

BUSUGI COMMUNITY SERVICE PART 1 (2017 - 2018)

Climate change and global warming pose a threat on food security, water security and housing of communities. Therefore, there is need to assess communal vulnerability to climate change and to propose appropriate adaptation and mitigation programs to improve their resilience to climate change. In light of this, the West African Science Service on Climate and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL), Federal University of Technology, Minna, has a course titled community based studies. The course enables the MRP (Master Research Programme) students to familiarize with a local community in their environment and determine the community's responses to climate change. So far, the 3 batches of the MRP students have participated in this community based studies. Batch A students visited Busugi community, batch B students visited Chikodna community, while batch C visited Kataeregi community (Figure 1).



Figure 1 Field Trip sites for MRP Batch A, Batch B and Batch C

Amongst the studied communities (Busugi, Chikodna and Kataeregi), Busugi community was selected for community development project by the staff and students of WASCAL CC & ALU IN FUT Minna, due to the debilitating state of the classrooms in the community primary school. Batch C students were taken on a field excursion to visit the primary school. Their humane and generous nature was triggered by the scene before them, such that one of the female students from Cote D'Ivoire felt that rather than spending all her stipend on meals for herself etc, she could contribute a little of this to do something for the students (See Figure 2).



Figure 2 Batch C Excursion to Busugi led by Late Prof. J. M. Baba of Geography Department

During the renovation of the classroom block, WASCAL CCALU Director and her staff and students (Batch C) paid a visit to Busugi and was well received by the community. She assured them that, within the limited resources, she would ensure the funds are utilized cost effectively using direct labour from the village. The Community expressed their gratitude in the Nigerian way with gifts made up of huge tubers yams, clay pot for water and unadulterated shea butter cream (see Figure 3).



Figure 3 WASCAL CCALU monitoring visit to Busugi Primary School

The renovated Busugi Primary School Classroom block was commissioned on the 15th June 2018 and the University was represented by the Dean of PGS and Chairman of the FUT Minna Advisory/Academic Board, Prof M.G.M. Kolo. The CCALU International Board members (Dr Michael were present to witness this community service started by WASCAL Students and completed by Staff and International Board members (see Figure 4).



Figure 4 Commissioning of the Renovated Busugi Primary School Classroom Block