

Hannah's Report on the Well Construction for the Community of Mfranta

During the first visit to the community of Mfranta, after a 20-minute walk to the village through cassava fields and cocoa plantations, it becomes clear that the village is cut off from any infrastructure. There is not much in the village—except for cocoa, which is spread out on large table-like racks for drying. The people of the community live in mud huts without floors.



Once in the village, the community gathers, and we are presented with all the problems and challenges that living under these conditions entails. The village is separated from the infrastructure of the neighboring village by a small stream, which becomes a larger river during the rainy season. During the dry season, one challenge is particularly present: the community has no access to water; this means there is hardly any washing, and the water for cooking and drinking must be brought from neighboring villages.

The village thus wishes for its own well to ease daily life. Together with our local partner, we organize a cost estimate for this and decide to finance the well. First, a specialist comes to the village to determine, using magnetic fields, the best location to drill for water. Next, we purchase gravel and pipes. The gravel helps filter the water, ensuring that it comes out clean from the pump and that no clay is stirred up.



We then arrange for a drilling company, which arrives with a drilling truck to drill for water at a depth of 90 meters. The arrival of the drilling truck is easier said than done, as the narrow path leading to the village is not wide enough for the truck. A bulldozer has to accompany it to widen the path. Unfortunately, crossing the small stream is also a challenge, as the truck cannot climb the bank on the other side. Again, the bulldozer has to assist. After overcoming all the access challenges, the drilling finally begins in the village. After four hours, it gets dark, and it is decided that the work will continue the next day. After the drilling is completed, there is finally water. Hurrah, what a moment! The whole village is filled with joy and expresses their heartfelt thanks. Now, at least in one aspect, daily life has been made easier for the people in the village.

