

Estimation time for completion of the CWIQ: Budgetary Implications

The CWIQ was initially projected to last about 40 days in the field. This projection included about 22 days of actual work and 18 days of travel and other inconsequential. These “inconsequential” assumed quasi-normal roads and minimal vehicle issues. What changed dramatically is the degree of enormity of the last two assumptions. We are all now familiar with what has transpired. In spite of these major challenges, the project has progressed, albeit slower than anticipated. Below is the matrix of the current situation of the project.

No.	County	# of EAs	Completed # of EAs	Remaining
1	Rural Montserrado	12	12	0
2	Urban Montserrado	66	6	60
3	Bomi	8	3	5
4	Grand Cape Mount	10	2	8
5	Gbarpolu	28	13	15
6	Lofa	13	13	0
7	Bong	15	15	0
8	Nimba	22	22	0
9	Bassa	15	14	1
10	River Cess	8	8	0
11	Sinoe	16	13	3
12	Grand Kru	7	7	0
13	Grand Gedeh	22	22	0
14	Margibi	19	0	19
15	River Gee	12	12	0
16	Maryland	27	27	0
	Total	300	189	111

Deployment of the survey teams started effectively on the 7th of August 2007. After about 34 days on the field, teams have completed 189 EAs. At this junction, all stakeholders should be reminded that CWIQ management is not as pleased as she could have been with the pace of the survey. However, we must commend the project field teams for the sacrifices made thus far. Despite working under what must be characterized as challenging situations, they have consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to the process. We must continue to encourage and support their efforts within reason.

Looking at the matrix, outside Monrovia, survey work is now current in the counties of Margibi, Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Gbarpolu. Again, not including Monrovia, there are about 41 EAs left to be completed in these counties or about 100 counting Monrovia.

The contracts of the 88 interviewers, 22 supervisors, 5 coordinators and 5 drivers terminate on Friday September 14th 2007. This would have allowed each about 40 days on the project. However, the project is still ongoing. As aforementioned, the vehicle breakdowns and bad roads penalized the project substantially. We would need additional days funded in order to finish the project. The overall days being asked is consistent with the average number of days lost due to vehicle breakdowns and its effects. Looking at all the reports on vehicle breakdowns, the average downtime per team could be estimated at around 5 days. Allowing for inconsequential, it would not be unreasonable to request 10 additional days.

Cost cutting measures:

The last 10 days of the survey would be mostly in Monrovia. To cut down further on costs, we could maintain only 1 coordinator –as opposed to 5-- and perhaps hire local taxis for the day.

The corresponding budget for the additional ten days is shown below:

A. Field Workers

No.	Position	Unit	No. of days	Rate per day USD)	Amount (USD)
1.	Interviewers	88	10	20.00	17,600.00
2.	Supervisors	22	10	25.00	5,500.00
3.	Drivers	2	10	15.00	300.00
4.	Coordinator	1	10	35.00	350.00
	Sub-Total				23,750.00

B. Fuel & Maintenance

Item	No.	No. of days	Rate per day (USD)	Amount (USD)
Vehicles	2	10	75.00	1,500.00
Sub-Total				1,500.00

Grand Total

USD \$25,250.00