

SOGODO
(SO GOd DOes)

“Tomorrow
and
Beyond”

A Mission work in TOGO



West Africa

TOGO



A Project for Women and Children



PHILOSOPHY OF SOGODO

It is the intent to model Sogodo after the very successful Programa Reconstrucción Rural (PRR) that was developed in Honduras. The PRR development organization is based in La Buena Fe and has been operating since 1983.

Much of the PRR's work is to promote economically viable and environmentally sustainable agricultural techniques in the mountainous program areas.

SOGODO as the PRR will provide, education, livelihood assistance, agricultural extension, health care and community capacities among economically marginalized, rural families of Togo.

Togo and the Need for SOGODO

Togo is a young nation that received its independence in 1960. It is one of the poorest countries in the world. More than 32% of the total population lives below the poverty level of \$1.00 (international) per day.

Togo lacks natural resources such as petroleum/oil, and natural gas, and hydro electricity. It has a sub-Saharan economy that can be decimated by drought. It is dependent on subsistence agriculture and commerce. Many of its basic necessities must be imported.

Togo has a population of 5.5 million. Its healthy life expectancy for men is 43 years old, and for women, 45 years old.

The medical system is strained. There is one nurse for every 2,320 people, one community health worker for every 11,100 people, one physician for every 25,000 people, one pharmacist for every 33,330 people and no dentists per 1000 persons.

Malnutrition is still present amongst the children. It is estimated that more than 22% of the children under the age of 5, have stunted growth.

Water and food borne diseases such as bacterial and protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis A, typhoid fever; waterborne schistosoma; vector borne malaria, and yellow fever; and respiratory borne meningococcal meningitis are common. Tuberculosis and HIV infection are active.

About 65% of Togo's population is rural and lives in absolute poverty. Rural life is difficult due to the lack of many basic essentials. Many communities lack both physical infrastructure and established local governance structures.

Traditional crops of yams, cassava (tapioca), corn, beans, rice and millet predominate although coffee, cocoa, and cotton are grown commercially. Still common to the region is the practice of slash and burn agriculture which is economically inefficient. Furthermore slash and burn agriculture plus the population's dependence on wood for fuel, has caused deforestation, soil erosion, air pollution and water pollution

Educational standards are very low in the rural communities, largely due to lack of schools and the poverty of families.



Goals of SOGODO

1. To promote integrated participatory development with the people in the rural areas through the establishment of a PRR.
2. To give ownership of the project to the rural people
3. To achieve with program participants a higher standard of living with human dignity while conserving the natural environment for future generations.

The steps to accomplish the goals

- Not to provide relief or handouts but to develop independence
- Not to create administrative separation but to go to the rural people and live among them
- Not to enforce our ideals but to learn from them, and plan with them
- Not to oversee but to work with the rural people
- Not to tell what we know but to start with what they know
- Build on what they have, learn from them by doing, and teach by showing
- Develop an integrated approach with a transferable pattern

First mission Trip



July/Aug 2008

Our Financial Goal for 2008



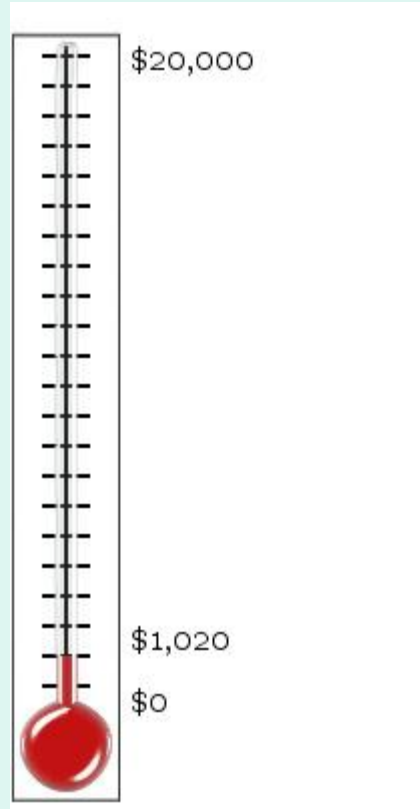
\$ 20,000 CANADIAN

Your donations will:

1. Buy land and start a farming co-operation for single unemployed parents.
2. Sponsor at least 10 of their children for \$200 per child per year for education costs.



Donations



As of December 31, 2006



To Donate

For tax receipt send your cheque to Togo
Project:

Richwood United Church or
Willis United Church

Po Box 97, Drumbo, ON
N0J 1G0

or

Deposit Directly at Bank of Montreal –
Drumbo Branch 2323 Account 8301374

Join Me and my Family Let's Give



A BETTER FUTURE and BEYOND
SO-GOD-dOes

Our Partners

- **Drumbo-Richwood Pastoral Charge**

- **Kipuke African Ministries**

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/marvin/missionary.htm>

A Thank-You

Gail (Evans) Seed BSc, MSC
(Member of Willis UC)

Pat Bonhoff
(Church Secretary)

Drumbo