

**PAN AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT
WEST AFRICA (PAID-WA)
P.O BOX 133, BUEA, CAMEROON**

**VILLAGE STUDY REPORT OF
BAMUM – BAFUT**

Submitted by:

2008/2009

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The village study was conducted in Bawum Bafut Sub-division in the Northwest Region of Cameroon. It was in partial fulfillment for the award of a Diploma in Development Studies.

The study requires the team to hire and work within the community so as to identify the problems and potentials in the community. After identifying and prioritizing the Core problems, possible solutions were worked out to solve one or two of the problems based on the economic potential of the community.

The team utilized their knowledge and skills during the study and the fact that it was comprised of members from different disciplines, the assigned tasks was accomplished within the stipulated time frame.

Bawum, situated in Bafut Sub-division in the North West Region of Cameroon is divided into 2 zones, lower and upper Bawum. Lower Bawum is characterized by the presence of that land and high site fertility. Upper Bawum is hilly, stony and undulating with streams and valleys. The community is administered by a chief known as the “Mukwifor”.

Bawum disjuncts its locations is blessed with some social and touristic amenities like secondary and primary schools, health post, SABOGA and Niba Albert foundation, which make life conducive to the people and even to visitors who come into Bawum.

The team used various participatory rural appraisal (PRA) tools such as semi-structured interview, interviews discussion observation, transect and village walks etc, to collect the required data. This helps identified real problems affecting the people. The problem were prioritized and ranked in order of importance.

Based on this the team in collaboration with the community identified inadequate supply of potable water and difficulty to access farm inputs as the most severe problems. As a result, an SDP on the rehabilitation of the water scheme and formation of family groups was developed. It helped that at the end of this SDP socio-economic development would be enhanced especially in household income.

PREFACE

Community studies in Cameroon have been plagued with problems partly because of the use of RRA which doesn't take into cognizant the peoples interest and opinions. This study therefore greatly encompasses the use of PRA which entails greater participation, sensitization, enables the people themselves to discover their problems and with the aid of facilitators be able to realize their potentials as well as developing these potentials so as to improve their standards of living. This study takes into account the opinions of the people so as to come out with (SDP) Suggested Development Plan for the people of Bawum. This plan could be realized within the period of two years.

Another important point to stress about this report is that it serves as a complete practical guide on community studies and can be used by other researchers in a bid to do field work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It would be preposterous to assert that a work of this scope and importance could reach fruition without the assistance by persons to whom we are greatly indebted.

We owe an invaluable debt to Mr. Fomukong Gilbert, Mr. Tangie Maurice, Juliana Anchang and Mr. Antunka Napoleon for their assistance and corrections that has given this report outstanding potentials and credibility.

Immense gratitude also goes to our various parents and spouses for their financial and moral support without which, this project and village study would have not been realized.

Our PRA insiders Mr. Christopher Fru, Mr. Abinwa Joseph and Mr. Nfuh John Fune who facilitated our village work, liaison with the community, village walk, drawing the village map (with the presence of all the 11 quarter heads) as well as assisting during the village seminar. We thank them gracefully.

We whole heartedly thank our GOD ALMIGHTY for giving us the strength, guidance; and haven provided us harmony to ensure we smoothly worked as a team.

We know we cannot adequately reciprocate the inestimable largess of all those who timorously came to our assistance in the course of this project. To all we say thank you.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	i
Preface	ii
Acknowledgement	iii
Table of contents	iv

CHAPTER ONE GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Purpose of Study	1
1.3 Scope of study	2
1.4 Methodology	2
1.5 Limitation	2

CHAPTER TWO BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Introduction	3
2.2Physical setting	3
2.2.1 Location	3
2.2.2 Topography	3
2.2.3 Vegetation	3
2.2.4 Soil	4
2.3 Historical profile	4
2.4 Political, cultural and social issues	6
2.4.1 Political profile	6
2.4.2 Cultural profile	7
2.5 Economic background	9
2.5.1 Agricultural	9
2.5.2 Non-agricultural	9

CHAPTER THREE
DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

3.1 Introduction	11
3.2 Problem identification by sector	11
3.3 List of problems	12
3.4 Core problems	12
3.5 Problem analysis	12

CHAPTER FOUR
DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

4.1 Introduction	18
4.2 Economic potential	18
4.3 Social potential	19
4.4 Physical potentials (natural)	19
4.5 Institutions	19
4.6 SWOT Analysis	21

CHAPTER FIVE
SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN(S)

5.1 Introduction	22
5.2 Problem	23
Goal	23
Strategic plan	23
SDP matrix	23

CHAPTER SIX
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusion	25
6.2 Recommendations	25
 Annexes	 26

CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Over the last few decades, Cameroon like many African nations has launched many donor-driven development projects in agriculture, water, forestry, health and education. Yet life in many rural communities remains in hardship. Apparent changing climatic conditions, poor soils, lack of fertilizers, rudimentary farming methods, along with difficulties of maintaining infrastructure and equipment have led to gradual reductions in agricultural productivity, increase in deforestation, and a general decrease in the economic and physical well being of many of Cameroon's rural citizens. Many projects have not achieved their anticipated impacts largely because they have not been designed in ways that local institutions could sustain.

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) takes an alternative approach to rural development. Rather than start with large investments of money and external plans, PRA begins in rural communities and builds on what local groups identify to be important. This village study report documents one such experience, using PRA in Bawum village.

Furthermore, PRA is one of the most effective methods for initiating participatory development, which stresses the importance of people's participation as a key element towards relevant and sustainable programmes. It stimulates communities to be self-reliant, solving their own problems rather than outsiders imposing solutions on them.

1.2 PURPOSE OF STUDY

The purpose of the study is to identify development needs of the Bawum-Bafut community. It is also aimed at building capacities in order to redress their core problems. This is made possible with the use of PRA methodology.

The study is also a pre-requisite for the award of Diploma in Development Studies at the Pan African Institute for Development-West Africa (PAID- WA).

The specific objectives of the study:

- Collection of development oriented information about Bawum-Bafut with the aid of PRA techniques

- Identification of key problem and potentials with the full participation of the Bawum-Bafut community
- Develop practical and realistic plan of action towards solving key problems identified.
- Presenting major findings, analysis and a Suggested Development Plan (SDP) to the community via a village seminar.

1.3 SCOPE OF STUDY

The study was done between the 29th of November 2009 and the 18th of December 2009 in Bawum in the Bafut sub-division, Mezam Division of the North West Region of Cameroon.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

The research methodology used for this study is PRA. Some of the tools include seasonal calendar, village walk, village transect, timeline, trend analysis, institutional diagrams, problem ranking, SWOT analysis, action plan matrix, review of secondary data and triangulation.

1.5 LIMITATIONS

There was low turnout among the PRA insiders due to busy farming activities and other social commitments. November and December is the peak period in the cocoa season and other social activities. The PRA team struggled to grapple with this problem.

Coordination was somewhat difficult particularly in areas of community mobilization due to the mindset of some few members of the traditional council whose participation was less active. This led the PRA team to adopt a vigorous community sensitization strategy in order to achieve success.

The group started with four members instead of six. One member who was sick joined us six days after we had started the village study. The other member could not join us because of financial constraints. Finally we worked as a team of five instead of six.

CHAPTER TWO

BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF BAWUM-BAFUT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the background information about Bawum Bafut which looks at physical setting (location, relief topography and soil), historical profile, political, social and cultural issues, economic background, health and nutrition.

2.2 PHYSICAL SETTINGS

2.2.1 LOCATION

The Bawum community, located at latitude 6° 04' N and longitude 10° 06' E is found in Bafut Sub-division, Mezam Division of the North West Region of Cameroon, West Africa. It is located about 20km from Bamenda, the head quarter of the North West Region. Bawum is located NNW of Bamenda. The road leading to Bawum is accessible at all seasons. The community of Bawum which is a second class chiefdom is made up of eleven quarters which are Doo-Nchuko, Nta'achu, Nta'affiti, Bukuho, Alegnwi, Nso-Bawum, Aturu-Ntoh I, Aturu-Ntoh II, Akochebi, Nfortoh and Akugngoh. The Bawum village is bounded in the north by the Mankon village, to the east by Agyati, to the west by Mambu and to the south by Mankaha.

The Bawum village is situated on an altitude of about 1211m above sea level and has a total surface area of about 4.24km square (source BACDA). It also has a total population of about 2000 inhabitants.

2.2.2 TOPOGRAPHY

Generally, Bawum is characterized by steep and gentle slopes where by settlement pattern is scattered around the steep area and cluster around the gentle area. The water catchments are found in the valleys.

2.2.3 VEGETATION

The vegetation of Bawum consists of grasses, shrubs, tall palm trees, dotted eucalyptus trees, mango trees, pear trees and raffia palm bushes. On the arable land, crops like cassava, plantain, maize, colocasia, sweet potatoes, yams, beans and vegetables are cultivated.

2.2.4 CLIMATE

The climate of Bawum is typical of the savanna with harmattan winds. The area experiences two seasons that is the rainy and dry season. The rainy season last for eight months (March to October) with the month of August being the wettest. The dry season last for four months of the year (November to February) with February being the driest. The month of March and October are usually transitional months. The temperature of the areas is moderately hot with the days being the hottest than the nights, which are colder during the dry season. The harmattan is felt most in the dry season with very harsh temperatures. The table below contains data on temperature and rainfall from January to April 2009

Temperature and Rainfall Variations (Jan—April 2009)

Months	Minimum temperature	Maximum temperature	Rainfall Height	No of rainy days
Jan	12.2 ^o c	29.0 ^o c	6.0	2
Feb	13.0 ^o c	30.0 ^o c	48.2	3
March	15.6 ^o c	30.4 ^o c	47.5	5
April	16.6 ^o c	28.9oc	13.6	15
May	Not available			
June	Not available			

2.2.4 SOIL TYPE

The main soil types are humus, clay and sandy soils that spread across the village which support the cultivation of a variety of crops.

2.3 HISTORICAL PROFILE

Briefly, the historical background of Bawum village like that of the Bafut Kingdom has a common migration and settlement history which could be traced as far back as the 18th century. This village is a second class chiefdom, headed by a second class chief called Ntoh-Nicholas the 13th of Bawum. He is assisted by eleven quarter heads. The Bawum people formally known and called “The Mbelefe people” came from Bamunyam in the Fouban area or clan and the name of their leader or founder is yet unknown. After moving from there, they settled temporally in different places. They later came and settled at ‘ Alante’ (presently

the Bamenda up station) for long. A certain god came and begged for water from the people but they refused to give water to the god.

The then Ntoh (chief) gave the god water based on the instruction of his wife. At night, the chief's wife was informed in a vision of some impending disaster that was to occur in the place. The chief's wife later advised the chief to move away from the Alante palace to a different place.

They were advised not to look back when leaving the place. The three princes who left the area at the time ignored the advice given and settled near by. The three princes were (1) Mforbunaa who lived near the present side of Baligham (2) Mforbujang who later became the founder of the Mejang sub- chiefdom of Kom and (3) Mfor Manten who settled where Balinyonga is and whose people later scattered.

An earthquake occurred after Ntoh and his people left Alante and the earthquake destroyed most of the chief's possessions and some of his herd of dwarf cows that was left behind among others. Most of the people who did not leave the place, suffered the loss of their lives and property. The Ntoh and his people moved to many places conquering many tribes and some groups of war mongers during the ethnic wars. He and his people moved towards Wum road. As time went on they came back to the forest land at a place called "Nchum" in lower Bafut. The chief and subjects dug a large long trench where he lived with his subjects. The large trench was called Mfuntoh meaning Ntoh's hole. It is still there now and can be seen when going to Nchum after the Manji Hospital. It was a historical site where the Bawum people hid themselves during war.

The Bawum people who were at the time known and called the Mbelefe people, later moved from Mfuntoh and traveled upward to Mbebili where they met the aboriginal chief Nebachi of Mbebili. The Mbelefe/Bawum people built their palace at a place called "Atuochum-Njo" at Mbebili where the chief lived with his followers or subjects. They planted the "Uwume Tree" (Fig trees) as a sign of life, peace and prosperity of the people hence, the name of Mbelefe people changed to Bawum, from then till date.

2.4 POLITICAL AND SOCIO-CULTURAL ISSUES

2.4.1 POLITICAL PROFILE

In the Bawum community, there are principally two political parties namely the SDF and the CPDM with the former being the majority. Traditionally, the village is governed by the chief (MuKwifor) which is headed by the Kwifor (a secret society). The MuKwifor works in close collaboration with the chairman of the village traditional council who then delegates powers to the quarter heads for the smooth running of the village. The village is governed by the chief (Mukwifor) who is headed by the Kwifor (Secret Society). The Mukwifor works in close collaboration with the council of elders. The council of elders have a link with the quarter heads that controls the respective quarters and reports any irregularities to the chairman of the council of elders. There are eleven quarters in Bawum with each quarter having four quarter heads; two men (tanikuro) and two women (manikuro).

The duties of the Council of Elders include:

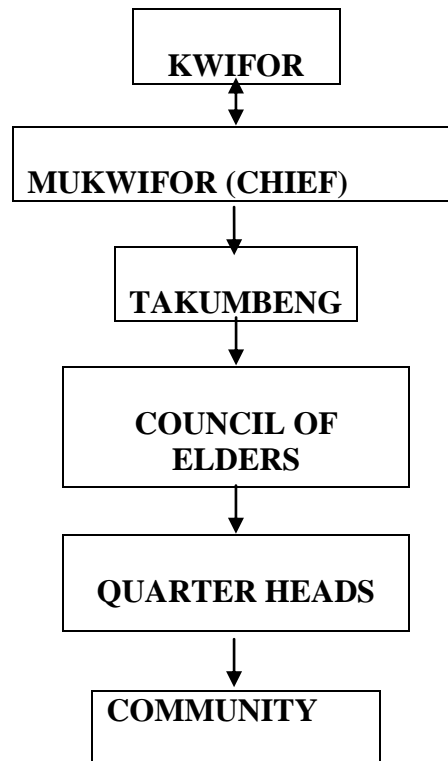
- ❖ Maintaining peace and order in the village
- ❖ Ensures village laws are respected.

The duties of the quarter heads are as follows:

- ❖ Settle minor disputes
- ❖ Ensure effectiveness of community work.

The Mukwifor is the traditional head and he practically controls the village in all its ranks. He settles major disputes and ensures the smooth day to day running of the village.

VILLAGE ORGANIGRAM



2.4.2 CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

The Bawum community has seven nursery and primary schools and one secondary school, a health post, two churches (Catholic and Presbyterian churches) and a minor seminary. There are numerous palm wine and beer parlours, a few hair dressing and barbing saloons and a list of touristic sites like the Savanna Botanical Gardens (SABOGA), Neba Albert Foundation (NAF) and the Bamenda national airport. In terms of culture, the people have varying cultural practices.

Inheritance

According to Customary Laws, inheritance is generally patrilineal. The father chooses the next of kin as the custodian and protector of his property. It should be noted that in the Bawum community, women also inherit property even though in a lesser extent.

Death Ceremony

When a native of the community passes away, it is kept in the mortuary so that the family can plan effectively on preparations and removal. The day the mortal remains leave the mortuary, burial is done the same day. There after, traditional rites are performed followed by feasting. This situation however, differs from family to another. For example, some families shave

their hair upon the burial of a loved one after three days whereas other families don't. Also, families attached to the palace or Fon have quite a different procedure when it comes to death ceremony. Moreover, in the Bawum community, it is believed that the Mukwifor (Chief) never dies, instead he disappears (or is missing).

Marriages

Marriages at first were first limited to traditional marriages. Of recent, court and church marriages are now organized with the outcome of development and religion.

However, when a boy and a girl fall in love and agree to marry, the parents of the boy look for a middleman to seek the girl's hand in marriage from the girl's parents. This is usually accompanied by 5 liters of palm wine or a bottle of whisky. This drink is drunk only if the girl has accepted the said boy's hand in marriage. After drinking, a certain amount of money is paid back to the boy's parents, this money is multiplied by ten and considered the bride price. That is if 500 FRS is paid, 5000 FRS will be paid to the girl's parents, if 1000 FRS is paid, the sum of 10000 FRS will be paid back to the girl's parents and so on. The amount is paid with an additional sum of 500 FRS being the cost of the wine called "ayegtimelu'uh", if the wine is not paid to the boy's parents, it means the girl has refused or the parents have refused the girl from getting married to the boy. The aunts of the girl are visited by the middleman on behalf of the boy's family with cooked plantains and meat with much oil inside. Another trip is made with raw and heavy bunches of plantains with palm oil depending on the individual families, which is cooked for the aunts to eat. This time the girl is rubbed with the palm oil and escorted to the husband's compound.

Beliefs

In Bawum and Bafut as a whole, it is believed that if women see the Kwifor, she will either become red as fire, give birth to a masquerade, or she will eventually die. It is also believed that when the Fon gets missing, they go and stay in a water fall in Bafut call Nefo'o. Visitors don't go there with their shoes on. Photographing as well as filming is prohibited, if done the effects are usually devastating. Secret places such as Shrines are not cultivated. The consequences of cultivating in Secret places will not only expose the shrine but there will be drought as well as deaths.

Calling of people's names at night or crying at night will expose the person (culprit) to the people of the other world (bad spirits). Without mix of words, anyone who works on 'mumitah' is bewitched.

2.5 ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

2.5.1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Previously in Bawum, agricultural production was high it was done close to water bodies which have fertile soils but presently, the production is moderate because of the increase in population and farmlands found on hilly areas where the soils are not too fertile and exposed to soil erosion.

There is a variety of crop production which includes yams, colocasia beans, cassava, maize, potatoes, vegetables, palms, plantain, and banana. Because of the soil type and nature of the terrain, there is the proliferation of cassava and yams cultivation. Compared to the other crops produced, cassava and yams provide the highest yields and attract more income.

Animal rearing is one of the livelihood activities in the village. The animals reared include goats, pigs, fowls and rabbits. Some of the goats, fowls and pigs are confined in fences while others are tethered and some few fowls (local fowls) stray around (free range). The people rear mostly improved breeds of pigs and fowls.

2.5.2 NON AGRICULTURAL

Results from study indicated that agriculture is not the only means of subsistence in Bawum village. Beside agricultural activities, non-agricultural activities such as petty trading, motorcycling (okada), palm wine tapping, hair dressing and barbing saloons are also prioritized by the people of Bawum. These activities play a key role in the village economy since agricultural activities remain constantly higher and regular financially than non agricultural activities, most farmers diversify into non agricultural activities so as to remain financially viable throughout the year.

2.5.3 SOURCE OF INCOME

The economy of the Bawum community is predominantly agrarian in nature. The main income generating activities in the area are farming, animal rearing, palm wine tapping, petit trading, transportation services (bikes and taxis) and paid employment

2.5 NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The Bawum people have a staple food called Achu eaten with the yellow or black soup which is highly nutritive. Other foods consumed include beans, rice, maize, vegetables, cassava, plantain and yams. This could be seen in the healthy nature of the Bawum people. There is also a health post which caters for the primary health of the people. However, in case of a serious health condition, the people could either go to the Bafut District Hospital at Manji, the Presbyterian Health Center at Nsani or the Catholic Health Center at Mambu. The community gains from regular government interventions such as mectizan distribution, filarial and infantile paralyse (polio) vaccines. There is a regular clean up campaign around the traditional council to ensure proper sanitation in the village. Defaulters are punished severely.

CHAPTER THREE

DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, we will examine the various developmental problems identified in the Bawum community. The identified problems will be ranked in order to get the core problem which will be analyzed to determine the extent of the problems and how they could be solved in order to improve living standards of the members of the community.

3.2 PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION BY SECTOR

The various sectors found in Bawum community are; agricultural, health, education, social and financial sectors. A number of problems have been identified to fit in these sectors. This is expressed bellow as follow.

3.2.1 Agricultural Sector

The agricultural sector faces the following problems;

- Pest and disease which leads to low yield
- Unavailability and difficulties to acquire farm inputs.
- Infertile farmland.
- Poor farm to market roads.
- Poor or no steady markets to evacuate the farm produce.

3.2.2 Health Sector

The following problems are health related problems in the Bawum community;

- Insufficient access to health services.
- Poor quality of drinking water which increases the prevalence of water born diseases in the community such as typhoid.
- Dusty roads which greatly spread air born diseases like catarrh and cough.

3.2.3 Educational Sector

This sector has a number of problems which hinder its progress.

They include;

- Inadequate secondary school facilities.
- Poor infrastructure for learning.
- Unavailability of trained teachers.

3.2.4 Social Sector

The problems faced by the community in this sector include

- Inter village conflicts.
- Poor level of community mobilization.
- Village boundaries are not clear.
- Church conflicts, that is between the Catholic Church and the community.
- High cost of construction.

3.2.5 Financial Sector

The problems faced by the Bawum man in the financial sector includes

- Low capital for investment.
- Low income to purchase farm inputs.
- No financial institutions like credit unions in the community.

3.3 LIST OF PROBLEMS

- 1) Inadequate supply of portable drinking water.
- 2) Inadequate secondary school facilities especially technical schools.
- 3) Insufficient chemical for the control of pest and diseases for farm households.
- 4) No village map with clear boundaries.
- 5) Poor road network.
- 6) Difficulty to access farm inputs.
- 7) Poor access to health services.
- 8) Poor electricity supply.
- 9) Poor level of community mobilization.

3.4 CORE PROBLEMS

- Inadequate supply of portable drinking water.
- Difficulty to access farm inputs.
- Inadequate secondary school facilities especially technical schools.

3.4 PROBLEM ANALYSIS

The causes and effects of some of the core problems were analyzed using problem tree analysis method. The analysis reveal a high inter relationship between the various problems.

Focused Group Problem Prioritization

PROBLEM	SCORE	RANK
WATER	5	1st
SECONDARY SCHOOL	3	3rd
PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL	1	5th
VILLAGE MAP	0	6th
ROADS	4	2nd
FARM INPUTS	2	4th

Community Problem Prioritization

PROBLEM	SCORE	RANK
HOSPITAL	1	4 th
WATER	5	1 st
SCHOOL	4	2 nd
ELECTRICITY	1	5 th
ROADS	3	3 rd
MAPS	1	6 th

Problem 1: Inadequate Supply of Potable Water.

The community has once experienced the flow of potable water with the water tanks presently full. However, Because of disunity amongst the villagers of Mambu and Bawum, mismanagement, inadequate sensitizations as well as low finances, water cannot reach to all. Since the inhabitants spend much time to fetch water from water catchments, consequently there is a slow down in agricultural activities. Agricultural production is also low because farmers do not have enough water for crops during the dry season thus low income leading to poverty.

Problem 2: Difficulty to Access Farm Inputs

Like in most rural communities in Cameroon where agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the inhabitants, there is always the problem of difficulties in accessing farm inputs. This is partially because of inadequate finances to buy the inputs. Also, there is the problem of the unstable nature of prices of these inputs with them in most cases difficult to

get because of scarcity. As well, the people do not have adequate knowledge on the use of the farm inputs.

These, no doubt have very negative effects on the production, the nutritional level as well as the soil on which these crops are cultivated. Since income from this activity is used for the education of their children, there will be a general drop in the school enrollment because of poor yields which attract low income hence poverty and eventual high death rate.

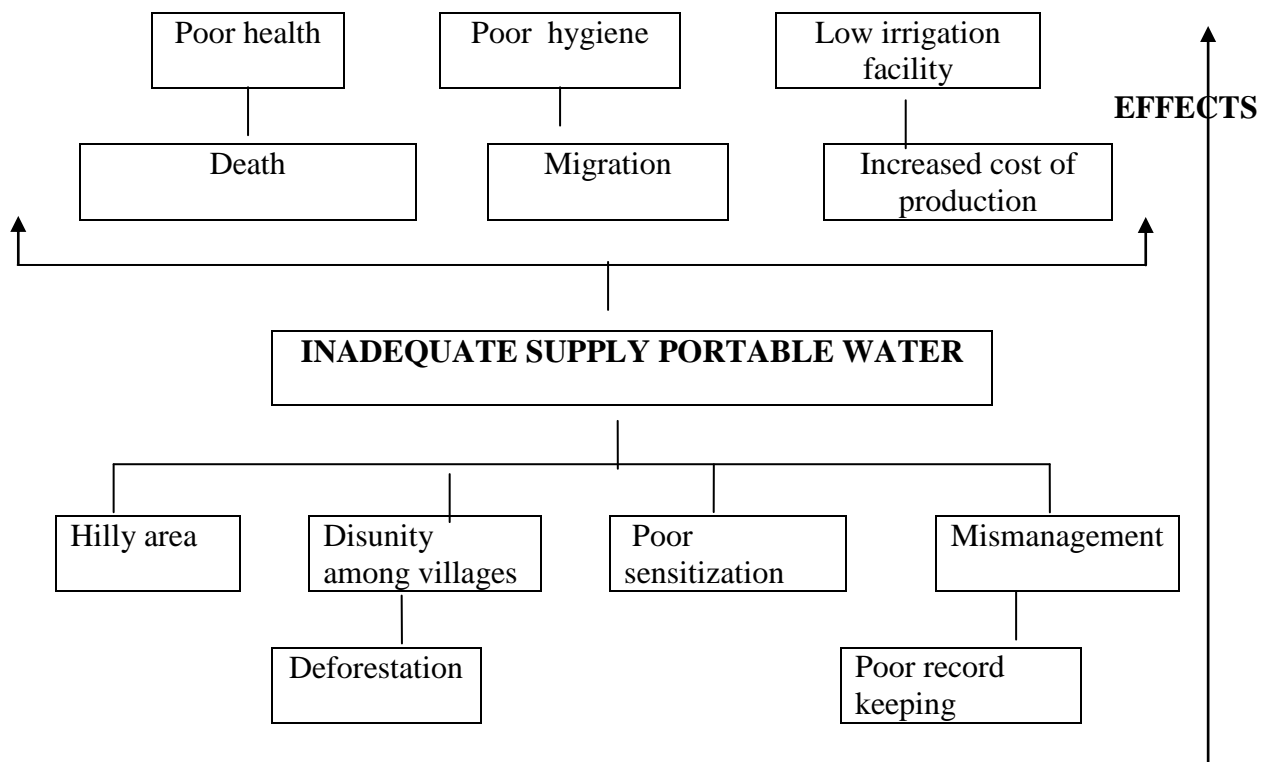
Problem 3: Inadequate Secondary School Facilities

The Bawum community has seven primary schools and just one secondary school. This lone secondary school is a private school where due to high fees, parents cannot afford to provide for needs of their children. Students in the Bawum community are forced to move to nearby villages or towns where they could attend schools. This makes the situation expensive and difficult as well for the parents who depend solely on income from agriculture to educate their children. There is also the problem of over population with respect to student-teacher ratio.

Proposed Action/Solution for the Core Problems

Problem I: Inadequate Supply Of Portable Water			
CAUSES	SOLUTION/ACTION		OBSERVATION
	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Inadequate finances	Community fund raising	Financial support	Presence of financial institution
Mismanagement and poor record keeping	Community apply for trained personnel to handle finances and frequent checks	Technical and financial support	Presence of elites
Disunity amongst villagers and villages	Community mobilisation and sensitisation		This may take long due to poor development spirit of villagers
PROBLEM II: DIFFICULTY OF ACCESS TO FARM INPUTS			
Inadequate finances	Fund raising through groups formation	Technical support	Presence of 'Njangi' houses
Inadequate knowledge on the availability of farm inputs	Sensitization	Technical support	
Unstable prices of farm inputs		Financial support from NGOs	
PROBLEM III: INADEQUATE SECONDARY EDUCATION FACILITIES			
Inadequate financial resources	Community fund raising	Technical support	This may take long because of low development spirit
Inadequate trained teachers	Apply for trained teachers	Technical support	
Inadequate classrooms	Provision of local materials such as stones .wood and labour	Financial and technical support	Presence of elites and partners

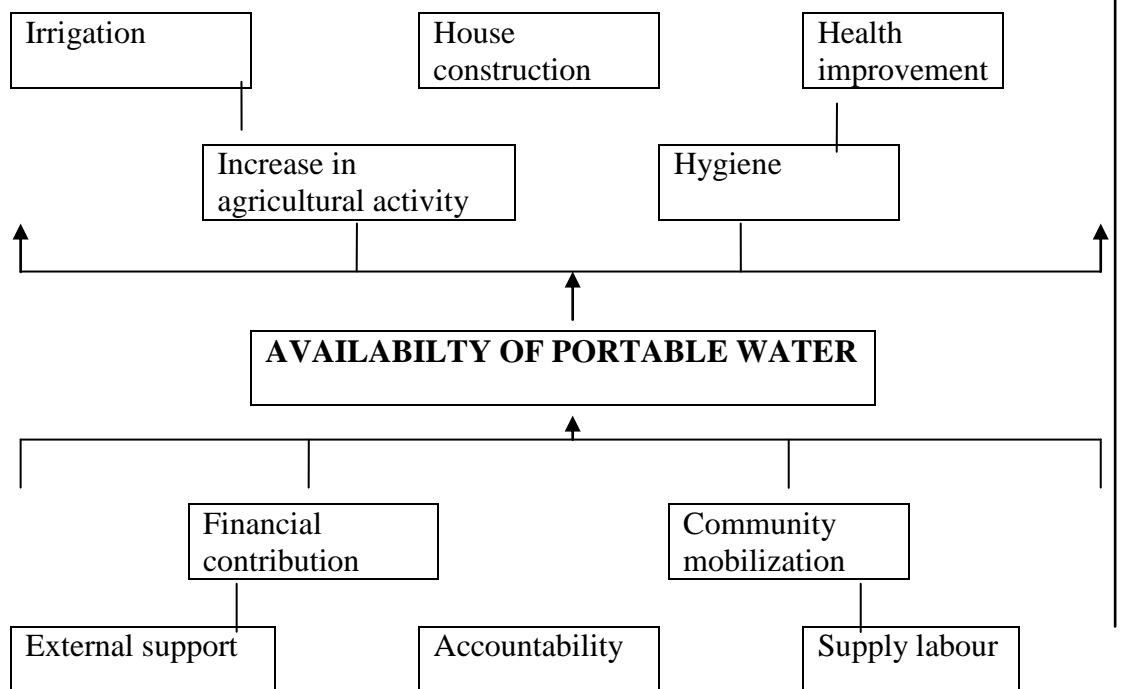
PROBLEM AND OBJECTIVE TREE ANALYSIS ON PORTABLE WATER SUPPLY



CAUSES

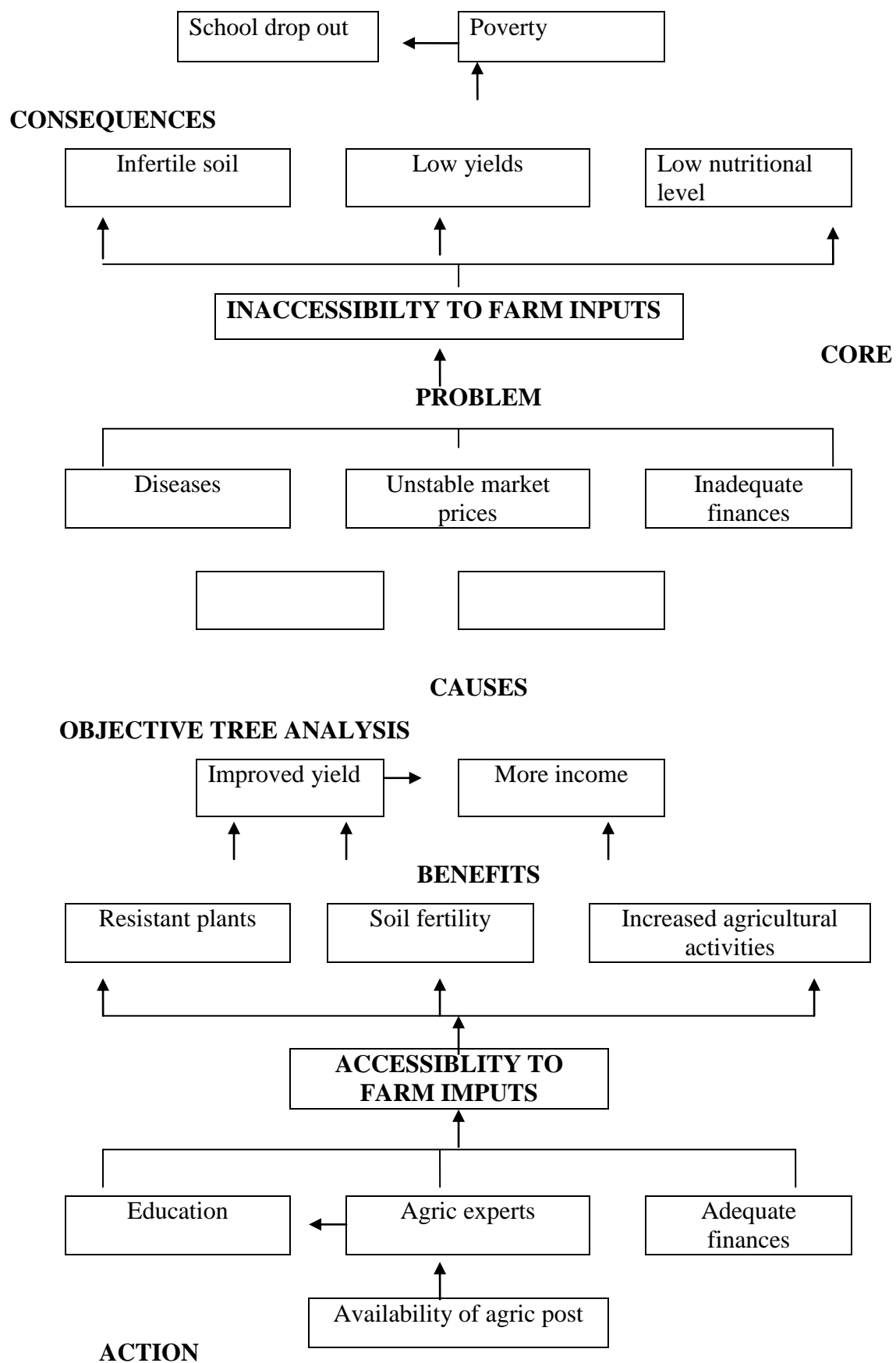
OBJECTIVE TREE ANALYSIS

BENEFITS



ACTION

PROBLEM AND OBJECTIVE TREE ANALYSIS ON FARM INPUTS



CHAPTE R FOUR

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

4.1 INTRODUCTION

With respect to various problems faced by the community they have the following potentials: economic, social, physical and institutional potentials respectively.

4.2 ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

4.1.1 MARKET

There is a market square which operates only on Sundays in an open air because the main market was burnt in 1964. The market is principally in the Bawum community. However, there are other markets in the neighbouring villages where the villagers in the Bawum community go to buy and sell some of their products. Also there is a general market day in Bafut known as ‘Ijong’ that is for the whole Bafut clan.

4.1.2 TRANSPORTATION

The main road leading to the Bawum community is not tarred. Transportation within the village is through cars and particularly motorcycles (okada). This is a lot easier in the dry season as the roads are dry but becomes very difficult and expensive in the rainy season due to muddy and slippery roads.

4.1.3 RESTAURANTS

There are small scaled restaurants dotted in the village. These restaurants serve many workers and some few youths around. The common dish in these restaurants is “Achu’ meat and ‘canda’.

4.1.4 BEER AND PALM WINE PARLOURS

Beer parlours (bars) are found along the main road with the product of ‘Les Brasseries du Cameroon’ and “Guinness du Cameroon’ companies being sold. There also exist in the quarters palm wine parlours where palm wine (Sonel and SNEC) are sold. Income generated from this activity is used to support household needs.

4.1.5 BARBING AND HAIR DRESSING SALOONS

There are a few barbing and hair dressing saloons in the Bawum community. This is not a lucrative business in the community because most of the youths who frequently shave and style their hair have migrated out of the village.

4.1.6 TAPPING

This is an activity that some of the inhabitants especially the men engage in for their livelihood. Youths and older men crowd palm wine parlours for the consumption of this drink. After agriculture, palm wine tapping could be considered the second biggest income generating activity of the community.

4.3 SOCIAL POTENTIAL :

Bawum community amongst several villages in Bafut sub-division is fortunate to have electricity, fuel station, recreation centers like the (Neba Alberts Foundation and SABOGA) , these amenities are a gateway to other development activities for example the availability of electricity is an opportunity in the creation of a cool store. On the other hand the recreation centers are use to organize social festivals within the community it could be also use to render ceremonies such as marriages and fund raising activities .

4.4 PHYSICAL POTENTIAL

The availability of streams is a physical potential as sand is being extracted from the streams to be use for construction. The availability of a quarry and gravel are vital potential resources to the inhabitants of Bawum.

The forest cover with trees, palm tree and raffia palms from which palm wine, palm nuts and other forest products are being extracted.

4.5 INSTITUTION

Bawum has numerous institutions such as churches, a credit union, schools, agricultural post, which provides training to farmers in the community to improve in their farming techniques the social welfare can give update information regarding the population to suit agricultural production demands. School in the community will help to curb illiteracy rates thus enhancing self reliance. Currently, the Bawum community has seven primary schools, four nurseries and one secondary school. The primary and nursery schools are GS Nsoh, CS Nsoh, Atlantic BPNS Nsoh, Ruth BPNS Nsoh, Regina Caeli Nsoh, GS Bawum, and Sacred Heart

Bawum. The lone secondary school in Bawum is Saint Albert Comprehensive Secondary School Nso-Bawum. There also exists a ‘vianny’ center in Nsoh-Bawum. The total enrollment in the nursery and primary schools for the 2009/2010 academic year stands at 726 pupils. There is not much difference between the boys and girls as the number of boys are three hundred and sixty-five while the girls are three hundred and sixty one in number. On the enrollment of the lone comprehensive secondary school the school has a total of seven hundred and twenty-nine students consisting of three hundred and thirty-five boys and three hundred and ninety-four girls. Below is a chart that shows the enrollment in each school and the percentage of boys and girls for the 2009/2010 academic year.

School Enrollment and Analysis

Schools	Enrollment		Total	% Total	
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
Government School Nsoh	93	79	172	54	46
Catholic School Nsoh	70	69	139	50.4	49.6
Atlantic BPNS	14	7	21	66	33
Ruth BPNS Nsoh	23	24	47	49	51
Regina Caeli	26	20	46	56	44
Government School Bawum	32	38	70	46	54
Secred Heart Bawum	107	124	231	46	54
Saint Albert College Nsoh	335	394	729	46	54
Total	700	755	1455	48	52

Source: Inspectorate of Basic education Bafut

4.6 SWOT Analysis

STRENGTH	WEAKNESSES	INTERNAL ↕ EXTERNAL	STRENGTH	WEAKNESSES
-Stones -Labour -Financial contribution -Experts -Water sources	-Mismanagement -Low accountability -Low cooperation -Low finance -Low sensitization		-Finance -Agricultural Post -Agro-pastoral shows -working in groups	-Infertile soil -Poor collaboration -Low finances
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS		OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
-Donations from external elites -BACDA America(1 million) -ACWW (3 million) -Donation from friends in Swiss (1 million)	Poor communication -Joint Business with Mambu		-Loans -Support from elites	-Expensive nature of farm inputs

4.7 NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The Bawum people have a staple food called Achu eaten with the yellow or black soup which is highly nutritive. Other foods consumed include beans, rice, maize, vegetables, cassava, plantain and yams. This could be seen in the healthy nature of the Bawum people. There is also a health post which caters for the primary health of the people. However, in case of a serious health condition, the people could either go to the Bafut District Hospital at Manji, the Presbyterian Health Center at Nsani or the Catholic Health Center at Mambu. The community gains from regular government interventions such as mectizan distribution, filarial and infantile paralyzes (polio) vaccines. There is a regular clean up campaign around the traditional council to ensure proper sanitation in the village. Defaulters are punished severely.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on action plan and implementation plan of the core problems. The core problems identified in the community are shortage of portable water, poor roads infrastructure, inadequate secondary schools, unavailability of farm inputs and the lack of a Bawum map to know its boundaries.

With this, the focus will be on two problems which are the shortage of portable water and the difficulty to access farm inputs.

5.2 Suggested Development Plan I

5.2.1 Goal: Improved Water Supply Scheme

5.2.2 Objectives: To improve in the portable water scheme in the community

5.2.3 Project Structure

Action	Activity	Results	Indicators	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Resources			Sources Of Finance		Observation
						Human	Material	Financial	Community	Partners	
Rehabilitation Of water scheme	Mobilization of the community	Awareness Is created	Attendance			√					Member are committed To development
	Feasibility studies	Cost of Rehabilitation is estimated	-Number of problems Identified. -Cost of project	√		√		√	√	√	
	Fund Raising	Funds are raised	Amount collected	√		√		√	√	√	Support Available
	Renovation of The Water Project	The water Scheme is renovated	Water flows Regularly		√	√	√	√	√	√	

5.3 SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN II

5.3.1 GOAL: IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

5.3.2 OBJECTIVES: TO IMPROVE IN THE STANDARD OF LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY

5.3.3 PROJECT STRUCTURE

Action	Activity	Results	Indicators	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Resources			Sources Of Finance		Observation
						Human	Material	Financial	Community	Partners	
Education to farmers on availability of farm inputs	Mobilise the community (farmers interested)	Awareness is created	Attendance	√		√					Interested Members willing to participate
	Election of member of farming groups	-Members elected -laws are drawn up	-Number of elected members	√		√					More commitment by interested members
	Legalisation of group	The group is legalized	Certificate of registration	√		√		√	√		
	Education of members of farming groups	Members are educated	Number of members educated		√			√	√		Farmer are interested to be educated on farm input and their availability

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1 CONCLUSION

The PRA team with the assistance of PRA insiders and villagers carried out village needs assessment using Participatory rural appraisal techniques such as questionnaire structured interviews, focus group discussions and key informant interviews. 3 core problems out of many were prioritized and analyzed. The following were found to be their core problems;

- 1st – Inadequate supply of potable water
- 2nd - Limited accessibility to farm inputs
- 3rd - Inadequate secondary educational facilities

In response, solutions were proposed for the core problems and a suggested development plan formulated. If these plans are carried out or executed, the villagers believe their socio-economic situations will be improved.

This community is blessed with elites that can support this initiative. The presence of financial houses as well as “njangi” houses in the community is as well an added advantage. However low community will power towards development initiatives and the absence of the most active group (youths) in the community are some of the constraints that may inhibit or retard development in the BAWUM – BAFUT village.

6.2 RECOMMENDATION

The following are recommended for successful implementation of the Suggested Development Plan

- There is need to sensitize the community on their role in community development ensuring that they participate actively in the aspect of implementation
- The village development association in the community should ensure that development initiatives get maximum support from all the villagers.
- Development initiatives that will benefit more than one community are encouraged in order to foster peace and unity between the communities.

ANNEXES;

AGRICULTURAL CALENDAR

SEASONAL CALENDER BAWUM VILLAGE												
Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Climate	Dry	Dry	Dry & Rain	Dry & Rain	Dry & Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Dry & Rain	Dry	Dry
Maize	land	preparation		Planting	molding			harvest				
Cassava	Land	preparation	plant		harvest		land	prep	plant			
Colocasia	land	preparation		planting	weeding			mould		land	Harvesting preparation	
Yams		Ridging harvesting planting			weeding			Land harvest	prep		ridging	planting
Pigs			all	season	Long							
Fowls								start	rear		Sell	
Beans								planting				harvest



TREND ANALYSIS MATRIX

TOPIC OF INTEREST	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE	DESIRED FUTURE
Population	Sparse	sparse	Densely populated	Densely populated
Crops production	High yields	Average yields	High yields	High yields
Soil fertility	Fertile	Infertile	Fertile	Fertile
Rainfall	Regular and heavy	Regular but not heavy	Heavy	Constant
Animal production	Low	High	High	Higher
Trade	Trade by barter	Poor	Better ready market	Best (larger market)
Electricity	Bush lamps	Few electric houses	Electricity to all	Electricity to all
Farm practices	Ankara(local)	Mixed farming(local)	Modern farming(technical)	Modern farming systems
Communication	Tradition methods(drums)	Phones, traditional method and town criers	Modern and traditional methods	Best of technology and traditional methods
Condition of water bodies	Springs and streams	Wells and catchments	Portable water for all	Portable water to all

TIMELINE

Several key informants in the village were interviewed to get an insight into major events that have occurred in the village. The information collected was triangulated in order to have the authenticity of the message.

DATE	MAJOR EVENT
1938	The Catholic Church came to Bawum and became a parish
1947	Eclipse of the moon
1950s-1960s	Epidemic outbreak(skin rashes, mumps, measles and jiggers)
1964	The Bawum market was burned down
1986/1987	Construction of Bawum road
2002	Creation of the first government primary school in Bawum

DAILY ACTIVITY MATRIX

This tool was used to identify the daily and weekly activities of a typical Bawum man.

TIME	ACTIVITY
5 am	Wake up from sleep
5:00-5:30am	Preparation for church service
5:30-6:30am	Church service
6:30-6:00pm	Farm work and return from farm
6:00-8:30pm	Preparation of food by women and supper
9:00pm	Go to bed