

# **BICYCLE EVALUATION REPORT**

**SUBMITTED TO:**

**FAHRRADER FUR AFRIKA AND TECHNIK UND SOLIDARITAT e.V**

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

A lot is happening in the lives of people in Ghana, many changes are taking place, and lives are being impacted in diverse ways which has resulted in an improved standard of living. The very people who walk several miles to school, farm , hospital and other sectors of work to make money to support and provide basic needs for their family, now finds it easy and productive with the help of bicycles. In spite the support and several number of bikes distributed, a lot more people are still in need of bike to make lives better.

Pro-Link organization received bicycles from Germany each year and has distributed them in several regions in GHANA with the help of FAHRRADER FUR AFRIKA in GERMANY.

Pro-Link has succeeded in distributing bikes in the following regions of Ghana. Northern Region, BrongAhafo-BA, Central Region, Volta Region, Eastern Region, and the Greater Accra Region. Recently, the Western Region has also being added .

This evaluation covers only three regions and within these regions few beneficiaries were involved in the interview. The evaluation did not follow proper research method or ways of gathering information, where populations, sample size and total beneficiaries would be taken into account.

Our interest in this evaluation report is simple, that is to see how useful the bikes have been to the receivers and the users of the bikes distributed so far.

The following questions were the questions asked for the interviews of beneficiaries:

- 1) Name of participant (receiver of bike )
- 2) Occupation of participant
- 3) What is your Age?
- 4) Sex of participant(MALE OR FEMALE)
- 5) What is the name of your town or village?
- 6) When did you get this bike?
- 7) From which organization did you receive this bike?
- 8) What do you use your bike for? (how useful has the bike been to you )
- 9) How does the bike benefit others ( do you share your bike with others?)
- 10) What challenges or problems do you have concerning the use of the bike?
- 11) How and where do you repair your bike?

12) What comments or recommendations do you have?

13) Do you have a contact number? ( phone number)

#### RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS:

Below are the responses received from the beneficiaries of bike. Their names and the answers to the questions which came first before their photographs or pictures.

Yoursogli Douglas, 16years old, a form three (3) school boy at TANOSO R.C. JHS. He stays at TINOSO NO1 the name of his village. He receive the bike last year 2013 which he uses with his 13year old sister by name Yoursogli Jernnifer also school girl at the R.C Primary school.

This bike is the means of transport for him and his sister; they ride more than 5kilometers to school each day. So far he only had an accident with the bike when a motor bike rider hit the front of the bike. He has to change the steer of the bike by transporting the bike on motor bike to Tanoso for repairs because there is no immediate repairer in TINOSO NO 1.



PICTURE OF THE YOURSOGLI'S

Atta Amoako Joseph, 15years old school boy, received his bike last two years 2012. This bike has served as a means of transport for him to move every day from his village ASHIAYEM to Tanoso R.C JHS each day. On how useful the bike has been, Amoako said “ I use the bike for other works, it has also made me punctual to school, my teachers sometimes use my bike for their errand. Not all, my brother uses this same bike for fetching water. Since the time I received this bike, I only changed the tubes, there is a repairer in the village yet he is not regular so I do most of the repair work (Adjustment) when I come to Tanoso. I say a big thank you to those who made it possible for us to get this bike, God bless you”  
CONTACT NO:0243849705 Mother of Amoako.



PICTURE OF ATTA AMOAKO JOSEPH- The tyres given to them during the presentation of their bikes last two years has been well kept by the Teacher responsible for the bike organization . Amoako was presented with one tyre since it is his immediate need for his bike as at the time of evaluation.

Amankwa Bernard a school boy from ASHIAYEM, he received his bike last two years 2012 which he uses as transport to school at Tanoso R.C JHS.

He said “when I had carrier on the bike, I was using it for farming and carrying other items, but I have taken off the carrier because others were interested in using my bike because of the carrier. I got money from renting my bike to my school colleagues- I charge GHS 0.20 for 5minites, a minimum of 10 and maximum of 20 people rent my bike in a day. The money I get from the renting is what I use to buy books, pen and some personal belongings such as school bag, sandals and also repair the bike with the money from renting. Because of the renting I visit the repairer very often, there is frequent damage of the breaks, tyres and paddles which I replace at Tanoso”



PICTURE OF AMANKWA BERNARD

Comfort Dometuode and Faasan Jackline, both 11years old school girls at Tanoso M.A. JHS. They live with their parents at SERESO over 6 kilometers from tanoso. This two friends ride to school every day, They said” our parents are responsible for the repairs of our bikes, we are not the only ones who go to school in Tanoso, but most of our friends do not have bike so they walk every day to school. We are happy because since we got this bikes we go to school on time and we are not too tired we don’t also wash our cloth often because of dust. We grateful to our Teacher Augustine ,madam Diana and all those who gave the bike to us, we want them to help others who do not have bike to school.



PICTURE OF COMFORT AND JACKLINE FROM SCHOOL ON THEIR WAY HOME.

Abena Ntierebeye 13year old school girl from SERESO and class four( 4) at Tanoso M.A primary. Apart from schooling, she uses her bike for farming and any place she is sent to go by her parents. She got her bike last two years 2012. She said I have so far changed only the tyre and tube and the center nut, my parents are farmers, they farm for commercial, they give me money for repairs. The bike has made me punctual to school I am relief from the tiredness walking from my village to school every day. I don’t share my bike with anyone even if someone want to offer money I will not give my bike; there are a lot more people who are still walking from our village and the other villages who do not have bike, so please if you can help them I will be happy”



PICTURE OF ABENA NTIEREBEYE: From school to home.

Christy and Charity both school girls in Tanoso M.A J.H.S, they are 15 and 13 years respectively. They ride from their village in SERESO every day to school. They both received their bike in the year 2013 which they use only for school. They said 'The bike has helped us to be punctual at school and home as well, tiredness walking is reduced. We have more time to study. We are in a village, there is no repairer here so in time of break down we push the bikes to Tanoso to repair them. Charity has changed her tyre and tube and Christy has also changed her tyre, tube and selector. Mama Elizabeth is the mother of Christy and Charity she said "I am happy my children have a bike because they go to school and come home on time, their father also gives them money to repair their bike whenever there is a fault on the bike."



PICTURE OF CHRISTY AND CHARITY



That is Christy and Charity at home from school, their mother Elizabeth and Diana in their village.



The father of Christy and charity their brother and Teacher Augustine at home.

Puorisob Philemon, a 13 years old class four (4) school boy at M.A primary Tanoso. His village is SERESO NO 2. His bike was transferred to him by a school boy who got the bike last two years 2012, the teacher AUGUSTINE realized that the first owner was not using the bike well and he finally left the bike unused so he ask the parents of the current user to pay his commitment fees back to him and Philemon is blessed to have bike for school. He said “ the bike has help me to be punctual to school and home, I also use the bike for farming yet because I don’t have

carrier, I don't carry food home. I have only bought chain. My father Tebe paul a yam farmer gives me money for repairing the bike which is possible only at Tanoso.



PICTURE OF PUORISOB PHILEMON FROM SCHOOL GOING HOME.

Joel Awoo and his wife Mrs Bless Baccah Awoo are the owners of (JOE – BLESS ULTIMATE FASHION) a dress making shop in Hohoe. Pro-Link gave three sewing machines to the shop for training the unemployed youth in dress making. They said “we received the machines because we were already training the youth without taking money from them. The machines have really helped us to accept more people, most of the youth that we help do not have machines and the ones we have were not enough for us to accept more people. But with the help of the machines from Pro-Link, currently we have five unemployed youth who are coming to receive training. The machines received have also helped us to increase our productivity, because we all have machines working on, more dresses are produced, therefore more money. We are very thankful and grateful to Pro-Link and all their donors who made it possible for us to help young people whose parents cannot afford to help”





PICTURE OF THE DRESS MAKING SHOP OF MR AND MRS AWOO

Mr Kumadie Wisdom 52 years old a leather worker, the name of his shop is Macowis located in Hohoe Tsevi. He received his machine in the 2012 which he uses for sawing Bag, Car seat, Bike seat covers, and other leather works. He said I have no problem with the machine ever since I received it, what I was using before was given me a big problem, sometimes I can't work for a whole day I have to spend time trying to repair machine. Now, I can do all work without any difficulty, the machine is good so I produce good work and make good sales. Everything about me has improved. I don't shear this machine with anyone, it is for my business. I am grateful to all those who made it possible for me and all other who benefited from the machines and bikes, May the good Lord bless them all and open a door for more so that others can also benefit. CONTACT NO: 0247780753.



PICTURE OF MR KUMADIE WISDOM SAWING BIKE SEAT COVERS.

Solomon Sapiru, 15 years old school boy at Hohoe mosama J.H.S. His fathers name is Solomon Idris and mother is Abibata Idris all farmers. The name of their village is GZANANA in the hohoe district of the Volta region. He received his bike from school together with others in 2012, Solomon said I shear my bike with my younger brother, it make us punctual to school, it is this same bike I use for arrant. At school, the teachers use the bike to send my colleagues, because of the bike I save time and energy which I use for other things like studies and going to farm. Since I got this bike, I have changed tyre, tube and also have done some work on the hob. It is my father who gives money for repairs.

The father of Solomon, Mr Solomon Idris said the bike has really helped all of us especially my son, he was always late to school but the bike has made him punctual to school and home as well. We are very very grateful God bless you. However I will be happy if you can help other children who walk every day to school at where my child is schooling.



PICTURE OF SOLOMON WITH HIS FAMILY AND DIANA IN THE MEDDLE OF SOLOMON AND FATHER IN THE HOME OF SOLOMON AT GZANANA A VILLAGE IN THE HOHOE DISTRICT.



PICTURE OF SOLOMON ON ANOTHER SCHOOL BOY'S BIKE ON THE ROAD FROM HOHOE TO GZANAN THEIR VILLAGE. THE SMALL BIKE DEVELOPED FAULT AND THEY HAVE TO

CARRY THE OWNER ON THE BIKE AND PULL THE FAULTY BIKE. THE OWNER OF THE BIKE SOLOMON IS USING WAS NOT AT HOME DURING THE EVALUATION, THEY ALL GOT IT FROM PRO-LINK.

Karim Faialsur and Karim Manaf both school boys 14-16 years respectively, they live in GZANANA and school in Hohoe. They also received their bike in the year 2012 at school, they said the bike has really been very useful and helpful to them; we were always late to school because we have to walk from here to Hohoe in and out. Sometimes we feel lazy to go to school especially when we feel we are too late. So far since we received the bike we have changed the chain, steer pole and tube, we repaired it in Hohoe. The father of Faialsur and Manaf said the bike has really helped my children the two of them shear it and the go to school on time, there are more number of school children in this village some very young who do not get bike they still walk to school, some come from the villages behind us. How can you help them also? Please try and help them, we need more bikes. We thank you for the help I am grateful- my children says what they need in addition to the bike is Light to study.



PICTURE OF MANAF AND FAIALSUR WITH HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AT HOME AND SIBILINGS. DIANA WITH MANAF THEIR SIBLINGS ON THE BUNCH.

Martey Nee James 8 years old pupil at kwhu-praso preparatory school, got his bike last year 2013 and as at the time of evaluation he has not change anything on the bike. H e said I only go to the repairer to pump my tyre. Emilia Nyakor mother of Marty Nee James said she registerd bike for his son because of the distance at which he walk to school, the bike help my son to go to school on time, he is the one I send everywhere because of the bike. I cannot remember doing any repair work on the bike. I am happy my son is using bike, thank you so much but we will need more of the children bikes, other parents have been asking where I bought the bike for my son and when I tell them I only paid commitment, they also wish to have it through the same means for their children.



PICTURE OF MARTY NEE JAMES AND HIS MOTHER EMILIA ON HIS WAY TO SCHOOL, AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL.

Agykum Albert, 10 years old school boy whose father transferred his bike to at kwahu- praso preparatory school. His father got the bike last year 2013 and has since not change anything on the bike. On the benefits of the bike, he said the bike has made him punctual to school and his father also uses the bike after school for his arrant nothing has been changed so far on the bike.



PICTURE OF ALBERT AND MARTY JAMES AND THEIR TEACHER COMFORT ADOFO, OTHERS WHO DO NOT HAVE BIKE ARE WALKING TO THE SCHOOL.

Obeng Sammuell, who got his bike last year 2013 is a mason by profession. Said the bike has brought a lot of change in our lives, for me it has saved me from waiting for a car at the road side for a long time before getting car to work. I travel with this bike anywhere I am call to work, I use to spend much money on transport but with the coming of the bike, I make no cost on transport. My father and others I sometimes send to buy or do some work also uses the bike. Apart from selector which I bought from the start of the bike, I have not changed anything on the bike.



PICTURE OF OBENG SAMMURL AT HOME IN KWEHU- PRASO

THE SAD STORY OF YAW BAWA: A 14 year old school boy yaw bawa who got his bike last year 2013, and was riding every day from SERESO to Tanoso Presby J.H.S with his friends, is now walking after testing riding bike to school. During the evaluation, he was met walking and his reason given for walking was that his father used his bike and had an accident with the bike, he did not sustain any injury. The car driver who was involved in the accident said he does not want to go to court and pleaded to Yaw Bawa's father and the driver gave him money that can buy two bikes or he can buy a good one for his son and still have some money left for something. Yet he refused to buy the bike for his son. According to Yaw Bawa, he said 'I don't think my father is willing to buy bike for me, I can't even ask him because he does not behave well when I tried asking him". The teacher Augustine said he has gone to the father on several times yet the father of the boy has used the money and cannot raise it for the boy to buy bike. Diana asked him to stop asking the man. However the boy has been promised a bike from the next consignment and his father may be asked not to use it or may be given conditions. We have to be careful not to bring confusion between the boy and his parents, in as much as we desire helping yaw bawa.

#### OBSERVATIONS/ FEEDBACK:

During the evaluation, we made a lot of observations and also had feedbacks from teachers, parents and the school children;

We observed that the number of school children using bike are few as compare to those children walking.

We also observed that the school children whose parents are responsible for repairing their bikes have their bikes in a very good condition.

We saw few bikes unrepaired and parents of such children were given deadline to repair or we give the bikes to others who do not have bike for school.

We also saw that most of the school children who got the bike especially last two years have graduated and are gone with their bikes, some cannot be traced.

Feedback from the teachers shows that the school children who got the bike became punctual to school.

Parents also said that their children are now on time to the home and school as well.

Some parents also talked about how useful the bikes have been to the home.

Parents and teachers request that more bikes should be given to the children who walk a distance to school.

It is obvious that the bike maintenance training is paramount as far as sustainability is at stake.

#### WAYFORWARD:

As part of measures to ensure sustainability of the bikes, it is the parents of the children that will register and parents would have to convince us on how they will put the bike in a good use.

There will be training by village bike project to some beneficiaries especially school children.

We hope to continue with the evaluation to ascertain the level of the project, the bikes have gone to a lot of places and we need to go and evaluate the use of the bikes.

#### CHALLENGES:

Our main challenge has been the evaluation report which we are unable to write even though we promised to evaluate every year. Our problem has been the money to go back to the field after distribution, it was possible only when we send bike to the village for the second time.

The cost of training beneficiaries and tools was a challenging issue although we were doing well in that area.

#### CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, the few stories received shows that the bikes have really brought a positive change in the lives of people in Ghana. Other items such as the sewing machines and books have also contributed much to the development of our people. As an organization, we want to express our sincere thanks to the good people of Germany- all who gave out their items to help change lives, you are indeed successful. We hope that this project will continue so that together we help change more lives.