



SolutionMUS
delivering water's promise

Household self-investment sustainably meets real water needs

March 2014

Mr. Tini Tiasso was sorry that his family had to walk 300m several times each day to fetch water at the community borehole. Ten years ago, as chief of a five-family compound (53 people in total), Mr. Tiasso had invested in a traditional hand dug well in the middle of his compound to alleviate this burden on the women and children in his extended family. However, this hand dug well dried up for 4 months each year from March to June and therefore did not meet his family's needs.

When traveling in the village of Oullo, 20 km from his home village of Seyou (located in Oury commune in the Boromo area of Burkina Faso), Mr. Tiasso noticed an interesting solution to his compound's water problem. He saw a hand dug well that had been further deepened through a manually drilled borehole, outfitted with a rope pump and apron on top. It was owned by a local family. He was particularly impressed by the fact that this improved well was covered, making it safe for children and animals wandering nearby, and by the fact that the pump was supplying a lot of water. Mr. Tiasso paid a visit to this family and found out that it had been drilled by a local enterprise located in Boromo, 42 km from his village of Seyou.

Mr. Tiasso decided to contact the drilling enterprise to discuss hiring them to improve his well. Using harvest income from his family's communal field, Mr. Tiasso was able to cover the majority of the investment. To decrease the cost, he provided three laborers from his own compound and two young



men of the village, so that the driller needed only two employees to coordinate the work. With this financial arrangement, in January 2014, the drilling enterprise deepened the hand-dug well and equipped it with a rope pump.

Now, Mr. Tini Tiasso has satisfied his objective of providing water for his family for domestic uses, providing water for his cattle, and providing water for planting trees in the compound. Ms. Elola Soziga, his second spouse confirmed this, saying "this water point will help us to brew dolo again and to be more comfortable to cook. Also, it will be easier for kids to take a shower before going to school."

Mr. Tiasso is the second person in his village to self-invest in upgrading a traditional. This is as a result of Winrock International's approach to promoting Multiple-Use water Services (MUS) as part of the USAID WA-WASH Program. In Burkina Faso, Winrock International is providing both technical and business development training to local enterprises and promoting these low-cost water solutions to clients. Winrock hopes that by supporting the local supply chain and enterprises, communities will be able to invest in sustainable, low-cost water services to meet all of their multiple water needs.

Above, Mr. Tiasso and some of his family members at their improved well.

The Burkina Faso MUS project is implemented by Winrock International as part of USAID's West Africa Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WA-WASH) Program, 2012-2015

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.



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