



FINA TAWA



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BACKGROUND

In 1999, Valérie Roghi traveled from Corsica to Burkina Faso where she met her family for the 1st time, and through her family she met the rest of Africa. After realizing the hard life conditions in which so many people were living in Burkina Faso she decided to create a nonprofit organization based in Corsica. The organization, called "FINA TAWA" which means CULTURAL JOURNEY started working in 2004. Valerie's personal itinerary, going from her Corsican culture, in which she grew up to her Burkinabe culture of her African family inspired the notion of "cultural journey", the name of her organization.

OBJECTIVES

Fina Tawa aims at the realization of projects of sustainable development in some villages of Burkina Faso. During various meetings with villagers, three priority needs came out:

- Water-the life
- Sustainability - the balance
- Access to education - the freedom

Fina-Tawa intervenes on these topics to awaken the larger public opinion with the daily concerns of the Burkinabe villagers, and thus makes it possible for volunteers to take part in the various actions organized by the organization.

FIELDS OF INTERVENTIONS

The priority is to work in the most underprivileged rural zones of Burkina Faso, to make it possible for the villagers to reach a better standard of living in the respect of their cultural identity. It insures the continuation of the projects with a rigorous follow-up.

Through the creation and collaboration with local organizations, the needs, the quality standards and the objectives are defined in a joint way with the local population, thus the ancestral habits of work organization in group are entirely respected.

ACCOMPLISHED PROJECTS

2005 : Water well digging in the village of Warzame, 160 feet deep. Two committees, one of women and another one of men are in charge of the well management.

2006 : Creation of a local organization Fina Tawa Touroutètère « Cultural journey development », which is our representative on the ground. The organization is made of an assembly of elders, representing different languages, cultures, and traditions from 5 villages: Bakporé, Sananbulsi, Nanano, Warzamé and Djéfako.

2008-2010: Sustainability development project in the field of agricultural farming in the village of Nanano. It measures 262f x 196f, of cultivated land growing food: The villagers had dug four wells to provide water for farming, but the wells were constantly collapsing due to the traditional way of building, which doesn't use any concrete, and does not allow to reach sufficient depth. Therefore the subsequent lack of water didn't allow to irrigate the whole field.

September 2008 : Purchase of tools, as shovel, watering-can, wheelbarrow...

Feb 2009 : Cultivation of a medicinal herb "Artémisia annua", recognized from the World Health Organization and numerous other health authorities, as the only source of the most potent active substances which fight malaria, a sickness which kills a child every 30 seconds in Africa.

In development : It is necessary to consolidate the existing wells of the agricultural field. The cost of one well is 4000 us dollars. Fina Tawa is looking for funds for this project.

From 25 feb to 8 march 2009: Solidarity Trip in Burkina Faso, which allows to set up the following projects:

Feb 2009 : Water well digging in Borri, 210 feet deep, providing essential drinkable water to 300 villagers.

Feb 2009 : Distribution of 440 lbs of medication, school materials, clothes and seeds. This was distributed by 10 travelers. The donation was shared between Nabou healthcenter, educational centers from Tianré and Warzamé, Nanano school, and the villagers.

Feb 2009 : Purchase of fulani handcraft made by the village women: calabashes, table mats, fulani soap, shea butter, which will be sold during our demonstrations.

Feb 2009 : Donation of a numeric camera and a laptop to our representative in Burkina Faso, which will allow them to coordinate and build more projects.

March 2009 : Organizing an educational center in the language of foulfouldé, in Warzamé, for the year 2009, in partnership with the organization ACTIF, our local partner, which manages the lessons in the center. There are actually 32 participants learning to read and write in their own language. We are looking for financial support to pay the 1333 us dollars for the year 2010.

March 2009 : Organizing a pen pal system between a primary school in Nanano-Burkina Faso, and a primary school in Ajaccio-Corsica.

PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

2007-2011 : Cultural literacy center

The center will be open to adults as well as children. The villagers will be able to participate in artistic and cultural activities, educational lessons, and classes for adults in specific fields...

Moreover this center will be used as a library, a place of holding meetings and entertainment where will be showed documentaries, movies, followed by debates.

1st step : feasibility study and prospection

2nd step : construction of the center

3rd step : organizing the activities

We passed the first step in partnership with an architecture school in Paris. Some architect students went in Burkina Faso to inquire about different building materials and methods of construction, the plans are already completed, the traditional Chief of the villages and the Governor gave us the authorizations to build, but we remain on standby to acquire the required funds.

2010 : Water Well digging in the village of Pobié

During the solidarity trip that we organized in February 2009, a request was made to build a 3rd well.