



FY12 Signing Ceremonies Complete!

The Development Office recently conducted signing ceremonies for the *Ambassador's Special Self Help Fund (SSH)* and the *Democracy and Human Rights Fund (DHRF)*. Grantees will have one year to complete the projects, which will be monitored over the next 12 months. More info can be found below.



Ambassador's Special Self Help Fund – 11 Projects Selected

Over 150 submissions were received this year and 11 were selected to receive a share of the US\$50,000 grant. The projects span four of Togo's five regions and comprise a dynamic mix of community empowerment and income-generating activities: table and bench production for schools, animal husbandry, palm nut oil production, agricultural improvement, yogurt production and water treatment at a hospital. Ambassador Whitehead praised the 11 motivated "new partners" in his speech, with group photos and refreshments concluding the joyful event.



FY12 SSH Fund Grantees



FY12 DHRF Grantees and Guests

Democracy and Human Rights Fund – Prisoners' Rights

This year's DHRF grantee, the Togo Bar Association, will address the dire need to process and work through the backlog of incarcerated individuals in overcrowded Togolese prisons. Togolese law states that any pre-trial detainee held for more than half of the maximum possible sentence should be released. However, in many cases detainees' paperwork is lost. The Togo Bar Association will utilize the US\$40,000 grant to process at least 300 cases in prisons throughout Togo with the expertise of over 50 lawyers. In her speech, Mme Ekoué-Kouvahey, President of the Togo Bar Association, promised to use the funds effectively.



DHAPP Desk Officer Visits Togo

During his weeklong visit, the Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP) representative visited many military installation sites in addition to the main military health center and the peacekeeping training center. Discussions were also held with the representatives of AMACACH, the NGO working with the military in its HIV/AIDS campaign.



Kodjo's Adventures Continue: Kpalimé

After last month's COPED-sponsored comic book launch, the first of many planned book debates in Togo took place in Kpalimé. The event was attended by nearly 70 people, including local officials, authorities and journalists, and fruitful discussions centered around identifying various forms of corruption and possible solutions to reduce it.

