



## SIGNS OF HOPE

EED Germany, one of the supporting partners to most NGOs and Faith Based organizations in Nigeria organized a fellowship service that brought all its partners at Miango Rest Home in July 2012 to discuss Signs of Hope in a time full of uncertainties. The fellowship was to thank God for his mercy and faithfulness despite the security challenges. Participants prayed for the peace of Nigeria as a Nation, and that was itself timely.

The fellowship which was well attended by Nigeria partners all over the Nation had Rev Moses Ebuga, as the service leader, while Rev Aaron Ndirmbita of COCIN Hqters Church said the opening prayer.

### VISION

CCDP is “A dynamic and self-sustaining faith-based organization empowering less privileged communities for sustainable development as a manifestation of the Kingdom of God.”

### MISSION

“To promote Wholisitc Development Through enlightening, training and supporting development initiatives of less privileged communities in order to improve their living standard as a witness to the gospel of Christ.”

Bible scriptures were read in-between hymns and worship choruses echoing Hope to the troubled mind.

The first scriptural reading was taken by the CEO, CCDP Mrs J W Goro, while the second scripture was read by Karin from Germany.

Rev Dr Hans Spitzack from Germany who led the prayer session prayed for the family of Rev Prof Pandang Yamsat who lost their beloved son, Late Makop Yamsat, the family of late Distinguish Senator, Dr Gyang Dantong, former COCIN Director Health and Social Services, the family of late Hon Gyang Fulani, Mr KefasAkundu, Director Integrated Community Dev. Programme of CRCN, Taraba State, and family who lost beloved wife and mother, Barakin Ladi LGA, Plateau State, Nigeria and the entire Africa for God the hope of all believers in times of tribulation to grant comfort to his people, restore peace and heal the land as He promised in the book of 2Chronicle 7:14.

Dan Makpu who stood in for the guest preacher Rev Dr Jeremiah Gado, ECWA President who was unavoidably absent took his text from the book of Romans 5:1.

Makpu defined peace as living or being in harmony and affirmed that signs of hope for believers in Christ Jesus in a world saturated with evil and violence is the presence of God with his people at

every circumstance and not the absence of war or tribulations. Dan continued that peace of God supersedes human understanding and produces joy, confident and hope of eternal salvation.



Makpu said that scholars have looked at peace in 3 levels:

- Peace with God- He explained that peace with God was the relationship Adam and Eve experienced in the Garden of Eden before the fall of man in the book of Genesis 3. He affirmed that the fall of Adam and Eve affected their peace with God and that was the ab initio of crisis.
- Peace of God- Dan said that scholars explained that our relationship with God gives us his peace that passes all comprehension and keeps and guards our heart always.
- Peace from God- Makpu puts it as the scholars explained that the Peace we receive from God carries a mandate that as long as it is possible “Live in peace with everyone “and God’s favour and blessing shall be ours as his children Matt 5:9.

Dan was optimistic that, most of the challenges, persecution and tribulations that Christians go through are the signs of the fulfilment of Jesus’ prophesy, that people will kill you and think they are offering service to God. He added that Jesus said they persecuted me, so also they will persecute you also, but be comforted, knowing that I am with you always.

Makpu concluded that just like Horatio Spafford who lost every member of his family in a shipwreck was able to find consolation in Jesus Christ as his hope and wrote the song SS&S 901 “It is well with my soul”. We too shall against all odd look up to Jesus our hope and redeemer and sing “It is well with us in Nigeria and the world at large.

In a key note address by Rev Prof. Pandang Yamsat on “The Role of the Church in Society and Development” said the function and responsibility or task of the church among the people of the world on the growth, advancement or enrichment is a wholistic freedom and salvation in Christ Jesus.

Yamsat continued that the church is vulnerable both within and without because it plays its role effectively in the society especially in development work with the

masses at the grass roots to salvage them from abject poverty of all sorts. Pandang was optimistic that, failure of the church to bring the good news of God's salvation and freedom in Christ Jesus in practical terms by wholistic approach in development among the divided and impoverished Nigerian society as signs of home, will make the church irrelevant in the eyes of the unbelieving society. But when the church becomes good model in its development work among communities, it is not only able to proclaim Christ and the uniqueness of the church but it is also able to bring about rapid development and social change for the good of all, irrespective of creed, race, or ethnic background.

Prof. Yamsat continued that the values and attitudes the church demonstrates in its developmental services like health, education and Agriculture has reduced a lot of antagonism against the church and between tribes in many places.

However, Prof. said, the church cannot abundant its God's given role in the society because of opposing forces, because the Lord of the church has not given us the spirit of timidity but a spirit of power, boldness, love and self discipline to carry out our God given and constitutional responsibility in the society.

"For the church to be salt and light of a decaying and dark society, it's not luxury as the Bible rightly states, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves, Mtt 10:16-20, so be wise, harmless, watchful and prayerful", he concluded.

## CCDP: ITS PHILOSOPHY AND APPROACH TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COCIN Community Development Programme (CCDP) is a community based development organization established in 1997 by Church Of Christ In Nigeria, now Church Of Christ In Nations (COCIN). The goal is to glorify God through meeting both spiritual and physical needs of the people served.

The philosophy and approach of CCDP to community development is captured in its vision and mission statements. CCDP works with communities irrespective of religion, tribe or political affiliation. Its focus is on the less privileged communities that are organized and ready to identify their problems and challenges themselves through Participatory Rapid Appraisals (PRA) and as well work as a community towards achieving same. CCDP works among communities as a facilitator all through the process of identification, planning and implementation of their projects.

CCDP is not a government agency that receives budget for community development but a Development arm of the church that is supporting the two wing gospel ministry of COCIN to communities in collaboration with supporting partners: It assists the less privileged communities to improve their livelihoods and as well give them the opportunity to choose eternal life in Christ Jesus. These are achieved through its core values of: Teamwork, depending on God, participation, fellowship, peaceful co-existence, accountability / transparency / honesty and hard work.



# EDITORIAL

## ONENESS OR DISINTEGRATION: WHICH WAY NIGERIA

“Much is talked about the unity of Nigeria, but more is acted in disintegration”.

The dilemma of this statement is not only battled with in the minds of Nigerians but spoken out either advertently or inadvertently when thinking down the memory lane of the happenings in the country.

Incessant religious and ethnic violence have erupted across all part of the country creating threatening fault lines. This has also threatened our future and corporate existence as a nation.

The different religions which are supposed to have been checks and neutralizers to all forms of violence, opposed each other making the ground more tough and difficult for the seed of peace to thrive.

Suffice it to say that Nigeria therefore can be said to have been wearing face of unity on a disintegrated structure or system divided on the line of religion, ethnicity and political sentiments.

Oneness of Nigeria must be put above all individual and group sentiments. Our leaders and indeed every Nigerian citizen has pledged to defend the unity of Nigeria in allegiance to the country. Therefore, we must not deceive ourselves by the word of mouth that the labour of our heroes past to keep Nigeria united shall not be in vain and yet not working to solidify that pledge.

Nigeria is bigger than every individual or group. Therefore any effort to sabotage the unity of this country, whether on the basis of religion, ethnicity or political sentiment must be unanimously resisted and fight to end by Nigerian.

The ugly spirit of impunity for wrong doing has been the basis for increased insecurity which is threatening the unity of the country signaling warning signs for disintegration. Yet Nigeria has all the laws it takes to send fears into every individual or group that perpetrates acts capable of disintegration but are not being enforced.

If a break up is not our goal, we must thank God for our Country, its people, our diverse culture and religions and respect one another. We must learn to know our differences and accept to live with them as God has not made us judge to condemn but to honour and respect all his creatures, for he has made and created all things for his pleasure and all were created.

We must be grateful for having each other and begin to demonstrate our faith in the unity of Nigeria. Nigerians in leadership positions or helm of affairs at all level, must seek knowledge and wisdom in the implementation of development plans so that it does not undermine our collective existence.

Oneness or disintegration of Nigeria will remain a question un answered, except Nigerians demonstrate practical paradigm shift from the mentality of “What will Nigeria do for me” to the ideology of “What will I do for the unity of Nigeria”

## CCDP REWARDS OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

COCIN Community Development Programme (CCDP) accorded recognition to 3 primary health care services staff for outstanding performance in the year 2012. The presentation was made during the end of year staff fellowship and prayer which equally marked the official close for Christmas break.

The awardees were: Mrs Martha Bewarang, the matron at the COCIN maternity centre, Panyam, for “Commitment and Humility”, Mrs Larai Jeremiah, a cashier, for “Transparency and Accountability” and Mrs Rotlika Josiah, the officer in-charged, for “Punctuality and Hard work”; both from COCIN Primary Health Centre, Ampang West.

Presenting the awardees for the award, the coordinator, Regional Medical Council (RMC) Panyam, Mrs Firconia Waplant said the RMC committee assessed the staff at different occasions before finally came out with the three staff based on the guide line that CCDP Management gave, as qualified for the award. Waplant then charged the awardees to see the award as a challenge to work even harder than before and not as a mark that they have arrived.

Performing the award presentation, the CEO of CCDP, Mrs J W Goro appreciated the regional coordinator, Mrs Forconia and the RMC committee for working together and closely monitoring their staff.



To the awardees, she said that what qualifies each of them for the awards are characters and values that every staff dares to attain. Mrs Goro continued that they should not see the award as if they have been rated perfect but rather be humbled by the award and strive to do more so they can continue to be role models in their work places. To all staff present during the award, the CEO encouraged and charged them not to see themselves as if nothing good can come out from their effort. She emphatically told the staff that the difference between them and the awardees is time; and



that every staff is a potential award receiver at God's appointed time, if only they are ready to see the work they are doing as unto the Lord and not man and do it faithfully.

Rev Solomon Katkuk who was the preacher during the occasion charged the awardees to give back the glory to God who has grant them favour through grace and not see it as their effort, less they began to exhibit pride.



Receiving the church committee with the good tiding on behalf of CCDP, the Admin Officer, Mr Michael Malann expressed joy and appreciation to COCIN Bungaha for the gesture and said it is the first of its kind recorded and prayed that God blessed all the sources from which the congregations have taken to support the volunteers.



Receiving the gift, Mr. Collins Adubunga from Uganda, on behalf of the volunteers said, they were short of words to express their joy for the recognition, honour and kind gesture. He then bow and said, "We receive it with joy".

## COCIN BUNGHA SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Church of Christ in Nigeria (COCIN) LCC Bungaha through the Rev incharge, Victor Da'ap, elder Francis Kade and Mr Samuel Gupa, the church secretary, presented gift of assorted food stuff, washing soap and a cash sum of 4,000 naira to CCDP volunteers after the CCDP/KZIK week in September 2012.

The gift was in appreciation for the fact that one of the volunteers, Mr Sylvester Odundu, a Kenyan serving with CCDP took his time to visit and facilitated a session of the teachings on Disaster Management at COCIN LCC Bungaha.

Rev Victor in an appreciation said, "As an Agronomist with high level of knowledge and experience in the field of Disaster Management, the session Mr. Odundu facilitated was quite fascinating, exciting and expository".

Rev. Da'ap added, "Consequently the church was moved and the congregation out of shared joy, willingly brought these varieties of gifts ranging from ingredient to food stuff to support the volunteers in CCDP".

Presenting the gift to CCDP Management for onward presentation to the volunteers, the Church committee affirmed that the church was moved by the teaching and as well the commitment and sacrifice of the volunteers for leaving their nations to come and serve as volunteers in Nigeria.

## MEMORY LANE OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FROM 2011-2012

Looking back they say, helps you to appreciate how far you have gone, done or achieved your plans as well as how effective, as far as development is concern.

CCDP in collaboration with EED partners from Germany work with communities in Bauchi, Plateau, Kaduna, Borno, Yobe, FCT Abuja and part of Nassarawa states irrespective of religion, tribe, race or political affiliation.

From 2011-2012, the history of many communities CCDP worked with beginning from community entry processes and subsequently Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) were at low level awareness of problems identification, prioritization of needs and mobilization process to work together as communities to achieve same.

It might interest you to know that by the end of 2012, many of these communities have made a quantum leap from the low level awareness to an appreciative level in the knowledge of Wholistic Community Development activities as a result of trainings, and workshops. Consequently, the demand of communities on CCDP for dialogue, preparatory to either trainings, workshops or Participatory Rapid Appraisal for problems identification has skyrocketed.

These trainings and workshops and consequently, PRA have yielded outcomes differently in different Communities within the period in view depending on their strength.

COCIN Women Fellowship Dadur in Langtang North LGA of Plateau State were able to complete the building of their Women Vocational Center which is soon to be roofed after they received trainings organized by CCDP on “Business and Business Opportunities”, “Women in Development and Poverty Alleviation” in August 2011.

The secretary, Community Development Association, Mrs Kurkat Longs said that the trainings opened the eyes of the women to a lot of business opportunities that increased their income. She continued that consequently that help the women to contribute towards making the dream of the Women Vocational Centre a reality because many of them were challenged and started different small scale businesses, hence were contributing towards the project without tears.

While few communities have been able to work together through communal labour and mobilizes funds through individual contributions and group work to community members to generate money and consequently have been facilitated to complete their projects without any material support from CCDP, majority that are more less privileged develop fatigue and has to be supported to be able to complete their projects and put them to use.



In Panyam region which comprises PCC Panyam and PCC Daffo, 6 communities received trainings in Wholistic Community Development (WCD). RCC Kombun had Training of trainers (TOT) on HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT). Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) was conducted in 9 communities to prioritize needs: Nhkakudung, Horom, Barkul Maiduna, Margif, Metzset, Bakin Rafi, Dangbungha and kwagharka. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 8 communities to enable them complete their projects: Wumat, Mairana, Dughli, Kwagharka, Gara, Fwam, Sat and Nbwor.

In Zaria region which covers Abuja, Lagos, Kaduna and part of Nassarawa State, PRA was conducted in 6 communities to prioritize needs: Udawo kudo, Ang Danladi, Tsofon Kawuya, Gwamadaji, Saminaka and Asigwara. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 5 communities to catapult them to complete their projects: Udawo kudo, Ang Danladi, Kuzuntu, Ganawuri Doka and Tsofon Kawuya.

In Shendam region which comprises PCC Langtang and Kwalla, 12 communities received trainings in Wholistic Community Development. PRA was conducted to 11 communities to prioritize

needs: Npoll, Dadur, CWF Kwalla, Gwangtang, Kwanpe, Dilori Betjak, Kebenung, S/Gida, Yamini and uгах. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 8 communities to synergize effort to complete their projects to avoid abandon projects syndrome: Shimankar, Kuka, Kotdong Iaka, Kadarko, Betjak, CWF Dadur, Salvation sch Shendam, Gwangtim and Gazum.

In Kabwir region which comprises PCC Kabwir and PCC Tafawa-Balewa, 2 communities received trainings in Wholistic Community Development. PRA was conducted to 18 communities to prioritize needs: Mbwar, Tadnum, Bazamshi, Tungri, Gargare, Malima, Chigwang, Tuwan, Dangchor, Tuttung, Karamin Dengi, Kos, Ballang Shipang, Garam, Kor, and Bogoro. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 6 communities to facilitate the completion of their projects for community benefit: Mbwar, Marti, Jermai, Dungung, Kor, and Jimin.

In Foron region which comprises PCC Foron and PCC Jos, 3 communities received trainings in Wholistic Community Development. PRA was conducted to 11 communities to prioritize needs: Kworos, Fadan Fobur, Heipang Ropp, Rite, Liba, Febas Kasa, Ranshok, Tusung, Horum and Zarazon. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 3 communities to complement their effort to complete their projects so as to serve its purpose: Rite, Heipang and Kworos

In Borno region which covers Borno and Yobe, PRA was conducted in 4 communities to prioritize needs: Ghufri, Balarabe, fea and Yobe. Material support (Subsidy) was given to 3 communities to aid them complete their projects to meet the need of the communities.

Community networking is an activity that provides opportunity to all Community Development Association (CDA) leaders to undertake exchange visit to learn and share experience with one another on development issues to help them in the implementation of their projects. From 2011- 2012, Heipang community nursery/ Primary school project implementation leaders from B/Ladi LGA undertook an educational learning visit to Bungaha community nursery/ Primary school project implementation leaders in Mangu LGA. Kwagharka community bridge implementation leaders undertook a learning visit to Kwahas community CDA leaders both in Mangu LGA to learn and share experience on the strategies Kwahas community used to be able to build their community bridge. Testimonies from kwagharka CDA leaders revealed that the visit gave them an insight on the task, the sacrifice and the commitment needed for such a project and that was what help them achieved their bridge project. Balang community project implementation leaders undertook an exchange learning visit to Jimin Community Sec School project implementation leaders both in Pankshin LGA to share experience and challenges on the management principles of community schools.

Suffice it to say that the philosophy of every organization determines its operational system and existence geared towards a result. Community Participatory approach in identification and prioritization of needs CCDP employs in addressing community

development challenges has been consequential in the achievement of most community projects because all communities are only facilitated to identify and prioritize their needs and strategize plans to achieve same with less dependency as against seeing CCDP coming in to do it for them.

## MOHAMMED SALE'S NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

Mohammed Sale, a Fulani boy, residence at Jwak Chaan, kwahas village of Panyam district, in Mangu LGA was rushed to CICIN Comprehensive Health Centre (CCHC) Panyam in September 2012 with a deep cut on the anterior part of the neck and bleeding profusely.

The medical officer CCHC Panyam, Doctor Danat Mark who received him and carried out all clinical procedures reported that the cut on the neck was deep and involve the trachea and all surrounding anterior structures. Danat added that the cord cartilage was deeply involved and detached from the anterior trachea and all surrounding structures. "He bled excessively and because of that, he was cyanosed and gasping, but has been resuscitated and is stable as you can see" Danat explained.



Narrating his ordeal a few days later, Mohammed said he belongs to the group of motorcycle riders popularly known as "going" or "acaba" on his usual business on a Wednesday in Pushit, when two young men stopped him at about 8pm and demanded that he takes them to panyam, and innocently he took them and off they went.

Mohammed said while they were almost getting to panyam town, one of them began to drag his leg and was groaning that his leg was paining him, but he did not stop until when they reached Panyam. When at panyam where they asked him to carry them to, Mohammed said, they begged him to take them further into a village through Lakopal road that leads to fish farm and because one had complained of pain and pretended he could not walk, he had pity on them and decided to take them further in through the way they had told me.

When we reached a surrounding dark place between NMSS and Lakopal village, Mohammed said, the two young men ordered that he should stop and demanded that he surrender the motorcycle to them or lose his life.

"In an attempt to show some restrain, the two men over powered me, beat and threw me to the ground, pulled a knife and put it on my neck and began to cut through my neck. I then understood that it was going to be the end of my life because I could feel the sharp edge of the knife cutting through my neck", Mohammed explained.

He continued, I had to struggle knowing that the matter was between life and dead and eventually grasp one of the perpetrators and was shouting, the other took the motorcycle kicked it and run"

For God to safe my life, Mohammed testify that one Mr. Kyenkat Damulam from Lakopal who heard me shouting, rushed to the scene and was shouting who are those? Can you leave her, because he thought they were rappers. Other people who also heard my cry immediately rushed to offer help"

"I had become weak, the one I was holding forced my hands off and run into the surrounding maize farm so he can escape too, but unfortunate for him the people that came surrounded the farm and caught him" narrated Mohammed.

From that point, Mohammed said he loses his conscience and didn't know what happened next, but just to wake up and found he was in the hospital.

## THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

COCIN Community Development Programme (CCDP) shared the joy of Christmas and New Year with 24 patients on admission at CCHC Panyam as well as the less privileged with the Assemblies of God Church, Deeper Life Ministry and COCIN Gangshir: all host churches around CCDP.

The CEO, CCDP, Mrs J W Goro who presented the Christmas and New Year gifts to both the patients and the host churches encouraged them that although Christmas is the season, Jesus is the reason and should be the centre of the celebration.

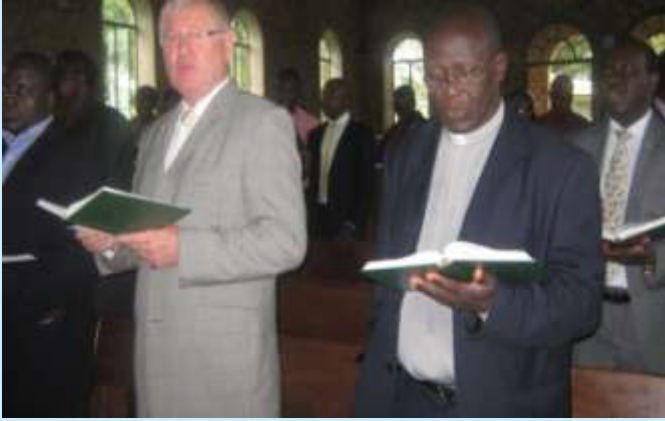
Goro added that though the gift is just a token, but the heart behind it is filled with love, compassion and joy that lives are touched in a little way as manifestation of the kingdom of God on earth.



**Assorted gifts to patients and less privileged.**



## Picture Gallery



CCDP-OXFAM farmers' visit to ASTC Vom



Participants at the fellowship meeting at Miango Rest Home



Cross section of participants at the peace fellowship meeting.



Karin Dohne, EED Rep. taking the 2<sup>nd</sup> scriptural reading .



CCDP Management with IT students from Plateau Polytechnic



CCDP\_OXFAM farmers' visit to TIC Chairman Mangu LGA



The Collapse bridge inside Shendam town





Dedication of a Genotype machine at CCHC Panyam



Means of transportation after the collapse of Shendam Bridge



CCDP-OXFAM farmers on tour of facilities at ASTC Vom



CCDP Board Members Praying on the new bus procured



Collapse bridge that links Shendam and Yelwa towns.



CCDP-OXFAM farmers that won the Food Hero award at Abuja



Staff at CCHC Panyam presenting the CCDP Christmas gift to a patient on the ward



CEO, CCDP at CAACP's 10 years anniversary celebration, COCIN Hqtrs





