The VSLA for Sanitation is far advanced as the project is regular monitored in the selected communities. Majority of the VSLA groups are known to be women where men are encouraged to join. The story was different when men at Bussie changed the norm. These men are convinced about behaviour change and every household have a toilets. They also believe that this VSLA contribution will contribute significantly to enable them rehabilitate their existing toilet. This came to light when the Business Development Partners (BDP) visited a VSLA groups in the various districts. One important significant revelation was that this group emerged as only men at Bussie. The group known as Father-to-Father support group Started officially on 6th May 2018 with 25 members. The interest in belonging to a VSLA groups is so high such that more than enough people are still willing to join the group. They were however encouraged to form a separate group so that each group can be managed. The contribution of one GH 1.00 as a share value will be used to maintain and upgrade toilets. The communities is conscious over open defection and so every household have a toilet and are willing to save and upgrade existing toilets or Re-construct new one to benefit their current status.

Grow field officers are engaging VSLA groups to do share out, as well as good agronomics practices such as early weeding, planting in rows, refilling among others.

Officers are also assisting GROW clients to prepare crop budgets for 2018 farming season to enable them select the best farming option to reduce cost eg tractor plough, hoe plough and herbicides.
Assessment and Graduation of Learners

As part of the Cycle 5 activities of the Complementary Basic Education (CBE) program, an assessment was carried out in all 5 districts under ProNet North. The exercise identified the level of functional literacy and numeracy of each learner which is an essential factor in the placement of the learners in the formal schools during transition. In all a total 3,779 learners (1,681 males and 2,098 females) were assessed and graduated.

Stakeholders including the Ghana Education Service, the District Assembly, Local Committee Members, parents and other members of the community were present for the graduation ceremonies in all the communities. They congratulated the learners for the completion of the program and encouraged them not to give up on their education at any point in time as they transition into the formal schools.

Orthopedic Screening at Jirapa

There was orthopedic screening conducted by the staff of Orthopedic training centre from Nsawam. This exercise is conducted from time to time to screen people who may need crutches, calipers and shoes or better still, need surgical attention. The exercise took place at the physiotherapy center at St Joseph Hospital in Jirapa. People within the municipality with bone problems attended in their numbers. As part of our plan ProNet North visited the screening center and helped about seven children from our ESONG group to cater for their bills. Some of the children were booked for surgery because their situation could not allow them to use crutches. Two of the children from ESONG were part of the children booked for the surgery. But one of them (Evans) leg need to be amputated but his father on the other hand is not ready for this change on his son. Currently Disability Peoples Organization (DPOs) are trying their best to make him understand how beneficial and healthy it would be for his son if he is amputated. Social welfare would take the case if he still try to resist. During an interaction with the boy he said the leg is rotting and he would peacefully welcome the surgery if it would make him healthy and strong.
Voice from Beneficiary

Elewe Janet is one of the CBE learners who is nine years of age in Kyaango community. This community is in the Nadowli Kaleo district in the Upper West region. Janet before CBE was a babysitter of her younger siblings so as to help her parents engage in farming activities to support the family. She was transferred later to stay with her uncle at Kyaango where she and her uncle happened to be part of the community entry animation durbar. After conveying the package to the community Janet uncle saw the need for his niece to be part of the program which after a word with Janet who was also around during the forum agreed to be part of the program.

“Anytime I attend health centre and see nurses in uniform taking vitals and seriously taking care of patients I imagine myself in the uniform. It is my passion to be a nurse and give back to my society in the form of helping others" said Janet.