

Santa Council

Echoes

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

EDITORIAL



HRH Samkie Elvis Gahnyam II
Mayor Santa Council

Santa Council Newsletter; a Novelty tool for Council Development

The institution of the Santa Council magazine has come as a great relieve to the communication challenges that our council have been facing over the years. In this era where Communication for Development is taking center stage in all sectors, the coming of this newsletter will pave the way for us to exploit new avenues and strategies to promote the emergence of our council area through the effective use of communication. It is therefore a laudable initiative that PNDP is putting in place as we strive to enhance good governance, and transparency in all our development endeavors. This new tool has come to ease information sharing dissemination as we embark on making community participation an integral part of our council's development drive

The much cherished and valued participatory approach to municipal development calls for all the development oriented forces to work in synergy with the council for a proper identification and provision of communal needs. This can't be done without good communication media and this paper is one of them. The provision of economic, social, health, educational, cultural and sports facilities are best done when there is effective communication between the council and local communities led by their development presidents and councilors.

This new newsletter is therefore a vessel for the propagation of council projections, activities, achievements, challenges etc.

This first edition of the quarterly publication carries information under rubrics such as council news, focus, practical page etc. Through this new medium it is hoped that the relationship between council management and the communities will be more mutually and beneficial to the growth and the development of our community.

I therefore wish that we will all contribute in ensuring that this new initiative does not only succeed but effectively perform the important role for which it was conceived.

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PNDP Intensify Capacity Building for Council Staff

2016 Administrative, Management Accounts Session: Councilors scrutinize 2016 budget

Councilors of the Santa Council have praised the management of the council for a successful management of the 2016 budget. They were reacting during the ordinary session of the council devoted to examine and adopt the 2016 administrative and management accounts which took place on April 29th, 2017.

Speaking during the session, the then Mayor of Santa, late Kan Moses Elroy revealed that the beginning of the year 2016, the sum of 1.571.445.000 CFA francs was budgeted with surplus and outstanding revenue brought forward from 2015 stood at 94.561.279 CFA francs. He added that the Public Investment Budget from the State stood at 366.346.700 and the common Decentralization for Fund Investment from the State was to the tune of 20.000.000 Francs thus bringing the budget of the council for the 2016 financial year to 2.052.352.979 balanced in revenue and expenditure.

As at the 31st of December 2016, the council had succeeded to raise 821.777.685 francs giving a realization rate of 40.04%. Mr Kan Moses Elroy added that expenditure stood at 810.811.378.

The mayor rejoiced in the fact that the Administrative Accounts have been witnessing a steady progression for the past 7 years. In 2010 the administrative account stood at 290.464.130 rising steadily to 821.777.685 in 2016.

While decrying the difficulties and challenges faced by the council in generating income due to the socio political crisis prevailing in the Region, the mayor said many businesses have resorted to tax evasion..To remedy the situation, the Mayor called on the Divisional Officer to help in the areas of tax collection and reinforcing the use of communal

stamps before certification of civil status documents.

The mayor also used the occasion to enumerate some of the major preoccupations of the council siting the construction of the Santa main market, equipping of the Santa council hall and the effective execution of the Public Investment projects for 2017.

He also enumerated earmarked projects to be executed in partnership with PNDP including the construction of 150 sheds in the Ndapang, Baligham and Buchi markets, construction and equipping of a block of 02 classrooms, a head masters office and the extension of water to G.S Matajem-Memka among others.

PNDP IN THE COUNCIL

PNDP intensify capacity building for Council Staff

PNDP's contributions have been enormous in building the capacity of Santa council staff in a bid to render them more productive. In order to effectively update the council development plan, trainings were organized for Local Support Organizations and other stake holders concerned with the update from the 1st to the 11th of March 2017.

Since the signing of the convention between PNDP and the Santa Council for the launching of the PNDP Phase III both parties have been intensified efforts to implement the terms and activities of the convention.

In this light a number of activities have been carried out within the first quarter of 2017 including the examination and signing of contract with Local Support Organisation (LSO), the Training of the LSO and the selection of independent consultants to carry out feasibility studies.

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training took place from the 1-11 March 2017.

PNDP also sponsored the selection of individual consultants to carry out feasibility studies of some projects to be carried out in the Santa Council Area. Consequently an ad-hoc committee was formed by the Mayor. The selection exercise of the Individual Consultant took place from the 27th-29th March 2017 in Bambui.

Through these projects, PNDP in collaboration with Santa Council intends to play a greater role in the development of the Sub Division.

Council Prioritizes Water, Electricity Extensions

The Santa Council in collaboration with some major partners has intensified efforts to ensure that all the 13 villages of the council area are effectively linked up to portable water and connected to electricity supply in a bid to improve on the living conditions of the people.

During the 2017 financial year a good number of projects aimed at extending electricity supply across the Santa Council area were earmarked in the Council Development Plan.

In a bid to provide these social amenities to the population, some of the projects were effectively executed including the Achu-Gadiwahla network which covers the Baligham village financed by the Ministry of Water and energy. Another project executed by MINEE is the Mbeme rural electrification which has brought great delight to the people of Awing Village. Through council lobbying, the ministry of Tourism and Leisure has also executed projects at Lake Awing with focus on installations to ease the extension of electricity. The Council on its part carried out works to extend the rural electrification network of the Mesoh – Pinyin line.

In the domain of the provision of portable water, the council has lobbied for and executed a number of projects including the construction of boreholes and the rehabilitation of some existing projects. the major



water projects carried out within the last budgetary year includes the construction of a Potable water supply facilities including all installations at Lake Awing by the Ministry of Tourism, the construction of a Pastoral Borehole with solar energy at Baligham by the Ministry of Livestock, fisheries and Animal Industries, construction of a gravity portable water scheme at Atualah and a storage tank of reinforced concrete and stones

with a 20m³ capacity at Ntarre.

The council has also intensified the maintenance of existing pipelines in Santa town and other neighboring villages.

The people of Santa have expressed the wish that such initiatives be intensified given the socio economic gains which are already being realized thanks to the extensions of rural electrification and the provision of portable water.

PRACTICAL PAGE

Roads Rehabilitation: Baligham Road Receives Upgrade

The road from the Baligham Fons Palace to the Bagam Boundary that recently witnessed rehabilitation works has reportedly contributed a great deal in improving the working conditions of the village inhabitants who can now easily transport the farm produce to nearby community markets

The Santa Council has, as one of its major activities the improvement of the living conditions of the inhabitants of the municipality through the rehabilitation of roads. The construction of farm to market roads has taken center stage in the council's development plan.

One of such projects is the road from the Baligham Fons Palace to Bagam Boundary; a road covering a distance of 7.4km and the construction of two 02 culverts.

This project came about thanks to the realization that the Baligham is an

agricultural basin but unfortunately farm produce could not be easily transported to ready markets around the village due to the bad state of the roads. In view of reducing poverty, rural exodus, reduction of post-harvest losses and enhancing the development of the community, the contract for the rehabilitation works was awarded and executed the works within 03 months. Following the completion of the works, the project was handed over to the beneficiary community of Baligham. Speaking during the handing over ceremony, the Mayor of Santa HRH Samkie Elvis Gahnyam II called on the project management committee to ensure the sustainability of the road through constant maintenance. The Road Management committee is made up of 09 members who

function according to the dictates of a contract signed with the Santa Council. They also generate income for maintenance from individuals of good will who chip in during their working as well as moral and material support provided by the inhabitants of the village.

The committee holds meetings on a trimestral basis but since their focus is on the maintenance of rural earth roads, during the rainy season they hold weekly meetings to ensure that all roads are passable all year round.

Reports say since the rehabilitation of the Baligham road, the agricultural production capacity of Baligham has improved as the population now have a means of transporting their products to nearby markets and thus improving on their living conditions.



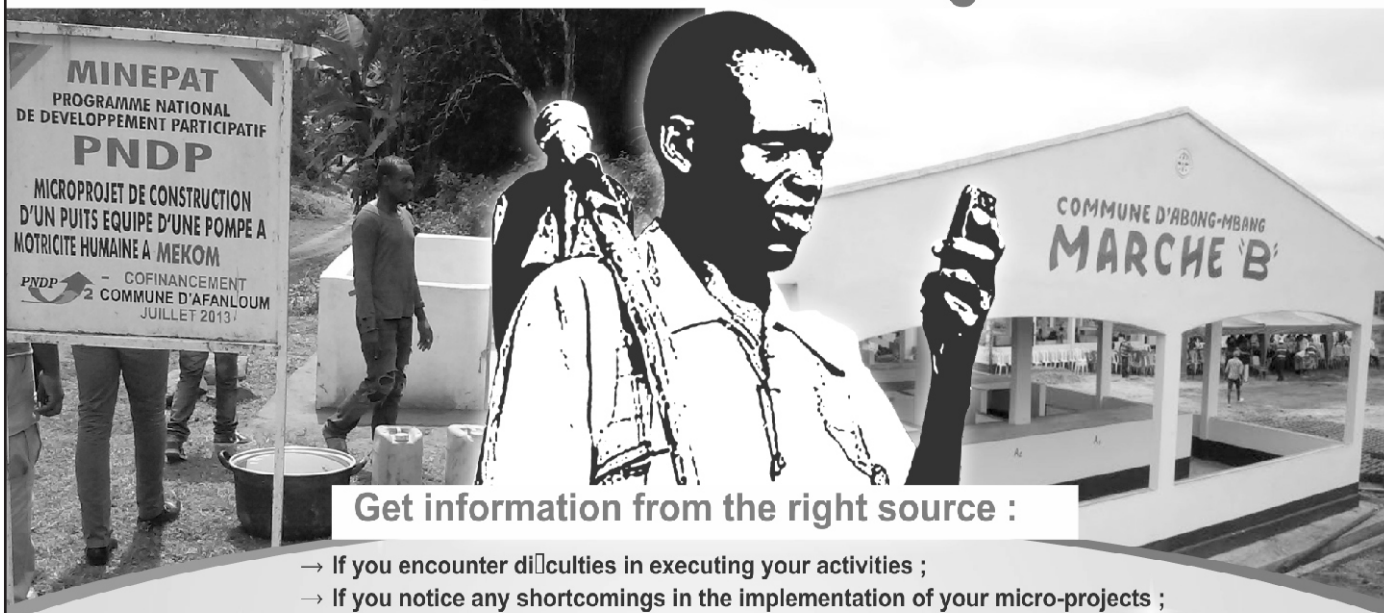
National Community Driven Development Program

A hot line



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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

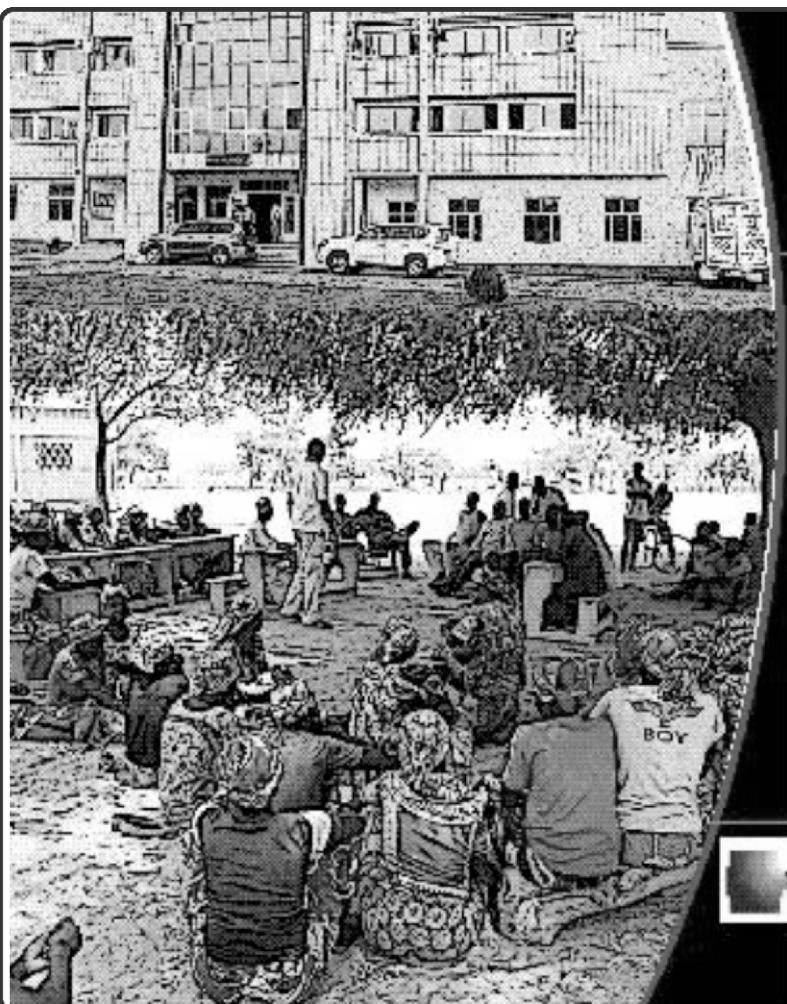
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I am involved in the development of my municipality

- 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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