

Stove construction at Njiapanda Primary School

Wednesday February 15th, 2006

It is not much you can see on the ground that it was raining yesterday evening, and when heading to Njiapanda we can see that no rain has fallen outside Mpwapwa town, it is still very dry. We have 81 kilometres on the road before reaching our destination. We greet the Head Master, the Member of the School Committee, the Teachers and the "Fundi". Then the work can start with the construction of the stove.



The work starts

The School

As at every school visited so far, all students are coming out from their class rooms to look at the people from WFP and MIGESADO and especially us wazungu. This is a small school, 161 students only, but they all gathered and looking at us. Below some figures about the number of students in this school.

| Njiapanda Primary School | Pre-primary | Primary | Cobet | Total |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|
| Boys | 8 | 64 | | 72 |
| Girls | 9 | 80 | | 89 |
| Nbr of teachers | | | | 8 |
| Total | 17 | 144 | | 161 (Teachers excl.) |

The school kitchen hygiene can be improved

Shortly after we arrive it is time for breakfast for the students and for the first time we notice that these students are lined up to wash their hands before the breakfast. This we have not seen at the other school so this is a plus for this school.



Washing the hands

Also at this school we are asking how the food are prepared, if the cereals, maize, beans, etc. has been gone through so nothing less appropriate are in the food. Shortly thereafter, two young students are going through today's meal before preparing the same, if this action has been taken due to our questions, we do not know, but if this is the case, it is good as we have noticed them to be aware of the importance doing so.



So called cleaned cooking pot



Flour in dirty bucket



Checking the food

Another thing which is noticed is the cleaning of the cooking pots as well as the containers / buckets used for flour, beans, maize, etc.

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The cleaning of the cooking pots is not satisfactory and so are not the containers or buckets. This can be improved and as a part of the seminar of how to use the fuel-efficient stoves, we should talk about the importance of cleaning the pots, how to do it, and what kind of items is appropriate to use when cleaning the pots. This will reduce the eventual risk of bacteria in the pots and the food prepared.

The stove construction

They have prepared in advance and all the merchandise needed are in place and ready to use. One of the guys starting to prepare the clay just outside the kitchen and the students not having class just now is watching. The Head Master and the member of the school committee as well as the artisans are all very committed and the construction of the stove goes very fast and soon the stove is ready.

The final

After the stove have been finished it is time for late lunch, but before this can be done, all the students have gathered and are singing the song of the school. It is really nice and they sings really good, the best so far. The difference between this school and the previous is that they are singing in harmony which the others do not.



Having breakfast



Posing willingly



Hello TNT

On the road back to the camp

On the way back the skies were cloudy and became darker and darker and a rainfall was to be expected. And yes, it came, and what amount of rain... the closer we came to the village Gulwe, the heavier the rain was falling, thunder and lightning at the same time and the road close to Gulwe changed from a road to be a river.



Rain to be expected?



Flooded road



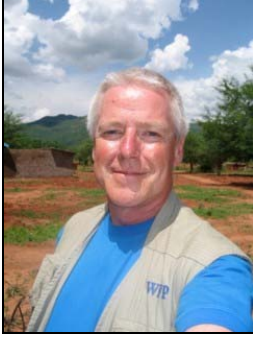
Can we pass without risk?

After we had passed Gulwe we faced another problem, at one place the road was so flooded that it was to risky to cross the stream so we had to stop for an hour, waiting for the stream to be less risky to pass.

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After a while we are facing another problem, a part of the road are destroyed and we need to go out and check if we can drive through safely, our driver asked us to wait until he had taken the car through the risky area and then we could enter the car again.

When arriving to Mpwapwa town it was dry and no rain had been falling here.



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