



SolutionMUS
delivering water's promise



Cluster repairmen attend in-depth rope pump repair course

November 23, 2010

“Before, I knew how to change the cord and put on grease, but now I even know how to bend the pipe that takes in the rope,” said Mourtala Ousseini, the cluster repairman from the village of Zougoubi in the region of Zinder, Niger. Mourtala and 20 other cluster repairmen had just finished a three-day in-depth course in how to maintain and fix rope pumps, a low-cost technology for lifting water. The training, as well as the installation of the rope pumps themselves, are activities under the Multiple-Use Water Services (MUS) Project, financed by USAID and the Coca Cola Foundation, and implemented by Winrock International.

Mourtala was chosen to attend the in-depth training by his fellow repairmen because of his skill and dedication in caring for the two rope pumps in Zougoubi, which have never been broken for more than a day since their installation. Mourtala is responsible for two of six pumps in his cluster, which has four villages, none of which are over two kilometers apart. In total, there are over 20 clusters that contain 70 rope pumps installed by the MUS project.

All of the villages where the MUS project has installed rope pumps chose repairmen to both install pumps with project staff, and carry out on-going maintenance and repairs. The repairmen received a one-day training that covered essential topics like changing the cord, taking out the pipes, tightening

screws, and greasing ball-bearings. Later, a number of repairmen, like Mourtala, were given a more in-depth training to insure that most repairs could be done locally, without the expense of having to call a more qualified repairman, located 30 kilometers away. The in-depth, three-day training included exercises in diagnosing problems and hands-on exercises in molding plastic pipes.

Recently, the village of Karaye called Mourtala to help repair their pump. The pump had mysteriously stopped turning. Mourtala took the pipes out and saw that the cord had become wound around the pipe at the bottom of the borehole. He unwound it, reduced the amount of cord available, and carefully returned the pipes to the borehole. Then he walked back home, proud.



Cluster repairmen practice making pump parts during their 3-day intensive training in Doungou, Niger.

The Niger MUS project was implemented by Winrock International and financed by USAID and the Coca Cola Foundation under the WAWI and WADA partnerships, from 2008-2010.

Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources.



WINROCK
INTERNATIONAL

Principal Offices

2101 Riverfront Drive | Little Rock, AR 72202-1748 | T 501.280.3000 F 501.280.3090
2121 Crystal Drive, Suite 500 | Arlington, VA 22202-3706 | T 703.302.6500 F 703.302.6512

www.winrock.org | information@winrock.org

© 2014 All Rights Reserved