



# Burkina Faso Sanitation Project

**BACKGROUND** - Burkina Faso is a poor, land-locked country in Western Africa. Disease is rampant and infant mortality among the worst in the world.

In 2008-09, The Rotary Club of Denver along with other clubs funded five deep-water village wells in the rural county of Zabre. This project brought clean water to over 8,000 people greatly improving their lives.



## Country Information

Population: 15,264,000  
 Population Growth: 3.11%/yr  
 Life Expectancy: 52.6 years  
 GDP (PPP): \$1,253  
 Birth Rate: 44.7/1000  
 Fertility Rate: 6.34 children  
 Infant Mortality: 86/1000  
 Under 5 Mortality: 205/1000

## Project Information

Concrete block walls  
 Privacy entrance  
 Slit toilet  
 Raised toilet slab  
 Concrete lined pit  
 Pit locally dug

**COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN** - The County of Zabre created a government-mandated five-year Development Plan based on local input. They identified the most urgent need as clean water; a close second was sanitation (latrines). The other needs, also urgent are in education, healthcare, and agriculture.

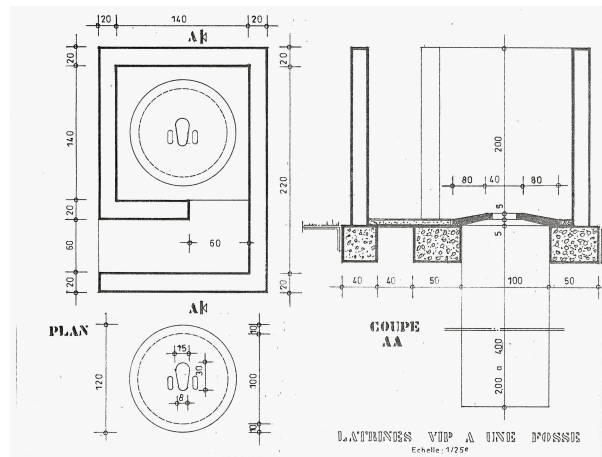
**SANITATION PROJECT** - In 2009-10, The Rotary Club of Denver is addressing the sanitation needs by building 100 badly-needed latrines.

**CURRENT CONDITIONS** - With minor exceptions, there are no latrines in the county of Zabre. As a result, human waste is scattered on the ground creating unsanitary conditions increasing the spread of diseases. There is also the issue of human dignity.

## BENEFITS

With the introduction of latrines, and more are ultimately needed, conditions can begin to improve. This will result in a drop in infant mortality, less time away from work and school and an overall better life.

**PROJECT COST** - Project cost for 100 latrines at \$350 per latrine is \$35,000. Local residents will contribute by digging the pits.





**PROJECT PLAN**

The project consists of the following stages:

1. *Identify 5 suitable locations for the pumps and then installing them.*
2. *Election of a Pump Management Committee responsible for collecting the community's financial contribution and choosing responsible villagers to be trained in pump maintenance.*
3. *Training of the villagers responsible for pump maintenance by the pump contractors.*
4. *Villagers instructed on pump use and hygiene by the Pump Management Committee and the chosen village mechanic.*
5. *Each family using the pump will be required to contribute to a replenishment fund. Yearly assessments will keep the required minimums on-hand.*

This project plan has been used successfully through Burkina Faso and in other African countries and it is considered the most sustainable method of installing village pumps



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project calls for building four wells in the rural village of Zabre in southeast Burkina Faso where the need is acute. We plan to start the project early in 2009 and complete before the next rainy season begins.

**PROJECT COST**

The project calls for four wells dug at a total cost of \$54,566. Local Rotarians have verified the costs

as reasonable.

Independently, a former Peace Corps Volunteer in the area confirmed their findings.

For more information contact:

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The Rotary Club of Denver  
World Community Service Project - 2009-2010  
Burkina Faso - Zabre Sanitation (latrines) Project

## **PLEASE HELP US ON THIS PROJECT**

The Rotary Club of Denver (downtown) will be the lead club. We are partnering with the Rotary Club in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on this project. **We invite other clubs in the District to join us on this important project.** We also invite NGOs, churches, synagogues, or mosques to join us in this worthwhile undertaking.

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With the introduction of latrines – and many more are ultimately needed - the county can begin to improve these conditions. This will result in a drop in infant mortality, less time away from work and school, and an overall better life.

This is follow-on to the successful 5-well project in 2000-2009.

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Last year's 5-well project met 25% of the stated 5-year goal. One of the participants in last year's project, The Rotary Club of Sedro-Woolley, WA is submitting a project plan to District 5050 for an additional 5 wells for 2009-2010.

This New Project Request is for the first phase of is the sanitation (latrine) project  
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Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa formerly known as the Republic of Upper Volta. It is one of the poorest countries in the world with few natural resources and a weak industrial base. About 90% of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture, which is vulnerable to periodic drought.

Burkina Faso is one of the fastest growing countries in the world but has an extremely low GDP per capita at \$1,200. This ranks it as the 28th poorest nation. Agriculture represents 32% of its gross domestic product but occupies 80% of the working population.

### **A C C E S S T O W A T E R**

Improving water resources is key to ameliorating the lives of the people in Burkina Faso for two principal reasons both of which seriously burden families in Burkina Faso.

First, ensuring access to potable water dramatically reduces the incidence of diarrheal diseases, typhoid fever, and parasitic infections. Burkina Faso ranks near the top of the world in the incident of these diseases.

Second, women in the targeted rural areas spend hours each day fetching water – sometimes walking up to 6 km just to reach the nearest polluted well or lake. This takes time from potential income-generating activities, and restricts them to a life of labor.

By increasing access to potable water, women not only improves the health of their families, but it allows them to participate in economic activities that they otherwise have little time for.