

# CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH (CAMGEW)

## Participatory Kilum-Ijim Forest Management Through Forest Regeneration and Livelihood Improvement

Act Locally, Think Globally



Mother Earth's Future in our Hands

**Presented by**

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# Who is Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW)

- CAMGEW is a nonprofit created in 2007 in Yaounde with authorization N° 000998/RDA/JO6/BAPP
- CAMGEW moved to Oku in 2011
- She tackles environmental and gender issues in Cameroon
- CAMGEW believes the future of our mother-earth is in our hands
- Her **vision** “Changing lives of women, children and communities while protecting the environment
- Her **mission** “To fight poverty; promote sound environmental management, gender balance and economic sustainable development”.

*Act Locally, Think Globally*

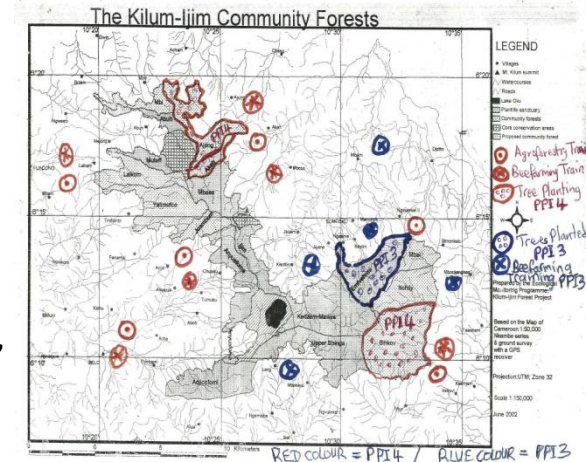


*Mother Earth's Future in our Hands*



# Where is CAMGEW & Kilum-Ijim

- Oku Sub Division of Bui Division in North West Region
- The Kilum-Ijim forest produces Oku White Honey and is part of montane in Bamenda Highland Forest
- Kilum-Ijim forest covers an area of 20.000 hectares with peak at 3011m and Crater lake called Lake Oku
- Bannerman's Turaco is an endangered bird with this forest as its remaining largest habitat
- Kilum Mountain is the second highest mountain in central and west Africa
- Rich ecosystem with non timber forest products like Oku White honey, mushrooms, medicinal plants, spices, additives(colourings, preservatives and flavourings), etc
- Oku White Honey produced by trees like *Nuxia congesta*, *Prunus africana*, *Schefflera abyssinica*, Carapas, *Pittosporum veridiflorum*, *Agauria salicifolia*, *Zyzigium staundti*, *Croton macrotachist*, *Maesa lanceolata*, *Newtonia camerounensis*, *Bridelia speciosa*, *Psychotria penducularis*,





# Why regenerate the Kilum-Ijim forest

- Forest has suffered from bushfires
- Deforestation has been high
- *Prunus africana* barks were poorly harvested and most forest trees died
- Increase source of livelihoods for forest communities
- Join the world to fight climate change through carbon sequestration
- Keep the natural cake for future generations
- Maintain continuous environmental services like water flow
- Ensure the availability of white honey
- Prevent landslide from the Kilum hills



# Why CAMGEW chosed *Prunus africana* to regenerate the forest

- It produces white flowers that are bee loving for Oku White Honey production,
- It is a native tree of Oku forest,
- It is a watershed tree,
- It is income generating because of its medicinal value and
- It is a carbon sink that mitigate climate change.



# Total Trees planted by CAMGEW in the Kilum-Ijim forest

- 20500 trees planted distributed as follows
- 7000 trees of *Prunus africana* planted under the World Bank funded project on forest governance in August 2012
- 3400 trees (3000 trees previewed) of *Prunus africana* planted with MINFOF-Cameroon funds in July 2013
- 6600 trees (6000 trees preview) of *Prunus africana* planted under the French Committee of IUCN funds this August 2013
- 3000 assorted bee loving native forest trees planted in Nchiyy forest with Funds from Konning school with assistance from Both ENDS (All in Netherlands) in 2014
- In 2015, 10000 *Prunus africana* trees to be planted in Bihkov, Akeh and Ajung forests of Kilum-Ijim with funds from French Committee of IUCN
- In 2015, 2000 assorted bee loving trees planted in Nchiyy Forest under Rufford Foundation funds.



# How CAMGEW involve stakeholders do forest regeneration

CAMGEW uses a participatory approach in forest regeneration involving all stakeholders like

- Forest users like hunters, bee farmers, firewood fetchers , Water Management, are involved
- Women are involved
- Administration participated
- Local government
- Traditional authorities
- Youths regenerate the forest and are sensitised to be nature lovers



**2013 tree planting**



**2012 tree planting**

# Methodology in forest regeneration

CAMGEW does forest regeneration as follows

- Nursery development
- Environmental education in schools, forest, nursery, radio, community gatherings to build nature lovers and change behaviours
- Creating forest platforms
- Launching of tree planting season with authorities
- Clearing of paths where trees will be planted by men and youths
- Transporting trees from nursery to forest done by women
- Tree planting done by men
- Removal of all plastic papers from the forest
- Follow-up of planted trees in the forest all year run





# Nursery Development



**CAMGEW as of now has nursed 35000 trees**





# Community members and leaders going for tree plant



# Tree planting in Oku Community forest



**Transportation of Prunus seedlings to the Oku Community forest by women**



# Tree planting in Oku Community Forest



**All forest stakeholder engage in tree planting(tradition, government, local government, CBOs and community)**



**Community youths participate in tree planting**

# All polythene papers removed from forest





# Environmental education in the Oku Community Forest

## Why environmental education

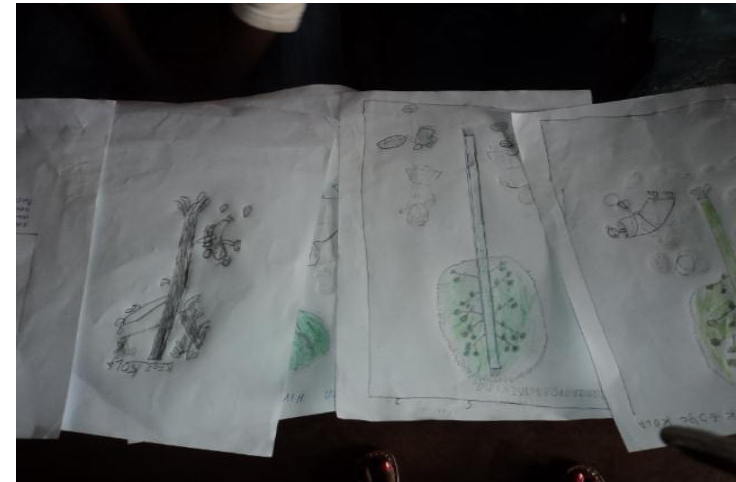
- Make young people lovers of Oku Community forest now and in the future
- Change behavioral patterns of community members that carry out unsustainable activities in the forest
- Indicate and train community members and groups on alternative sources of livelihoods





# Ways CAMGEW carryout environmental education

- In schools (primary and secondary) through forest visits, lessons, produced articles by students like songs, essays, poems, sketches
- In the Oku Community Radio
- In organized community events
- Through publication like posters, brochures, booklets
- Through press like newspapers
- Our website and other websites





# Environmental education in the field





# CAMGEW with Bee farming as a way to promote participatory sustainable forest management

**When community member have beehives in the forest they can no longer**

- Set bushfire in the forest
- Cut trees in the forest for fear it falls on their hives
- Bees scare those who come to destroy the forest as they sting



**In the presence of bushfire all community members (groups) run up to the forest to stop it to avoid destruction of their beehives**



# BEE FARMING TRAINING



Participants learning-by-doing



Beehives carried for colonisation in the valleys before transportation to the forest



# Alternative livelihoods to the forest

## Agroforestry



Peasant women farmers trained on agroforestry techniques to improve soil fertility for increase food production and get firewood. They are provided with agroforestry trees.

# POULTRY AS ALTERNATIVE TO BUSHMEAT

- Over hunting has destroyed much fauna and reduce animal diversity
- CAMGEW runs a poultry to provide community with alternative protein source to forest animals





# MICRO CREDIT SCHEME AS ALTERNATIVE FOR PEASANT WOMEN

- Peasant women receive training on business management
- Receive loans to start or expand a business
- 12 to 17 women receive training monthly and get 30.000FCFA to 75.000 FCFA
- About 45 women have received loans since project start
- Loans are paid in 6 months with monthly interest of 2%



# VOCATIONAL TRAINING AS ALTERNATIVES SOURCE OF LIVELIHOOD

- VTC trains in shoe making, Dress making, Dress Making and Hair Dressing
- 41 students exist
- 15 students graduated on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2016
- Training open to single mothers, teenage mothers, youths & community members





# Other actions in the Forest

- CAMGEW & MINFOF have been catching goats in the forest that destroy planted trees
- The cutting down of Eucalyptus trees from the forest
- The tradition is strong and has a legal system that takes care of forest defaulters



# Challenges in the forest

- Bushfires as a result of the use of poor methods in honey harvesting and smoking in the forest
- Firewood fetchers cutting down fresh trees for firewood
- Many traps in the forest to catch rats
- Poor harvested Prunus some years behind that cause the death of many trees
- Domestic animals found in the forest that destroy planted trees and disturb the natural regeneration process
- Carvers now cut trees to use in carving items
- Presence of Eucalyptus trees-non native in the forest





# HOW CAMGEW TACKLES GENDER

- Women are donated 2 beehives while men get 1 after bee farming training
- CAMGEW has a Micro-credit scheme that is just for peasant women empowerment
- CAMGEW runs many sensitization programmes in radio, social groups, etc to encourage women participate in promoting development



# How CAMGEW tackles these challenges

- Goats destroyed 1062 trees of the 3400 planted with MINFOF funds in 2013 and CAMGEW did replanting
- 6 goats were caught by CAMGEW and Oku MINFOF from the forest and handed to Oku Council
- The Oku Community Radio has been used for sensitization and information on forest problems and various solutions
- CAMGEW has trained 338 persons on bee farming and distributed 421 beehives
- CAMGEW has planted 20500 native trees in the forest
- Field based environmental education in forest and nursery
- Working to create forest stakeholder platform
- Documentation of our success stories in posters, booklets, brochures, etc
- Sharing through websites, meetings, social gatherings, etc



# CAMGEW Partnerships to promote regeneration

## **Local**

- Community based organisations and members like Oku Honey Cooperative Society
- The Council
- The traditional authorities
- Cultural and Development Associations
- Religious groups

## **National**

- The Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
- Other NGOs like BERUDA, SHUMAS, CENDEP, GREENCARE,

## **International**

- World Bank, Catholic Relief Services, Both End-Netherlands, Konningschool-Netherlands, French IUCN, New England Biolabs Foundation-USA, Teach a Man to Fish-UK, IDEA WILD-USA, Man & Nature-France, Rufford Foundation-UK, Future in Our Hands-Uk,

# YES WE CAN WITH EVIDENCE



World Bank recognize CAMGEW efforts in promoting forest governance around Oku Community Forest after execution of World Bank Funded project.



# YES WE CAN WITH EVIDENCE

- Cameroon Government recognize CAMGEW's efforts to conserve the Kilum-Ijim Forest and fighting poverty during National Day celebration in 2014



# YES WE CAN WITH EVIDENCE



CAMGEW's works  
applauded locally in  
2011 at Ngashie-Oku





**FOREST -OUR NATURAL WEALTH**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND  
ATTENTION**



**Rare bird Bannerman's turaco the treasure  
of the Kilum-Ijim Community Forest**