



ILO HIMO MINHDU project update

June 2023

Implementation of activities for the development of urban infrastructure and the creation of decent jobs for young people in the cities of Maroua and Bamenda to strengthen peace and socio-economic resilience.

News update on the launch of the production of pavement test for Projet Himo in Bamenda.

Objectives of the activity :

▶ Main objective :

The main objective of this activity is to familiarize young people with pavement production tools. Also, to obtain the blocks to perform the resistance and crushing tests.

▶ Specific objectives:

(i) Train young people on the formulation of good quality concrete.

(ii) Teach young people to mold and unmold the cobblestones on the production site.

(iii) Learn to store by date of manufacture and count pavers in a secure place.

Preparation of the Activity

The manufacturing work on the test pavement blocks began with site clearance since the production site was in the bush. This activity lasted for 2 days while awaiting the supply of materials for pavement production. On the third day production started as equipment such as the concrete mixer, generators, vibrating tables, were installed and tested.

Subsequently, the sampling of materials (sand and gravel) was done on site by the geotechnician, then taken to the laboratory to obtain the appropriate resistance and concrete formulation.



Photo: geotechnician carrying out concrete slump test

Execution of the Activity

The first day was marked by cleaning activity on site since the site had been left without use for a long time. This activity took two days while awaiting the supply of materials for pavement test production. The third day activities were shy, a natural thing since among the young people, none had yet faced a deployment for such an activity.

The project team started by presenting all the materials used in the manufacture of the pavers, then an in depth explanation of all the manufacturing processes of the pavers, namely:

Batching: youths were given insitu training on the batching and mixing methods to be used. Two batches were tested in order to obtain a good concrete formulation. First batch: **sand (38% or 01 wheelbarrow), gravel 5/15 (62% or 1,5 wheelbarrow), cement (01 bag of 50kg of 42,5R) and water (20 to 35 litres)**. Second batch: **sand (01 wheelbarrow), gravel 5/15 (1,5 wheelbarrow), gravel 15/25 (.5 wheelbarrow), cement (01 bag of 50kg of 42,5R) and water (20 to 35 litres)**.



Photo: batching and mixing of concrete

Oiling of molds: the activity consisted of soaking motor oil mixed with diesel to oint the molds and their walls to allow removal from the mold with ease.

Vibration: the duration of vibration varies between 40s and 1min. This is due to the power of the vibrating tables especially that after lubrication of its support elements, they emit very appreciable vibrating waves.



Photo: oiling of molds



Photo: vibration of pavement molds, though the vibration has to be improved upon to carry full capacity as seen

Demolding: it consists of unloading the molds on the vibrating table and heading towards the appropriate place and fitted out for this purpose. Lay the pavers and wait a few minutes (20 to 30min) for the cement setting effect to start before unmolding since these are plastic molds. **NB: a mold must be able to undergo this action on average 12 times a day for an average production yield of 2400 pavement blocks per day.**

Stockage: it consists of moving from the place of demolding to the storage area then watering. This task is done by dating the prefabricated elements.



Photo: demolding of pavement blocks



Photo: clearing and cleaning of the production site



Photo: stocking of pavement blocks



Photo: road side clearing

Results of the Activity

The planned work focused on the manufacture of test blocks in the workshop, with the aim of pre-training young people who will serve as guides and direct others on the production site.

To carry out this activity, the project team needed twenty seven (27) young people, i.e. 18 men and 09 women, distributed as follows:

- 18 men including 01 guard;
- 09 women including 01 nurse.

During this period, the project team carried out the preliminary work such as cleaning of the production site and roadside clearing alongside opening of earth drains entrance to the paver production site.

For ten (10) days of school production, the young people produced a total of 512 pavement blocks.

Other activities carried out during this period

Pavement block production was not the only activity carried out during the period. Other activities included:

- expert in topography carrying out length measurement
- visit of the Regional C2D unit of the northwest
- appreciation of the quality of the pavers by our visitors



Photo: expert in topography carrying out length measurement



Photo: appreciation of the quality of the pavers by our visitors

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