FINAL REPORT ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180 PERIMETER FENCE AND PROVISION OF A WATER SCHEME IN AILERU PRIMARY SCHOOL, MARINE QUARTERS, WARRI, DELTA STATE, NIGERIA

Background

The deplorable state of Aileru Primary School, which is a government owned school founded in 1963 and located at Marine Quarters, in the city of Warri, the economic hub of Delta State-Nigeria, attracted the attention of Value Rebirth & Empowerment Initiative (NGO) and her partners Dr. Henry Ovri and Dr. (Mrs.) Rachel Atomatofa, both siblings and alumni of the school, after a local newspaper reported the miserable state of the school.

The veracity of the <u>newspaper</u> publication was established upon a visit to the school on 17th September, 2021 by a VREI team led by Pst. Edewor Egedegbe and in company of Dr. Rachel Atomatofa. The need to provide a perimeter fence around the school, portable drinking water, grass cutting machines, and to organize stakeholder workshops with community leaders, Parents Teachers Association (PTA) and the school's staff to sensitize them on their responsibility in maintaining the school premises with available resources and manpower was also established during the visit.

A one-day workshop facilitated by VREI and with funding from Drs. Ovri and Atomatofa was thereafter held at the school premises on 8th November, 2021. 50 people, including teachers, parents, community adults and youths attended the workshop. The primary goal of the workshop was largely achieved as a renewed spirit of commitment towards the success of the school was instilled in the participants. One evidence of this was that many of the youths volunteered to maintain the grasses in the school premises if the necessary machines were provided.

In view of this development and in tandem with the goal to resuscitate Aileru Primary School, Warri, Delta State, a team of VREI staff led by Pst. Edewor Egedegbe and Dr. Mrs. Rachel Atomatofa presented two brand new grass cutting machines donated by Dr. Henry Ovri's family to the school management on Tuesday 22nd February, 2022.

The construction of a perimeter wall to ward off hoodlums/other criminal elements that infiltrate the school and the provision of portable drinking water in the school were however beyond the financial capability of VREI and the Ovri family. As such Dr. Ovri reached out to Partnerschaft-Afrika (PA) e.V. Geesthacht, Germany, who graciously agreed to fund both projects.

Aileru Primary School has now taken a new look and will hopefully attract more of the under-privileged kids in the community back to school since two of the major problems in the school, namely, the lack of a perimeter fence and the absence of portable drinking water in the school have now been solved. Thanks to the funding provided by Partnerschaft-Afrika (PA) e.V. Geesthacht, Germany. The funds provided by PA were used to construct a 180M long brick fence around the school and to install a pipe bore water facility for the school. The fencing and water projects officially commenced in April, 2023 after series of stakeholders meeting and advocacies to relevant authorities. The projects, which were done with the approval of the Delta State Ministry of Basic and Primary Education, the consent of the Local Government Chairman and with the support of community elders and youth leaders, were officially commissioned and handed over to the education authorities on the 5th of July, 2023.

Summary of justification/Intervention

To restore and provide access to better education environment for the underprivileged children in marine quarters community in Warri-Delta state, Nigeria.

VREI/PA project actions

- a) VREI conducted consultative dialogues and strategic meetings with security agencies, community institutions, the Ministry of basic and primary education, the Warri south local Government Council and other key stakeholders. This earned and ensured their collaboration and participation for sustainability of the project.
- b) A180m perimeter fence and gateway in Aileru Primary school was constructed to deter, delay and deny unauthorized access and threats to uninvited invaders and criminals of all sorts
- c) Provided water distribution scheme in the school to provide portable drinking water and to promote good hygiene practice among teachers and pupils
- d) Provision of water channels which allow for the re-direction of rainwater into the box gutter outside the school
- e) Conducted 2 capacity building workshops for over 50 Stakeholders comprising of School teachers, Community institutions and traditional infrastructures on modern techniques and approaches to child's e-learning, Childs' ethics, behavioral change, value systems and sustainability to promote quality education for pupils in the region.

Conclusion

Primary schools are the basic foundation of schooling in Nigeria as they provide learning and educational activities designed to equip pupils with fundamental skills in reading, writing and mathematics (i.e., literacy and numeracy). Primary schools are also the second home of every child as social skills and moral ethics are directly and indirectly taught there. Moreover, it is a safe haven where children are taught the required coping skills and self-esteem at a young age, with the goal of preventing them from becoming young adults given to drugs, alcohol, promiscuity, self-injury or suicide, which are vices prevalent the marine quarter community in Warri. However, the aforementioned skills and virtues can only be achieved in a physically and emotionally safe environment.

Partnerschaft Afrika e.V. has contributed immensely to the provision of such a physically and emotionally safe environment for the underprivileged children in the marine quarter's community in Warri by funding the fence and water projects in the school. The community is elated, the kids safer and VREI and its partners are thankful.

Signed by:

Pastor Edewor Egedegbe
Executive Director,
Value Rebirth and Empowerment Initiative (VREI)

On behalf of VREI team and school Alumni, Dr. Henry Ovri and Dr. Rachel Atomatofa.

Pictures taken before the intervention









Pictures taken during the intervention





















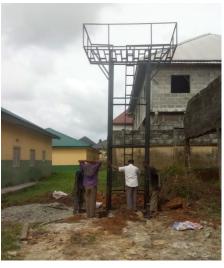


















Pictures taken at the end of the projects

















<u>Pictures taken during stakeholder meetings, project commissioned and handover to</u> local education board



AILERU PRIMARY SCHOOL MARINE QUARTERS, WARRI

180M FENCE/ WATER PROJECTS

PROVIDED BY

Value Rebirth and Empowerment Initiative (NGO) and its partners Dr. Henry Ovri and Dr. (Mrs.) Rachel Atomatofa (both Alumni of the school), with funding from Partnerschaft-Afrika e.V

COMMISSIONED BY

Hon. (Dr.) Michael E. Tidi Ph.D Chairman, Warri South L.G.A, Delta State on Wednesday 5th July, 2023















