**Writeup**

The Soppo Likoko Power Project aims to provide electricity to 50 households and 4 schools in Soppo Likoko, Cameroon by constructing an electrical grid system. This grid system will consist of transmission lines, poles, and in-house wiring. In addition to the construction of the system, the project team is working on creating an education program in order to ensure that safe electricity usage is practiced after the system has been implemented.

In order to promote community involvement, the project has strengthened its ties with the people of Soppo Likoko over the course of two assessment trips. The assessment trips have also allowed the project team to determine the transmission line route and estimate the implementation costs. Currently, the project is in the design phase and the team is working on preparing for an implementation trip late this summer. The community and the project team are both excited for the construction of the project to begin!

**Blog: Assessment Trip – August, 2014**

Our most recent assessment trip last August was extremely successful. During the trip, we surveyed the village households in order to gain a complete understanding of the people’s needs and expectations for this project. We also asked questions pertaining to the financial sustainability of the project. Unanimously, the people of the Likoko village said that they could afford the monthly utility bills that would come out of establishing an electric grid system. In addition to the house surveys, we created a Memorandum of Understanding and an Implementation Agreement that the village leaders agreed and signed. In these documents, the community leaders confirmed that they would be able to supply a 10% cash contribution towards the initial construction costs.

In addition, during their trip, the project team met with the Mayor of Buea. He gave his blessing for the project and promised to supply government-run street lights for the municipality. Overall, there is an overwhelming support in the community for this project to go forward so we expect there to be high community involvement throughout the project.

We also investigated financial considerations for the project during this trip. We were able to get price estimates for installing in-house wiring. We surveyed possible transmission line routes and determined an ideal path that would connect all of the Likoko households as well as four schools to the power line. We are currently working on cost estimates for constructing a transmission line along this route. Lastly, we investigated potential future projects such as health education and electrically powered water distribution, which could be our next steps after implementing the electrical grid system.