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Highlights:

- Keyhole Gardens Initiative 2017
- SEREP School Update
- Palm Oil Project
- Mbo'sha Health Centre Development

**MARCH 2017: Written by SeReP volunteers
 Natalie and Lizzie Danford**

KEYHOLE GARDENS INITIATIVE 2017:

The keyhole garden project returned to Kumbo this year, this time with sponsorship from Hub Cymru Africa and the Welsh government. This sponsorship has helped SeReP to facilitate training workshops and the building of the gardens in 8 local schools.

The workshop took place in mid-March, and was run by SeReP volunteers Natalie and Lizzie Danford during their annual visit. Within one week, stones had been delivered to 7 of the selected schools, and construction was well under way at 5 of them. The only contribution the schools have been asked to make is to provide soil, and food for the builders. Who worked tirelessly to complete the gardens well ahead of schedule.



Above: The keyhole garden workshop at SeReP offices.

MARCH 2017

Education Advocacy Development



Above: Construction begins at Oscar Wind School.

The schools will be provided with seedlings, which will initially be grown at a nursery and then delivered to the schools in time for the rainy season. We hope that by June this year, some of the seedlings will be ready for harvest and providing nourishment for children in the local communities.

We are especially grateful to the teachers at Oscar Wind Nursery and Primary School, who have shown continuous support for this scheme since the pilot in 2015. This year, they have not only come forward to build the gardens, but have also arranged interviews with Kumbo's local radio station (Radio Evangelium) to promote the project and the work of SeReP.



Above: A completed garden at CBC Romkong.

**SEREP SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT,
ACCOUNTANCY AND COMPUTER STUDIES
(SEREPSMACS) UPDATE:**



Since our last report the SeReP School of Management, Accountancy and Computer Studies is close to completion, and sits proudly on the hillside in bold blue (photo above). The newest addition to the school is the library, stacked with a diverse range of books, including science, mathematics and a variety of language work books, as well as books for pleasure. The classrooms are fully furnished, and the previous stairs to the upper level have been replaced with sturdy steps with railings.

Prudencia visiting from the UK for 2nd time, and Natalie and Lizzie returning for a 6th and 5th time respectively, did a lot of work to arrange the library.



Above: A front view of the school showing to the upper levels of classrooms and the new library.

Thanks to the hard work of our SeReP volunteers, our office staff, the local support from the community and the generous donations that have been made over the years, the school is now ready for the next school year.

PALM OIL PROJECT:

The palm oil project has been running since 2013, with over 200 women purchasing their monthly supplies of palm oil at a fixed price for the year from the stock bought by SeReP at the beginning of the season, when the price is lowest.

The success of this scheme in 2016-7 is evident from the fact that the cost in the open market in December was almost twice that in September, while the women's groups continued to pay the same price.

This self-sustaining project is beneficial to women and their families in Kumbo and the surrounding areas as it enables the women to be financially independent.



Above: Kikaikelaki palm oil women's group.

MBO'SHA HEALTH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT:

A new wing has been planned for the health centre in Mbo'sha, which will include a children's Ward and laboratory. As there is now electricity in the town, it will make it easier to complete this new venture.

If you are in Kumbo or Mbo'sha and would like to make a contribution towards the medical centre, there is a donation box at the SeReP offices in Kumbo.

Note from the Director, Wircom Fred Mbiy:

I wish to express my gratitude to all those who have supported SeReP activities in one way or another. It is through your support that we are recording successes. A special thanks to Natalie and Lizzie for their yearly visits and ongoing efforts for SeReP.

Anyone who wants to know more about any of our projects can contact me on the below address:

www.selfreliancecameroon.org

Email us at SEREP to take part in upcoming projects or workshops in Kumbo:

serepoffice@yahoo.com