

2014 INNOVATION FUND UPDATE FOR Q1

Building a Solar Powered Village—Ghana

Project Generously Funded by DUCA Financial Services Credit Union Ltd.

The 2014 **Innovation Fund** project *Building a Solar Powered Village*, as voted by DUCA members and funded by **DUCA Financial Services Credit Union Ltd.**, includes providing a mechanized, solar-powered borehole well, establishing dry season gardens, and installing home-based solar lights to 100 households.

CCFC's local partner, Markaz Al Bishara, has met with local government stakeholders including the Local Government core team made up of the District Chief Executive, the District Coordinating Director, District Finance Officer, District Development Planning Officer the District Director of the Department of Social Welfare as well as representatives from local NGOs operating in the area, informing them and building awareness about the DUCA project and the expected outcomes.

Also, over 200 community members participated in information and discussion sessions focusing on:

- timelines for the project
- the criteria for the selection of the beneficiary households for the 100 solar lights
- children's access to the solar lights for learning
- the selection of the site for the borehole well
- roles and responsibilities of the community members in the implementation process of the project

A site survey has been completed and a contractor retained for the drilling of the borehole well. And although the well location is close to the existing water source, the first drilling was unsuccessful and failed to locate an adequate water supply. This has been one of the main challenges with this project. However, a re-assessment survey has been completed and a second drilling is in progress.

A supplier for the installation of the solar lights has been signed. Installation will commence once the borehole well drilling is completed so that the two projects complement each other for maximum social impact in the community.

Moving Forward

CCFC and our local partner, Markaz Al Bishara, will continue to monitor the drilling of the borehole well. Further updates will be sent pending further developments. Once the borehole well has been successfully drilled, the CCFC Ghana Country Office will ensure the remaining scheduled activities are immediately implemented.



Site survey conducted by contractor and local community members.