

# Mbengwi Council Updates

A quarterly Newsletter of the Mbengwi Council sponsored by the National Community Driven Development Program (PNDP)

## EDITORIAL



The advocacy for more women in politics was a booster to the women folk and on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013 the response “I will” was the turning point from a Nursing Career to a Political career. Coordinating a tripartite council motivated and poised to forge for the development of its community today stands tall.

This is thanks to the long term relationship with the Community Development Driven Initiative (PNDP) who is not only a partner in development but is a friend, a path finder and counselor to the Mbengwi Council.

Our projects are community driven and documented in the Council Development Plan. Today Phase II of this reference document is being updated and will be completed in the months ahead. Here each village in a general assembly comes out with a village diagnosis of Needs. These needs are prioritized and can then be developed into projects. These projects when funded should be solving the true needs of the grassroots and not imaginary needs.

The local management committee created from within its community makes the beneficiary better involved in the management and sustainability of the projects. They see it as their own, and take part in the follow up.

At a time when decentralization is in vogue information about council activities is a priority. This magazine therefore becomes another weapon for propagation of information that is not only limited to our local environment but gets widespread.

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## REFELA-CAM Partners With Mbengwi Council To Sponsor Solar Poles

As a result of shortage of energy from hydro sources, Solar energy is today the catch word on the lips of all developers, an event that has not escaped the attention of Mbengwi council leadership.

Mbengwi Council was one of the key beneficiaries of the just launched solar energy project at Bangante, a project that light re-enforce security in Mbengwi through street lighting as the municipality will benefit over 30 street solar lamp poles.

This is the outcome of a workshop that took place at the Bangante council hall on 27, July, 2017, grouping mayors of the Afaneloum, Angossas, Mbengwi, Mayo Oulo, Mintom, Foukoue and Bangante councils, that are earmarked to benefit from the first phase of sponsorship of over 300.000.000 FCFA by a French NGO, "l'Agence Francaise

de Environnement et de maitrise de l'Energie" (l'ADEME) and the Cameroon Government.

This achievement came as a result of the council membership of REFELA-CAM, an association of female mayors after their conference in France on Energy.

Speaking at the opening the national president of REFELA-CAM, Mme. Celestin Courtes Ketcha, said her association saw it as a new incentive and protective regulation to introduce the solar energy system in their council areas, since the system is more favorable to emergence and sustenance to local population. She said solar energy panel installation helps to reduce poverty, cheap in cost, decreases diseases and mortality rates,

more sustainable and environmental friendly.

Presiding at the workshop, Nde SDO, Oumarou Haman Wabi reminded the lady mayors that it was vitally important that as policy makers, they have seek ways to meet the development desire and need of their population. The participants were drilled on techniques of sustainable and equitable solutions in management.

The installation is expected in the days ahead and its hoped it will bring lot of relieve to municipal inhabitants giving that sometime last the council carried a similar project with the installation of four poles which though was limited became a source of inspiration to the mayor and greatly spurred to embark on the hunt to see that municipal streets are lighted.

### INVESTMENT

#### ANNUAL INVESTMENT PLAN( AIP) 2017 FOR MBENGWI COUNCIL

Project ( or Micro Project)	Expected Results	Activities	Products and indicators		Actors Involved	Schedule in quarters of a year				Resources				Sources of Finance
			Product	Indicator		1	2	3	4	Human	Material	Financial		
						PNDP/others	Beneficiary							
BASIC EDUCATION														
Construction and Equipping of a nursery block, H/M's office, VIP latrine and extension of water in G.N.S Njindom.	A block of 2 classroom, and office would be constructed and equipped in 2017	Preparation of tender documents	Call to tender documents available	Publication of tender	Momo Divisional Tender Board	X								Feasibility studies ongoing
		Award of contract for construction of Building	Contractor selected	Signed contract	DD MINMAP	X								
		Execution of the Contract	Two classrooms are rehabilitated	Rate of realisation	Council MINMAP Contractor		X				29,000,000	1,000,000		PNDP/Co uncil
		Reception of classrooms building	Available new classrooms	Keys of the classrooms	Council MINMAP MINDUB MINEPAT MINTP		X							
		Reception of classrooms building	Available new classrooms	Keys of the classrooms	Council MINMAP MINDUB MINEPAT MINTP		X							

# Council Determined to make Mbengwi a Tourism Haven

The Mbengwi Municipality is endowed with all that it takes to make it a beautiful land. The touristic beauty of the Mbengwi Municipality is enormous and has the potential of attracting many tourists yearly.

Truly the natural beauty of the rugged hills gives the municipality the admiration of any person who comes in for the first time. In fact artists would gaze spell-bound at the gorgeous mountain scenery. The hill tops are backed by the blue tropic sky. In the mornings, clouds carpet the valleys till sun rise. The higher glossy slopes are the sources of rippling streamlets which form water courses which runs into the valleys to irrigate farms and provide drinkable water. The lower slopes grow trees and many palm trees while the valleys have patches of forest of trees mixed with raffia bushes from which palm wine is tapped. Some touristic attractions in the municipality include amongst others, the 31 Traditional palaces, some natural caves are found in the Municipality like the Kob Azah, Ku, Guneku. There is also a Water confluence where the Mezam and Abi River meet form a very attractive touristic site at Chaa. The Abi Fall likewise the Fulani settlements on hill tops form a good touristic attraction. The fish farm stations that are littered all over the municipality are not only economically profitable but



provides an appeal to many a tourists. Works of arts in the municipality produce the famous Meta baskets, the coloured fibre bags, carved objects such as masks are a bit of the attractions. With all these potentials, the Council is doing everything it takes to develop the concerned areas so that Mbengwi municipality can be a touristic haven that can attract tourists from within and without Cameroon. The exquisite Abi Fall which is found in the heart of Mbengwi town and one of the rare falls in the North West region is being

developed with modern hotel around the fall. With the epileptic electricity supply in Mbengwi in particular and the region in general, the Council is also seeking partnership so that the fall could be use to generate hydro electricity for the municipality and beyond. On a yearly basis too, the council organizes handicraft fares in a bit to encourage the production of crafts works in a large quantity and promote their marketing.



## Mbengwi Council Emerges 4th in Performance Basket Competition

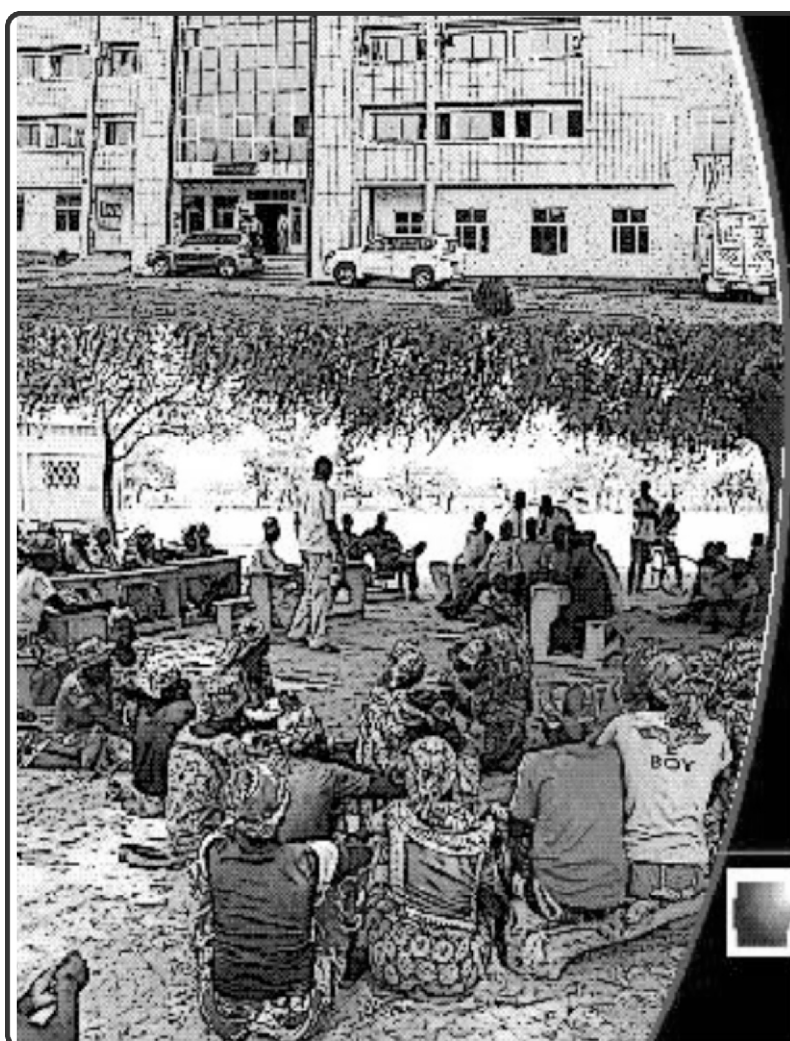
Mbengwi council in Momo Division of the North West Region came close to clinching this years edition of the performance basket competition in the North West Region. This information was divulged at the close of the four months exercise organized to assess councils of the region in three key areas, namely; Budget management in which they scored 10/16, governance and transparency in which they obtained 7/17 and the appropriation of the PNDP

development approach in which they excelled with 17/17 and coming on the the 4th position with a total marks of 34/50 in category three.

Responding to questions from reporters the mayor of the Mbengwi council thanked PNDP for the exercise saying, it has placed her at a position where she can better appraise the commitment of her personnel. She promised to put in more efforts to improve on the quality of services

rendered by the council so as to perform better in future competitions.

She expressed satisfaction with the commitment of her personnel saying, she would spear no effort to make the lazy ones to sit up. The four months exercise began in July of 2017 and ended with the restitution of the evaluation of councils of the North West Region within the framework of the performance basket competition for the year 2017.



### 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 municipal councillors and the Mayor

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