

COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE &
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ASSOCIATION (CAEPA)

P. O. BOX: 246,

Bamenda, North West Region

Tel: (+237) 75 35 57 98 / 97 15 02 62

E-mail: caepa@ymail.com



COMMUNAUTÉ AGRICOLE ET
L'ASSOCIATION DE PROTECTION DE
L'ENVIRONNEMENT (CAEPA)

BP: 246,

Bamenda Région du Nord-Ouest

Tel: (+237) 75 35 57 98 / 97 15 02 62

Email: caepa@ymail.com

PROJECT PROPOSAL

ON

**SCALING UP CARE AND SUPPORT TO MINORITIES
(MBORORO ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE
CHILDREN) IN THE MEZAM DIVISION NORTH WEST
REGION OF CAMEROON.**

Social, Political and Economic Background

Geographically, Cameroon is located between Central and West Africa. Politically, the country is grouped under the Central African countries. It is bordered by Nigeria to the West, Chad to the Northeast, the Central African Republic and the Congo to the East, and Equatorial Guinea and Gabon to the South.

The country is called "Africa in Miniature" for its geological and cultural diversity. The highest point in Cameroon is Mount Cameroon (4070m) in the South West, and the largest cities are Douala, Yaoundé, and Garoua. Cameroon is home to over 200 different ethnic and linguistic groups. English and French are the official languages.

According to the National Demographic Survey of 2004, the population in Cameroon is estimated at 17,795,000, (51% females and 49% males). The population is relatively young with an estimated of 41.2% of the population under 15 years, and 96.7% of the general population under 65; the life expectancy is 51.16 years (50.98 years for males and 51.34 years for females).

Politically, Cameroon is relatively stable and is currently enforcing the decentralization process to transfer powers from the central government and ministries to the 10 regions of Cameroon as well as local communities. Cameroonians are planning to go in for presidential elections by the end of 2011.

Economically, agriculture remains the main occupation of about 70 percent of Cameroon's population. The principal commercial crops in Cameroon are cacao, coffee, tobacco, cotton, and bananas. Other commercial products include rubber, palm products, and sugarcane. Subsistence crops include plantains, sweet potatoes, cassava, corn, and millet. Timber is one of the Cameroon's most valuable export commodities. Fishing is dominated by freshwater subsistence activity.

In addition, Cameroon has an average GDP growth below 3.5% compared to the original estimate of over 5%. As a result of the low GDP growth rates, the government has developed its Growth and Employment Strategy Paper to focus on growth acceleration, the creation of formal jobs and poverty reduction. The strategic plans aim to carry out the following: 1) increase growth to an annual average of 5.5% between 2010-2020 period, 2) reduce

underemployment from 75.8% to below 50% in 2020, with the creation of tens of thousands of formal jobs every year in the next ten years, and 3) reduce the poverty rate from 39.9% in 2007 to 28.7% in 2020 (African Development Bank Country Portfolio Review Report, October 2009).

In regards to health, the quality of health care is generally low. Outside major cities, facilities are few with insufficient modern equipment, trained personnel, and maintenance. Endemic diseases in Cameroon include HIV, malaria, meningitis, and typhoid, cholera among others. With regards to HIV/AIDS, the prevalence is steadily rising and affects an estimated 5.5% of the population in Cameroon, compared to an average of 4.5% for the countries of Africa (African Development Bank Country Portfolio Review Report, October 2009).

Additionally, HIV prevention, treatment, and care services were negatively affected in 2010 since Cameroon did not qualify for the Round 9 Grants from the Global Fund. As a result, programs were cut, shortages of HIV test kits, and drugs and reagents at treatment centers occurred, impacting adherence to treatment and care for persons living with HIV (PLWHIV).

In the North West Region, with an estimated population of 1.8 million persons in 2004, HIV prevalence stood at 8.7%, the highest rate in the country. The region is divided into 18 health districts managed by the Ministry of Public Health, Regional Delegation of Public Health, the Regional Technical Group and other stakeholders.

***Project Title : SCALING UP CARE AND SUPPORT TO MINORITIES
(MBORORO ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN) IN MEZAM
DIVISION IN NORTH WEST REGION OF CAMEROON.***

TOTAL COST OF PROJECT : 8.254.000 FRS CFA

Background

The Mbororo Fulani of the North West Region of Cameroon have historically constituted somewhat of an anomaly within this region. On arriving in the grasslands in 1916 as a semi-nomadic pastoralist group, their culture and traditions distinguished them from the 'native' farming populations in the following ways:

- 1) Their main form of subsistence involved livestock rearing
- 2) Their socio-political structures were dispersed and fragmented since no formal traditional structure existed
- 3) Their religious practice is Islam
- 4) They lacked involvement in community development initiatives due to the isolation of their nomadic way of life

The Mbororo were the last social group to arrive in this area prior to the implementation of British colonial administration in the 1920s, and although this region experienced large scale immigration during the 18th and 19th centuries (Nkwi and Warnier 1982), they have typically been viewed as 'strangers' by both their neighbours and successive state regimes. Today, they live across all areas of the region, with the greatest numbers in areas characterised by largely isolated and remote communities, such as Bamenda 1 Sub-division. The current Mbororo population of the North West Region is approximately 80,000 people out of a total population of over 2 million (approximately 4% of the total population). Being located at the peripheries of the subdivision has meant reduced access to government services, whilst their relative population dispersion has further excluded them from the convenient (spatial) definitions of 'community' on which development efforts are generally based in the North West. Often without formal education, the Mbororo have historically been underrepresented in all branches of local government and administration (except livestock), while their traditional leaders are viewed as subordinate to 'native' chiefs.

Both within Mbororo communities and more broadly, particular instances of injustice are experienced by women. Extreme examples of these include domestic violence and asset stripping of women in the event of widowhood. However, Mbororo women tend to routinely have low literacy levels and experience much reduced social mobility compared to men, on whom they are largely economically dependent. The factors for this increased dependency include the economy of the North West; there is a lack of

commercial demand for the milk that Mbororo females are responsible for managing, the greater Islamicisation amongst Mbororo communities, and the shift to a sedentary lifestyle. These have all played a role in restricting women's engagement in broader social life.

A further marginalization or rather isolation of Mbororo people comes from a general sense of reserve and 'otherness' of the Mbororo in the form of a code of conduct known as *pulaaku*. The Mbororo were not treated as full citizens by the colonial administration. Lacking the rights of land ownership that stem from this status, they relied instead on paying 'tribute' to local landowners for grazing rights, a tradition that involved developing patron-client links with local chiefs and administrators.

Summary of the Project

The orphans and vulnerable children are increasing everyday in our communities. We are familiar with what it means to be an orphan or a vulnerable child. How friends and families are torn apart and how through death, stigma and discrimination the social fabric of communities are destroyed.

CAEPA Cameroon's is striving to better the lives of orphans and vulnerable children across the region. Most of the children are made up of children whose parents died living them with grandparents who are unable to take care of themselves talk less of the orphans. Some are a result of divorce where the father is irresponsible and the women are force to take their children back to their families thus increasing the burden on her mother who is a widow and has no source of income. These orphans are usually malnourished, dropouts and start roaming the streets at tender ages because they don't have anybody to directly assist them. As a result, some of the orphans get involved in prostitution and burglary to make a living. Some of the young girls are forced in to early marriage which ends up breaking because they were not prepared for marriage.

CAEPA Cameroon has been supporting 50orphans in Bamenda 1 in paying their school fees, buy books, school bags and uniforms in order for them to acquire basic education. This is just a tenth of those who effectively need support. Therefore this project is intended to scale up the support and has as target Mbororo orphans and vulnerable children

B) NEEDS OF THE ORPHANS

The greatest needs of the orphans are as follows:

FEEDING

Most families in Cameroon and the North West Region leave a subsistent life. Having to feed an extra mouths will be a burden to any families as most children barely have one meal a day to their satisfaction.

EDUCATION

Quite often, orphans absorbed in to families are exploited to work for them and so few can be considered to go to school. Where this is not possible, they don't go beyond primary school level. And those who manage to go to school are usually not equipped with books, uniforms and fees.

OBJECTIVE

- To provide education and nutritional assistance to 70Mbororo orphans and vulnerable children in Bamenda 1 subdivision, North West region Cameroon

ACTIVITIES

The activities intended to be carried out include:

- A) Pay fees, buy exercise and major text books and uniform for 70Mbororo Orphans and Vulnerable children in primary, secondary and vocational training schools

METHODOLOGY.

In all educational assistance is most solicited. At the moment most of the pupils are studying at the Government, Catholic and Presbyterian schools Ntenefor and the situation is, only a registration fee of 1000frs has been paid out of total fee which is 11500FCFA. when these pupils are sent home for fees that is the end of the academic year for them; as is the prevailing situation at the moment. This project intends to pay schools fees for the orphans and buy basic text books (Arithmetic/English) as well as uniforms. The children will continue to stay with relatives so as to assist their ailing grandparents. Periodic follow ups will be done to monitor their progress.

[illegible]

Amount of Money Requested = 8 254.000 FRS CFA

BUDGET

20 Primary School Pupils

Items	Unit price	Cost Price
Tuition for 20 pupils	5000frs x 20 pupils	100.000frs CFA
Uniforms (2 pairs each)	3000frs per uniformx2pairs x 20	120.000frs CFA
PTA contribution for 10 schools	2500frs for PTA x 10schools	25.000frs CFA
Exercise Books	100 exercise books x 350frs	35.000frs CFA
Text books(English reader, maths and French text books)	10000frs for all the text books x 20pupils	200.000frs CFA
Pencils, Pens and rulers	60pens x 20pupils	1200frs CFA
Total		1.680.000frs CFA

20 Secondary School Students.

Items	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Tuition for 20 pupils	25.000frs x 20 students	500.000frs CFA
Uniforms (2 pairs each)	5000frs x 2pairs x 20 students	200.000frs CFA
Exercise Books	100 exercise books x 350frs	35.000frs CFA
Text books(English reader, maths and	10000frs for all the text books x 20pupils	200.000frs CFA

French text books)		
Pencils, Pens and rulers	60pens x 20pupils	1200frs CFA
Total		2.135.000Frs CFA

20 High School Students.

Items	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Tuition for 20 pupils	27.000frs x 20 students	540.000frs CFA
Uniforms (2 pairs each)	5000frs x 2pairs x 20 students	200.000frs CFA
Exercise Books	100 exercise books x 350frs	35.000frs CFA
Text books(English reader, maths and French text books)	10000frs for all the text books x 20pupils	200.000frs CFA
Pencils, Pens and rulers	60pens x 20pupils	1200frs CFA
Total		2.175.000

Professional and Vocational Skill Development.

Tuition for 3girls at hair dressing saloons	50.000frs x 3 girls	150.000frs
Purchase of basic tools for 3 girls	15.000frs x 3 girls	54.000frs
Tuition for 2 boys at mechanic shops	100.000fre x 2 boys	200.000frs
Purchase of basic tools for 2 boys	30.000frs x 2boys	60.000frs
Total		464.000frs CFA

BASIC MEDICAL CARE, FOOD AND CLOTHING.

Basic Medical Care	500.000frs CFA
Food (Bags of Rice, Salt, Groundnut oil and Savon	500.000frs CFA
Clothing for the Orphans	200.000frs CFA

TOTAL =1.200.000frs CFA

OTHERS

Coordination of Activities	250.000 FRS CFA
Communication	200.000 FRS CFA
Reporting	150.000 FRS CFA

Total 600.000 FRS CFA

GRAND TOTAL = 8.254.000 FRS CFA

Grand Total: Eight Million Two Hundred and Fifty Four Thousand FRS CFA

a) Name and address of organisation

Community Agriculture & Environmental Protection Association
Cameroon (CAEPA Cameroon)

P.O Box 246 Bamenda

Tel +237 75 35 37 98 / 772693132

Email-caepa@ymail.com

Website: www.caepacameroon.org

b) Name, position and contact details of the person responsible for the grant (i.e. the person with responsibility for ensuring that funds are used effectively and reported on):

Mr.Keghah Roger Nuah

Coordinator

Tel +237 75 35 37 98 / 772693132

I. Background:

Community Agriculture & Environmental Protection Association Cameroon (CAEPA CAMEROON) is a non-political, non-profit making body. CAEPA Cameroon is recognized under the law governing non-political and non-profit making associations in Cameroon. It is an educative, research body that was born in 2007 and legally registered in 2009, approved by the Ministry of Territorial Administration under Prefectorial Decision No 004/E29/1111/VOL.8/APPB.

HISTORY

Agriculture being the back bone of the Cameroonian economy tops among efforts in the fight against poverty, which is a global challenge. Eighty percent (80%) of the Cameroonian population lives in rural areas and depends on agriculture for survival. Our environment is and will remain the only natural habitation for humanity, if care is not taken, mankind will be eliminated from this environment. Health is the basic requirement for a productive and progressive community and this is achievable through what we eat, the environment we live in and good psychological well-being. Principles will forever remain the principal requirement for any positive change with respect to health, agriculture and environment. It was for these reasons that CAEPA was established. CAEPA seeks to contribute towards the betterment of the life of the local population in Cameroon.

VISION

Community Agriculture and Environmental Protection Association Cameroon (CAEPA Cameroon)) strives to contribute to a society where every beneficiary lives a healthy life within a conducive environment and has equal access to sufficient, quality food.

MISSION

CAEPA Cameroon is a non-profit making organization that reaches out to the rural poor to disseminate information, promote their learning to acquire sustainable solutions in the domains of health, agriculture and the environment for the present and future generations of Cameroonians.

OUR GOAL

CAEPA Cameroon's goal is to equip community members with the knowledge and skills that will create a positive change on health care, access to sufficient food of a high quality and environmental friendly practices in Cameroon.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To ensure socio-economic initiatives amongst marginalized groups,
- To enhance crop and livestock production and productivity,
- To enhance environmentally friendly practices in schools/communities,
- To improve on the health conditions of communities,
- To promote information technology outreach in communities

Report of the 2011 Orphans and vulnerable children project

The project being implemented by the CAEPA Cameroon operates within the framework of the Cooperation program between ***Nia Dickett and Friends in USA*** (a group of volunteers and friends in the United States of America). The objective of the project is to improve and reinforce care and support to orphans and other vulnerable children.

PROJECT AREA

The project activities were implemented in Bamenda 1 Sub-division which is one of the sub-divisions that makes up Mezam Division.

TARGET

150 OVCs received psychosocial counseling through home visits, while 50 OVCs were given educational support.

MOBILISATION AND COLLABORATION:

Prior to implementation, CAEPA Cameroon informed key stakeholders such as traditional ruler, Mayor, Chief of Social center, school authorities and church leaders of the sub-division. School authorities and church leaders played a major role in mobilizing the OVCs.

2. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

Activities involved the provision of psychosocial support to 150 OVC's and Educational support to 50 OVC's. These activities were carried out in two phases;

2.1 PHASE 1: Psychosocial Support

150 OVCs were targeted for this support. Social workers visited all 150 homes out of which 134 OVCs were reached while 16 OVCs had gone out for farming and marketing.

Issues discussed during home visits included:

- Nutrition(balance diet)
- Hygiene and sanitation
- Educational performance.

Observations during home visits showed that while some children suffer from malnourishment and starvation, others were well taken care of. Also, the academic performances of some children are quite impressive while others still need a lot of follow up at home which they hardly ever have.

PROBLEMS FACED BY OVC'S

- Aspects of malnutrition and starvation are still very common.
- Increased number of OVC's that need support
- Crowded homes with limited sources of income (especially the Mbororo).



Home Visits to orphans and vulnerable children.

2.2. PHASE 2: EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Phase two involved the provision of educational assistance to 50 OVC's .Out of 110 envisaged, 50 were assisted. The limited number is as a result of limited funding. This activity was done in schools in collaboration with school authorities and parents of OVCs. The educational package involved the payment of school fees of 10,000FCFA each for OVCs selected from catholic, Presbyterian primary schools while 2500 CFA FRS as PTA levy paid for 12 OVCs in Government Primary Schools. To make up the support packages for OVCs in Government schools, English, mathematics and workbooks were provided to them. In general, the whole exercise was good and interesting and the children were very grateful for the support and they promise to do their best in schools.

Table 1 below shows the number of OVCS given educational support per school

School	Number of OVCs
P.S Ntenefor	14
C.S Ntenefor	23
G.S Ntoh	7
G.S station	6
Total	50



Provision of Educational Support to Orphans and Vulnerable children.