



Report - Project : Tsévié / Togo

Duration of 14 days from 20 November to 4 December 2022,

Conducted by Mr Moctar Koné and John Lohrmann

**As part of the project "Craftsmen without Borders",
In partnership with the Chambre Régionale de Métiers - Centrale and under the
patronage of the Chambre de Métiers et de l'Artisanat Nouvelle-Aquitaine, and the
Chamber of Crafts Frankfurt-Rhein-Main.**

Trip Togo November / December 2022

Mr Moctar Koné
Mr John Lohrmann

1.) Background of the operation

The project **Craftsmen without Borders** (the "PROJECT") is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through Sequa GmbH (Sequa project number **872**). On the basis of a forwarding agreement concluded with Sequa, the AG is responsible for the implementation of the PROJECT. For this purpose, the AG receives the funding provided by the BMZ as a grant.

2.) The course of the mission

The assignment in Tsévié / Togo was prepared very thoroughly in advance, online by means of conferences and mailing. Since both coaching and a practical part were planned in the project, the documents, plans and material lists were made available to all participants. To make sure that the construction of the stone press would work, a prototype was made in Germany. The work on site including the purchase of materials was to be done by Mr. Tchamouza. We started the project with good preparation.

Day 1. date Sunday, 20.11.2022





Arrival via Paris to Lomé/Togo with Air France. There were problems at the border control with the visas. Wrong date was entered, probably at the embassy in Berlin or when applying online. Control at customs Discussion about the material and equipment brought in. Transfer to the hotel accompanied by our coordinator Mr Tchamouza.

Summary: Check all the necessary travel documents very carefully before starting the journey, the mistake in the date was very problematic when entering Togo. One clearly senses that no one is willing to disregard regulations. These are the rules, but on the positive side, you also meet helpful people here.

Issuing a new visa is complex, application justification, photo, fee, etc.

Day 2. date Monday, the 21.11.2022

- 7.30 Breakfast: Hotel Concorde in Lomé
- 8:00 Meeting: On-site coordinator Mr Tchamouza and my colleague from France
Moctar Koné from Artisan Sans Frontières
- Welcome Exchange and discussion about the visits for the daily routine
- 8:30 Visit to: RÉPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE
Ministère des Enseignements Primaires
Secondaires, Techniques et de l'artisanat
Mr. Likewise Moutala
Directeur de l'Artisanat
Welcome and presentation of the project
- 9.30 Visit to: RÉPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE
President l`UCRM
M. Issa Mouhamen
Greeting and a nice conversation about the project.
- 10:30 Visit to: Chambre de Messieurs Lomé
Joachim Milz
Cologne Chamber of Crafts in Lomé
Welcome and discussion about the project,
Arrangements for the purchase of the material
and the course of the week.
- 12:30 Visit to: RÉPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE
Ministère Délégué Chargé de



Handwerker ohne Grenzen
Artisans Sans Frontières

L'Enseignement Technique et de L'Artisanat

Mr Assedi Kossi Ikélé

Directeur de cabinet

Mr. Assedi Kossi Ikélé still had positive memories of the fact-finding in March 2022 - we discussed the project in a very friendly and interested manner.

13:00 Visit to: Wood and metal wood workshop
Centre de Ressource Artisanat-Lomé
Mr Wade Todom Pazimzuwé
Administrateur

13:30 Appointment: Material purchase

Steel trading and scrap. The company is a mixture of steel trading and scrap processing. Approximately 10% of the steel traded is new production goods, 20% is sheet steel in various formats and thicknesses, and 60% is steel profiles of all kinds that were already in use. Steel sheets were ordered and an agreement was made that the missing profiles would be procured from a partner company.

15.30 Drive: Chambre de Messieurs Lomé
Joachim Milz
Cologne Chamber of Crafts in Lomé
Mr. Tchamouza discussed the purchase of materials with Mr. Milz, who wrote a cheque for the payment of the materials bill.

16:15 Break: Lunch at the restaurant near the chamber.

17:30 Drive To the hotel in Tsévié

18:30 Arrival:

The booked hotel KLM PALACE makes an unkempt impression, especially the sanitary rooms were unhygienic. Moctar and I discussed the situation with Mr. Tchamouza, the decision to rebook and go to the ECO-Livingstone Lodge. I already had positive memories of this accommodation from my trip in March 2022.

19:30 Arrival:

Livingstone Hotel, moving into the rooms. Lesson of the day not always to rely on the coordinator's suggestions. Own decisions have to be made in the team. Over a fruit juice, the plan for the next day in Tsévié was made.



Summary: The formal inaugural visits are, of course, a rite of passage that establishes the necessary contacts. The reception is in a friendly manner, all officials extend a welcome.

It is actually also an exercise in patience, you naturally want to get started with the project and its task. You quickly realise that you are travelling in Africa and not in Europe.

Day 3. Tuesday Date 22.11.2022

08:00	Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge
08:30 Drive	Arrival at the hotel KLM PALACE Tsévié, Meeting with other people from the craft organisations
09:30 Drive until later.	To the prefect of the ZIO region, The prefect is unfortunately not present, visit postponed
10:00 Drive	back Hotel KLM PALACE Tsévié
10:30 Waiting	Work preparations and report under palm trees.

12:30 Break

Joint lunch with the president M. Issa Mouhamed and a larger group of the craft officials. Afterwards, the preparations for the next day continued under the palm trees, the delivery and the costs for the material transport were finalised and signed. At the end, the usual photos were taken and the farewell was very friendly, including the usual photos.

16:30 Closing time

Arrival at Livingstone Lodge, discussion continued on the process of the project.

Summary: One can only rely on the organisers' plan to a limited extent. Without significant success, frustration is spreading. The team hopes for a good start on day 4. Depending on how the further course of events works, we will work on Saturday, if necessary on Sunday.

Day 4. Wednesday, 23.11.2022

07:00	Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge
07:30 Drive	to the centre de ressources artisanales,



08:00	Coaching	Presentation of our team, Preparation of the list of participants with photos and names.
		a. Presentation of the practical part of the course "Production of a manual stone machine" Discussion about the work process and explanation of the execution and planning documents
		b. Presentation & Training "Occupational Safety"
11:30 - 13:00		Lunch break
13:00 - 14:00		c.) Presentation and training "Dual training system in Germany"
14:00 - 16:00		Arrival

The President Mr. Aba Marcellin of the local Chamber of Crafts and Mr. Tchamouza. Address to the participants of both persons, explanations about the function of the chamber and the project. A demonstration of how important the work of one's own person is.

The material was delivered in the meantime and temporarily stored in an adjacent room. Our team inspects the material, which consisted partly of new and used material. A metal workshop was not available in this training centre. When the team asked to see the workshop and the machines and tools, only vague information was given. The president pointed to a small workshop for motor vehicles, which he still remembered from the trip. A place about 7 x 7 m, bare sandy floor but at least covered with corrugated iron, was presented to us as a metal workshop. The complete equipment was not available. Immediately, without any delay, a clear announcement was made about the further course of the project. A not so pleasant moment for all involved, clear statement, if we don't find another solution together, we can't do the project and the abortion with a journey home would be the consequence. Suddenly there was movement in this situation, all the people at the training centre and the local chamber were looking for a solution. A somewhat larger room next to the motorbike workshop was now proposed as a metal workshop. So far so good, they wanted to make an effort and this was an acceptable solution. This was followed by credible declarations that everything would be ok and tidy by tomorrow, that the necessary equipment had been procured and would be available tomorrow. The team made it very clear in the conversation what all needed to be done.

Summary: The angle of vision on the metal trade is of low esteem - even the people in the chamber do not actually know what is needed. Our project manager in Germany was informed by WhatsApp, definitely Mr. Tchamouza was well informed in advance for months by the actors in Germany. Mr. Tchamouza accepts everything, even a whistle,



very patiently and does not always do what is actually due, yet he is a man who can also be helpful beyond measure. Conclusion: Africa's inhabitants have a mentality that is quite different from that of Europeans.

Day 5. Thursday, 24.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:30 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

8:00 Arrival

Discussion about the day's schedule and start of the practical part. Fabrication of the stone press.

9:00 Production

All drawings were pinned to a wooden wall and explained in detail. Due to the lack of a drilling machine, only the cutting could be started. The material was carried outside together. Two small gates served as a workplace. The enormous motivation of all participants was immediately visible. All participants are very interested and energetic in their work. Slowly we are getting into a good rhythm and making progress. Some cuts could be completed.

10:00 -10:30 BreakParallel, shopping tour for tools and missing glue material.

11:00 VisitMr. Tchamouza and President of the Chamber Address to the participants

10:30 - 15:00 Production

Cutting the steel parts for further production. Notes on safety at work. Important point: Deburring the sharp edges on the cut steel plates.

15:00 - 15:30 Discussion

The team and the participants discussed the day and how to proceed with the work.

15:30 Closing time.

15:30 - 16:00 Feedback

Moctar and John discussed the day with Mr. Tchamouza and the president. The problem of the broken drills and the missing tools were brought up. It was agreed with some participants that they should bring some material and tools the next morning.



Afterwards, we were driven to the hotel by the president. A change of drivers was planned for the next day.

17:00 Arrival Livingstone Lodge (after work pool, dinner and team meeting).

Summary: The situation is improving, but you never know what tomorrow will bring. It is amazing what some participants can do even without good equipment. In Europe, one is hardly used to improvising anew every day.

Day 6. Friday, 25.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:45 Drive centre de ressources artisanales,

08: 15Arrival

Training centre in Tsévié, discussion about the daily routine and further activities. The work-cutting of the steel parts was done. Moctar was busy repairing the drilling machines. Moctar did an excellent job under these circumstances. After the first drilling, the motor gave up the ghost because of overheating. The second drilling machine was repaired electrically and also turned. The drill chuck must have been welded a few times and runs completely out of round. The drill chucks were not interchangeable because the Morse tapers were of different sizes!

10:00 - 10:30 Break

10:30 - 15:30 Work

Telephone calls with Mr. Tchamouza and discussions with the staff of the local chamber followed. Sad faces were the result for all involved. There is a promise of improvement for Saturday. Mr. Lohrmann contacted Mr. Joachim Milz from the HWK Cologne in Lomé and asked for support, which was promised. Despite the adverse circumstances and quite a bit of frustration on the part of the participants, the work was presented. The welding machine worked, but there was no welding material available. Mr. Lohrmann discussed this with Mr. Moctar and then drove with the driver to a local dealer to get some, at a reasonable price electrodes and lamella slides were purchased. The start of the welding work and the assembly were discussed.

15:30 - closing time

Summary: It is a ride on the razor's edge of craftsmanship, the participants have good skills, but one stumbles from one problem to the next in the project. Let's hope for progress in the next few days



Day 7. Saturday, 26.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:40 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

08:00 Arrival

Start of further production and continuation of the individual work steps. The team divides the participants into three groups. Group 1 drilling, group 2 cutting, group 3 assembly. This was done in consultation with the participants, all of whom could have a say in who would like to work where. It is not advisable to make this division without the participants. Each practically working participant knows his or her strengths and preferences better than the team leader.

Mr. Moctar Koné set up a small workstation from two small tables and did electrical repair work again during the day. The employee of the local chamber procured a beamer. Another step forward, now the participants could look at the construction of the stone press in 3D. With this programme it is possible to virtually rotate the individual components as well as the assemblies and to zoom in on details. The participants can thus see how the assembly works. For the production, every detail can be viewed from all sides. For the team, there is now the possibility to explain the further fabrications in advance. The advantage is that theoretical knowledge can be conveyed to the participants in connection with the practical work.

10:00 - 10:30 Break

Mr. Lohrmann drove with a participant to the local material and tool dealer one more time. As the material is largely made of steel plates, the wear and tear on cutting discs is enormous. The prices for material are very low compared to the cost of living. Spontaneously, two aluminium stop brackets were bought, as well as spray cans with paint. If the stone press could be finished, the idea was to paint it in African style.

10:30 Production

So far so good, if you don't constantly control the team, and despite all the technical possibilities, they simply put together what doesn't belong together. Mr Lohrmann changed that with an audible STOP. The basic construction of angle profiles could be assembled and tacked that day. In the process, the minor mistakes in the production came to light. Two parts were newly manufactured and small notching work had to be done. This was deliberately not objected to during the parts inspection, because the error becomes much clearer when the parts are assembled. In this way, Tas Team



conveyed how important it is to pay close attention even to small details. The team had a positive impression of the participants' willingness to achieve the goal.

11:00 Visit

Mr Joachim Milz visited our team accompanied by a very nice GIZ staff member. On Friday evening, Mr Lohrmann told Mr Milz about the difficult situation in Tsévié via WhatsApp. Mr Milz immediately offered support within the scope of his possibilities. An electric hand drill and a winch were provided from his personal possession. Mr Tchamouza actually wanted to come at the same time as Mr Milz! Mr. Milz and his companion were taken with the project work. A positive visit.

15:00 Visit

The local Chamber President Mr. Aba Marcellin arrived accompanied by Mr. Tchamouza for the daily visit. Again, the difficulties with drilling were reported. An improvement was discussed for Monday.

16:30 Closing time

Summary: The week full of positive and negative surprises has come to an end. Despite the many big and small difficulties, the result so far is remarkable. Let's wait for the things to come and look forward to Sunday!

Day 8. Sunday, 27.11.2022

8:30 - 9:30 Breakfast

Breakfast and review of the work already done last week. The main problem for the coming week is still the situation with the drilling machines.

Day at leisure.

Day 9. Monday, 28.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:45 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

08:10 Arrival

Welcome of the few participants, start and continuation of further work, by 8:45 almost everyone has arrived. Telephone call with the project management in Germany,



discussion of the situation with the request to write an email. Mr. Moctar Koné tried to solve the problems with the drilling work. Further cutting of the parts for the stone inserts and drilling of the small holes.

10:00 - 10:30 Break

10:30 Production

Further progress was made, a constant struggle with minor unnecessary repairs to the drilling machines. It is already tedious when every morning and evening two drills were carried across the entire site, this is due to the fact that there is only three-phase current at one point in the motor vehicle workshop. A solution to the drilling problem is in sight one of the local craftsmen can probably manufacture this in his company. After the arrival of the chamber president, the decision was made to load up all the material that needed to be drilled. Mr Moctar Koné accompanied the people.

14:30 Assembly

Arrival of the President, Mr Aba Marcellin. All the large boreholes had been drilled. There was still an hour to go before the end of the day, because of a bad weather front we only worked inside. The assembly of further parts could take place. A mistake in the production led to a conflict. The measurement 408.5 was not understood, 485 mm was produced, not so bad, re-cut two parts and everything is ok again. Due to a lack of precision, differences now occurred in the drilling and tapping. Due to Mr. Lohrmann's professional experience, the team worked with various correction possibilities, and the participants were able to see how some things can be corrected.

16:00 Evening

Résumé: Every day brings surprises - working according to plan is hardly possible in Africa. This promotes an enormous willingness to improvise. As you can see, you can get into emotional situations even after work.

Day 10. Tuesday, 29.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:45 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

8:15 Arrival



In the training centre, production start of the assembly of the finished parts, assembly of the housing and the substructure. Small drilling jobs were carried out. Since we had made some components from scrap, they still had to be cleaned and sanded. The participants were able to watch John Lohrmann demonstrate how precisely the assembly has to work.

10:00 - 10:30 Break

10:30 Production

Further assembly, smaller problems constantly came to light. The participants now saw the consequences of the components that were not precisely manufactured, threads had to be recut, Mr Moctar Koné and Mr Lohrmann checked all the parts. Since some parts were still missing, these were still being manufactured. Some material still had to be ordered for the next day.

Mr. Lohrmann had a conversation with the project leader in Germany, Mr. Markus Eicher, who reported on the course of the project in Togo. It turned out that originally 10 participants were planned, but in fact we had 26 participants, a bit too much manpower. Since some of them were always a little late, things evened out.

Mr. John Lohrmann decided to form a group with the remaining material, sheet metal, angles and flat steel to build a welding table, without a plan with a short explanation, this was done in about 3 hours. After completion, a Togolese quality test was carried out and the table held. The idea was to use this welding table the next day.

15:50 Closing time

Résumé: The team spirit of those involved is astonishing, when you carry the machines across the site every day, in the morning and in the evening the performance, without grumbling, and not questioning this an astonishing imposition

Day 11. Wednesday, 30.11.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:45 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

08:15 Arrival

In the training centre, production start of the assembly of the finished parts, fitting work of all kinds constantly haunts us, sometimes it is too short, sometimes too long, the drilling tolerances are hardly kept, this is partly due to lack of concentration and the realisation that the construction of complex assemblies is partly not internalised. Last but not least, the problems arose that all materials were cut by hand, this could not be done right away!



11 :00 - 11 :30 Break

11 :30 Production

The upper casing was assembled and stapled, the substructure was already made together. Now both elements were assembled, this process is called marrying. Differences in the dimensional accuracy were present, for this reason Mr. Lohrmann decided to observe only the most important points. Further progress was made. The assembly and the production of the stone inserts were problematic, the partly extreme dimensional deviations now became apparent. Wrongly understood tolerance dimensions and the too large cuttings were the reason that the inserts jammed during installation. A great realisation for dimensionally accurate work could be felt among the participants. Pretty much all parts had to be reworked.

16:00 Evening

Summary: Every now and then, and only when it has a big effect, you have to show who is the master in the workshop. A very inaccurately manufactured insert made of four steel plates was thrown on the floor a loud bang everything disintegrated into its individual parts as desired, this had an effect and everyone was now motivated. Pedagogically it was probably completely wrong and Mr Lohrmann is very rarely like that. Other countries require other measures

Day 12. Thursday, 01.12.2022

07:00 Breakfast at Livingstone Lodge

07:45 Drive to the centre de ressources artisanales,

08:15 Arrival

Arrival at the training centre, start of production and manufacturing of two missing components. Work continued in two groups. The first group manufacturing, the second group sanding and painting.

11:00 - 11:30 Break

11:30 - 14:00 Production

Assembly of all ready-painted elements, installation of the shafts, springs, levers, pressure plates, etc. Discussion with the participants about an African design, production of the varnishing stencils from cardboard, completion, the decorative elements were sprayed on according to taste.



14:00 Conclusion

The stone press was now finished. The drinks promised by Mr Lohrmann were enjoyed, nice waiting for the officials. Photo opportunities with the participants.

15:00. Arrival Ms. Le President Mr. Aba Marcellin and Mr. Tchamouza. Signing of the certificates, speeches by the officials and the team, congratulations and handing over of the certificates and the plan documents, farewell!

16:00 DriveThe President accompanied the team to the Livingstone Eco Lodge accommodation, short stay and then return to Lomé.

18:15 Arrival at Hotel Onomo in Lomé.

19:30 Dinner at the Alt München restaurant, exchange with Mr Milz (HWK Cologne) and other people who have projects in Togo. Nice networking.

Summary: It is always nice to see how many people make an effort to do good in other countries.

Day 13. Friday, 02.12.2022

07:00 Breakfast Hotel Onomo Lomé

08:00 Work Discussion, feedback working together photo, report etc..

10:00 Arrival

Mr. Tchamouza discussed with the team what was still on the programme for today. Mr. Lohrmann was supposed to be picked up at the hotel around 1 pm. Due to his experience, Mr Lohrmann spontaneously decided to accompany Mr Moctar and Mr Tchamouza to the training centre in Lomé. Mr Moctar Koné inspected all the electromechanical machines and made notes for his next assignment in January 2023. In the training centre, young men were just being trained in metalwork. Mr. Lohrmann was able to join in directly and gather information as well as give small assistance. The trainer had no information about the spontaneous assignment and was a bit surprised. After a short time and a few sentences the ice was broken. He willingly showed Mr. Lohrmann his office. One group was trained in theory, a second group made a truncated cone out of sheet steel. All that was available was a rusty sheet of metal. The truncated cone was cut with a hammer and chisel and formed with a spinning tool of their own



design. This will later serve as the upper part for a small, very well-crafted barbecue oven. Impressed by this achievement, Mr Lohrmann said goodbye to the instructor.

14:30 Ride

Wood and Metal Wood Workshop, Center de Ressource Artisanat-Lomé, Mr. Wade Todom Pazimzuwé was one of the participants in the project. Immediately they were looking forward to each other. Mr Moctar was also working on his preparations here. Mr Lohrmann visited a small adjacent market hall.

15:45 Ride

Arrival at the local office of the HWK Saarbrücken. Mr Milz had announced this days before. Actually, we were supposed to have our final appointment with the Minister of Craft Works, but for reasons unknown to us he was prevented, so the team was able to keep this appointment. Networking Exchanging contacts with other actors in development aid. The week ended together at this barbecue afternoon.

17:30 Drive Return to the Onomo Hotel, after-work dinner Football World Cup

Day 14. Saturday, 03.12.2022

08:30 Breakfast Hotel Onomo Lomé

09:00 Daily routine Free disposal

19:55 Departure With Air France via Paris to Frankfurt

Day 15 Sunday, 04.12.2022

09:55 Arrival Frankfurt am Main Airport (Terminal 2)

3.) Achievement of results of the operation

3.1) Detailed course contents

Training in planning, construction, occupational safety, and dual training system.

3.2) Trainings

One day and 8 days of practical work. The working hours were precisely adhered to!

3.3) Concrete results



a.) **Theory training:** Teaching basic knowledge in planning and occupational safety. Occupational safety in particular is new in Togo and must be taught and internalised from the ground up. During the days of practical work it was obvious that this cannot be achieved in a short time. The handling of dangerous equipment such as welding machines and hand grinders is sometimes frightening. This was also taught several times in the practical part. The combination of theoretical training and implementation in practical work is a good approach. The hearing protection often serves as a headdress and the safety goggles as a status symbol

b.) Practice: Production of a steel stone press

The idea for a purely mechanical stone press came from Peter Kriese and John Lohrmann. The starting point was a trip to Nairobi in Kenya for WorldSkills Germany. In the training centre for bricklayers in Nairobi there was a similar construction for the production of stones. No sooner said than done. The company John Lohrmann Stahlhandwerk was commissioned to produce a prototype, as well as to take over the planning for the construction, furthermore exact plans and assembly drawings were to be created. The stone press was modified so that three sizes of stones could be produced with only one machine.

Theoretical part: Day 5: Training on the function and systematics of the stone press. Explanation of the planning and assembly of the stone press. Instructions on how to manufacture as precisely as possible and how to observe work safety as already taught in advance.

Practical part: Day 6 - 12 Day production, explanation of the material, it consisted mostly of scrap material and some bars of new material. Cutting of the existing material. At the same time, some of the work was done in three groups (cutting, drilling, cleaning). Sometimes, however, the work was only done in two groups. Unfortunately, it was not always possible to avoid that some participants could only watch. Very committed and motivated, with a great talent for improvisation, they worked as well as they could. The complexity of the stone press was often underestimated and led to some mistakes. Executions that were not exact to the plan and a lack of precision led to problems several times. Mr Lohrmann often had to give assistance and sometimes correct the participants emotionally. It was not clear at all times that we would reach our goal. Improvisation and the common will of the team, as well as the willingness of the participants, led to a useful result in the end. Mr. Lohrmann would like to thank the participant Mr. Donyoh Kolumbe, a teacher from Lomé, who gave explanations to the participants at all times and made many sketches. At the end, the participants were able to paint the stone press and decorate it with African symbols. There was great enthusiasm in the air at the end.

3.4) Problems and challenges:

Problems: The assessment of problems often lies in the perspective of the people involved. The local coordinator, Mr. Tchamouza, sees things with different eyes than we



Europeans do. At best, he has only a basic knowledge of handicrafts, which led to too much time being wasted on representative drive visits at the beginning of the activities. The purchase of materials also had to be done by the team. In Tsévié there was no equipment and no workshop. Together with the participants, everything had to be procured, provided and improvised. Mr Milz from the HWK Cologne provided his personal drill and small tools. There were situations where Mr Lohrmann considered abandoning the project. When you start from nothing, you really cannot speak of preparation. The project management and Mr. Lohrmann provided all possible documentation for several months. Mr Lohrmann has a good relationship with Mr Tchamouza. He is a man who is always very helpful in all the private wishes of the actors. Mr Tchamouza is very well connected in Lomé & Tsévié. This is a great advantage if you want to get ahead despite all the circumstances. The president of the Chamber of Crafts in Tsévié made every effort to help. With his vehicle he transported the desolate drilling machines from Lomé to Tsévié.

Challenge: Despite all the preparations, a technically demanding project is not easy to implement. Sometimes you get the impression that once one problem has been solved, the next one is just around the corner. The thought of failing the mission, or rather, not being able to finish the project, is also a constant companion. Africa is always a challenge!

3.5) Any changes:

The preparation of this project was optimal from the German point of view. Plans without errors, test project and prototype built and tested. Feedback and analysis must be done. Better control in the country of operation, feedback from the country of operation should be documented with photo material and controlled in Germany.

3.6) Information about participants:

The team consisted of: Mr Moctar Koné Electrical - Mechanic
 Mr John Lohrmann Master Metalworker
 International Master HWK.

The participants were mostly craftsmen, self-employed or employed, and a teacher from Lomé. See Appendix I, list of participants with photos.

3.7) Feedback

The theoretical training was carried out, followed by internalisation and practice of the practical activities. The use of protective goggles, ear protection, safety shoes and work gloves was instructed. In this way, the knowledge already acquired could be directly applied in the practical work.



The practical part, building a functioning stone press without an electric drive, turned out to be much more difficult. The preparations on the part of the coordinator in Lomé were not as they should have been. The team started from scratch. The purchase of materials and transport from Lomé to Tsévié had to be made and organised. Some of the material was scrap quality and some was new. In Tsévié, the team was allocated only one free site. This space was to serve as a building site for the metal work. Only after discussions and the threat to stop the project did they agree to make a room available for the work. The room was cleaned that same evening.

All the equipment, drills, welders, grinders, etc. was provided by the president and the participants. Day after day, the project was managed with a lot of improvisation. As you can see in the photo documentation, this was also successful. The dimensional accuracy and quality were only 90% achieved. The stone press is functional and ready for use. The test run in January 2023 will show this. In the end, everyone involved was very pleased and proud of what had been created. It was a great challenge for the German / French team, which was only overcome with enormous effort. Many advantages such as the English / French languages brought success. "Craftsmen without Borders" offers the chance to successfully implement projects across the borders in Europe and all over the world. The team: Mr. Moctar Koné and Mr. John Lohrmann have shown how successful the concept is. We will continue to actively help in the future!

Future:

The basis for further projects in Togo has been created. There are some jigs and devices that could be manufactured in similar projects. In detail, small bending jigs for sheet metal. Bending jigs for small steel angles, jigs for making decorative elements. All these objects make metal construction easier and have a positive effect on production efficiency.

Vision:

Lomé is a city of about 1.8 million people. The equipment to secure the land and buildings with automatic gates is just beginning. The demand is enormous and the purchasing power of the upper class and the public sector is quite noticeable. A search on the internet revealed that only one company offers this service. The demand for safety equipment and standards is non-existent. Good European products are available online through traders in Lomé.

Step. 1.)

Project - Construction of a model gate with all safety functions, light barriers, light signal, remote control, etc. The project would be a combination in proven tandem use. Metal construction and electrical mechanical execution. Training of the participants on the function and safety devices.



Handwerker ohne Grenzen
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Step.2.) Project _ Business audit and establishment of an independent company or branch. Business plan with enquiry to Sequa / GIZ / HWK / Bank etc.

Step.3.) Finding partners from among the participants and putting them into action. The growth potential is enormous and a future-proof starting point for all participants.

John Lohrmann
International Master HWK

10.12.2022

Annex I Photos of the participants
Annex II Photos Project