

PRESS RELEASE

18/11/21

**Community selection for Small Towns Pipe Water Systems from The Hon. Minister
Madam Cecilia Dapaah – The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources**

The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources has today announced the confirmation of the 12 small towns selected for the Rural Communities and Small Towns Water Supply Project (RCSTWSP) across five (5) regions of Ghana, namely Ashanti, Eastern, Greater Accra, Volta and Oti Regions.

These include Achiase, Ayensuano, Kwahu Afram Plains South, Kwahu West, Bosomtwe, Kwabre East, Bekwai, Bosome Freho, Ga West, Krachi East and Nkwanta North.

Each region will have a centralised water system delivering potable water to satellite communities.

Using proven UK-designed technology and systems, the project will deliver access to clean drinking water to rural communities and small towns and will alleviate up to 280,000 people from daily water poverty, delivering on the Government of Ghana's policy of 'Water for All' as well as being aligned with SDG6: clean water and sanitation.

The Government of Ghana's vision for the water sector as enshrined in the Water Sector Strategic Development Plan (WSSDP.) is '*all people living in Ghana have access to adequate, safe, affordable, reliable and sustainable water services, and practice safe sanitation and hygiene*'.

The Rural Communities and Small Towns Water Supply Project (RCSTWSP) is designed to increase access to safe and reliable water supply across the selected regions. The project is part of a general programme to accelerate the delivery of water facilities and services in unserved rural populations. The project will apply innovative technology and financing methods to generate pay as you fetch revenue to take care of maintenance and future expansion of the water systems.



Figure 1 Water Source, White Volta



Figure 2 Existing Water Tower in the Oti Region

The Small-Town pipe water systems will provide pipe water systems to the 12 nominated small towns across Ghana, each serving an average population of 16,000 people. Every system will comprise the development of ground and/or surface water source, photo-voltaic power supplies and solar pumps, transmission and distribution pipe networks, elevated/ground storage tanks, public standpipes and provision for private connections. Additionally, smart metering and revenue collection will be installed for both public standpipes and/or private connections.

Working with the Hon. Minister Mrs. Cecilia Dapaah from The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, alongside the Ministry of Finance, the project has been designed in partnership between Aqua Africa and the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) to ensure an approach that will meet the Ghana Government's 'Water for All' policy.



Figure 3 Broken Non-Functioning Essential Water Pumps within Water Treatment Plant, Oti



Figure 4 Water Quality Testing at Outlets in Oti Region

The preliminary project for Aqua Africa in Ghana, with a value of €30 million has 100% funded by UK Export Finance & HSBC and is accredited as a Green Loan – the first-ever green loan financed project in Africa.

The Honourable Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Cecilia Dapaah said:

“The fulfillment of our basic human needs in our environment is essentially dependent on adequate clean water. The Government of Ghana is poised to provide Water for All. Ghana’s ‘Green Agenda’ in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals is on course with the Aqua Africa Water Project. Increasing water coverage requires a consistent investment on year-to-year basis since population growth and demand for water keeps increasing. That is why we welcome wholeheartedly the investment in the Aqua Africa Project.”

The verification of the communities was started with preparatory activities at both national and regional levels. The preparatory activities at the national level include the development of data capture templates, pre-testing of templates, training of regional CWSA staff on data collection, mobilisation of logistics for water sampling and identification of laboratories for water quality testing.



About Aqua Africa Ltd.

Aqua Africa is a UK business focusing on water access solutions in challenging environments through sustainable social impact projects encompassing Government-to-Government bilateral compliance structures and fully funded blended solutions.

As an emerging leader in the development of climate-smart, social-impact projects, Aqua Africa is utilising solar power with an integrated revenue capturing 'pay as you fetch' system to provide safe, clean water to areas of the greatest need, reducing the plight of daily water poverty across Africa.

This project has been conscientiously developed over 7 years and will be the largest commercial delivery of rural water along with a revenue capture solution undertaken in Africa, forming a blueprint for the company to deliver further projects in Ghana as well as across Sub-Sahara Africa.

This valuable social impact project, between the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR), Aqua Africa and the Government of Ghana, promotes a "Trade not Aid" approach whilst the project focuses on delivering key Sustainable Development Goals which will help the Government of Ghana to deliver a "Ghana Beyond Aid" meeting their pledge of "Water for All". Whilst doing this, Aqua Africa is supporting the Governments delivery on a number of the adopted UN Sustainable Development Goals.

To advocate this further, Aqua Africa has signed up to the UN's Race to Zero campaign, committing to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Press contact Aqua Africa

Name: Poppy Dent
Phone: +44 (0) 7971 846 398
Email: Poppy.Dent@AquaAfrica.com

Name: N. Bempomaa Asante
Phone: +233 (0) 24 654 2098
Email: Bempomaa@ChooseGiraffe.com