

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH
(CAMGEW)

Act Locally, Think Globally



Mother Earth's Future in our Hands

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PREFACE

The compounded global economic, environmental, political and social crises have presented new challenges for people worldwide and there is need for a change in life style. The global food, energy and financial crises are affecting development in the global south. There is need to raise the capacity of those directly affected by poverty, inequality, ecological destruction and human rights violations. The international community set 2015 as the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While progress has been made in many countries, development has been uneven in the attainment of these goals. Climate crisis alone threatens human life and now calls for a new development agenda.

Development is a much more comprehensive process that concerns social transformation, people's empowerment, the enlargement of human freedoms, and the development of a country's productive capacities. The term multi-stakeholder process is a necessary process to bring together all major stakeholders in a new form of communication and decision-making on particular issues. This has promoted the recognition of equity and accountability in communication between stakeholders, involving equitable representation stakeholder groups and their views. Through this participation partnerships and networks have been strengthened between stakeholders. Multi-Stakeholder process promotes dialogue on decision-making and implementation of practical solutions. To achieve this, there is need to involve stakeholders from the civil society, the private sector, and government. Eliminating poverty remains among the world's greatest challenges. Millions suffer from multiple deprivations like poverty, hunger, illiteracy, homelessness, poor health, avoidable death, and vulnerability to shocks. Most of them are in the developing world with a great deal of them women. To be poor is not simply to be short in money and things. Local agricultural and food systems have multiple links to development as it forms the backbone of people's health, economies, and ecologies and culture the world over. It provides food and nourishment, and so is crucial to tackling hunger and poor health. Moreover, it is highly dependent on natural resources, and so has a significant impact on the environment.

The challenge has been to get our agri-food system working right: to secure sufficient nourishment for people and livelihoods for farmers and rural workers. Feeding the hungry and lifting the rural poor is not just a simple matter of producing more. Natural ecosystems are important for the vital environmental services like soil & water regeneration; air & climate regulation; waste absorption & nutrient recycling.

The questions that CAMGEW is worried about are:

*How can we make everyone, every company, every business, every organisation and every government factor-in the care for environment in their policies and actions?

*How can we promote every businessman, company, organization and government to work genuinely in improving the livelihood of poor communities and vulnerable people?

*How can climate change be made a concern for everyone with everyone searching for a solution through local action?

CAMGEW is acting locally and thinking globally by doing the following to provide answers to the above questions: promoting bee farming locally to improve livelihoods and conserve the forest, forest regeneration for climate change mitigation, vocational training to build entrepreneurs for Cameroon 2035 vision of emergence, agroforestry for soil conservation & increase food production, child development to build a better future for young generation & vulnerable children, micro-credit scheme for women economic empowerment and Biogas system for biofertilizer and cooking energy (biogas).

CAMGEW thank the following major partners for working with her in 2014: MIVA Switzerland, Both ENDS, French IUCN, Future in Our Hands, Swisshand, Man & Nature, Stichting OOK, Koning School, Teach a Man To Fish, Cameroon Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, BERUDA, Oku Honey Cooperative Society, Oku Area Cooperative Union, Cameroon Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training.

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

A) PRESENTATION OF CAMGEW

Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW) is a nonprofit created in 2007 with authorization number N° 000998/RDA/JO6/BAPP to tackle environmental and gender issues in Cameroon. CAMGEW works locally and thinks globally, integrating gender in solving environmental problems in Cameroon. CAMGEW believes that the future of our mother planet-earth is in our hands and also that the planet can be sustained by putting social and environmental justice at the centre of development. CAMGEW seeks to achieve her objectives by liaising with like-minded organizations worldwide. She has resolved to function according to core values of honesty, engagement and dedication in respect of its constitution. CAMGEW has as **vision** “Changing lives of women, children and communities while protecting the environment and as **mission** to fight poverty; promote sound environmental management, gender balance and economic sustainable development.

B) PRESENTATION OF CAMGEW AREAS OF INTERVENTION

CAMGEW has been working in the following areas:

- promoting bee farming in Kilum Mountain forest and Noni to improve livelihoods of communities and engage communities in the conservation of the environment;
- Carrying out forest regeneration in the Kilum Mountain forest to conserve the forest and mitigate climate change;
- Environmental education to change behaviours of old generation to protect the forest and its wildlife and build a generation of nature in children;
- Carrying out vocational training in dress making and decoration; shoe making and mending; and hair dressing to build entrepreneurs for Cameroon 2035 vision of emergence;
- Promoting agroforestry for peasant farmers for soil conservation and increased food production;
- Child development to build a better future for young generation & vulnerable children through field work in farms and scholarships;
- Micro-credit scheme for women economic empowerment and
- Biogas system for biofertilizer and cooking energy (biogas).

SECTION II: CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

CAMGEW through sustainable agriculture programme in schools in Oku trained children on sustainable agriculture. CAMGEW worked with 9 selected schools from the application file owned by Catholic, Presbyterian Church in Cameroon, Cameroon Baptist Convention and Cameroon Government. These schools cultivated carrots, huckleberry, garlic, onions and tomatoes. Schools made these choices based on the crops suitability to their school soil. The project was funded by New England Biolabs Foundation-USA with an objective of giving children the opportunity to learn-by-doing in practicing integrated organic agriculture and schools using the money raised from the sale of farm produce to buy school needs thereby fighting poverty. Carrying out sustainable agriculture instilled in children the spirit to grow up and take agriculture as a profession. The farm products were sold and money raised is used to buy school didactic materials.

Table 1: Crops cultivated by the various Schools

SN	SCHOOL	CROPS GROWN
1	Cameroon Baptist Convention School Elak	Carrots, Huckleberry, Onions
2	Catholic School Elak	Huckleberry, Garlic And Carrots
3	Government School Mboh	Carrots and Garlic
4	Presbyterian School Ngashie	Garlic, Onions and Carrots
5	Cameroon Baptist Convention School Jiyane	Carrots and huckleberry
6	Government School Simonkoh	Carrots and Onions
7	Cameroon Baptist Convention School Ngvunkei II	Carrots and Garlic
8	Catholic School Simonkoh	Garlic and Onions
9	Government School Ngvunkei II	Huckleberry and Garlic

The project was important because Oku is a poor area and schools lack basic school needs. Children mostly end school after the primary level and remain unemployed. Promoting self-reliant activities in this rural area helps fight poverty and sustain the environment. Through activities of seed collection, seed nursery, soil tillage, crop cultivation, weeding, harvesting, crop preservation and agribusiness children developed skills in food production chain.

This project helped children learn how to water crops during dry season, the process of germination and pollination, seed dispersal, bushfires or slash-and-burn for agriculture and its problems ; pesticides and its impacts on agriculture, ecosystems and human health; importance of mixed farming and crop rotation; trees that are not good in the farm like Eucalyptus trees because

of its high affinity for water and roots system; process of photosynthesis; types of crops and benefits of zero-grazing/cut-and-carry systems.



Children learn-by-doing in school farms

SECTION III:

VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

A) CAMGEW-VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE (VTC)

CAMGEW-Vocational Training Centre (VTC) went operational in November 2012 as a programme under Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW). It is a well furnished centre that trains youths especially school dropout, graduates from schools, single/teenage mothers and less privilege youths to become useful and self employed community members. It was approved as a Private Vocational Training Centre by the Cameroon Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training through Order N° 055/MINEFOP/SG/DFOP/SDGSF/CSACD of 6th January 2014.

CAMGEW-VTC functions in the following departments

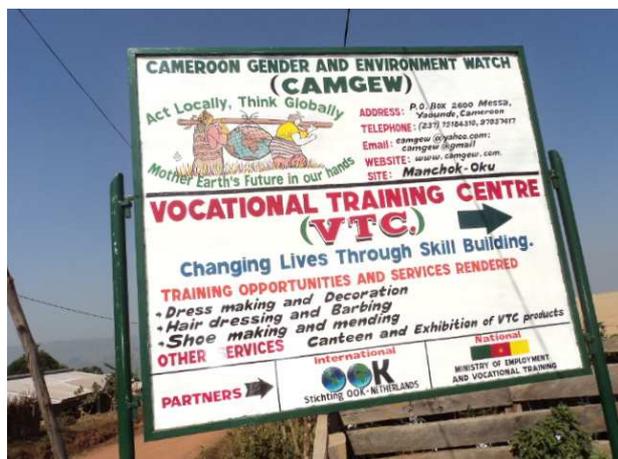
- **Dress making and Decoration department:** This department has two trainers, an expert for men's dresses and another for women dresses. They train interested persons in these domains. Products and services are sold to the public.
- **Shoe making and Mending department:** This department has an expert on shoemaking and mending. This department train interested persons in these domains. Products and services are sold to the public.
- **Hair dressing department:** It has an expert who trains interested persons in hair dressing and treatment skills. Hair dressing products like hair oils, other cosmetics and different hair products are available to the general public to the general public

CAMGEW-VTC is involved in training, service provision, and sales of produces and materials in line with the services she renders. Sensitisation of community members has remained a regular feature of the institution to increase student enrolment and get more customers. This is done through Oku Community Radio, CAMGEW-VTC posters, sensitisation in churches and social gatherings and advertisement of CAMGEW-VTC products in the markets. The year 2014 was a year CAMGEW dedicated for CAMGEW-VTC to become self reliant. Our partner Stichting OOK-Netherlands stopped supporting us financially in March 2014. The VTC is not yet self reliant because of some challenges like poor sales of CAMGEW-VTC products and services plus low payment of fees by students because of their financial situation. CAMGEW-VTC could not pay her staff salaries and buy the needed training materials regularly. CAMGEW-VTC also engaged in establishing a small poultry to raise funds to support CAMGEW-VTC running cost. This has been successful to an extent but CAMGEW-VTC has been faced with a market for the produce. Visit CAMGEW-VTC video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyM89iaLnHw&feature=youtu.be&hd=1>

The centre has been offering courses in the basics of French, English and mathematics; citizenship; entrepreneurship; HIV/AIDS; book keeping; business management; hygiene and sanitation; team spirit building; peace building; conflict management; self confidence and leadership to students to make them suit the job market. The centre has had an increase in number of students as time goes on. Below is the statistics of student enrolment in the centre.

Table II: CAMGEW-VTC Student enrolment

Departments	January 2014	June 2014	December 2014
Hair dressing	4	9	9
Shoe making	3	4	5
Dress making	10	23	23
TOTAL	17	36	37



CAMGEW-Vocational Training Centre (VTC) Presentation

B) CAMGEW OPEN-DOOR-DAY EVENT

CAMGEW-VTC Open-Door-Day was organised on the 26th May 2014 with the objective to make the public know all what CAMGEW-Vocational Training Centre (VTC) does. The population, administration and all stakeholders were invited to come and see what CAMGEW-VTC does and make comments for improvement. The public had also opportunity to get our services and products. CAMGEW-VTC created awareness on the training opportunities available, the products and services offered. The ceremony started at 9:00 am in the presence of the population, Oku authorities and the representative of the Divisional Delegate for MINEFOP Bui. The representative of the Divisional Delegate for MINEFOP Bui made a speech appreciating the efforts put by CAMGEW-VTC team to keep the centre running. Other speeches were made by Divisional Officer for Oku, the representative of the Mayor for Oku and members of the community.

This day was animated by students of the centre with singing, dancing and sketches on the impacts of societal ills like gossips. There was music interpretation and fashion parade of various dresses and decorations produced by the Dress making Department. Animation was done all day long and youths interpreted music and danced. CAMGEW discovered many talents in youths like those who interpreted music while dancing. While there was continues display by VTC students, the VTC trainers and some students continued working in their various workshops and members of the public visited them and asked questions. The local radio- Oku Community Radio was present and did coverage and this event was replayed many times over the radio for sensitisation.

The students of the VTC amazed everyone when they came up with a welcome song and made some speeches. All of us were happy because they believe so much in the training that CAMGEW-VTC offers and this has convinced many other youths to join. The 2014 Open-Door-day was marked by fundraising from those who attended. Donations were made in cash and in kind. The donations made in kind were

sold during the activities through auction sales. The funds raised were used to support some vulnerable students pay fees. We were proud we organized the Open-Door-day. Many parents promised to send their children to VTC when they finish from elementary school and also encourage those that had earlier finished elementary school and had nothing doing to come and register and receive trainings in any vocational course.



Students sing a welcome song and traditional dance to entertain all people present in the open-door-day.



Some students doing fashion parade on the occasion of the Open-Door-day 2014.



Some students doing fashion parade on the occasion of the Open-Door-day 2014.



The Divisional Officer-Oku and other authorities go round stands to appreciate CAMGEW's works



A cross section of some authorities present during the open door day.

C) CAMGEW-VTC TEAM VISIT THE OKU PALACE

On the 15th of October 2014, CAMGEW staff and students visited His Royal Highness the Fon of Oku Fon Sintieh II to celebrate the 7th Anniversary of CAMGEW's existence after creation in October 2007. 8 CAMGEW staff including CAMGEW-VTC staff and 39 students carried firewood and some palm wine to visit the Fon and his wives. This is what happens in the traditional setting. CAMGEW-VTC had to be presented in the palace to gain local recognition. The CAMGEW team moved down the streets of Oku to the palace in uniform creating much awareness. We learned a lot from it. Many community members came out to watch us go down and were amazed with our number. They told us our school was growing. It was a cheap way of good publicity. We saw it important to make it a yearly event. Our students and staff liked it. The visit took place from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

CAMGEW-VTC staff and students were highly received in the palace. The Fon of Oku granted them an audience of 3 hours which is something that rarely happens in the Oku Fodom. CAMGEW conservation, child development, poverty alleviation and Vocational training activities were appreciated by His Royal Highness. These activities promoted development in Oku. The Fon in return gave CAMGEW staff and students palm wine which they drank together as tradition demands. CAMGEW-VTC students sang songs in the palace yard and danced. Palace children and women, palace attendants and surrounding population watched CAMGEW with admiration. His Royal Highness the Fon of Oku was overwhelmed by the works of CAMGEW and by the growth of the VTC. He acknowledged the fact that students' number was increasing and also added that there was need for the community members to send more children to vocational centres. The more community youths had a job to do, the lesser they got involved in delinquent activities he said. This event was covered by the Oku Community Radio and broadcasted many times. The Fon promised CAMGEW-VTC a piece of land to build a permanent structure. CAMGEW-VTC authorities will work hard to get the land and raise funds to build the centre. The activity ended with Fon giving some light refreshment to CAMGEW-VTC students and Staff.



Students and staff members in the palace to present firewood and other items to the Fon



The Fon pouring out some “palace water” (palm wine) for students to drink

D) CAMGEW-VTC CREATE LOCAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CAMGEW administration saw the need for CAMGEW-VTC to have a local board of directors that include local stakeholders, CAMGEW-VTC staff representative, CAMGEW administration and the representative of the students. This local board was to help in the functioning of CAMGEW-VTC in discipline of staff and students, raising funds locally, follow-up of the payment of small requested fees from students, lobby local authorities like Fon to get land to build a permanent site of CAMGEW-VTC and participation in the recruitment of CAMGEW staff. CAMGEW decided that the functioning of the Vocational Centre be different from the whole organisation. CAMGEW administration identified 5 key community members, 1 CAMGEW-VTC staff and 1 CAMGEW-VTC student to form the local board. This meeting was held on the 18th of October 2014 and members were elected into various positions.



Participants at meeting that ended with the formation of a local Board of Directors

E) CAMGEW-VTC DAY CARE FOR CHILDREN

CAMGEW-VTC has been running a small Day Care Centre where all nursing mothers who are CAMGEW-VTC students keep their children to play. This is a big room in the VTC building with a bed and toys. The children are placed to sleep during the day while their mothers are learning. Most students with babies are teenagers with some few single mothers too. Considering the fact that CAMGEW-VTC could not stop them from bringing their children with them, she had to see how to help them become entrepreneurs with little disturbance from their children. CAMGEW-VTC looks forward to develop this day care better to serve the community.

F) CAMGEW-VTC CANTEEN

CAMGEW-VTC made functional the CAMGEW-VTC Canteen. Students now have access to cooked food at very low cost. Basic items like chewables, stationeries, detergents and other items are available. CAMGEW-VTC asked a committed woman to provide these services to the CAMGEW-VTC students and staff. CAMGEW-VTC authorities provided space, tables and chairs for the canteen. Our students and staff no more go out in search of food. They can get food from canteen and other needs and pay when they receive their salaries. Some parents prefer to pay in advance for food that their children in the CAMGEW-VTC will eat all through the year. Many of our students who are vulnerable cannot afford to buy even at low cost. CAMGEW-VTC authorities have been reflecting on how to help these students.

G) CAMGEW-VTC CELEBRATES 2014 NATIONAL YOUTH DAY.

CAMGEW-VTC was among the 24 institutions from the private and public sector in Oku that took part in the 2014 march pass activity organised to celebrate the National Youth Day on the 11th of February 2014. The activity started at 11 AM with the singing of the National Anthem.

Present at the occasion were the people of Oku, Heads of various services, and the administrative and Traditional authorities. CAMGEW-VTC took this opportunity to show case their production potentials and quality to attract more students and customers to the CAMGEW-VTC. The performance of CAMGEW-VTC was highly applauded by the public and dignitaries. CAMGEW displayed all its departments and works during the march pass. Our students enjoyed the day but fell bad because they were not given the opportunity to present the dance and sketches they prepared.



CAMGEW-VTC staff and students in National Youth Day Celebration.

H) CAMGEW-VTC PARTICIPATE IN THE CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAMEROON REUNIFICATION

The 20th of February 2014 marked the commemoration of 50 years of reunification of Cameroon in the Anglophone region of the North West. This event marked the time when the English speaking Cameroon (Southern Cameroon) and the French speaking Cameroon (East Cameroon) reunified to form the Republic of Cameroon. This event was marked by march pass by the forces of law and order; the military; private and public institutions; and political parties. In the presence of the Divisional Officer for Oku, the Mayor for Oku and Traditional Authorities in Oku and other dignitaries CAMGEW-VTC displayed all her departments, products and services.



CAMGEW VTC celebrate 50 years of reunification of Cameroon

I) GOVERNMENT PEDAGOGIC INSPECTION TEAM VISIT CAMGEW-VTC

A pedagogic inspection team of 3 persons visited CAMGEW-VTC from the North West Regional Delegation of the Cameroon Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training on the 26th of February 2014. The team came from Bamenda- the regional capital of the North West. The objective of this visit was to assess the quality of training given to students and examine existing infrastructure and equipment used. The team inspected the CAMGEW-VTC structure, the equipment, the number of students, and pedagogic programme before having a meeting with CAMGEW-VTC authorities and staff to discuss successes, challenges and the way forward for the centre. The pedagogic team guided the CAMGEW-VTC team on how to make the centre function better. The pedagogic team appreciated CAMGEW-VTC team for keeping standards. They told CAMGEW-VTC team that the equipment in the centre was enough and that our centre was more equipped than others in the region. The bed for nursing children in the centre was innovative as it gave the nursing mother an opportunity to learn their trade conveniently without fear of being disturbed by their children. CAMGEW also shared with the inspection team the idea of setting up either a poultry or rabbitry to train the students on other income generating activities to improve on their livelihood. The centre and its activities were appreciated and the team called on CAMGEW-VTC authorities to do more advertisement about the centre to attract more students and customers. The log book, timetable, and other materials used for training were also appreciated. The team encouraged the CAMGEW-VTC team to do much record keeping; increase advert for products and services; look for more sources of income to the CAMGEW-VTC and follow the MINEFOP curricular.



Delegation from the Regional Delegation of MINEFOP with CAMGEW-VTC Team in front of the VTC Campus

J) POULTRY FARMING AS SUPPORT ACTIVITY FOR CAMGEW-VTC

In May 2014, CAMGEW decided to introduce poultry farming in CAMGEW-VTC programme to raise funds to support CAMGEW-VTC running cost. CAMGEW-VTC had faced problems running the centre, buying training materials and paying centre's staff after Stichting OOK ended her support to CAMGEW-VTC in March 2014. The poultry farming was introduced to train the students in the CAMGEW-VTC through learning-by-doing while fattening table birds to sell and raise money to support CAMGEW-VTC running cost. The poultry farm has been moving on well to an extent but CAMGEW still needs to build a steady market for the products. The start was timid with the centre loosing many chicks because it lack of sufficient knowledge. We are mastering the business now and have less death of chicks out of ignorance. The fowl droppings from the poultry have been used by CAMGEW in the tree nursery as manure.

Table III: Poultry statistics

Batch no.	Date of buying	No. of fowls	No. dead	No. remained
1	19/05/2014	90	10	80
2	01/07/2014	60	7	53
3	28/8/2014	50	2	48
4	18/10/2014	90	7	83
5	6/10/2014	80	1	79



CAMGEW-VTC Poultry farm

K) CAMGEW-VTC IN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

CAMGEW participated in the National Day celebration of 20th May 2014 to show patriotism to her fatherland. CAMGEW-VTC took part in the March pass and showed case her products and services with much applaud from the public. A total of 36 persons from CAMGEW took part in the March pass. This was the first time CAMGEW-VTC students marched with the introduced official uniform. The day was marked by a meritorious award that was handed over to the Director of CAMGEW, Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy by the Divisional Officer for Oku, Lienwotue Patrick Pelepou for his relentless work in the domain of Vocational training, Child Development, poverty alleviation and Forest Conservation.



CAMGEW VTC participate in National Day Celebration



CAMGEW-VTC team join CAMGEW Director to celebrate the award.

SECTION IV

BEE FARMING AND BEES WAX PROGRAMME

A) BEE FARMING TRAINING

CAMGEW trained 83 persons from groups and institutions in 2 villages (Manchok in Oku and Din in Noni) on bee farming. 2 training workshops were organized. The trainings involved bee farming theoretical lessons; beehive construction and mounting; honey harvesting; honey processing and networking among farmers. Each person trained, received a beehive from CAMGEW. 17 women were trained during the exercises (7 in Din and 10 in Manchok). Participants were donated hives to serve as starters for new farmers and encouragement to old farmers. To encourage women in bee farming, CAMGEW gave women participants' two beehives instead of one received by men. Women were encouraged in bee farming because honey harvesting is done by two persons and in the past it was considered a masculine activity. Men always hire a second male person to do honey harvesting and this reduces honey revenue for the family. The involvement of women in bee farming will increase family income as a couple will do honey harvesting and alleviate poverty. No family income will be given to an outsider again. Women could also decide to do bee farming on their own or join their husband in the activity. Each trained person was responsible for the colonisation and management of donated beehives to enable learning-by-doing in the process.



Participants learn hive construction by doing in Manchok.

CAMGEW did bee farming training at Din in Noni Sub Division of Bui Division because it is the area where Oku bee farmers carry out colonization. CAMGEW included Din community in bee farming training because many bushfire outbreaks occur in this area and this destroys beehives (with or without) mounted for colonisation. It was important to engage them to produce their own honey which is brown, construct beehives that they could sell to people in the hills-Oku and/or enter into partnership with people in the hills to produce Oku White Honey with a high price because of its certification as Geographical Indication Product. Involving people in the valleys in bee farming helps manage bushfires and improve their livelihoods. Funds given by French Global Fund for

Environment to CAMGEW to motivate landlords in the valleys to permit colonization of beehives on their lands were converted to training of community members in the valleys to engage them in bee farming and in the management of bushfires. The training that was organized in Din helped build strong relationship between the two Sub Divisions (Oku and Noni). The training also reduced the occurrence of bush fires in the colonization sites as farmers became more careful as they also had their hives being colonized in the same area where Oku bee farmers carryout colonisation. CAMGEW is working hard to organize Din Bee farmers in to a cooperative that will create a better market for their honey.

Table IV: participation in bee farming training, gender and hive distribution

AREA OF TRAINING	DATE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAINED	MEN	WOMEN	HIVES DISTRIBUTED
Manchok-Oku	10 th -11 th January 2014	30	20	10	40
Nkali-Din	28 th February-1 st March 2014	55	48	7	65
TOTAL		85	68	17	105

Ownership of hives by people in Oku and Din push them to avoid bushfires and forest destruction as they protect beehives as source of income. Bee farming gives community members a source of livelihood from the sale of honey and makes them see the importance to protect the forest. The involvement of more community members in bee farming will reduce poverty and hunger in our community and help protect the forest and savannas.



CAMGEW distribute beehives to trained bee farmers in Manchok and Din respectively.

B) FEASIBILITY STUDY OF WAX PRODUCTION AND MARKETING.

CAMGEW and Man and Nature-an association based in France signed a partnership agreement to carryout feasibility studies on bees wax from Oku White Honey in the Kilum-Ijim forest and test its commercialization in France. Man & Nature has as objective to support communities in the Southern hemisphere in nature protection and sustainable exploitation of natural resources for livelihood improvement.

Oku White Honey is produced from Kilum-Ijim Mountain forest and is peculiar to this region, reason why it has been certified as Geographical Indication Product by African Intellectual Property Right Organization. To carryout studies on the quantity and quality of wax, there was need to know much about Oku White Honey. Bee wax is produced from Oku White Honey in Kilum-Ijim forest. This study also involved quantifying the Oku White Honey produced per hive and generally from the Kilum-Ijim forest for 2012, 2013 and 2014. The studies also involved the identification of Oku White Honey and bee wax producers, processors of crude honey to honey and wax, and those involved in marketing. The studies also presented procedures involved in wax exportation and test this procedure by exporting 200 Kg of wax bought from bee farmers producing Oku White Honey to France. Statistics on beehive colonization, mounting, production of honey and wax, rate in which bees abscond from hives, death rate, etc. were also gotten from the 100 hives.

Visits were programmed to meet bee farmers and bee farming stakeholders and institutions around Kilum-Ijim Forest area to get information on bee wax and Oku White Honey. Consultations were made with various resource persons involved in Oku White Honey and wax production, processing and marketing to get needed information for the studies.

Field visits were done to some beehive colonization sites, Kilum-Ijim forest, offices linked with Oku White Honey and Oku White Honey and wax processing units. Bee farmers with long standing experience were consulted to get more relevant information. More information on Kilum-Ijim Forest was gotten through reading various documents, websites and interview of resource persons. The report for this study is available and any interested people who need to know more can contact CAMGEW.

Table V: Quantification of Oku White Honey and Bee Wax Produced from Kilum-Ijim Forest

PLACE OF FOREST	NAME OF FOREST	NAME OF TRIBE	NUMBER OF HIVES IN FOREST	HONEY PRODUCED IN 2012 (LITRES)	HONEY PRODUCED IN 2013 (LITRES)	HONEY PRODUCED IN 2014 (LITRES)	WAX PRODUCED IN 2012 (Kg)	WAX PRODUCED IN 2013 (Kg)
Kilum Mountain Range	Oku Community forest	Oku	3862	12884	12005	12736	769	936,5
Kilum Mountain Range	Bihkov Community Forest	Nso	1565	4641	4559	4762	22	18
Ijim Ridge	Ijim Community forest	Kom	3057	5368	6032	6555	393,5	452
TOTAL			8484	22893	22596	24053	1184,5	1406,5

SECTION V

FOREST REGENERATION PROGRAMME

A) FOREST REGENERATION

CAMGEW executed a project titled “**Engaging local people in the management of Kilum community forest for improved livelihoods**” funded by Stichting School van Z.M. Koning Willem III en H.M. Koningin Emma der Nederlanden-Netherlands and administered by Both ENDS-Netherlands. This project had as objective to regenerate the Oku Community Forest at Nchiiy Forest Management Institution (FMI) with 2500 native forest trees. CAMGEW ended up planting 3500 trees. These trees goes to add to the 17000 trees earlier planted with funds from World Bank in 2012, Cameroon government in 2013 and French IUCN in 2013. CAMGEW chose *Prunus* for forest regeneration because it is a native tree species of this forest, a watershed friendly tree, bee loving, medicinal and income generating as it is used in pharmaceutical industries to produce treatment for prostate cancer. At the end of the regeneration activity CAMGEW had planted other different trees species like *Carapas*, *Schefflera spp* and *Nuxia grandifolia* including *Prunus africana*. This was aimed at avoiding creating a forest plantation in a forest area that had suffered from bushfire and was barely void of trees. The Nchiiy Community Forest has also suffered a lot in the past due to bush fires and encroachment for farm land. Other project objectives were to organise forest users into groups and carry out feasibility studies for the demarcation of the forest from grazing land at the top of the Kilum mountain forest.

Forest regeneration is an important activity with a global interest. The Oku Community Forest has a vital role to play in climate change mitigation. Considering that forest conservation is important for watershed protection, promotion of biodiversity, sustaining livelihoods, promotion of apiculture and fighting climate change, CAMGEW’s action in regenerating the Oku Community forest with 3500 native trees is a step in this line against climate change. CAMGEW from 22nd July to 13th of August 2014 carried out forest regeneration in the Nchiiy Community Forest. The activities involved planning meeting for tree planting exercise, identification of sites for tree planting, clearing of paths for trees to be planted, carrying of trees to the forest and tree planting. The area of the forest regenerated was at the Nchiiy compartment of the Oku Community Forest. A total of eleven days was taken to carry out the planting activity. At the end of the planting activity CAMGEW planted 3000 trees in the forest. This raised the number of trees that have been planted in the forest by CAMGEW to 20 500 trees.

During the slashing and regeneration of the forest, CAMGEW staff decided to kill Eucalyptus trees that were in the forest through debarking. These trees are invasive tree species earlier planted by farmers in the area when they encroached the forest land. The land was later taken from farmers by the community. The tree planting activity was accompanied by sensitization on the importance of the forest. 40 persons took part in the planting exercise involving youths, women and men. CAMGEW received technical support from SudDivisional Office of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife-MINFOF-Oku.

Tree Planting Crowning Ceremony: CAMGEW ended the tree planting activities for 2014 forest generation with a crowning ceremony on 28th August 2014. 3512 trees were planted in the forest in 2014 with funds from Stichting School van Z.M. Koning Willem III en H.M. Koningin Emma der Nederlanden-Netherlands and administered by Both ENDS-Netherlands.

This ceremony was attended by the chief of Mbockenghas, the local authorities; Oku Community Forest stakeholders, traditional Authorities and the Oku Community Radio.

The purpose of the crowning ceremony was to make known the work done by CAMGEW on forest regeneration to the community leaders and to sensitize the community members on the importance of conserving the forest for the benefit of the community. The community members were made to understand that trees planted in the forest were threatened by goats living in the forest and that the owners needed to remove them.

Symbolic tree planting by forest stakeholders in oku

During the symbolic tree planting ceremony a welcome speech was made by CAMGEW Director, Wirsiy Emmanuel with much focus on the problems linked to forest conservation that needed to be solved like stray goats in the forest that pose a threat to planted trees and forest regeneration. The forest stakeholders were given the opportunity to talk to the community as regards forest regeneration and conservation. Speeches came from the following: The Chief of post for Forestry MINFOF-Oku, the Quarter Head of Mbockenghas-Chief Yumbi Fidelis, and the head of the Nchiy Community Forest Management Institution (FMI). Here are excerpts of speeches made:

- The representative of the Fon of Oku, Chief Yumbi Fidelis of Mbockenghas – called on the community to preserve the forest and reiterated the importance of the forest in their tradition. He said there is need to conserve the forest for future generations. He also said there are traditional sanctions for forest defaulters because the Oku tradition cannot accept the forest to disappear.
- The Chief of Forest Post (MINFOF) in Oku called on all the grazers to remove their goats from the forest. He said any goat found in the forest will be caught and the owner will pay for any damage caused by the animal. He also said there were still illegal exploiters of *Prunus africana* in Oku despite the ban passed by ministerial order in 2007. He called on the community members to be vigilant and report any defaulters. He said any person caught trafficking *Prunus* will answer before the court. He assured community members that their forest will be protected but that for it to be possible, community collaboration was necessary to track down defaulters and illegal exploiters.

The occasion ended with symbolic planting of a *Prunus africana* tree seedling by various stakeholders as follows: the Director of CAMGEW accompanied by all stakeholders, the community women and all stakeholders, the community youths and the traditional authorities. This was aimed at encouraging every community member to participate in forest regeneration and conservation. This symbolic tree planting exercise was facilitated technically by the Chief of Post for Forestry (MINFOF) -Oku to mark the end of the regenerating activities for 2014. The occasion ended at 2:30 PM. This crowning ceremony marked the end of CAMGEW's 2014 tree planting season.

B) TREE MAINTENANCE IN THE EMFVE-MII COMMUNITY FOREST

The maintenance of the 17000 *Prunus africana* trees planted in Emfve-Mii Community forest was done twice in 2014 with funds from French IUCN and the government of Cameroon. The first maintenance of the trees was done in July 2014. This involved the clearing of all grass along the paths where trees were planted. At the same time the clearing was done, the trees that had died were counted. At the end some 800 trees were planted to replace those that had died. The activity involved some 20 community members who took part in the clearing and planting of trees to replace those that had died. The second phase of maintenance was done in September 2014. This involved only the slashing of tall grass around the trees planted before the beginning of the dry season. All grass could not be removed because the remaining softer grass needed to serve as shade to trees. These trees could grow without interruption by tall grass that could compete for soil nutrients with planted trees. The maintenance work on the planted trees ensured their survival.

C) TREE NURSERY DEVELOPMENT

CAMGEW in January 2014 developed a nursery of 11.000 native forest trees (*Prunus africana* and other species) in Oku to regenerate the Oku Community forest and other Community Forest in the Kilum Ijim Mountain Forest when funds are raised. CAMGEW also nursed 3000 trees species of *Carapas grandifolia*, *Schefflera* spp, *Gnidia glauca*, *Nuxia congesta*, *Podocarpus latifolius*. All these trees will be used in June 2015 to regenerate the Kilum Ijim forest. CAMGEW with the help of the set nursery has gotten a grant from French IUCN for the second time to plant the nursed trees in Akay, Ajung and Bikov Community Forests of Kilum-Ijim forest. CAMGEW still continue with fund raising to plant the remaining trees in this forest. CAMGEW also received funds from Future In Our Hands Network (FIOH) – UK to nurse 3000 trees in 2014 and make a bigger fence in 2015.

D) REVISION OF EMFVE-MII COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

CAMGEW with funds from French-IUCN facilitated the revision of the Emfve-mii Community Forest Simple Management Plan. This forest is found in Kilum Mountain forest. This was done through workshop with the Forest Management Institution Committee and other stakeholders in the forest sector. The revision of the plan for the next 5 years (from 2015 to 2019) was done on 16th October 2014. Before this workshop various task had been given to the committee members and forest stakeholders to work on and make presentation during the workshop. The revised plan is now available and ready for approval by the Cameroon Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife.

E) ENVIRONMANETAL EDUCATION

These activities included field lessons with children and youths in the Oku Community Forest where they received lessons on the importance of the forest, problems that plague the forest, how these problems could be solved and how every community members can participate in its management and regeneration. Youths and children also had class lessons on forest issues and made visits to various institutions (like Oku Honey Cooperative Society, Village Water Committees) that depend on the forest to provide service to the public, fight poverty and unemployment. Visits were made to the Crater Lake, the plant life sanctuary, the forest and CAMGEW nursery. Students and youths visited the Oku water catchment in the forest and learn

how water is collected from the forest, channeled to water treatment tank and the process of water treatment and distribution to the Oku community. This was aimed to build them to be nature lovers.

Radio programmes were carried out in the Oku Community Radio twice every week on Mondays between 9 am and 10 am and Thursdays from 4 pm to 5 pm by CAMGEW staff. The radio programmes were disturbed sometimes by power failures. This made our forest education programme for children students and community members strong. This radio covers many villages in Oku and other areas and it stretches to neighbouring countries like Nigeria.

CAMGEW is proud that teachers of primary and secondary schools were part of these activities. The knowledge and skills teachers got while participating ensure sustainability of environmental education as they will integrate this knowledge in biology, environmental education, geography and nature studies lessons. Some students from nearby secondary schools approached CAMGEW with assignments on forest conservation practices and CAMGEW staff Ngum Raymond assisted them do the assignments. This assignments focus on nursery development for forest regeneration, bee farming for conservation and challenges of Kilum-Ijim forest conservation.



Environmental education in CAMGEW nursery and in the forest

Table VI: Statistics on number of students/youths sensitised on forest conservation

Statistics of some youths and students involved in environmental education around Kilum Mountain forest			
Type	Number	Type	Number
Elak Holiday Makers	47	Itoh youths in a football match	27
Mbam Holiday makers	27	Government High School Elak	40
Catholic Youths in a trip to Kilum Summit	50	Government Bilingual High School Tolon/Mboh	270
Nchiiy Forest Users	29	Ngashie youths in football match	117
CAMGEW-VTC students	30	GHS students on assignment	17
TOTAL number	654		

CAMGEW also did environmental education in some areas where it was difficult to take statistics through attendance list.

SECTION VI

AGROFORESTRY PROGRAMME

A) AGROFORESTRY IN FARMS

CAMGEW in 2014 developed an agroforestry tree nursery of about 6.000 trees. This was a bare root nursery. The nursery also served as training ground for pupils and students on agroforestry techniques. These trees were made up of Leucena, Acacia, pear trees, Calliandra and other locally used agroforestry trees. The trees were distributed to women farmers to plant in their farms after they received training on agroforestry techniques. This was to help them conserve the soil and increase food production while adapting to climate change. These trees improved on soil fertility, reduce soil erosion, serve as shade and wind breaks and the wood used as firewood. Some schools received the nursed trees to plant in their farms. During the rainy season in August 2014, CAMGEW distributed these trees to some community members to plant in their farms.

1. Demonstration farm in Din

CAMGEW in June 2014 developed an agroforestry demonstration farm in Din-Noni. This demonstration farm was used in teaching the community members agroforestry techniques. CAMGEW field staff- Ngum Raymond Jai developed a forest garden in the plot. A live fence was established, trees were planted in alleys, and fruit trees were also planted. CAMGEW planted beans in the farm to serve as example to the farmers that food crops could do well in agroforestry settings. Trees species that were planted in the farm were, Leucena, Prunus africana, pears, bananas and plantains. CAMGEW harvested 5 buckets of beans.

2. CAMGEW organised trainings for community members on agroforestry techniques.

CAMGEW in March 2014 partnered with Tree for the Future-Cameroon Program run by ERUDEF-Buea. Through this partnership CAMGEW carried out agroforestry training with communities in Oku, Din, Vekovi and Oku of Noni, Jakiri and Oku Sub Divisions respectively of Bui Division of the North West Region of Cameroon. CAMGEW in partnership with ERUDEF-Buea and Trees for the Future –USA decided to tackle the problems of low soil fertility, soil erosion, bushfires, stray animals like goats, and fuel wood in these communities. Through these trainings, peasant farmers were drilled on agroforestry techniques and provided with agroforestry seeds that conserve the soil, increase soil fertility, fight erosion, serve as wind breaks, provide fodder and fuel wood to peasant farmers. The major economic activity practiced in these localities is agriculture and animal rearing. The people here cultivate food crops like corn, beans, potatoes and cocoyam. The dominant cash crop cultivated in this area is coffee and to a lesser extent cola nuts. Practicing agroforestry in forest peripheries increases food production. CAMGEW trained farmers on the importance of agroforestry trees like Leucena, Calliandra and Acacia in peasant farmers' farms in increasing soil fertility and reducing dependency on chemical fertilizers that has become expensive for peasant farmers to afford. CAMGEW organized 3 agroforestry training workshops, 1 in Oku (Nguinkei II), and 1 in Din (Noni sub Division) and 1 in Vekovi, Jakiri Sub Division. A total of 81 persons were trained and agroforestry seeds of Leucena, Acacia and Tephrosia distributed to them.

Community members were trained practically in the field on agroforestry nursery development using the bare root method. They were also trained on the importance of organic manure (compost) and how to produce organic manure and pesticides. Lessons were given to community members on the importance of trees in their farms. Presentations were made on the advantages of enclosing their animals (goats, sheep, cows, fowl, and pigs) to get animal dung for use in their farms to improve soil fertility and increase food production. The training was done using the local languages (Oku, Noni for Din and Lamnso for Vekovi) and in Pidgin English.

The principles of agroforestry were taught in the first part of the training workshop. These included lessons on sustainable land management, trees and global climate change, agroforestry technologies (windbreaks, living fences, alley cropping terraces and contour plantings, firebreaks, forest gardening, and integrated production systems), and agroforestry for livestock management, conservation techniques, integrated pest management, composting, perceived needs of the community, income-generating activities, major agroforestry species (Leuceana, Calliandra, Acacia, Tephrosia), seed collection, storage, and pre-treatment, bare root nurseries & bare stem seedlings.



Participants listening to theoretical lessons on agroforestry technology (Vekovi)

Practical work was done on the second part of the training. Participants had to do practical nursery development activities. They tilled the soil in a fenced area; they nursed some seeds while getting information on how to plant them. The participants' learned-by-doing. Trainings were organised for one day each starting from 8:00 am and ending at 4:30 pm. Each participant received seeds of Leuceana, Acacia, Tephrosia and *Prunus africana* to nurse from where the seedlings will be uprooted and transplanted into farms.



CAMGEW staff member nursing agroforestry seeds in Vekovi and Din with participants watching and learning.

CAMGEW has organised 3 training workshops on agroforestry techniques and has trained 81 persons from groups. More than 7 kg of Tephrosia, Leucena, Acacia and 12 Kg of Prunus africana seeds have been distributed to farmers to develop their individual nurseries.



Agroforestry seeds of Leucena and Acacia distributed to participants in workshop.

Table VII: Statistics on agroforestry training with community members

Place	Date of training	Total participants	number of men	number of Women
Nkali-Din in Noni	21st March 2014	42	30	12
Ngvunkei II -Oku	16th April 2014	28	10	18
Vekovi-Jakiri	23rd June 2014	11	11	0
Grand total		81	51	30

B) AGROFORESTRY AND COFFEE FARMING

Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW) in partnership with Oku Area Cooperative Union (OACU) Ltd (a coffee cooperative union) trained coffee farmers on theoretical and practical agroforestry lessons from the 24th to the 29th November 2014. Oku Area Cooperative Union (OACU) Ltd in her drive to build the capacity of her coffee farmers on the need to promote agroforestry systems in their coffee farms through the integration of agroforestry trees that improve soil fertility, serve as weed breaks, give additional income and prevent soil erosion, reached out to Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW)- an Oku Community Based organisation to help train her farmers on theoretical and practical agroforestry lessons that apply to coffee farms. This also involved training on methods that these farmers could use in their coffee farms to sustainably improve on their livelihoods. The trainings were done in 6 sites (Mbam, Elak, Nkwi, Mboh, Ngham and Shinga area). Each training was organised for 30 to 40 persons. The training had the following objectives:

- To help farmers provide shade to coffee crops and prevent soil erosion;
- To help coffee farmers have natural manure in their farms especially through the planting of Nitrogen fixing trees
- To help coffee farmers diversify their income from their coffee farms

CAMGEW after signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Oku Area Cooperative Union Ltd prepared a manual for this training titled “Training Manual On Agroforestry Practices in Coffee Farms in Oku-Cameroon”. This manual was presented to the Oku Area Cooperative Union Ltd for approval before the training started. The training manuals were multiplied and shared to all coffee farmers during this training on agroforestry techniques application in their farms. The training started from 25th November 2014 and ended on the 29th November 2014, covering six Cooperative Produce Marketing Societies (CPMS) in six sites. The training was carried out per day in each CPMS. The training started each day at 9:00 am and ended at 4:30 pm. It involved theoretical lessons on coffee, agroforestry definition, agroforestry techniques and its application in coffee farms for improved shade, soil fertility, prevention of soil erosion and sustainable farmers’ livelihood improvement. Each day, training ended with field visit to a nearby coffee farm where trained coffee farmers applied the knowledge learned through field discussion on how to apply the learned agroforestry techniques in coffee farms. CAMGEW agreed that agroforestry tree nurseries will be set in each of the 6 CPMS to enable farmers have access to shade trees, nitrogen fixing trees and other crop trees that can increase farmers income sustainably. A participatory approach was used in the training with farmers asking questions or contributing where need be. Through this training, CAMGEW got local language names of some agroforestry trees good in coffee farms that have been used in Oku. CAMGEW will research on the scientific names and add to the existing list of agroforestry trees that she knows. The training was done following this programme

The training helped coffee farmers to increase sources of income and livelihoods from coffee farms that are sustainable to improve farmers’ living standards and reduce farmers’ dependency on coffee alone as source of income. The training helped farmers provide shade to their coffee crops and prevent soil erosion in order to help coffee farmers have natural manure in their farms. Planted agroforestry trees like Nitrogen fixing trees encouraged soil conservation and helped coffee farmers diversify their income as they grow food crops in their coffee farms.

A total number of 209 farmers participated in the training. The training was offered in pidgin English and participants were free to contribute or ask question in the local language – Oku, Lamnso or English. It took a participatory method with farmers sharing their experiences. CAMGEW learned much in the training process from the indigenous knowledge of local people on agroforestry techniques. As CAMGEW team moved from training one community to another community her training package was richer as she gathered more knowledge from the farmers, she used this additional knowledge from previous training to improve on the training programme. Many more communities in Oku, Noni, Mbessa, Akeh and Ajung are requesting CAMGEW to offer them this training. CAMGEW is looking for support to offer this training to these coffee farmers.

Table VIII: date, place of training and number of coffee farmers who participated in the trainings

DATE	SOCIETY AND VENUE	PARTICIPANTS		
		WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Monday 24 th November 2014	MBAM CPMS LTD at Mbam	10	29	39
Tuesday 25 th November 2014	NKWI CPMS LTD at Nkwi	5	18	23
Wednesday 26 th November 2014	OKU CENTRAL CPMS LTD at Elak	4	33	37
Thursday 27 th November 2014	IJIM CPMS LTD at Ngham	5	38	43
Friday 28 th November 2014	SHINGAAH CPMS LTD at Ngemsiba I	2	25	27
Saturday 29 th November 2014	ETUM CPMS at Mboh	8	32	40
Total persons trained		34	175	209



Class lessons on agroforestry practices in coffee farms



Lessons on agroforestry practices in coffee farms in class and field



Field lessons given to Etum coffee farms beside a coffee farm with participatory approach



Sharing of knowledge in the field on best agroforestry practices in a coffee farm



Participants in agroforestry techniques application in coffee farms in Mbam CPMS



Coffee farmers trained on agroforestry practices in Coffee farms at Ijim CPMS



Common picture of trained coffee farmers in Shingaah CPMS

SECTION VII

COMMUNICATION, CAPACITY BUILDING AND EVENTS

A) METHOD OF COMMUNICATION

CAMGEW used the following methods in 2014 to inform, sensitize, educate and share experiences with communities: Oku Community Radio, Helenchris Radio-Kumbo, Bui Community Radio - Kumbo; Kumbo City Community Radio; Kumbo Radio Evangelium, **posters** on tree planting and Vocational Training Centre; **brochures** on VTC and forest projects; **success story booklets** of projects; CAMGEW website and other websites; and newspapers publications like the “*Grass Lander*” and Eden Newspaper. Training workshops, open-door-days and social group visits were used to sensitise, inform and share information and knowledge. Events like National and Youth days celebration were used for sensitization and demonstration. Field visits in the Oku Community Forest for forest education were organized for students of CAMGEW-VTC and other schools like Government High School Elak and Tolon in Oku. Holiday activities such as football matches and other sporting activities were used to reach out to community members and youths. Churches (catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian) and traditional houses such as the “Manjong” and “Mfu” houses were used to reach out to a greater number of persons.

B) CAMGEW RECEIVES EQUIPMENT

CAMGEW received support in form of equipment from the Cameroon Ministry of Forest and Wildlife (MINFOF). These equipments included a diesel driven water pump, a wheel barrow and hand gloves. The equipment finally arrived CAMGEW in Oku safely from the Bamenda- the regional head quarter. CAMGEW is very grateful for this donation that has been helping her serve the community better.



CAMGEW Director receives equipment from the representative of the Governor of the North West Region

C) CAMGEW GETS APPROVAL FOR A SERVICE VEHICLE

MIVA Switzerland approved a grant to support CAMGEW buy a vehicle marked Toyota Hilux Double Cabin. The vehicle when bought will be used in facilitating forest regeneration, apiculture, activities of the Vocational Centre and other activities of CAMGEW. CAMGEW will make her own contribution to complete the cost of the vehicle. CAMGEW remain forever grateful to MIVA for this support.

D) EVENTS

1) Silvia Ritossa of French IUCN Committee visited CAMGEW project site in Oku and Din.

Silvia Ritossa's visited CAMGEW project site at Oku and Din on the 23rd March 2014. She visited the CAMGEW tree nursery, 6600 trees planted in the Oku Community Forest at Emfve-Mii under French IUCN funds, beehive colonisation sites and interviewed some project beneficiaries like trained bee farmers. She asked questions in the process for clarification. Silvia was able to appreciate the rate of survival of trees planted in the forest and the rate of growth. She left satisfied with the way the project was being executed.



Silvia Ritossa and CAMGEW staff in the forest where IUCN trees were planted

2) Agroforestry field visit to Vekovi

In June 2014, CAMGEW honoured an invitation from the farming community of Vekovi who had been practicing agroforestry techniques in their farms. The community had in the past years benefitted from a project executed by HEIFER international. The project encouraged agroforestry and dairy farming through dairy cattle donation to some community members called "hand over the gift". The community members had developed tree nurseries of different species, and over the years have planted trees in their farms and Bihkov Community Forest. Some community members received dairy cattle from HEIFER International and used improved pasture to feed them. The

milk produced was sold. When the cow produced a female calf, the owner had to hand over the female cattle to the next community beneficiary. The community members used the leaves of these trees they had planted as fodder for fowls, goats, sheep and cow. The dung produced by the cow was used in biogas systems that had been developed with support from HEIFER during the implementation phase of the project. HEIFER International is phasing out from Cameroon and so too assistance for dairy farmers. Not all community members with dairy cattle had biogas systems installed. Those that had these biogas systems never knew how to use the biogas slurry as biofertilizer in pasture development and vegetable gardening. CAMGEW was interested in having every dairy cattle owner own a biogas system and know how to use the slurry produced by it as biofertilizer.

The community requested CAMGEW to visit them and look for possibility to help them in forest regeneration, biogas development and use of biogas slurry as biofertilizer in vegetable gardening and pasture improvement. CAMGEW has skills in biogas development and use of biogas slurry as biofertilizer. CAMGEW is interested in supporting this community improve on their livelihood.

3) Marketing and conservation equation organized in Yaoundé

This training workshop organized by IUCN and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) on the 16th September 2014 at Yaounde was aimed at helping grassroots organisations know how to use a Conservation Marketing Equation manual. This had as goal to help conservation experts to better understand product development and marketing that promotes conservation and social equity. Participants were drilled on how to use the different worksheets and questions intended to highlight the different aspects that are needed to complete a business plan for each conservation product and enterprise. This workshop made us understand that as a decision support tool - the manual was intended to assist conservation and development professionals in choosing business opportunities (products or services) that conserve biodiversity while reducing poverty for marginalized rural people. The assumption used in the training was that proposed products needed to be financially sustainable with the tools providing specific information and product worksheets to assess product market readiness. Through the workshop we learned that the training manual gave opportunities to prioritize product development efforts in areas in which there is lack of information, and provide valuable insight on where to find this information. CAMGEW through Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy who attended this training learned much especially as he was developing a market for forest honey and wax.

4) Formation of FIOH Network

On 10th May 2014, CAMGEW participated in a Future in Our Hands (FIOH) seminar that led to the creation of Cameroon Future in Our Hands Network. This was jointly organized by SHUMAS and FIOH International Network Coordinator in the UK called Michael Thomas (see <http://www.fiohnetwork.org/index.htm>). The Future in our Hands Cameroon Network created as a collaborative non-governmental network with participants drawn from various non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), Common Initiative Groups (CIGs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs), councils etc., across the country. FIOH Network is an international networking organization with branches in several countries in the world. It is a not for profit

making organization, apolitical and non-denominational organization which seeks to promote networking, cooperation, fellowship, compassion sharing and honesty as the foundation of better quality of life for everyone and challenges systems that deliver wealth to a few at the expense of the majority. This meeting also served as the constituent assembly. It was aimed at training participants on the values of networking (sharing, cooperation, fellowship, compassion and truth as the basic foundation of a better quality of life for everyone). It also provided a unique forum for participants to brainstorm and bring out development activities that are sustainable and those that are not. Some activities identified by participants as sustainable included: women empowerment programs, organic farming, preventive health measures, alternative energy sources, agro-forestry/water catchment protection and recycling/repairing. These sustainable activities breed and encourage positive actions like sharing and honesty. Participants also exchanged ideas on the advantages of networking which ranged from the sharing of ideas, information, best practices on farming techniques and organic methods of farming to drawing up good projects together. At the end of the seminar Mme Beri Gisela of SHUMAS-Cameroon was nominated the coordinator of FIOH Cameroon Network and Wirsiy Emmanuel was Secretary. Another meeting was held again late December 2014 to discuss on possible activities to be carried out by the network members and to prepare a constitution for the Cameroon FIOH Network.



Mike Thomas and Future In Our Hands Cameroon Network

5) Workshop on time and priority management

CAMGEW staff- Wirsiy Emmanuel benefitted from a-three day training workshop for NGOs under theme 'Managing priorities, Managing time'. Organised by the International Union for Conservation of Nature-IUCN with support from the French IUCN Committee (PPI funding), the training which took place from May 6 to 9 2014 at the IUCN conference room in Yaoundé was facilitated and animated by Guillaume Soto, CEO of Shauri Consulting. The training offered participants, who are key players in their NGOs, a chance to manage time and carryout proper prioritization of organizational and personal activities.

6) Exchange workshop with Groupelma- Nkongsamba

CAMGEW through Wirsiy Emmanuel and Ngong Jude carried out an exchange visit to Groupelma in NKongsamba headed by Justin Youmsi on the 1st of April 2014 to learn from their integrated farming.

Groupelma reared various animals and some domesticated species. CAMGEW could see pigs, ducks, cane rats, goats, hybrid fowls and local fowls. All these animals were enclosed in a fence and there was no conflict between Groupelma and neighbouring farmers. Groupelma used the animal droppings in her farm and nursery. The site served as environmental ground for learning for school children. Various varieties of trees had been planted in the enclosure for demonstration. Groupelma was operating this as a business and was making this work. CAMGEW’s interest was to set a similar integrated activity in Oku or its environs to make money from it, get manure and use it as a demonstration centre for community members to learn. In Oku and its environs community members do not see the importance of keeping animals in enclosures and the stray animals’ have caused a lot of destruction of crops and many a times animals are killed. It is not easy to have animal dropping in Oku despite the fact that there are many animals because they are loose. It is difficult to do vegetable gardening that can reduce hunger and poverty in this blessed land that is naturally irrigated with streams flowing in all valleys. CAMGEW learned from it.



7) CAMGEW Staff get involved in Eco-Generation Regional Ambassador Program

Njioh Benardine Yafe was selected in the 12th Tunza Eco-Generation Regional Ambassador program. The Ambassador represents Tunza-Eco-generation by promoting and raising environmental awareness in their regions. The ages for qualification were between 13 and 24. The ambassadors were to post 12 articles on the Tunza ambassador webpage and join other ambassadors in learning from each others’

articles while making comments. The ambassadors carried out environmental education with children and youths on various environmental issues common in their region. Only one ambassador was selected per region. The ambassador learned how to write environmental articles, learn about other environmental issues from other ambassadors, learn how to carryout environmental education with youths and children and finally received promotional goods from Tunza like T-Shirts, business cards, pens, rulers and others. Bernadine went through the program successfully but with difficulties as CAMGEW has problems with internet connection in Oku. It has been a great training opportunity for Bernadine and this improved her field work, writing skills and talking or communication.



CAMGEW staff- Benardine (Eco-Ambassador) with children learning by doing in CAMGEW-Nursery

8) CAMGEW Project result sharing event

CAMGEW organised a public event to present French IUCN project results to the public. This was a site event to the last project evaluation workshop. This event took place in the CAMGEW-Vocational Training Centre and the CAMGEW-VTC students attracted community members to the scene with songs, music and traditional dance. The event started at mid-day. After the evaluation workshop, all participants went to the CAMGEW-VTC where the project results were presented to the community members present by project leader Wirsiy Emmanuel and Ngum Jai Raymond. Project beneficiaries also presented how the project had helped them. Forest stakeholders told the public that the forest was important to all and needed everyone to take care of the planted trees in the forest and conserve the forest as a whole. The Village Head of Manchok said the forest was a source of water that everyone drinks, a source of Oku White Honey that has employed many, a source of the good climate that reign in Oku and ended up by calling everyone not to misuse the forest for it is a crime against the government and the tradition of the people of Oku.



Manchok Village head Present on forest importance



CAMGEW Project evaluation workshop participants



VTC Students animate in result sharing event



Forest stakeholders participate in project result sharing

9) Reflection Workshop on Development Models that Promote Sustainable Exploitation of Natural Resources

This workshop was organized in Yaoundé by Greenpeace, RELUFA, CED and ACDIC on the 15th and 16th of December 2014 for national stakeholders in the natural resource domain. The workshop had as objectives to look at development models in Cameroon that promotes sustainable exploitation of forest natural resources. The workshop specific objectives were as follows: look at unsustainable activities that if handle can reduce risk of environmental damage, look at the profitability and sustainability of different natural resource exploitation, identify the possible actions that can help meet human needs without destroying the earth and finally reflect on the possible concrete projects to be developed that can help make the world sustainable. Discussions were centre on this. It was accepted that multi-stakeholder platforms are necessary in decision making process on natural resource exploitation and also that clean development technologies like solar, wind, small hydros be promoted. Small scale exploitation or businesses at local levels by local people (people-centred) that benefit them be promoted for they have less impact on the environment with high community benefits. Examples like KONYE Area Farmers Cooperative Society Limited with headquarters in Konye Town of Konye Sub division in the South West region and UNVDA rice in Ndop of the North West Region were presented as sustainable exploitation initiatives.

SECTION VIII

2014 CHALLENGES, 2015 PLANNED ACTIVITIES & CONCLUSION

A) CHALLENGES

- The CAMGEW-Vocational Training Centre needs to be self reliant. CAMGEW-VTC needs more sensitization to get more students. We have a challenge to increase the number of students and customers. CAMGEW-VTC will welcome support in any form from any person of good will or organization to meet up with this challenge. This could be financial, human resource or material.
- The CAMGEW-VTC needs training materials to train students. The students lack material for training on variety of fashions in the various departments.
- **Forest platform:** There is need to create a forest multi-stakeholder platform to promote dialogue among all forest stakeholders for a better management of Oku Community Forest. CAMGEW has a challenge to create this platform for dialogue and participation in forest management.
- **Bee farmers' support:** Many bee farmers that we work with lack appropriate bee farming equipment. These equipment and materials are used for honey harvesting like bee suits, harvesting containers, knives, bee smokers, Boats, gloves, etc. CAMGEW will need to assist trained persons on Oku White Honey production by providing them with these equipment and materials at a subsidize cost. CAMGEW need support to run this activity.
- **Agroforestry project:** CAMGEW has a challenge to expand her agroforestry programme to other areas of Oku, Noni, Belo, Fundong, and Jakiri to improve soil fertility and conserve the soil. This needs financial assistance.
- **School project:** CAMGEW has been running school farm project in some schools in Oku for 4 years. Children have been learning how to carryout farming by doing in this project. Money raised from this project has helped to support schools fight poverty. CAMGEW is interested to expand this programme to other schools in Oku and Noni.
- **Volunteers:** CAMGEW need volunteers with expertise in various domains to help her better serve the communities and transfer their knowledge to the staffs. CAMGEW needs to develop her skill in fund raising, project development and organizational development to better manage information, staff, projects, partners and equipment;
- **Personnel training:** CAMGEW has a young staff that needs more skills, experience and knowledge to function better and make things work. These staff's capacity needs to be improved in domains like computer skills, information management, communication skills, networking, etc.
- **More environmental education:** This will tackle the unsustainable harvesting of forest resources like firewood fetching through fresh wood and over hunting.
- **Office running:** CAMGEW need to cover her office running cost. Many projects executed by CAMGEW cover a small portion of running cost and some parts of the running cost are not

covered. Getting support for CAMGEW running cost will help improve CAMGEW's functioning.

- **Equipment support:** CAMGEW has problems functioning well because of some office items that are not sufficient. CAMGEW needs: 2 camera, 2 computers (1 laptop and 1 desktop), 1 printer, 1 scanner and 1 photocopier.
- **Need new partners:** CAMGEW needs partners to make her gender department strong and active to promote gender equality and equity especially a project on women empowerment.

B) PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

FOREST REGENERATION

- **Forest regeneration:** CAMGEW will continue the regeneration of the Kilum Mountain Forest by working in many community forests like Upper Akeh, Nchiiy, Ajung and Bihkov forest compartment. CAMGEW hope to plant more than 15000 trees in the forest in 2015.
- **Environmental education:** CAMGEW will continue with environmental sensitization in forest communities through Oku Community Radio, schools and social groups on forest issues and on the need to stop the use of plastics. CAMGEW will support the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development in the fight against the use of plastics through sensitization of the population on the need to stop the use of plastics and present alternatives to plastics.
- **Nursery development:** CAMGEW will develop a nursery of 70.000 native trees like *Carapas grandifolia*, *Nuxia congesta*, *Schefflera* spp, *Pittosporium manii*, *Newtonia camerunensis*, *Podocarpus latifolia*, *Zizygium staundti*, *Prunus africana*, to be planted in the Kilum Mountain Forest. Agroforestry trees will be nursed and shared to farmers to plant in their farms. More funds are needed to plant these trees in the forest.
- **Forest studies:** CAMGEW needs to carryout various studies and research to improve on sources of livelihoods of communities in the Kilum-Ijim forest like studies on the quantity of honey and wax produce around Kilum-Ijim forest and project its future production; prepare a management plan for *Prunus africana* in areas she has planted in the forest; carryout research on the trees that flowers in the forest in the rainy season when many bees leave forest hives perhaps because of lack of flowers; carryout research on what causes bees to leave hives; determine the rate of beehive colonization in various colonization sites and in the forest; etc. CAMGEW will need funds to do this work.
- Follow-up 20.000 planted trees in Emfve-mii and Nchiiy forest of Oku Community Forest.

BEE FARMING

- **Promote apiculture in Noni and Kilum communities:** CAMGEW will continue bee farming training in Kilum-Ijim forest communities and this will include Din - Noni in the programme. Women groups will be highly encouraged. CAMGEW will construct hives to donate to trained groups and persons. CAMGEW will train in , Noni, Belo, Ajung, Njinikom, Fundong, and Vekovi

- **CAMGEW will provide 100 beehives to trained persons in** , Noni, Belo, Fundong, and Vekovi
- CAMGEW will follow-up donated beehives to earlier trained bee farmers to know the quantity of honey and wax produced.

AGRICULTURE AND ENERGY

- **Agroforestry project:** CAMGEW will work with community groups in Oku, Noni, Belo, Fundong, and Vekovi to develop agroforestry systems in their farms for increase soil fertility, conserve the soil, adapt to climate change and reduce dependency on chemical fertilizer.
- **Set agroforestry nursery in Oku and plant agroforestry trees and plants in,** Noni, Belo, Fundong, and Vekovi
- CAMGEW plan to provide technical support to schools in Oku, Noni, Belo, Fundong, and Jakiri on agroforestry and handiwork.
- **Demonstration farm:** CAMGEW will develop an animal demonstration farm. This farm will help CAMGEW raise funds to improve on the functioning of CAMGEW-VTC.
- **Food advocacy project:** CAMGEW hopes to carryout advocacy to influence cultural and traditional policies that affect food production in Bui Division.
- **Biogas technology Development project:** CAMGEW will be working with communities that own cattle like Vekovi in Bui Division of the North West Region of Cameroon to develop biogas systems for cooking energy and teach them how to use biogas slurry as biofertilizer in vegetable gardening and pasture improvement especially in the indigenous Mbororo communities in Oku, Akeh and Noni.

CAMGEW-VTC

- **CAMGEW Vocational Training Centre:** CAMGEW will continue with vocational training and will work to develop a market for produced items while increasing the enrolment of students. More sensitization will be done.
- **Open-Door-Day for VTC:** CAMGEW will organize an Open-door-day event for fund raising in the CAMGEW-VTC to support VTC poor students and CAMGEW-VTC running cost
- **Recycle vehicle tires:** CAMGEW will recycle used car tyres to produce school shoes for children. This will be aimed at fighting poverty and training young Cameroonians on shoe production to get employment.

MICROCREDIT SCHEME

- **Micro- credit scheme training for women:** CAMGEW will run a micro credit scheme for women in Oku and Noni. CAMGEW will train women on how to manage money, build a business and keep records. This scheme is supported by SWISSHAND-Switzerland.
- CAMGEW will give micro-credit to at least 150 women to enable them start small businesses that can help them raise income to support their families.

GENERAL

- **Radio programme:** CAMGEW will run radio programmes for sensitization, information and education. The Oku Community Radio, Kumbo City Radio, Belo Community Radio, Helen Chris Radio and Bui Community Radio are some of the radios that CAMGEW will use in 2015 to reach out to community members.
- **Personnel training:** CAMGEW will invest some time and resources to train personnel on computer techniques, information management, advocacy, communication skills and leadership.
- **Buying the CAMGEW-service car** with support from MIVA Switzerland.

CONCLUSION

CAMGEW looks forward to a successful year in 2015. CAMGEW wishes all her partners, would be partners collaborators, staff, board members, well wishers and beneficiaries a successful 2015 year. She invites everyone to join her to work for a sustainable environment and improved livelihood for all people.

