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## Press release from AFRY

### AFRY to join AFRIKVILLAGES to enable children's access to school

**AFRY is contributing to sustaining AFRIKVILLAGES in their project to build a new school in the small village of Petite Danané, not far from the Ivory Coast's main city of Abidjan**

AFRIKVILLAGES, a French humanitarian organization, has been active in Africa since the early 1900s to promote and accelerate the environmental and social development of rural areas throughout the continent. Their goal is to support women and children, protecting their rights, enabling education and access to sanitation and safeguarding the environment.

The organization is raising funds to build a new school in Ivory Coast. Today in the small village of Petite Danané, only one third of children are educated, and 70% of adults are illiterate. In the last five years, the number of educated children has increased but the infrastructure is still inadequate. Today, children have to walk three hours to reach the closest school, which certainly constitutes an obstacle to education.

AFRY has taken up the cause and joined AFRIKVILLAGES in their project, supporting them economically and providing equipment for two classes (desks, boards, chairs, etc.).

AFRY has been active in Ivory Coast since 2018 as a technical consultant to develop a more sustainable electrical infrastructure in the country. The projects strengthen the national electrical network by ensuring a stable electrical supply and bringing electricity to rural areas.

AFRY is committed to accelerating the transition towards a sustainable society. "Empowering people to access education is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and we want to contribute actively to fostering education in Ivory Coast", says Dominik Rätz, Head of Nuclear Energy & Transmission and Distribution, AFRY Switzerland. "We believe that everybody in any place in the world should have access to education and the same rights to achieve their ambitions and objectives. Educated people can contribute to building an advanced and sustainable society".

The construction of the school has started, and it is to be completed by September, right in time for the start of the school year. AFRY will be proud to be there for the opening ceremony.

**For further information, please contact:**

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