

# Daily Graphic

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## 35,000 Benefit from water health centres

ABOUT 35,000 people in the Ga West Municipality in the Greater Accra Region and the South Dayi District in the Volta Region have benefited from water health centres funded by the Pepsico Foundation and the Safe Water Network, both non-profitable organisations.

Four of the centres are located at Pekuase, Amasaman, Obeyeyie and Oduman in the Ga West Municipality, while the fifth centre is sited at Tongor-Dzemeni in the South Dayi District.

The implementation of these projects is in line with the commitment of the two organisations to bring safe, clean and affordable water to poor and underserved communities in the country.

According to Mr Charles B. Nimako, the former Chief Executive Officer of Pepsico Ghana and an advisor and operations consultant to Safe Water Network, those community-based distributed water systems provided reliable drinking water at affordable rates to rural communities.

Safe Water Network hopes to make an impact on 225,000 people in over three years with a funding commitment of US\$3.5 million from the Pepsico

Foundation.

Speaking at a community forum in Dzemeni to assess the impact of the centre, Mr Otis Mlagada, a community leader, extolled the benefits of the centre to the town and expressed the wish that other communities would also benefit from similar projects.

"The Water Health Centre has brought great health improvements to our community. Before the project

was constructed we had no such convenient and affordable access to clean water. As a result, we had high incidents of bilharzia and other water-borne illnesses. We are grateful for the reduction in such devastating diseases that the centre has brought to Tongor-Dzemeni. We hope Safe Water Network can do the same for other communities in Ghana," he said.

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