils of the North West Region within the framework of the performance basket competition for the year 2017 at the MINPAT hall at up station, the Batibo council performed as follows:

In the domain of budget management, they scored 9/16. On governance and transparency they obtained 9/17 and in the appropriation of the PNDP approach, they scored 15/17, giving overall marks of 33/50 in category three.

Speaking to reporters at the close of the event, the lord mayor of the Batibo council, Tanjoh Fridrick said the exercise has given him the opportunity to appraise the inputs of those he works with and has enabled him to carry out self examination on how to go about council business.

He thanked PNDP for the initiative geared at accompanying councils in the decentralization process and promised to improve on the position of his council in the 2018 edition.
A hot line
For all your
Worries and grievances

Get information from the right source:

→ If you encounter difficulties in executing your activities;
→ If you notice any shortcomings in the implementation of your micro-projects;
→ If you wish to be informed about our missions and achievements.

CNC, Nouvelle Route Bastos, face PNUD
P.O.Box 860 Yaoundé-Cameroun • Tel: +237 222 213 684 • Fax: +237 222 213 663 • Email: pndp@pndp.org • Website: www.pndp.org

I am involved in the development of my municipality

• By participating in the activities of the council;
• By taking part in village development meeting;
• By taking part in community work;
• By paying taxes;
• By following up the accountability of municipal councillors and the Mayor.

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