

SOCFIN AWARDS VILLAGE WINNERS EASMON MOIO

Banaleh, Fakaba and Tisana villages in the Malen Chiefdom, Pujehun District were on Saturday 14th February 2015 awarded set of prizes totaling fifteen million Leones as part of Socfin ongoing drive to eradicate Ebola and raised awareness with the view of promoting sanitation as good health is wealth.

The Award Ceremony of the Village Health Competition organized by the Health Safety and Environment department of Socfin Agricultural Company Sierra Limited headed by Céline Schmitz has been described as a huge success, first of its kind in Sierra Leone and was participated by 54 villages exclusively drawn from Malen Chiefdom.

The village Health Competition to the tune of twenty five million Leones took place from January 3rd to January 13th 2015 during which a group of 7 independent judges drawn from various health departments including the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, the Pujehun District Council, World Vision, the Chiefdom Health Overseer and Socfin Agricultural Company assessed each of the 54 villages with a questionnaire covering various health criteria. The evaluation lists were presented to the HSE Office at the end of the competition during which the scores were imputed with average marks registered.

The evaluation was based on Ebola Preventive Measures (hand washing, use of chlorine, observation of Ebola bye laws, etc.), Road Safety (speed control to minimize road accidents, etc.), General Waste Management involving



From left to right: HSE Officer, Mr. Solomon So
three villages and HSE

AGE HEALTH COMMPEITION TOIGUAH IN SAHN MALEN



Officer, Mr. Solomon Sogbeh, Chiefs of the
and HSE Manager Celine Schmitz.



From left to right: HSE Manager Celine Schmitz, Liaison
Officer Patrick Alpha (Socfin Agricultural Company)

cleaning, creation and fencing of dumping sites, introduction of cleaning days, etc., Environmental Sensitizations for future generation (pollution, respect of natural resources, etc.), Health and Public Facilities (closing of open defecation areas, cleaning around public toilets, water wells, Barriers, religious centers, etc.), Malaria and other diseases Prevention Measures (Avoidance of stagnant water, pests control measures, use of bed nets, etc.), Fire Control (Surveillance on gardens and cooking areas, etc.), Registration (records on community information gathering such as births rates, weddings, visitors and deaths toll).

Speaking at the Award Ceremony held at the Malen Chiefdom Local Administrative Court building, the General Manager of Socfin Agricultural Company, Mr. Philip Tonks commended the organizers and all who in one way or the other contributed to the historic success of the competition and further reminded the community people to continue to observe the medical protocols with the view of eradicating the killer Ebola and above all promoting health for all. On the other hand, Mr. Tonks reassured the people of every good will gesture and continued support to the Corporate Social Responsibility program. Giving an overview of the village health competition in Malen Chiefdom, Health Safety and Environment Manager, Miss Celine Schmitz, explained the process and objectives of the Village Health Competition.

Announcing the results, Fakaba village took first place which was closely followed by Banaleh village while the third position went to Tisana village. Celine Schmitz read out list of prizes including bundles of zinc, set of pike axe, shovels, wheelbarrow, cutlasses, bags of rice totaling seven million four hundred and twenty thousand Leones for the first position, second prize amounted to five million six hundred and fifteen thousand Leones whilst third prize received items worth three million and forty five thousand Leones, respectively.

Addressing all and sundry the Chiefdom Speaker SR Moiguah lavished praise adjectives on Socfin for adding value to land and for living up to its Corporate Social Responsibility and therefore warned all to help Socfin realize its dream which the Chief stated has just started with major success story registered.

Similar statements were made by the Deputy Chairman Pujehun District Council, Mr. Moses K. Fofanah and members of the Sierra Leone Police who encouraged the people to be law abiding and allow development to come to Malen Chiefdom as already started by Socfin. The police further called on all to

three winners and HSE Manager Celine Schn



First Winner of the Village Health Competition: F



From left to right; General Manager Mr. Philip Tonks and
Celine Schmitz next Plantation Manager, Gordon Pa

Officer, Mr. Solomon Sogbeh, Chiefs of the
and HSE Manager Celine Schmitz.



Village Health Competition: Fakaba



Manager Mr. Philip Tonks and HSE Manager,
Plantation Manager, Gordon Paterson

From left to right: HSE Manager Celine Schmitz, Liaison
Officer Patrick Alpha (Socfin Agricultural Company)



Some of the prizes displayed outside

continue to observe the medical protocols with the view of finally eradicating Ebola. Earlier in his address the chairman representing the Pujehun District Medical Officer, Edwin Fonnio of World Vision spoke of the gradual development unfolding and encouraged all to see reason to comply for the betterment of the children who are the future leaders.

Other Speakers included the HSE Officer of Socfin Mr. Solomon Sogbeh and the Liaison Officer Mr. Patrick Alpha.

Present were Plantation Manager, Mr. Gordon Patterson, Finance Manager, Mr. Tiaan Erwee, Human Resource Manager, Mr. Abu Amara and various others.

Special certificates were distributed by the General Manager Mr. Philip Tonks while the recipients mostly local Chiefs thanked Socfin and promised to do more and to continue to observe health protocols and to promote sanitation.

The climax of the award ceremony was the distribution of prizes to the three winning villages with the local chiefs promising to judiciously share the prize with the community.

The distributed items were conveyed to the respective communities.