Community members were initially confused about why the PREMAND team was asking so many questions about the woman and children who were dying or nearly dying. It was not until they were given the maps and the seed money to plan the interventions that they understood the project’s value. They were surprised to see the high numbers of deaths and near-misses – they hadn’t realized just how many had occurred.

A seven-member Innovation Site Committee met three times and ultimately decided to use their funding to build a new delivery room for expecting mothers. Committee members sought to supplement the Innovation Site Grant with local donations and asked community households to contribute $5 GH¢ (about $1.10 US) for the project. Community members also helped with construction, digging the foundation, carrying blocks and mortar, etc. Each household also provided a pan of pebbles and one assemblyman used his own money to feed the volunteer workers. While the building is not yet finished, they anticipate completion in mid-2018 and hope to reach 90-100% skilled delivery rates once the delivery room is open.

“We saw ... that people outside our community were interested in our welfare and had even taken their time to study it very well. We were very happy for both the money and the chance to decide on the project to carry out.”

- Gbangu PREMAND Innovation Site Committee member

“I can say we were very surprised to see all that was shown to us” by the PREMAND team.

- Gbangu PREMAND Innovation Site Committee member

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