

Benkadi Project - Senuyaa Initiative (to purify)

CLEAN WATER



Mold for the biosand water filters. Together we can do anything!!!

EVERYONE DESERVES CLEAN WATER!

One biosand water filter will provide clean water for a family of 10 for more than 10 years! They are made from cement and use rocks, pebbles and sand with a natural self growing biolayer to make filthy water 98% clean!

Dear Friends:

Now is the time to focus on a serious challenge millions of children and families across the globe face: access to clean water. **I'm writing to invite you to support the Benkadi Project as we work to meet this challenge in Guinea, West Africa, one of the world's most impoverished countries.**

Over the last ten years, the Benkadi Project has built and repaired numerous wells in Guinea. Now we have expanded our work to include **providing innovative and cost-effective water filters for families in the capital city of Conakry and in the rural village setting.**

The need for clean water in Guinea is tremendous. Long standing inflation, unemployment, a fractured infrastructure, and a shortage of public funds make access to potable water virtually impossible for many children and families. While the option exists for locals to purchase 1.3 liter bottles of filtered water known locally as "Coyah," the market price of 5,000 Guinea Franc (\$0.83) puts this highly valued necessity out of the price range of too many, where an estimated 70% of the country makes less than 7,500 Guinea Franc (\$1.25) per day*. Unfortunately, due to current economic conditions, a large portion of the population has been forced to drink from heavily polluted fresh water streams and wells placed on water tables contaminated by mines and poor



Sifting and cleaning rocks to be used in the filter.

WE ARE TEACHING OUR FRIENDS IN GUINEA HOW TO MAKE, INSTALL AND MAINTAIN THESE FILTERS.

sanitation. This has created a health crisis of epic proportions in Guinea. Typhoid fever, dysentery, E. coli, and Cholera remain highly visible to the Guinean population.

In May and June of this year, we will return to Guinea to continue our work. Our goal: to construct and install 50 new Biosand water filters to help address the clean water crisis. Biosand filters use sand, gravel and natural microbes to remove disease-causing organisms from contaminated water. Each water filter provides clean drinking water for a family of 10 people for more than 10 years. **Thus, the 50 new filters will provide clean water for 500 people for a decade.**

When we provide a filter to a family, we also offer education on health and sanitation issues. We are also employing a group of Guinean young people to construct and install the filters in a country wracked with chronic unemployment.

Thank you to **Matthew Cunliffe** and **Jesus Ayala, Jr.**, students at Lake Forest College, we have received a generous **Projects for Peace \$10,000 grant from the Davis Foundation** to support this next phase of our work with the Biosand filters. As we finish preparations for the trip to Guinea in May and June, we aim to **raise an additional \$5,000 from our many friends and supporters in the U.S. and**

other countries to fully fund this critical work in the months ahead.

Like all of our work in Guinea, this project is being planned and implemented through our grassroots network of relationships with local people on the ground in West Africa. We complete our work person-to-person, hand-to-hand. **Together, a group of committed individuals from different countries and cultures can truly make a difference.**

With your help, I look forward to returning to Guinea soon with **Matthew Cunliffe**, the Benkadi Project's intern from Lake Forest College who has been integral to our work with the Biosand Water Filters. We'll be joined by **Project Liaison Fode Camara** in Conakry and **many trusted friends** who will partner with us to build and install 50 new Biosand filter systems.

Each filter costs just \$300 to construct and install and provides clean water to 10 people for many years to come.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to help us deliver 50 new Biosand water filters in the months ahead. Every contribution, large or small, will help us purchase the necessary raw materials in Guinea, construct the filters



and deliver them for families in need. **If your circumstances permit, please consider funding one or more filters at \$300 each.**

You can make your donation online at www.motherlandrhythm.org or by sending a check made out to "Benkadi Project" at 34 S. Lake St., Grayslake, IL 60030.

Please let me know if you can help. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Also, feel free to forward this message on to any of your friends which you think would be interested in joining our efforts! To see photos from the last 10 years of our work in Guinea go to our Facebook page.

Thank you as always for your support.

Best wishes,
HELEN BOND

BIOSAND WATER FILTERS (BSFs)

BSFs remove pathogens and suspended solids through a combination of biological and physical processes that take place in the biolayer and within the sand column. BSFs have been shown to remove 5.00-64.00% of heavy metals and 90.00-99.99% of turbidity and contaminants such as bacteria, viruses, and protozoa.

BSFs also help to reduce discoloration, odor, and unpleasant taste. Studies have also shown a decrease in the occurrence of diarrheal disease and an increase in general health, correlated with the use of BSFs.

USING NATURAL MATERIALS

Cement containers made from molds
Filled with a combination of rocks & sand
Cleans water in the same method as it is cleaned in nature.

CONTACT

Helen Bond

(847)543-0708
[MedusaDrums.com](http://www.MedusaDrums.com)
[MotherlandRhythm.org](http://www.MotherlandRhythm.org)

<http://www.facebook.com/MRCBenkadiProject?ref=hl>

How the BSFs work go to

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaOOmaGzx0g>