

MICRO-HYDRO PROJECT

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Background of Buduk Bui village

- Village of Buduk Bui comprises approximately 50 families or 400 people.
- Most of the villagers work off the land, planting rice, vegetables and fruits.
- They have low cash incomes as most of them are subsistence farmers.
- Villagers used "generators" for electricity, which ran on expensive diesel.
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- Replacing the costly generators with a micro hydro electricity system will dramatically improve the quality of life in these communities.

"Rotary lights up the lives of village folks in rural Sarawak"

Some of the challenges faced by the team - Accessibility to the village

- Accessibility to the area is primarily by air (Twin Otter aircraft)



- Timber roads exist, but they cannot be relied on as they have to wind their way through extremely difficult and challenging terrain, which is usually at the mercy of the weather.

- The broken Timber bridge which cut off land transport between Lawas and Bakelalan. There are many such bridges along the way.



- When the project started, there was a few months delay in transporting cables and pipes to the village site as transport was impossible.

- Such broken bridges could only be repaired after the "landas" season

Feasibility Study & Assessment of the Project

- Site visits & a feasibility study was conducted to look into the current system used as well as to assess the cost of implementing a micro-hydro system

- A team of Rotarians from RC Kuching was put together comprising a Project Chairperson, a Project Coordinator and a Worksite Supervisor.

- The villagers showed great enthusiasm and pledged to put the system in place on a self help basis

