



Mary Slessor Foundation

Dundee, Scotland & Akpap Okoyong, Calabar, Nigeria

E-Mail: info@maryslessor.org

[Home](#) | [Our Aims](#) | [Progress](#) | [About Us](#) | [Location](#) | [How to Help](#) | [Contact Us](#)

March 03

After a period of negotiations and legal preparations, work started in Akpap Okoyong on 5th February, 2003.

Here is a summary of our progress on ground so far (as reported by **Dr Lawrie Mitchell on 3/3/03**):

1. Suitable land acquired for the skill centre and the palm/cassava processing units.
2. Land surveyed and registered with the Cross River State Lands and Survey - necessary for legal tenure. Plan of the school made and submitted.
3. Duty vehicle bought at a reasonable cost. Essential for execution of the project.
4. Communications solved by the acquisition of mobile phones - again at a reasonable cost. We no longer require expensive radio communications.
5. Power lines are alongside the land. Again will make a significant saving.
6. Water remains a problem, but we are checking out the pumping system installed by the government which is non-functional at present.
7. Foundation of the skill centre completed. Block work underway. Planning to reach lintel level by March 24th 2003.
8. Signboard constructed and in place. It shows the involvement of the Incorporated Nine Trades of Dundee.
9. We are using only direct labour. There is no local contractor. The workers are organised by the brother of Eme and all payments are made in arrears according to work done.
10. We hope to complete the school by early May - providing the funds are adequate.



Click on a photograph for a larger image and an explanation.

In general, the villagers are very pleased with the progress and the prospects for the future. Eme's idea of adding a driving school to the programme has met with enthusiasm. We have met with the area commander of the Federal Road Safety. He promises close cooperation.

[Click here to return to the progress report archive.](#)