

Chief Blacksmith Leads Liberian Villagers to reconstruct critical Bridges

- 2 Bridges connect 80,000 Inhabitants with Socioeconomic Empowerment -
By Edwin M. Fayia, III in August 2019, Liberia

Chief Blacksmith Tamba Gboyo, 55, of Sakpawah village, Rankollie Clan, Foya District in Lofa County, North-western Liberia, has led 13 towns and villages to build two standard bridges that will connect more than 80.000 inhabitants, mainly cash crop and rice farmers, in some of the hard to reach communities.

Two separate reports received by this writer from key representatives of German born philanthropic Rudolf Janke of Germany have confirmed that two bridges were about a week ago completed and are also expected to be dedicated sometimes in March 2020. Besides, several hand pumps projects under the Village People Empowerment Group (ViPeE) have been completed and ready for dedication by Mr. Rudolf Janke and local chiefs and elders in the various communities in Foya District, Lofa County, Liberia. In early March 2019, Mr. Janke and team held several meetings - like every year in new villages - with the chiefs, elders, women and youth groups to discuss and plan on how to enhance of the provision of safe and durable hand pump water to the many hundreds of villagers. Such safe drinking project according to Mr. Janke will enhance quality health and ensure that the accumulation of water borne diseases from unsafe water sources such as ponds and streams in the various towns and villages in Foya District, Lofa County, Liberia, is cut down significantly in a sustainable manner.

In remarks at one of the ceremonies held at Konjorlloe Town with 15 other neighbouring villages sometimes in March 2019 in Foya District, Liberia, Mr. Janke reminded the chiefs, elders, women and youth groups that working together for the socioeconomic development of their villages must be done through effective coordination in order to ensure genuine progress. Speaking to the village dwellers Mr. Janke also emphasised that only unity in diversity that small, medium and large scale development projects would be undertaken together and bring real improvements in their impoverished conditions in their respective towns and villages in Foya and Kolahun Districts. He further urged the village dwellers to cultivate the genuine virtues of sincerity, honesty and trustworthiness in order to upbeat the kind of development projects that will transform their lives as rural Liberians. "I want to see the spirit of fortitude, determination, commitment and dedication in carrying out all responsibilities that are assigned to each and every one of you as under privileged Liberians in Foya and Kolahun Districts," Mr. Janke pleaded.

In separate remarks, the citizens pledged to work together as teams in order to ensure the various development and empowerment projects are done effectively and completed on the required times stipulated in the various plan of actions. Chiefs, elders, youth leaders and women groups assured the all generous donors that as prime movers of the development projects will always work with their leaders in order to complete whatever development projects earmarked for them in the years to come.

"We are indeed grateful and will ever remain appreciative for your endless financial and material contributions and we as poor village people will only constantly offer prayers and supplication to God in order to shower his bountiful blessings on you all," Town chief Kotio of Konjorlloe pleaded.

48 lines, 2940 letters o.L.