

## Kilns constructed for women's pottery groups in Benoué, North Province

We have been involved with women's pottery groups in Benoué division of North Province for more than four years. They make the clay pots (right) used for storing water, foyer amélioré / cooking stoves (below) and other items. The potters work by hand, usually in small groups, selling in local markets or on the roadsides, generally for household use.



The women fire their clay in a traditional way, in pits in the ground, simply covered and surrounded by firewood (left), a system that involves carrying and burning a lot of wood.



In 2006/2007 we helped four groups to construct kilns. The kilns use less fuel wood than open pits, reducing labour collecting and carrying wood. They also fire the clay at a higher temperature, increasing the quality and value of the finished products.



