

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH (CAMGEW)



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CAMGEW's authorisation number N° 000998/RDA/JO6/ BAPP

CAMGEW offices in Cameroon: **Bamenda (Head office)** at Foncha Junction North West Region (NWR),
Field offices **Oku** – Manchock North West Region, and **Magba** – Ngounso in West Region.

CAMGEW working in 3 Regions (North West, West and Adamaoua) in Cameroon

Report prepared by WIRSIY EMMANUEL BINYUY (CAMGEW's Director) with support from Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki (CAMGEW's Women Empowerment Officer).

PREFACE

We will start by extending our best wishes for the New Year 2024 to you all. We reaffirm our commitment to drive the change we want in our communities. We will continue to help communities learn, lead, decide, thrive and contribute to make things work for themselves and nature. CAMGEW is determined to bring about social, ecological, economic and cultural regeneration in the North West, West and Adamoua Regions of Cameroon.

CAMGEW will continue to tackle the various crises facing her communities like hunger, poverty, inequality and climate change. She will continue to negotiate access to communities affected by conflicts to make things work for them.

CAMGEW will promote networking, bring community leaders and stakeholders to the table, coach and mentor young organizations and leaders, promote entrepreneurship and develop various value chains for honey and agroforestry products. CAMGEW will continue to dedicate time in helping students become professionals

As we close the year 2023, with the various achievements in nature conservation, child development, entrepreneurship, agro-ecology and various value chain development. We are hopeful for 2024.

CAMGEW will like to thank her donors, government authorities, other partners, civil society organizations, grassroots' organizations, local council partners, and others that have been supportive to us. We also asked those that we felt short to meet their expectations that we have entered 2024 with much determination. The future is bright.

From

Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy
CAMGEW Director

SUMMARY OF CAMGEW 2023 ACTIVITIES

- CAMGEW developed two agroforestry and native forest tree nursery in Kilum-Ijim forest area and Magba of Cameroon Highlands
- CAMGEW planted 4644 native trees in Kilum-Ijim forest in 2023 and since 2012 CAMGEW has planted 119681 trees
- 120 *Newtonia camerunensis* critically Endangered (IUCN Redlist) trees were planted in Kilum-Ijim forest. Since 2012 CAMGEW has nursed and planted successfully above 7000 in the forest
- CAMGEW capitalized in the revitalization of indigenous knowledge and cultural practices in Kilum-Ijim forest conservation
- Participatory forest monitoring with forest users was helpful in Kilum-Ijim forest conservation
- 284 forest women gained skills in climate literacy in Kilum-Ijim forest and 20 different forest education posters were produced using their knowledge to help educate the community on forest related issues
- 1188 children received environmental education **knowledge** in Kilum-Ijim forest and Cameroon Highland forest area
- 11 Environmental education programmes were carried out in the various community radios
- Above 2630 persons were reached with environmental education
- 202 men from 4 traditional men's clubs exchange and learned on traditional forest injunctions and sanctions for better decision making
- Above 250 men from three traditional men's clubs and above 147 women from three different indigenous women groups exchange on bushfires and traditional communication methods for better decision making
- 26 community members in Cameroon Highland forest through creative action workshop for advocacy learned how to convert charcoal producers to honey producers
- 150 persons from the Honey value chain trained on honey drink, 150 on Detergent production, 183 on candle production, 140 on bees wax body lotion, 51 on honey quality improvement and 582 on entrepreneurship in honey value chain
- CAMGEW Hired by OAPI to support Kilum-Ijim White Honey Association (KIWHA) in the development of Oku White Honey value chain
- NOWEFAM which is a CAMGEW upshot gained much recognition and support in honey value chain development
- 340 persons trained on agroforestry (agro-ecology) and supported with 7400 agroforestry and NTFPs to plant in their farms
- 115 persons participate in a farmer-grazer dialogue in Cameroon Highlands forest area
- 52 girls benefit from girl child development programme
- 633 persons trained on entrepreneurship encouraging creativity, innovation and job creation
- CAMGEW worked to participate in decision making processes by organizing or attending various events locally, nationally and globally
- CAMGEW participate in UN organized events like the UN General Assembly in the USA and UN Climate Conference (COP28) in Dubai
- CAMGEW commemorate various international days to participate in making the world better. For example World Environment day, Earth, Girl Child, Hunger, Poverty, Food, Rural Women, Women, Bee, Biodiversity, Youth, etc
- CAMGEW provide internships for students, mentorship and coaching for younger organizations

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2023 EXECUTION CAMGEW TEAM

S/ N	NAME OF STAFF	Position	Based	sex	salari ed	Non-salaried
1	Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy	Director	Head Office Bamenda	male		
2	Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki	Women Empowerment Officer	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
3	Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy	Project Officer	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
4	Dinyuy Rita	Accountant	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
5	Jikpu Terence Njodzeka	Driver	Head Office Bamenda	Male		
6	Kongla Nadashe	Women entrepreneurship Officer	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
7	Mbulav Louisa Nsaikila	Bee Farming Technology Officer	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
9	Njioh Banardine Yafe	Kilum-Ijim office field coordinator	Field Office Oku	Female		
10	Wirba Sabastain Berinyuy	Tree nursery expert for Kilum-Ijim office	Field Office Oku	Male		
11	Tanyu Giselle	Monitory and Evaluation Magba officer	Field Office Maga	Female		
12	Asheri Roland	Apiculture Officer Head Office Bamenda	Field Office Magba	Male		
13	Mainsa Mary	Assistant agro- ecology farm	Field Office Magba	Female		volunteer
14	Ntalla Solange	Assistant project officer Head Office Bamenda	Head Office Bamenda	Female		volunteer
15	Akua Emmanuella	Logistics Officer Officer Bamenda	Head Office Bamenda	Female		
16	Edward Veranyuy Ndzenyuy	Website master	Head Office Bamenda	Male		50% volunteer
17	Tata Jude Kongnyuy	Financial Soft Ware expert	Head Office Bamenda	male		
18	Kebul Nora	Environmental Education Officer	Bamenda Head office	female		50% volunteer
19	Foncha Catherine	Volunteer	Bamenda	female		60% volunteer
20	Nnam Bridget	Volunteer	Bamenda	Female		100% volunteer
21	Ngum Raymond Jai	Consultant	Oku	Male		

SECTION ONE

INTRODUCTION OF CAMGEW AND PROJECT AREA

A. CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH (CAMGEW)

Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW) is a not-for-profit organization created in October 2007 with authorization number N° 000998/RDA/JO6/BAPP to solve environmental and women's issues in Cameroon. CAMGEW works locally and thinks globally, integrating gender in solving environmental problems in Cameroon. CAMGEW's Vision is "A society free from poverty, gender inequality and unsustainable environmental practices". CAMGEW's Mission statement is "We do environmental protection by strengthening the capacity of community members especially women and young people in eco-businesses and forest regeneration for livelihood improvement in the Cameroon Highland forest area".

CAMGEW seeks to achieve its objectives based on its credo of Think Globally and Act Locally by liaising with other like-minded organizations worldwide. **CAMGEW's Global OBJECTIVE:** An inclusive and sustainably managed the *Cameroon Western Highland Forest* through forest regeneration and agroforestry for eco-business. **CAMGEW'S SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

- Local government actors supported and citizens' engagement promoted to ensure effective management of the *Cameroon Highland Forest*.
- Eco-business operators in *Cameroon Highland Forest* area master the techniques of production to produce good quality and sufficient quantity for the market.
- Eco-business operators have adequate capacity and have increased revenue through the commercialisation of their products.
- Women in *Cameroon Highlands* are empowered and participate in forest management & community development.
- CAMGEW will have developed projects and sought funds to handle challenges in the *Cameroon Highland forest* area and develop a good system to manage funds.
- CAMGEW will work with like-minded organizations and people to share knowledge, experiences on forest local governance issues and learn from them.

Area of Action: *Cameroon Highland Forest* and environs. **Opportunities:** Consultancy on Bee farming trainings, Agroforestry and Forest regeneration and governance. Using of honey bi-products for the production of other products like wax, candles, and soaps. **Target Groups:** Forest users, less privileged children and Peasant women. **What we offer:** Agroforestry training, Bee farming training, Nursery development, Child development, Forest regeneration, Micro-credit schemes for women, Advocacy and Environmental education.

CAMGEW offices: **Bamenda (Head office)** at Farmers House Mile 3 Nkwen, Field offices **Oku** - Manchock, and **Magba** - Ngouso. CAMGEW works in North West, West and Adamaoua Regions of Cameroon.

B. CAMGEW PROJECT AREA - KILUM-IJIM FOREST

CAMGEW from 2010 to 2021 was focusing only in Kilum-Ijim Forest area and from 2021 she expanded her activities to cover the Cameroon Highland Forest area. The Kilum-Ijim forest is the largest remaining forest of the Bamenda Highlands forest. The Cameroon Highlands Forest which is a montane forest, covers the North West

Region and part of the West and Adamaoua Regions. The Kilum Mountain Range and the Ijim Ridge are covered with a montane forest called Kilum-Ijim forest that is peculiar in producing Oku White Honey. The Kilum-Ijim forest is part of the Western Highlands forest of Cameroon. The Kilum Mountain is found in two tribes- Nso and Oku which are in Bui Administrative Division in the North West Region of Cameroon. The Ijim Ridge is found in the Kom tribe in Boyo Division of the North West Region of Cameroon. The area around the Kilum-Ijim Forest is one of the most densely populated parts of Cameroon. It is estimated that close to 300,000 people live within a day's walk to the forest. The Kilum-Ijim forest covers an area of 20,000 hectares. Mount Kilum has its peak at 3,011 m with a large crater lake at 2500m altitude along Cameroon volcanic line and the adjoining Ijim Ridge at 2,000-2,500m. The contiguous Kilum and Ijim Mountain Forests are located between latitude 6°0'TN and 6°1'TN and Longitude 10°20'E and 10°35'E. BirdLife International created the community forests and divided the Kilum- Ijim forest into 18 community forest. About 44 communities live in the Kilum-Ijim Community Forest. The Kilum-Ijim forest has a natural setting with about 80% of the population based there made up of natives of Nso, Oku and Kom tribes, some of whom come in from close towns to farm. The Kilum-Ijim **region** is known nationally for its traditional healers due to the many medicinal plants in the bio-diverse Kilum-Ijim forest. This population is attracted by rich volcanic soils and the near temperate climate that favours crop cultivation. Bee farming is practiced in the forest and Oku White Honey demand has increased after its certification as a Geographical Indication Product.

Kilum-Ijim forest has a rich ecosystem with non-timber forest products (NTFPs) like honey, mushrooms, medicinal plants, alpine bamboos, wood for firewood and carving, spices, additives (colourings, preservatives and flavourings), etc but suffers from forest degradation due to animal encroachment, farming, poaching and unsustainable forest exploitation. Some trees in this forest that produce flowers for Oku White Honey production are *Nuxia congesta*, *prunus africana*, *Schefflera abyssinica*, etc. This forest is predominantly montane, in which trees are too small and inaccessible to be of interest to commercial loggers.

C. CAMGEW PROJECT AREA –CAMEROON HIGHLANDS FOREST

Geographically, the Cameroon highlands or eco-region encompasses the mountains and highland areas of the boarder region between Nigeria and Cameroon, excluding Mount Cameroon (Ndenecho, 2011). Most of the eco-region lies within a narrow rectangle of some 180 km by 625 km, oriented southwest to northeast and originating about 50 km inland of Mount Cameroon (Neba, 2006). At the southern extremity, the eco-region covers the Rumpi Hills, the Bakossi Mountains, Mount Nlonako, Mount Kupe and Mount Manengouba. It then extends northeast towards the Mambila Plateau, with an extension north to the Bamenda-Banso highlands and outliers northeast to Mambila and northwest to the Obudu Plateau of Nigeria (Gvoždík *et al.*, 2020). The main trend of the eco-region continues north-east along the western flank of the Adamawa Plateau to Tchabal Gangdaba with two small outliers further east (Ndenecho, 2011; Gvoždík *et al.*, 2020). The highest point within this eco-region is Mount Oku at 3,011m in the Bamenda-Banso highlands (Zimkus and Gvoždík, 2013; Denys *et al.*, 2014). Most of the remainder is below 2,600m in elevation. At about 800 m to 1,000 m the eco-region grades into lowland vegetation communities of other eco-regions (Ndenecho, 2011). However, in the majority of cases, the lower boundary of these forests is now determined by conversion to agricultural land. Although located in tropical Africa, the main maximum temperatures are below 20°C due to the effects of altitude. At the southern extremity, closer to the coast, rainfall is around 4,000 mm per annum, declining inland to 1,800 mm or less.

These mountains form part of a chain of former volcanoes that stretch inland from the sea. While there are currently no active volcanoes within the eco-region, the effects of volcanism are still present. In 1986, water from Lake Nyos, a crater lake in the Bamenda Highlands seeped into magma channels below and caused a massive explosion that killed 1,700 people and devastated the surrounding countryside (Ajeagah, 2017). Soils derived from

these volcanoes are fertile, which makes the land attractive to farmers. Combined with adequate rainfall, this contributes to a high human population density. In White's (1983) phytogeographical classification, these mountain areas fall within the Afro-montane archipelago-like regional centre of endemism that spans the entire continent (Wale, 2019). The elevational stratification that occurs along these mountains is quite distinct. Vegetation consists of submontane forests between 900 and 1,800m, and above this a mixture of montane elements, including distinct montane forests and patches of montane grasslands, bamboo forests and subalpine communities (Ndenecho, 2011). Five species of tree characterize the forested montane zone: *Nuxia congesta*, *Podocarpus latifolius*, *Prunus africana*, *Rapanea melanophloeos*, and *Syzygium guineense bamendae*, and these trees become increasingly covered with an epiphytic flora, especially orchids and mosses, at higher altitudes (Ndenecho, 2011). Other important montane species include *Crassocephalum mannii*, *Hypericum lanceolatum*, *Myrica humilis*, *Philippia mannii*, and *Schlefflera abyssinica*.



Figure 1: A Map of the Cameroon Highlands

Source: Thia, (2014).

Just like Kilum-Ijim, the Cameroon Highlands is rich in non-timber forest products, apiculture potentials with same vegetation as Kilum-Ijim but then challenged by bushfires, low women engagement in conservation, soil degradation, poverty and unemployment. Our area of intervention also targets farmers at grassroots' levels. It is therefore important to revise CAMGEW's target area to the Highlands of Cameroon.

SECTION TWO

FOREST REGENERATION, MONITORING AND CONSERVATION

A. TREE NURSERY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN 2023

Why CAMGEW Tree Nursery

- **CAMGEW** aims at conserving and regenerating the Kilum-Ijim forest with various native trees which are medicinal and economically important to the forest communities. Since 2011, CAMGEW has continuously developed and maintained her nurseries to have trees for forest regeneration.
- Environmental and forest education is part of CAMGEW's activities. Her tree nurseries are learning grounds for children, women and communities on nursery development, forest regeneration and green economy. They learn-by-doing and then set up their private nurseries for various purposes.
- The tree nursery helps in multiplying some endangered tree species that are difficult or delicate to nurse for forest regeneration like *Newtonia camerunensis* that is a critically endangered species under IUCN Redlist. CAMGEW has nursed more than 7000 and planted in the forest by 2023.

Developing the nursery: Tree seeds are picked in the forest and nursed inside a fence. Weeding is done on weekly bases and watering is done on daily basis in the dry season.



Filled polytin pots arranged for seeds to be nursed



Collection and transplanting seedlings of newtonian in polytinee pots

B. CAMGEW 2022 KILUM-IJIM FOREST REGENERATION AREA

ABOUT 2023 TREE PLANTING

CAMGEW planted 4644 trees in Kilum-Ijim forest in 2023 and a total of 119,681 trees have been planted since 2012. In 2022, CAMGEW planted 11000 trees. Since 2012 tree planting is a yearly activity and as of 2022 CAMGEW has planted 115,446 native bee loving trees in this forest. These are native trees are water friendly, medicinal, bee loving, carbon sink which have cultural significance. Tree planting started in the Kilum-Ijim forest on the 14/07/2023 with full community engagement. There were cultural instruments announcing tree planting in a purely Oku traditional communication style. The town crier with his gong and traditional attire on displayed, symbolizing a call for community engagement, participation and ownership. Our women, men and youths were out in their numbers signifying their solidarity as a forest community. The community carried tree seedlings from CAMGEW tree nursery to the forest for planting. Elderly women used this session to pass over indigenous conservation knowledge to other women in Kilum-Ijim forest. The tree planting also had traditional notables like the representative of the “Kwifon Society” and the various traditional men’s clubs like “Manjong” and “Mfu” houses in Emfve-Mii Community area. In the course of planting, 406 stems of *Schefflera abyssinica* and Fig tree were cut and propagated in open areas. **4644 trees** were planted in Kilum forest by 46 community members

Messages from community members: CAMGEW 2023 tree planting exercise also involved forest education and collection of seedlings of forest vegetables from the forest for domestication in farmlands. Our elderly mother Ernestine Jokem talked about a highly valued forest vegetable known locally as "Kefum". To her it was one of the most cherished vegetables in Kilum-Ijim forest area. This vegetable played a significant role during the traditional grass cutting festival. Our mother lamented on the fact that the ".....vegetable is fast disappearing from the forest and when you come across it now, count yourself lucky, we need to grow this our cherished vegetable in our farmlands.....so that we don't finish it from our forest.....". She said domesticating this vegetable will reduce pressure of harvesting from forest by the community and give time for regeneration in the forest.



Women carrying trees to the forest for planting

Message on Forest for medicine: Another activity in 2023 tree planting was forest education on the indigenous uses of *Prunus africana*- a native trees found in Kilum-Ijim forest and the Cameroon Highlands Forest area. Our elderly father Nkese Wilfred shared on the cultural significance of this tree ranging from medicinal and cosmetic values. In the culture of Kilum-Ijim, this tree supported health challenges related to many tropical diseases and prostate situations. He mentioned that they were depending solely on forest trees in the yesteryears for

medicines especially malaria treatment. To him the forest remains important pharmacy for forest communities because traditional medicine is still helping today and will continue to help forest people.

A message from a community member: When I worked with the Kwifon of Oku to implement a ban on the wanton exploitation of certain compartments of our community forest, it was a call for action for all to work together to salvage our Kilum Forest in order to sustain our livelihood and most importantly our culture and indigenous practices. Without this forest, there is no Oku.

CAMGEW message of gratefulness to OCDA: CAMGEW was grateful that the Oku Cultural and Development Association - OCDA USA came on to support our action through the Traditional Authority with financial resources to reinforce forest regeneration activities. CAMGEW is happy that her Kilum-Ijim forest actions are being replicated or scale-up now by other forest actors and stakeholders to promote conservation. Our greatest appreciation is to the Oku Kwifon who led this action. This demonstrates community ownership and engagement.

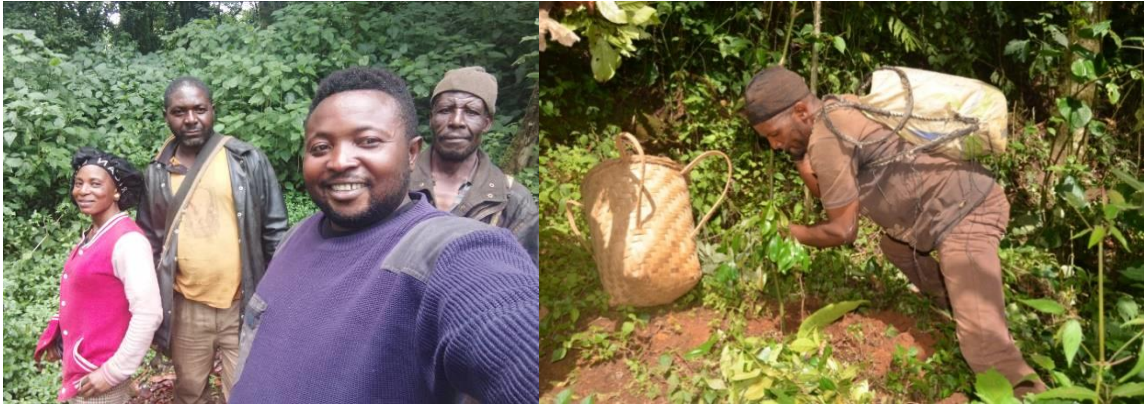
ACTIVITY SUMMARY: The main activities that constituted the planting session included a planning meeting, identification of sites for tree planting, slashing of paths, digging of holes, Pegging of holes, Uprooting of trees from CAMGEW tree nurseries (at Mbockenghas and Manchock), transportation of trees to the forest and planting. The field team also collected above 500 seedlings of *Psydrax dunlapii* (Known locally as Mbangebfonmbesei) and nursed in the process. The field team identified two sites that were regenerated in the forest in Bockekfem area of the Ngoksebeh compartment of the Emfve-Mii Community Forest. CAMGEW upholds a participatory approach in managing the forest by engaging local people especially youths and women in the process. The 12 type of trees planted in the Emfve-Mii Community forest in 2023, included the critically endangered *Newtonia camerunensis* (**IUCN Red list**) and many other tree species like *Pittosporium manii*, *Zizygium staundtii*, *Schefflera abyssinica*, *Maesa lanceolata*, *croton machrotachyst*, *Carapas grandifolia*, *prunus africana*, etc. All these tree species are native to the Emfve-Mii community Forest.

Restoration works were done in the degraded compartments of the Emfve-Mii forest. The Kilum Forest is a huge resource with much potential that needs to be unblocked to meet the needs of the adjacent communities.

Statistics on participation in tree planting

Male youths	Female youths	Female Adults	Male Adults	Total
18	13	8	7	46

Trees that grew naturally (natural regeneration) were maintained during the planting exercise. Exotic plants were destroyed and other young trees supported to grow freely. The traditional authority was represented by the various traditional notables of Oku during the tree planting.



CAMGEW Team members in the Emfve-Mii Community



Kilum-Ijim community using cultural display for forest regeneration

Statistics of the Trees Planted in 2022

S/N	Type of Tree	Number of seedlings Planted	S/N	Type of Tree	Number of seedlings Planted
01	<i>Newtonia Camerunensis</i>	120	08	<i>Solanecio manii</i>	80
02	<i>Prunus africana</i>	2024	09	<i>Nuxia congesta</i>	00
03	<i>Pittosporium manii</i>	116	10	<i>Croton machrotachyst</i>	43
04	<i>Carapas grandiflora</i>	722	11	<i>Schefflera manii</i>	02 +100 cuttings
05	<i>Syzigium staundtii</i>	1009	12	<i>Psydrax dunlapii</i>	07
06	<i>Maesa lanceolata</i>	50	13	<i>Podocarpus manii</i>	30
07	<i>Bridelia speciosa</i>	23	14	<i>Fig tree</i>	306 cuttings
GRAND TOTAL		4644 trees			

Environmental Education: During tree planting, the youths learned how to sustainably manage their forest. Education centered on Forest ecology (interaction between plants, animals, soils, litter etc.), vulnerable and endangered species, forest canopy, the importance of forest to man and nature, Agro forestry, honey production processes, and bee colonies. In the forest many community members and youths saw the harm caused by man on the forest like the cutting of fresh trees for commercial wood and the occurrence of bushfires. The community members proposed solutions involving forest patrols, tree planting, and more environmental education. Youths saw the need to protect their forest through continuous regeneration and bushfire prevention strategies. The tree planting session ended with community engagement to assist in the implementation of proposed solutions.

CAMGEW tree planting activities from 2012-2023 in Kilum-Ijim Forest

Year	Trees planted	Funder	Type of tree	Community forest
2012-2017	63633	CAMGEW, World Bank, PPI-FFEM (French-IUCN)-France, MINFOF-(Government) Cameroon, Koning School through Both-ENDS- Netherlands, Future In Our Hands - UK, Plant a Tree in Africa -UK, Rufford Small Grants-UK, New England Biolabs Foundation, Bees for Development-UK	Varieties of native forest bee forager trees	Community forests of Upper Shingaa, Ijim, Kedjem Mawes, Emfve-Mii, Mbai, Nchiyy, Bihkov, Yang-Tinifoinmbi-Muloin, Mbessa Community Forest,

2018	10955	CAMGEW/ New England Biolabs Foundation, PPI-FFEM (French-IUCN)-France	Varieties of native forest bee forage trees	Community forests: Upper Shingaa, Ijim, Kedjem Mawes, Emfve-Mii, Mbai, Nchiyyand, Bihkov
2019	5500	UNDP/BirdlifethroughCriticalEcosystemPartnership Fund [CEPF]	Varieties of nativeforestbee foragetr ees	Mbai, Emfvemii and Nchiyy Community Forest
2020	6050	CAMGEW	Varietiesofnative forestbee foragetr ees	Emfvemii Community Forest
2021	17446	CAMGEW	Varieties of nativeforestbee foragetr ees	EmfvemiiCommunityForest
2022	11453	ONEEARTH/CAMGEW	Varieties of nativeforestbee foragetr ees	Emfvemii Community Forest
2023	4644		Varietiesofnativeforestb eeforagetr ees	Emfve-mii Community Forest
TOTALNUMBEROFTREESPLANTED			119681	

Forest for firewood.

Women harvested firewood after tree planting session. This was done sustainably. The women harvested only dry wood. Women carried wood on their baskets as was done in the past.



Women harvested firewood after tree planting

Traditional medicines and the importance of forest to the community.

The participants learned from the older members (herbalist) involved in the tree planting how to harvest *Prunus africana* used for malaria treatment and prostate cancer. They also learned about other medicinal plants.



After tree planting women learn on the topic; forest for medicine. This was one of the trees planted by CAMGEW



Women participating in tree planting learned about the importance of the forest for water

The importance of forest for vegetables.

Women learned the importance of forest for vegetables in forest and the need to protect the forest.



Community members learn more about the forest after tree planting

C. FOREST MONITORING

Forest Patrol: To ensure that the forest remains in good state and the regeneration process continue, CAMGEW carries out forest monitoring using various methods. In 2023, CAMGEW field staff carried out forest patrols in many sessions. These patrols were aimed at checking the planted trees in the forest, maintaining them and putting an eye on forest use. During the patrols with community members CAMGEW identifies forest problems, engaged in forest seed collection for the nursery development, followed-up planted trees, identify areas for the next regeneration activities and also did forest education with forest users and forest frontline farmers.

Community Forest Monitoring: Forest users like bee farmers, herbalist and firewood fetchers visit the forest on daily basis and so help in monitoring the state of the forest. They easily identify and communicate forest problems to CAMGEW, forest and traditional institutions. CAMGEW keeps a healthy relation with forest users to get update about planted trees, the general regeneration process, forest use and unhealthy forest activities.

Conclusion: The tree planting event for 2023 was successful with a total of 4158 trees planted on 3 hectares in the Emfve-Mii Community Forest and community members learn much about importance of forest to man, nature and culture

Main Forest Threats

Encroachment: Many farmers along the forest boundary encroach into forest land. Such encroachment is accompanied by the felling down of forest trees to pave way for farmland.

Presence of goats in the forest: There are many domestic goats in the forest that eat and destroy the planted trees and naturally growing trees especially *Pittosporium manii*. Goats help to pound the soil and hinder regeneration process. Goats mostly follow the slashed paths to eat up planted trees.

Deforestation: The cutting of fresh wood for tool handles or for fencing of farms and gardens by forest users especially *Carapas grandifolia*, *Maesa lanceolata* and *Nuxia congesta* is a challenge in the Kilum Forest.

Illegal Exploitation: The illegal and unsustainable harvesting of *Prunus Africana*. Very young trees are harvested. Most of these trees die after this debarking.

Over hunting: many people hunt and kill forest animals indiscriminately. Many animals are becoming rare.

Recommendations

- The bare portions of the Kilum-Ijim Forests needs regeneration. All forest actors and stakeholders need to get involve. Like Forest Management Institution, Forest User Groups, NGOs and Individuals.
- There is need for a total ban of bushfires in farms around the Kilum-Ijim forest.
- CAMGEW encourages that there should be an increase in forest education. This should be a continuous activity as it builds nature lovers and helps in behavioural change.
- CAMGEW recommends more capacity building for bee farmers to adopt modern methods of bee farming in Kilum-Ijim Forest to prevent bushfires that result from poor honey harvesting.
- CAMGEW recommends the removal of domestic animals from the forest because they destroy the forest.
- Severe sanctions should be meted on defaulters of forest laws and norms. Many people violate forest laws on the pretext that nothing meaningful has ever been done to previous defaulters. They go free as usual. MINFOF, traditional authorities and other stakeholders need to reinforce the law.
- More youths and women should be engaged in forest conservation and environmental restoration activities. They are tomorrow's drivers of conservation.

CAMGEW is engaged to end this challenge as she is ready to tackle it with all stakeholders especially traditional authorities and administration.

RESULTS/SUCSESSES

- 4158 native trees of the Kilum forest were planted and 406 stems of *Schefflera* and the fig trees were propagated in the Kilum forest. This was done with community participation, forest education and revitalization of forest indigenous knowledge and cultural practices.
- 80% of the trees planted in 2022 survived and we hope higher for those planted in 2023.
- 120 critically endangered *Newtonia camerunensis* (**IUCN Red list**) trees planted this 2023 making a total of above 7000 planted since 2012.
- 500 seedlings of *Psydrax dunlapii* collected from forest during forest regeneration and nursed in tree nursery

SECTION THREE

FOREST/ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OR CLIMATE LITERACY ACTIONS

INTRODUCTION

There are many challenges facing mother-earth. Man is at the centre of many of these problems and man can still be at the centre of the solutions. CAMGEW forest/environmental education and climate literacy action is aimed at changing negative behaviours in older generations and building nature lovers in children. CAMGEW will be building communities to protect the environment and improve on their livelihood. To achieve this, CAMGEW used town cryers, community radios, other traditional communication methods, drawings, painting, dancing, singing, dialogue, storytelling, social media, etc. These activities were carried out in Oku for Kilum-Ijim forest, Magba, Bankim and Mayo Darle in the Cameroon Highland Forest area. Various languages were used for education depending on the understanding of the communities. Forest/environmental education or climate literacy actions has been a regular activity in CAMGEW since 2010. Environmental education targeted children, women, men and youths through community radio, community social groups and during community events. This action has reached out to over 80.000 persons in Cameroon Highlands. In 2023, CAMGEW environmental education interventions in North West, West and Adamawa Regions of Cameroon benefited 2630 Persons.

A) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN KILUM-IJIM FOREST

The Kilum-Ijim forest area is a source of hope for the present and the future generation and so community engagement in its protection is important. In 2023, forest education was a regular activity in CAMGEW-Oku. CAMGEW-Oku organized environmental education sessions with community children, forest users. groups, children, cultural groups, Churches and anywhere she could see people gathered. She equally used the community radio to educate, sensitize and make people understand the need to protect the environment and the forest. There were forest visits to the forest and CAMGEW tree nursery to learn forest regeneration and conservation. During CAMGEW organized trainings on Bee farming, Agro forestry, Honey juice production, Beeswax soap production, environmental education was done. In 2023, CAMGEW reached out to thousands of people. The Oku language, Pidgin English, English language and Lamso were languages used for communication during environmental education sessions.

The elders of the Oku community know much about the culture, tradition and customs that have protected the forest. CAMGEW gave these elders the opportunity to share their knowledge with children through storytelling, songs, dances, poems, rhymes, drawings, etc. Learning sessions for children were organized with community elders. The elders made up of women and men engaged children in field visits to forest to identify the trees and animals of cultural values. The children and youths learned about the culture, tradition, beliefs and customs linked to these trees and animals. In a creative way their experiences on the forest made children love and see the reason to protect the forest. CAMGEW integrated indigenous knowledge, practices, songs, dances, stories, etc in this project to give it a local acceptance and ownership. CAMGEW team and forest users accompanied children in seed collection from the forest and in the process forest users like bee farmers, hunters, herbalists; water catchment management team explained to children the importance of each seed. There by so doing, the children learned by doing.

CAMGEW team assisted the children developing a tree nursery and filled the pots for planting. The children learned in the process. They took care of the trees nursed with assistance from CAMGEW project team leader and nursery attendant. Community children planted the trees in the forest with the support of forest users and stakeholders during tree planting. The children learned-by-doing in the process. The children had lessons indoor and outdoor sessions on forest conservation. The children had story telling sessions with community elders and sketches about the forest. Each session of environmental education had children, youths, women, and forest users ranging from 15 to 45 per session.



Community children after forest education



Children learning about the importance of the forest



Children learning about various forest seeds and assisting in seed collection for regeneration



*Community child collecting seeds of *Newtonia c.* during environmental education in forest*

Environmental Education in Kilum-Ijim forest with women.

Over the years, CAMGEW realized that women are holders of indigenous conservation knowledge in forest communities. In Kilum-Ijim, this knowledge had neither been documented nor passed on to the younger generation. Integrating women in conservation activities in Kilum-Ijim forest remained a continuous effort for CAMGEW. In 2023, CAMGEW carried out 12 conservation literacy programs for women and girls in community cultural groups, forest and tree nursery for 310 women.



CAMGEW assist women pass indigenous knowledge and cultural practices to the younger generation



Women sharing knowledge on forest indigenous knowledge

This led to increased knowledge about indigenous techniques of seed collection from the forest, seed germination, sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products, best soil conservation practices and indigenous livelihood opportunities hidden in non-timber forest products and natural resources.

In the Kilum-Ijim forest, CAMGEW worked with Oku Council community Radio to share women interventions and indigenous knowledge to the public. Our local elderly women in Oku were invited to the radio to share indigenous climate literacy knowledge and the impact of this program to women in Kilum-Ijim forest. Yaa Ernesta Yeafon (of blessed memory. Your community work will live) told the public in the radio program that ‘..... We have been working in our farms and getting fruits, berries, vegetables, mushrooms and water from the forest...our young generation do not understand all this...we are glad CAMGEW gave us the opportunity to share with many in our community...’



Shey Ernesta Sharing with Women and Nkese Wilfred sharing on importance of Prunus Africana for women

In Bamenda, CAMGEW carried out a Radio program in one of the most listened radios in the North West Region of Cameroon known as Abakwa Radio FM. This 1-hour program discussed the role of women in forest regeneration and soil conservation as well as in value chain development of non-timber forest products. This session had an open line to the public to participate in the program. CAMGEW field staff Njioh Banardine Yafe from CAMGEW field office in Oku at Kilum-Ijim forest was on call during this radio program to share with the public medicinal plants identified during the climate literacy program in cultural languages.

On 4 December 2023, indigenous climate literacy programs in Kilum-Ijim was published by one of the most read newspapers in Cameroon called News Watch in its page 7. Passing-over indigenous climate literacy programs in Kilum-Ijim was supported by Green Livelihood Alliance and CAMGEW members’ contributions

As the project ended many women ask CAMGEW to seek financial and material support from other donors to make climate literacy for women a yearly program and to reach to other parts of Kilum forest.

CAMGEW 2023 Women climate literacy in Kilum-Ijim forest

ACTIVITY	WOMEN ≥35	WOMEN≤35	TOTAL
Forest and vegetables	14	11	25
Forest and animals	18	14	32
Forest fruits, benefits to man and animals	10	15	25
Prunus Africana and its uses	12	8	20
Collection of vegetable seeds for domestication in farms	12	8	20
Soils of Kilum Ijim forest and benefits	28	16	34
Forest and water	24	12	36
Forest and medicinal plants around Kilum ijim forest	21	15	36
Forest and honey and its benefits to man and nature	12	16	28
Nursery development for forest regeneration	24	4	28
TOTAL	175	119	284

2023 Environmental education sessions for children/communities in Kilum-Ijim Forest

Dates	Topic Per Session	Total Persons	Male	Females
14/2/2023	Importance of a natural environment to man	28	10	18
17/2/2023	Role of Peace plant in tradition in traditional setting and forest regeneration	29	12	17
25/2/2023	Role of forest vegetables to communities	56	29	27
3/3/2023	Forest animals and Conservation of wildlife	25	42	14
17/3/2023	Role of forest trees and plants in traditional medicines	40	15	25
5/4/2023	Role of Croton tree that releases water in the forest	20	5	15
18/4/2023	Honey bee and Honey products	35	16	19
6/6/2023	Beat plastic pollution, plastic waste management	42	15	27
14/6/2023	Role of Animals in the forest	22	6	16
30/6/2023	Bee colony and role of honey in the tradition of the Kilum Ijim forest communities	40	8	22
5/7/2023	Tree nursery development	29	7	22
16/7/2023	Forest Regeneration	46	21	25
29/7/2023	Nursery development and management	28	7	21
1/8/2023	Filling Soil in Plastic bags for nursery development	35	4	31
5/8/2023	Use of barks of trees in storing food like palm oil.	24	3	21
9/8/2023	Seed collection for tree nursery development	21	11	10
9/8/2023	Forest and water and water catchment	22	12	10
26/8/2023	Forest resources and their importance to the community	45	20	25
1/11/2023	Why stop hunting in the forest	19	3	16
9/11/2023	Communication methods used for forest conservation	23	9	13
10/11/2023	Types of seasons in Cameroon and their characteristics	31	8	23
	TOTALPARTICIPANTS	660	263	417

B) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN BAMENDA, NORTH WEST REGION OF CAMEROON

Environmental education was also carried out in CAMGEW head office in Bamenda. CAMGEW - Bamenda engaged in building future nature lovers through regular environmental education talks with children and youths. 290 persons benefited from environmental education in Bamenda.

This interactive session with children looked at the importance of greening the environment especially urban trees and urban gardening, types of native trees and indigenous vegetables, proper waste disposal and development of compost from domestic degradable waste, types of seeds and germination process, bees and importance to man and nature, planting nitrogen fixing trees for soil regeneration, land demarcation and food for animals and man and so on. Children also learned about types of fruits, seeds and vegetables. They learned about their colours, shapes, size and weight. They also learned about waste management and how this is linked to floods in Bamenda. Gardening was another favorite activities for children.



Children learn about types of fruits and about bees



Children learn about types of farm tools



Learning about types of vegetables and planting



Children learn about types of vegetables



Children learn about types of seeds

2023 Environmental education sessions for children in Bamenda

S/N	Place/date	Environmental Subjects	No. of children	No. Boys	No. Girls
1	CAMGEW office Nkwen Bamenda/ July 8, 2023	Identification of parts of trees Importance of forest to the environment and people living	11	6	5
2	Mile 3 Nkwen Bamenda July/ 15, 2023	Importance of honey bee and Types of trees that bees visit to obtain to produce honey	19	9	10
3	Mile 5 Nkwen (Muslim community) Bamenda/ July 22, 2023	Types of plant to make a fence and types of plants eaten by goats, sheep and cows	50	10	40
4	Mile 3 Nkwen Bamenda/ August 4, 2023	Types of trees and Importance of the forest to the community	15	9	6
5	Mile 3 Nkwen Bamenda/ August 12, 2023	Waste management through sorting and proper disposal of waste	11	7	4
6	Mile 3 Nkwen Bamenda/ August 26, 2023	Identification of different agricultural tools.	10	5	5
7	Mile 3 Nkwen Ba menda/ September 10, 2023	Different types of seeds and classifying them under monocotyledon and dicotyledon	10	6	4
8	CAMGEW office, Nkwen Bamenda/ September 16, 2023	Children learned medicinal plants like turmeric, prepare land for gardening and mixed manure and also transplant cabbages	7	1	6
9	CAMGEW office, Nkwen/ 23/9/2023	Types of vegetables and their health benefits	14	3	11
TOTAL			147	56	91

C) 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN IN WEST AND ADAMAOUA REGIONS

CAMGEW environmental education in the communities of Njimom, Magba and Bankim was aimed at engaging the children, women and men in bushfire prevention, soil regeneration and building future nature lovers. This took place in elementary schools, at local women conferences, at CAMGEW agro-ecological farm, in community social groups and through Magba Council community Radio. Environmental education in these areas benefited 2030 persons. French Development Agency in France, Women Engage For a Common Future and CAMGEW contributions supported environmental education in Njimom, Magba and Bankim.



Environmental education with Women in Ngounso and Government School



Environmental education with children in Government Practicing Bilingual School in Ngounso and with women in Bankim

Statistics for environmental education in West and Adamaoua Regions of Cameroon

S/N	Place/Date	Activity/Methodology	N° of Children	N° of Boys	N° of Girls
1	Magba office/ January 15, 2023	-Importance of medicinal plants to the community and -Identification of different medicinal plants	22	7	15
2	Magba farm/ February 3, 2023	-plastic recycling and use of plastic containers to nurture plants. (learning-doing)	17	7	10
3	G.P.B.S Ngounso Magba/ February 17, 2023	-types of medicinal plants and their uses/importance., done by demonstration	400	140	260
4	Magba farm/ May 26, 2023	-urban gardening/space management done practically by using plastic containers.	150	60	90
5	Magba farm/ June 2023	-How to use soil, sawdust and manure for nursery development. Children learned by doing	15	7	8
6	Magba farm/ June 15 2023	The different types of crops and children identifies and differentiate d them	20	5	15
TOTAL			624	226	398

D. PRODUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION POSTERS

CAMGEW was inspired by the outcome of the climate literacy programs to develop 20 climate literacy-learning topics for poster production. CAMGEW key female staffs namely Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki, Njioh Banardine Yafe, Tanyu Giselle, Dinyuy Rita and Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy contributed to this poster development. In an evaluation session of the climate literacy programs, they shared key insights from working and interacting with women in our various areas of interventions and indirectly learned a lot about women's role in climate action and key insights to promote from their daily practices. The concerted effort from CAMGEW field staffs gave valuable contributions to the development of the 20 learning posters. Brainstorming on next steps towards getting scientific names of plants identified, the team agreed to engage Wirsy Emmanuel Binyuy, CAMGEW Director with 23 years' experience in conservation work to assist with these findings. He provided scientific and English names of 18 plants found in Kilum-ijim forest area and Cameroon Highlands.

Scientific names of plants found in Cameroon Highlands

S/N	English name or local name	Scientific name	S/N	English name or local name	Scientific name
1	Wild Dewberries (laalan)	<i>Rubus flagellaris</i>	10	Cannabis (vaanbrey)	<i>Cannabis</i>
2	goose berries (sheileng)	<i>Physalis peruviana</i>	11	Ginseng (looh nsom)	<i>Panax spec</i>
3	passion fruit (Nyoumleeh)	<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	12	Hyssop (yaabruhki)	<i>Hyssopus officinalis</i>
4	raffia palm nuts (kiluvuv)	<i>Areca catechu</i>	13	Lemon balm (shuvnsaah)	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>
5	Alligator (kishoouy)	<i>Thalia geniculata</i>	14	Njansa spice	<i>Ricinodendron heudelotii</i>
6	Peace plant (kikeeny)	<i>Dracaena Deremensis</i>	15	Four Corner Spice	<i>Tetrapleura tetraptera</i>
7	Asthma-plant (bammkise)	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	16	Alligator pepper spice	<i>Aframomum danielli</i>
8	Avaram senna (saalam)	<i>(Senna auriculata)</i>	17	country onion shiruumom)	<i>Afrotyrax lepidophyllus</i>
9	Bitter leaf (wiuohiy)	<i>Vernonia amygdalina</i>	18	thyme	<i>thymus vulgaris</i>

The 20 learning posters were developed in English and translated to French to serve climate literacy French speaking part of Cameroon. These are now available in CAMGEW offices as follows:

- 20 English copies in CAMGEW head office in Bamenda, North West Region of Cameroon
- 20 English copies in CAMGEW field office in Oku, Kilum-Ijim forest, North West Region of Cameroon
- 20 French copies in CAMGEW field office in Magba, West Region of Cameroon

These learning posters will guide climate literacy sessions in our work and promote community learning of the findings of the climate literacy sessions with women in GLA activities in 2023.

E. CAMGEW RADIO PROGRAMMES IN 2023

CAMGEW used the various radios to do environmental education for communities

Summary activities of Radio Programs in 2023

Date	Title of Radio Program
23/5/2023	Importance of forest for traditional medicines
6/6/2023	Beat plastic solution(The theme of the world environment day)
1/08/2023	Importance of forest for vegetables
4/8/2023	Importance of the forest for man and nature
27/9/2023	Causes, consequences and actions of Gender Base Violence
29/9/2023	Objectives of fighting GBV, types of GBV and punishments against GBV
14/10/2023	Rural Women Cultivating good food for all
28/10/2023	The forest as Eco system and the need to protect it
8/11/2023	Importance of forest for water
10/11/2023	The girl child and the Rights of a girl child
21/12/2023	Causes and consequences of bushfires in and around the Kilum Ijim forest

Summary of CAMGEW Environmental Education Statistics

MONTH	DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION	WOME N	MEN	YOUT H	CHILDREN	TOTAL
	17/02/2023	Importance of non-timber forest products	Magba				400	400
February	24/02/2024	Developing green firebreaks in forest boundaries and farmlands	Magba	250	0	F- 200	0	450
	3/3/2023	Wildlife found in our community	Bamenda	0	0	0	50	50
March	08/03/2023	Development of compost and organic farming	Magba	15		F-20		35
May	9/05/2023	Forest and medicinal plants,	Oku	30	0	0	0	30
	10/05/2023	Forest and bee farming	Oku	30	0	0	0	30
	17/05/2023	Forest women, soil conservation through sustainable farming practices and bushfire prevention.	Oku	30	0	0	0	30
	18/05/2023	Women in conservation of tree species. Case of critically endangered newtonia Camerunencis and Prunus Africana.	Oku	20	0	0	0	20
	25/05/2023	Forest and water, the streams, springs, water falls, lake,	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
	26/05/2023	Reusing plastics for tree nursery development to manage waste	Magba	0	0	0	100	100
June	02/06/2023	Forest and vegetables.	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
	12/06/2023	Forest, animals, birds and reptiles. Case of critically endangered bannermans turacco bird and lake Oku frog	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
	25/06/2023	forest and indigenous fruits as berries	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
July	8/7/2023	Importance of watershed trees	Bamenda	0	0	0	20	20
	15/7/2023	Importance of honey bee to plants and man	Bamenda	0	0	0	20	20
	19/07/2023	soil degradation and women's health and the impacts of slash and burns	Magba	100	0	F-75	0	175
	18/07/2023	Prunus Africana native tree-health value to women as well as economic value. Sustainable harvesting and regeneration	Oku	25	0	0		25
	18/07/2023	Women and Soil conservation : keeping our farmlands green all the seasons as a sustainable way to prevent bushfires	Njimom	50	20	F-200 M-20	0	270
	19/07/2023	Role of girls in environmental protection	Bamenda	0	0	F-50	0	50
	20/07/2023	forest education, tree planting, collection of seeds and seedlings of vegetables	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
	21/07/2023	Role of women in conservation	Magba	30	0	F-20	0	50
	22/07/2023	Development of life fences by grazers for fodder, bushfire prevention, food and climate mitigation	Bamenda	0	0	0	50	50

	28/07/2023	Forest and spices used in African cuisines.	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
August	4/08/23	Importance of trees	Bamenda	0	0	0	20	20
	12/08/23	Domestic waste disposal	Bamenda	0	0	0	15	15
	13/08/2023	Forest and indigenous storage systems.	Oku	25	0	0	0	25
	26/08/2023	Agricultural tools and sustainable farming	Bamenda	0	0	0	20	20
	10/09/2023	Seeds and seedlings: types, shapes and germination	Bamenda	0	0	0	25	25
Septemb er	23/09/2023	Types of vegetables in our community	Bamenda	0	0	0	20	20
Novemb er	5/11/2023	Women and Soil conservation : keeping our farmlands green all the seasons as a sustainable way to prevent bushfires	Bankim	300	30	F-200 M-20	0	550
total				1055	30	F= 765 M= 40	740	2630
Total beneficiaries 2630 persons in 2023								

F. REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES' INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES IN KILUM-IJIM FOREST

CAMGEW has been working to revitalize communities' indigenous knowledge and cultural practices in the Kilum-Ijim forest. This is done through dialogue and practices that bring back aspects of Kilum-Ijim people's culture and practices that has protected their forest for generations. The tradition, culture, language, feeding, dressing, house construction, farming systems and health are all related and reflected in their forest. You cannot separate forest people from their forest because the forest is their identity just like their culture that had evolved with them. Most of the indigenous knowledge and practices are fast disappearing and the forest is also fast disappearing. There was need to listen to forest people to link indigenous knowledge and practices to conservation. This helped to conserve the forest, protect their culture, tradition, indigenous knowledge and practices and permitted them to continue to use the forest in a sustainable manner.

CAMGEW has done this by organising discussions, field based activities, tree planting and exchange visits to get the present generation of community members engage in Kilum-Ijim forest conservation. This helps to tackle wrong approaches to conservation of biodiversity. For the 13 years that CAMGEW has been working with communities in the Kilum Ijim Forest, she has been bringing about cultural, economic, social and ecological regeneration to improve on the management and conservation of the Forest.

Organized dialogue sessions

10 Custodians of the culture and tradition of Oku were identified by CAMGEW together with Kwifon (Oku traditional secret society) and Fon of Oku. The Kwifon has a long standing history of forest, tradition and cultural management. These identified custodians' commenced discussion to revitalize the cultural and traditional practices of their forest community. The discussions were later broadened to include other custodians, Kwifon and Kings men. It was then later broadened to one of men's traditional clubs (Manjong houses) and later to other manjong houses. This was done same to one of women's traditional clubs and later to other women's club. In a later period both men and women in each community will come together to exchange discussions and promote the revitalization process on knowledge and practices linked to forest, culture and tradition.

CAMGEW had worked with the Oku Palace and Kwifon in forest regeneration, creation of forest platform and organisation of Forest management Institutions in each Community forest. CAMGEW has acceptance from Oku Fondom and Kwifon. CAMGEW has been working in Oku since 2010 and is well known all over the Kilum-Ijim forest area. CAMGEW team members live in the Kilum-Ijim forest areas and are part of the men's and women's clubs. CAMGEW has regular activities with forest institutions like the Kilum-Ijim White Honey Association, Oku Honey Cooperatives, Oku Forest Multi-stakeholder platform, Oku Women social and economic groups (above 30 groups) created under CAMGEW women Forest microfinance project, etc. CAMGEW used this strength to make this project work.

- a. Organization and facilitation of exchange and dialogue with traditional authorities in Oku on the types of cultural / traditional injunctions and sanctions available

CAMGEW organized and Facilitated 4 sessions of exchange and dialogue with traditional authorities in Oku on the type of cultural / traditional injunctions and sanctions available for defaulters.

Information on various organized sessions on types of cultural / traditional injunctions and sanctions available

SN	Men's Club	Date	Participants
1	Mfuh of Ngvuinkei II	19 October 2023	52
2	Ngeh of Keyon	8 October 2023	60
3	Ngeh of Ngashie	21 October 2023	50
4	Manjong Samba Ebdzeng in Mbockenkfui	1 November 2023	40
Total number of participants			202

Outcome from exchanges

Traditionally, bushfires are a problem in the Oku and Kilum-Ijim forest people's culture due to the damages it causes. The setting of fires in and around the forest is prohibited. The Kwifon of Oku which is the highest Authority that acts as the cultural parliament prohibits the cutting of forest for farm land. It prohibits encroachment and acquisition of farmland from the forest. In the forest there are sacred sites within and out of the forest. Certain activities are not supposed to take place in them like having sex, stealing and making noise. Stealing is completely forbidden in the forest. Making or putting traditional injunctions in the forest is forbidden. The forest in itself judges right from wrong. Swamps and other wetland were protected. Farming was prohibited in these lands and in the forest. Some animals are sacred in Oku. Poaching is prohibited with some species like the giant spider, Banamans turaco, the ground Mole and snakes. Snakes are believed to be the reincarnation of the greatest Fon of Oku "Mkong Moteh". Feathers of Banamans turacco bird could be picked in the forest when they fall off naturally but killing of the bird to harvest these red feathers was prohibited. The red feathers are used to decorate notables in Oku and the Bamenda Highlands forest area. The bird is classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN Redlist. Women have no access to men societies. They wait out of the houses to be served but cannot get inside. These include juju, manjong, Ngeh and Mfuh houses all men clubs. Except "Nchindas" no man has access to the women society of "Fembien". They however can just join the women during dancing and have no right for decision making in the society. Men have rights in their houses (clubs) but leaders of superior houses (clubs) have no say in inferior houses(clubs). Eg. A Mfuh leader is lesser in a Manjong house and a Manjong leader lesser in a samba house. Women and girls are protected. Any cases of domestic violence are prohibited. Men and boys have access to "juju" houses but that can be only after they are initiated.



Manjong executive at Ngeh Keyon



Manjong executive at Mbockenkui Samba Ebdzeng

Concerning sanctions: CAMGEW staff learned that sanctions could be made at different levels. They could be done from the village councils to the highest authorities in the entire Fondom. The various clubs of men and women have the rights to sanction at various levels to bring order. The Kwifon is the highest Authority that can pass sanctions to defaulters ranging from palm wine, fowls, goats and in cases where situation where it is severed the person is expelled from the village. This used to happen in the past but in recent years it is not practiced. At the village level there exist a society known as "Ntul". This society is responsible for handling cases of domestic violence. Their levies range from corporal punishment like flogging to fines like fowls and goats.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is need to sensitize community members on sustainable use of alpine bamboo. There is need to avoid harvesting of young bamboos.
- On forest periphery there is need for the Kwifon to place injunctions and ask persons at forest peripheries to respect/reinstate forest boundary. Plant boundary trees.
- Community Forest Management plan of all community forests in Kilum-Ijim forest has to be developed for better Management of the forest.
- There is need for patrols to better control activities in the forest and remove exotic trees.
- There is need to better plan on fire tracing to prevent bushfires that destroys the forest.
- Hunters should avoid destroying forest trees. They should use dry trees and shrubs for trap making.
- Concerning goats in the forest: the Kwifon should impose an injunction prohibiting rearing of goats in the forest.
- Tree planting is supposed to be done in the forest area especially to protect the identity of the Oku people. Some forest users have been planting trees like croton in the forest.



CAMGEW field staff discussing need for session with participants in Ngashie

Exchange visit between the traditional authorities of Nso and Oku to share on the use of injunctions and other traditional methods to conserve the forest.

The use of injunctions and other traditional methods to conserve the forest is strong in Bikov Community Forest of Nso in the Kilum-Ijim Forest. On the 12th of March 2024, CAMGEW-OKU organised an exchange visit between the traditional authorities of Nso and Oku (Mostly Manjong, Mfuh, Samba, Ngeh and the Kwifon representatives) to share best practices on the use of injunctions and other traditional methods to conserve the forest. The session was attended by 14 community members including a woman who represents the women society of "Fembien" in Oku.

The session was an opportunity for the traditional authorities to discuss and exchange on forest problems, the possible solutions to these problems and injunctions to be used and how to implement them. There was another session of exchange where participants from the Bihkov forest area and Nchiy shared their experiences on placing injunctions in the forest.



General picture of participants during the exchange visit in CAMGEW Office Oku

FOREST PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED: During the exchange visit session, the participants identified the following problems that plague the Kilum Ijim forest: encroachments, bushfires, presence of goats in the forest (grazing), presence of exotic trees, firewood fetching and exploitation of fresh trees

Solutions to Forest problems as seen by the Oku and Nso Traditional Authorities

- The Kwifon needs to play its role in sensitization, using injunctions and sanctions on anyone who destroy the forest.
- The various men's clubs (manjong, Nfuh,Samba) should take the role to do sensitization.
- There is need to use traditional communication strategies (like town cryers, storytelling, use of drum, gong, community radio) to communicate on forest issues
- On forest periphery challenges like encroachment, the Kwifon will have to place injunctions and maintain real forest boundary and ensure the planting boundary trees like Prunus.
- The participants also proposed that the peace plant is a natural and cultural injunction plant. In case of any forest encroachment, any patroller or person of goodwill should place the Peace plant in the area where there is encroachment. In Nso land together with the Kwifon, the patrollers are endorsed by the Traditional Authority. They have rights and responsibilities in the management process. They report to the Traditional authorities cases of default. The case in Oku is different.

- All 18 Community Forest Management plans in Kilum-Ijim forest have to be redone for better Management of the forest. The management plans expired and needs to be reinstated. They will better plan issues on fire tracing and other forest issues. The Bihkov forest Management Institution (FMI) is the most functional Forest Management Institution in the Kilum Ijim Forest. There is need for a replication of the activities of this FMI in other institutions. This institution works together with the village heads of the villages that form the Forest Users' Groups of the Institution. These village heads work together with the Nso Kwifon in the conservation process. The tradition is highly involved in management of the forest for the conservation process. There is need for the Forest User Groups (FUGs) in Oku and the FMIs to copy the functional example of Bihkov. There was much time used for exchange on how to work together.
- It was also agreed that there will be need to have a declaration for Hunters to stop hunting within a certain time of the year to permit forest animals to reproduce.
- On the presence of goats in the forest: the Kwifon should impose an injunction prohibiting rearing of goats in the forest. The Kwifon in the Nso land is prompt in reacting to problems related to goats in the forest. They work in partnership with the forest Management institution at Bihkov in placing injunctions in cases of destructions caused by goats. The Kwifon in Oku however made a step in 2023 for the first time to handle the issue of goats in the forest. Community members who had goats in the forest were handed ropes that are symbols of ownership of goats for them to remove the goats from the forest. These goats were removed within a week. The injunction was however not very effective because only the Manchock village was involved. There is need to extend the injunction to other parts of the forest for a better management of the forest.
- For the problems faced in the forest, the Traditional Authority is responsible for placing injunctions in and around the forest peripheries. This is the case both in the Nso and Oku Traditional settings. However the difference lied on the promptness of the society members. Because in Nso, the Traditional Authority works together with the FMIs, injunctions are faster and more respected. The Traditional Authority in Oku has in recent years made this work too and needs to keep this always.



Exchange visit between traditional leaders of Oku and Nso on Kilum-Ijim forest conservation

It was an opportunity for CAMGEW staff to facilitate an exchange between the traditional authorities of Oku and Nso especially amongst the Men's societies. CAMGEW was happy seeing these authorities from Nso and Oku exchanging on bushfire prevention/management and how to keep the forest healthy with use of cultural practices and indigenous knowledge.

Promote exchanges on traditional bushfires and other forest threats prevention methods

This was done among club members in each village to transmit to their village members and families as a way of sensitization. Bushfires have the most devastating effects on biodiversity especially forests. CAMGEW organized 8 dialogue sessions for men and women with objective to:

- To promote knowledge, experience and skill sharing on bushfire and other forest threats prevention and management
- To promote knowledge, experience and skill sharing on bushfire communication strategies for sensitization
- To identify the stakeholders and actors to engage on bushfire prevention and management

The villages involved in men' activities included Lui, Ebfon Ebkwaak (Elak), Ngashie/ Eysha Ketam (Manchok).

Information on bushfire sessions at various villages for men clubs

SN	Village	Date	Number of participants
	Mfuh Lui	7 November 2023	60
	Manjong Samba Ebdzeng Ebfon Ebkwaak	19 November 2023	50
	Manjong Samba Ngashie	30 December 2023	60
	TOTAL		+250

CAMGEW team also organized sessions to promote exchanges on traditional bushfires and other forest threat prevention methods among women in 4 villages of Oku through the women's club of Fembien to brainstorm on the different ways of communicating to the village members and families as a way of sensitisation. The villages involved included Nguinkei II, Manchok, Keyon and Ngashie.

Information on bushfire sessions at various villages for women clubs

SN	Village	Date	Number of participants
1	Manchok	15 December 2023	38
2	Keyon	30 December 2023	28
3	Ngashie	30 December 2023	44
	TOTAL		147



CAMGEW staff facilitating the discussions in Ngashie villages



General picture participants at Ngvinkei II



The sessions were organised in the Men's club. Most of these clubs are exclusive to men except the Samba house where women also have limited access. Together with the Men's club leaders and members, the causes, effects and consequences of bushfires were discussed. The different ways of communicating in cases of a fire outbreak was discussed. After the discussions outside, CAMGEW staff and the men's club leaders proceeded to the main house where together they discussed the different causes, threats and communication methods of these problems to the house.

After discussing and identifying the different causes of bushfires in the community, the men discussed the different methods available to prevent bush fires. These included the following;

Bush Fire and Other Forest Threats Prevention Methods

- **Fire tracing and back burning.** It was also discussed that back burning be done early in the morning or late in the evening. After back burning, the fires should be completely put off with water before leaving the site to prevent any eventual restart of fire.
- Monitoring of firewood fetching for commercial purposes.
- **Patrols:** More patrols should be organized in the forest and periphery to check on the problems of the forest. In cases of any problem, reports should be made to the adequate quarters.
- **Sensitization against bushfires and other forest threats:** Sensitization should be done through churches, social gatherings, school and during public events.
- Developing a communication strategy to alert community members on how to prevent bushfires and how to act smartly and promptly when bush fires occur.
- **Making known the various punishments that await defaulters.** The participants called on Kwifon, Ngele and Ntul societies of Oku to be responsible for handling defaulters. They also identified government offices like MINFOF, MINEPDED and MINEPIA to also get involved in the sanctioning process.

- Green firebreaks that separates the forest from farms with evergreen vegetation community bushfire management training programme
- Banning of smoking in the forest and farms around the forest
- Developing of environmentally friendly activities that help fight bushfires like bee farming

Communication Strategies on Bushfire Prevention and Management

The consequences of bushfires would be minimized if a good communication strategy is put in place before, during and after bushfires. Though the different discussion sessions with men in Oku through their gatherings, CAMGEW staff and men identified the following methods for possible use in communicating about bushfires.

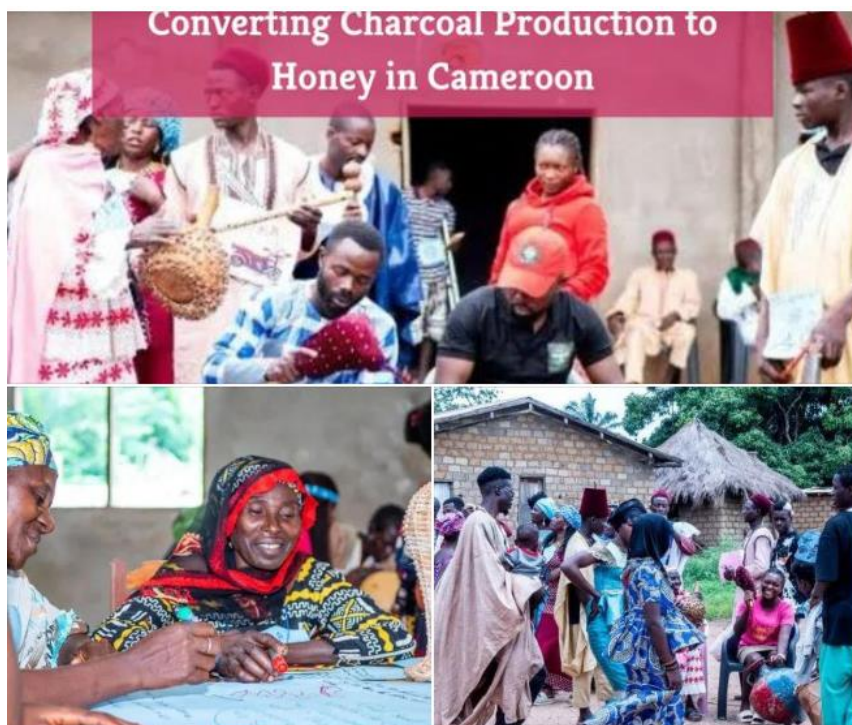
- The various traditional men's club should be used to reach out to all of the communities for sensitization. They can be used as medium to communicate to a wider community. The men in men's club are all family heads and so these messages can reach the families.
- **Radio programmes.** Women and men groups could organize radio programs to communicate threats in the forest and pass messages to the wider community.
- **Social and cultural groups.** These include churches, meeting and njangi houses, Fembien houses, Mfuh, Samba, Ngeh etc.
- **Traditional councils:** Oku is made up of 36 villages each having a traditional council. These councils are all answerable to the central traditional authority which is the Kwifon. Forest threats and bushfire campaigns can be organized and discussed through these councils. This will reach a wider community and impact more on them. The Oku people are people who still hold strong to their traditional authorities. The members or representatives of each villages come to Elak Oku once monthly to attend the general men's club Nfuh where they bring information from their villages to the palace and the big Nfuh house and then carry back information from the palace to their various villages. They transmit this information through their various village clubs to all homes
- **Forest Management Institutions platforms.** There are 6 Forest Management Institutions in Oku. These institutions are organised such that everyone has a Forest Users' Group (FUG). Communication on bushfires threats could be done through these platforms.
- Elderly persons or family heads can also communicate to children through storytelling.
- **One-on-one approach.** This could be done through personal discussions between forest people and forest users.
- Use of town cryers and traditional music, dance and other arts to communicate or carryout sensitization on bushfire
- Messages from the Kwifon on market days or chosen days where population gathers and listens to the Kwifon talk. Kwifon is respected and feared by all because it does proper investigation before making judgment or announcements

G. CONVERTING CHARCOAL PRODUCERS TO HONEY PRODUCERS USING CREATIVE ACTION

CAMGEW through the project titled "Converting Charcoal Producers to Honey Producers" funded by New England Biolabs through Creative Action Institute - USA identified charcoal producers and worked with them using the Creative Advocacy Practicum (CAP) prepared by Creative Action Institute based in USA to help them understand the problem charcoal production causes and then look at options of solving it especially with honey production. 26 community members from Machuwum in Magba participated in the creative workshop using creative arts for name tags and images on the wall to identify problems and propose solutions. The problem and solution trees

were used too to identify and analyze the problem and impacts. It also helped to identify solution and positive impacts. We used visual arts with a musician and artist involved. The Musician composed a song that presented the problem and the solution. The artist painted the problem and the solution. This was done together with the participants. CAMGEW used visual arts for project evaluation with drawings of head, hand and hearts to demonstrate what they think, they can do and what they feel. We used World Café, human spectrum and web communication to bring change. 26 community members saw the problem caused by charcoal production and accepted to engage in honey production also an alternative livelihood activity that is environmentally friendly. Testimonials from stakeholders and students were given to indicate increased awareness and understanding of roles and responsibilities as well as working together for common goal. The presence of 3 village heads and 4 community leaders was great as they saw the role they have to play in tackling problems caused by charcoal production. They learn much about charcoal production and the benefits involved in honey production. Creative Advocacy Practicum (CAP) has been a great way of engaging communities in bringing change in matters that affect their lives and that of the environment. It is a simple way to identify talents because in the process we could easily identify facilitators, artists, musicians, comedians and community members could see the reason for team work and solidarity. This improved on community participation and also helped in community acceptance of CAMGEW as partner for development. CAMGEW from problem analysis and various proposed solutions through problem tree and solution tree respectively could identify possible actions to develop project proposals that will change community lives. The community saw the power of music and arts in driving change

Conclusion: The dialogue sessions were enriching. The men and women who participated in the dialogues learnt much and are now sharing this messages or information in the various families and in other gatherings. They are also putting it to practice for other community members to copy. Men and women found out that there was a lot that they could do to help improve on the sustainable management of the forest. They identified their role in the conservation process especially as concerns bushfires. CAMGEW staff also learned from the men in the process as men discussed freely. Men and women have a big role to play in conserving the Kilum Ijim forest.



SECTION FOUR

HONEY VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

CAMGEW is engaged in the development of the honey value chain in Cameroon with significant interventions in Cameroon Highlands. The Honey Value Chain has the potential to produce many jobs, income, engage women and youths and promote ecological balance. Honey value chain development helps promote climate smart-actions and solutions. Honey production engages bee farmers to fight bushfire, poverty and unemployment. The honey value chain involves honey production, beeswax extraction, honey/bees wax transformation, quality control, bee farming technology, bee conservation education, planting of bee loving trees and vegetation and honey marketing/entrepreneurship. When communities engage in honey production they no longer burn the forest or vegetation because they honey they produced equal money and through their organization to cooperatives they build solidarity that helps them fight bushfire and promote ecological, economic, social and cultural regeneration. Between 2010 and 2023, CAMGEW have empowered 3000 beneficiaries in honey value chain interventions. In 2023, CAMGEW empowered over 500 persons in transformation of honey and beeswax in Njimom, Magba and Bankim and built their entrepreneurship skills.

A. TRANSFORMATION OF HONEY TO HONEY DRINKS

150 persons were trained on transformation of honey to honey drink. This participatory learning approach made use of locally available ingredients and equipment. Using honey as the main ingredient, medicinal plants available locally were added into the recipe. In Magba, participants identified ginseng, ginger and lemon as one of those medicinal plants consumed locally for various health purposes.



Women in Magba learning to produce honey drink

In Kowait-Njimom, participants identified lemon grass, turmeric and limes as locally available medicinal plants in their community. Honey drink production thus made good use of these locally available plants in their community. In Bankim women talk of neem leaves, moringa and galangal as common medicinal plants found locally. The composition of honey and medicinal plants led to production of medicinal honey drinks. The participants appreciated this. Report from monitory and evaluation officer in November 2023, stated the availability of honey drink sold in local bear parlours and consumed during events in Njimom, Magba and

Bankim. Transformation of honey to drinks encouraged the growth of Made in Cameroon Beverage. 150 trained persons received start up support materials from CAMGEW made up of 150 liters of honey, 150 silver bowls, 150kg powder of ginseng and ginger. This was aimed at encouraging trainees to engage in production

Honey drink production data 2023

Date	location	women	men	youths	Donation
23rd and 24th March 2023	Magba	22	0	F-28	150kg beeswax, 150silver bowls, 150 liters honey
15th and 16th May 2023	Bankim	26	0	F-24	
13th and 14th July 2023	Kowait-Njimom	14	10	F-16 M-10	
Sub-total		62	10	78	
Total		150			

B. TRANSFORMATION OF BEESWAX TO DETERGENTS (SOAP AND POWDER SOAP)

Detergents are basic commodities required at domestic levels and essential household laundry items especially in local communities. Women from their biological process need detergents to coup with menstrual hygiene and management. As primary care givers at home, women need soap and powder soap to coup with laundry demands and household hygiene.



Training on the production of bees wax solid and liquid soap

Working in outskirts communities of the North West and West Regions of Cameroon, CAMGEW realized that women bear the financial burden of laundry items in many homes. This training on transformation of beeswax to soap and powder soap was therefore aimed to:

- Empower women to add value to beeswax and medicinal plants
- Support women with natural detergent production skills to meet daily needs
- Safe women from expenses of buying detergents on daily bases
- Encourage enterprise development within the honey value chain.

The training embraced use of local tools such as three stone fireside, silver pots, bamboo pestle. 150 persons were empowered in 2023. These trainees received start-up support made up of 150kg beeswax, 150 silver bowls, and 150 liters honey. This was donated at the end of the trainings.

Beeswax soap and powder soap training data 2023

Date	location	women	men	youths	Donation
21st and 22nd March 2023	Magba	30	0	F-20	150kg beeswax, 150silver bowls, 150 liters honey
22nd and 23rd May 2023	Bankim	31	0	F-19	
3rd and 4th July 2023	Kowait-Njimom	24	0	F-26	
Sub-total		85	0	65	
Total		150			

C. TRANSFORMATION OF BEESWAX TO CANDLES

130 women were trained on transformation of beeswax to candles using locally available materials and techniques. In the hinterlands of West and Adamawa Regions, energy supply is limited and/or unavailable.



Women learning how to produce bees wax candles

Lack of electricity increased the burden of household management for women. This training aimed at:

- Empower women to adapt to energy supply at night
- Add value to honey and beeswax
- Reduce women expenses in purchase of candles to have light during the dark
- Diversify sources of income through production and sale of candles locally

The trainees were supported with 130 kg beeswax and 150litres essential candle oil.



Women learning how to produce bees wax candles

CAMGEW Beeswax candle production data

Date	location	women	men	youths	Donation
30th and 31st May 2023	Bankim	28	0	F-22	130 kg beeswax and 150litres essential candle oil
10th and 11th October 2023	Kowait-Njimom	50	20	F-15 m-11	
15th and 16th October 2023	Magba	25	0	F-15	
Sub-total		103	20	63	
Total beneficiaries = 186 persons					

D. TRANSFORMATION OF BEESWAX AND HONEY TO LOTION

Body lotion is prepared and applied to the skin to moisturize and/or treat it. It is designed to keep the skin hydrated, soft, and smooth. Honey value chain provides the opportunities for those in cosmetic industries. Honey and beeswax offer a wide range of skin care benefits. These trainings made good use of indigenous medicinal plants suitable for skin care locally available.



Women learning how to produce body lotion from bees wax

They are both natural; all-natural ingredients that can help improve the look of your skin can be used in cosmetics. They have anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antibacterial, and antiseptic properties that can help reduce redness, puffiness, and irritation. These skills are lacking in grassroots communities. Trainings on transformation of honey and beeswax to lotion were aimed at:

- Creating awareness in grassroots communities especially amongst women on the value of honey and beeswax in cosmetic production
- Engage women in production of lotion for themselves and for their community members
- Add more value to honey and beeswax

The beneficiaries appreciated this training saying that this will contribute in taking care of their skin as fight insect bites as well as contribute to wound healing. In 2023, CAMGEW trained 140 persons in lotion production and supported them with startup materials comprising of 140kg beeswax, 140 litres honey, and 140litres essential oils for lotion production.

CAMGEW Honey and Beeswax lotion production data

Date	location	women	men	youths	Donation
27th and 28th June 2023	Kowait-Njimom	15	10	F-10 M-5	140kg beeswax, 140litres honey, 140litres essential oils
9th and 10th October 2023	Mansom-Njimom	35	0	F-15	
11th and 12th December 2023	Bankim	30	0	F-20	
Sub-total		80	10	50	
Total beneficiaries = 140 persons					

Challenges and Way forward on Honey Value Chain

1. Project beneficiaries in West and Adamawa Regions of Cameroon need to be organized. This will promote solidarity, quality and quantity production.
2. Theft, pest and predators challenge honey production. More investment is required in this light
3. Beneficiaries need skills in product packaging. This will boost their marketing and income levels
4. Beneficiaries in West and Adamawa Regions need an accessible marketing point for their products.

E. ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAININGS

CAMGEW reached out to 582 persons in 2023 on entrepreneurship skill capacity building. This took place in the North West, West and Adamawa Regions. The persons trained on transformation of honey and beeswax to honey drink, lotion, candle, detergent received entrepreneurship trainings. The beneficiaries are people from the informal sectors who had little or no opportunity to go through the formal school system, so entrepreneurship sessions are scheduled following their level of understanding and engagement in small businesses. These trainings took place in Njimom, Magba and Bankim. These entrepreneurship trainings aimed at inspiring beneficiaries to develop sustainably business mind-sets, be creative and innovative and promote eco-business development locally. This activity brainstormed on simple business plan developments, record keeping, green businesses, business promotion strategies, savings, loans, and networking.



Women trained on entrepreneurship in the honey value chain

Entrepreneurship training summary data

Date	location	women	men	youths
27/03/2023	Ngounso	29	0	F-21
29/05/2023	Bankim	80	0	F-70
12/10/2023	Mansom-Njimom	50	25	F-35 M-20
19/10/2023	Kowait-Njimom	40	10	F-35 M-15
15/12/2023	Mashewum	25	10	F-50 M-15
28/12/2023	Bankim	22	0	F-18
Sub-total		246	57	279
Total		582		

F. SENSITISATION ON USE OF IMPROVED BEEHIVES IN ADAMAOUA REGION OF CAMEROON

Some Bee farmers in Mayo Banyo Division of Adamaoua Region in Cameroon still use cone shape beehives where honey is harvested from the same position where bees get into and out of the beehives. This contributes to the reduction in honey quality and destroy bees. CAMGEW carried out sensitisation in January 2023 in this area to discourage the use of these beehives and get into other improve beehives for honey

production. One bee farmer told us he will be ready to be trained on a better way of honey production during our sensitization campaign. There is need for apiculture trainings to improve on honey quality and quantity in the Adamaoua Region.

G. CAPACITY BUILDING ON HONEY QUALITY CONTROL

CAMGEW on the 22 and 25 January 2023 trained 27 bee farmers in Nyawa of Banyo and also on the 23 and 24 January 2023, trained 24 bee farmers in Mayo Darle in Adamaoua Region of Cameroon on Honey Quality Control. CAMGEW training involved the presentation of model Honey drainer to bee farmers and the construction of a simple honey drainer. The bee farmers also learned how to use bee suits and bee smokers in Honey harvesting. CAMGEW also presented a modern beehive and the way it works. Various types of containers that could be used for honey harvesting and storage were also presented to bee farmers. CAMGEW used this opportunity to present to bee farmers various products of NOWEFAM that could be made out of honey if their honey quality improves like bees wax soaps, lotions, Vaseline, honey wine, honey juice. CAMGEW was grateful for the warm reception she got from authorities and the community engagement in the training. The produced drainers during the training were donated to Yoli and Nyawa bee farmers. CAMGEW also donated some honey drainer(ing) materials to the communities to produce more honey drainers for the community. CAMGEW encouraged bee farmers to improve on honey quality in 2023 to have an increase in price and secure honey value chain jobs and income and better protect nature.

Table of CAMGEW 2023 Honey Quality Training

Date	Place	Number Trained
22 and 25 January 2023	Nyawa of Banyo	27
23 and 24 January 2023	Mayo Darle	24
TOTAL		51

H. BEES WAX EXTRACTION AND QUALITY TRAINING IN MAYO DARLE, ADAMAWA REGION.

On 3rd March 2023 CAMGEW empowered 61 person's (44 men, 9 women, 8 youths) on beeswax extraction and honey quality and storage in Mayo Darle, Adamawa Region of Cameroon. This was in partnership with MINEPIA. This session was also attended by 3 students on internship from the Agricultural College in Fouban, West Region, Cameroon. This training is timely at a moment where bee farmers have begun honey harvesting. Honey is a non-timber forest products with a vast value chain and potential for job creation and income generation for local people. Bees farmers are essential in climate action. They plant bee loving trees to increase bee forage there by contributing to climate mitigation.

I. PROVISION OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO KIWhA FOR OKU WHITE HONEY DEVELOPMENT

CAMGEW in May 2023 signed a contract with OAPI to support Kilum-Ijim White Honey Association (KIWhA) improve on the quality, quantity, labeling, packaging and marketing of Oku White Honey. CAMGEW worked with KIWhA in the whole of 2023 to help KIWhA function better in the above domains. CAMGEW also did coaching and mentoring to the recruited staff of KIWhA in December 2023. CAMGEW through Wirsyi Emmanuel spent much time developing this proposal with OAPI. CAMGEW also needed capacity building to make this project work and that is why she has been doing various GI trainings since 2022 at national, regional and international levels.

J. CAMGEW CAPACITY BUILDING IN SWITZERLAND ON GI CERTIFICATION

CAMGEW through Wirsy Emmanuel Binyuy working on Oku White Honey value chain development participated in the Advance InterGI training from September 25 to 30, 2023 in La Maison du Gruyère, Pringy, Switzerland. This training had 41 participants from 21 countries around world (Africa, Asia, North and South America, Europe). This training was co-organized by CIRAD and REDD (Switzerland) with support from WIPO and other institutions. This was a reference training about the "Geographical Indications" process and its application to local development. It brought professionals (law experts, technical staff, rural and local development experts, value chains managers, NGOs, consultants, etc.) together to learn and share with each other. It was a well merited training with experienced professional sharing their skills and knowledge with us. There were presentations of various GI products by participants from their area. This took the form exhibition with each participant presenting his/her products and sharing for tasting. Emmanuel presented on Oku White Honey and Penja White Pepper that are certified as GI in Cameroon. Gruyere where we lived and had training is known for cheese production and this Cheese is one of the successful GI products with a clear value chain and traceability. It was a case study for training. The training took us to the dairy farms where there were milk producers and we saw how animals are fed to produce milk that is used for cheese production. We visited the cheese production units and the cheese storage facility. We also ate the cheese of different ages. Our trainings also involved presentations on

- How to Implement a GI-related policy or project, meeting the required conditions for an effective contribution to rural development
- How to apply methods to achieve an inventory of potential GI products.
- How to apply methods to support the qualification of GI products.
- How to understand the different forms of collective organization for the management of GIs.
- How to conceive control and certification methods that ensure the products' authenticity.
- How to contribute to the marketing of GI products.

During the training we also learnt the following: the international rules and institutions that govern protection of GI, and the current state of international negotiations; the European and French legislations concerning Protected Geographical Indications (PGI) and Protected Denominations of Origin (PDO), territorial marks and indications of source; the regional and national rural development policies linked to GI; The International programs in support of GI implementation. Emmanuel obtained a Certificate on InterGI from this training.



Group picture of participants at the Advance InterGI Training in Switzerland



Participation in InterGI Training in Switzerland

CAMGEW wishes to thank WIPO for the financial assistance to attend this training and OAPI for her recommendation. The knowledge was very useful to acquire considering the present task given by OAPI to CAMGEW through Wirsy Emmanuel to provide technical assistance to Kilum-Ijim White Honey Association (KIWHA) for Oku White Honey value chain development. Wirsy Emmanuel had earlier done another Certificate Course on African Geographical Indication which was organized by OAPI for 9 African countries in Yaounde, Cameroon, from May 9 to May 19, 2022. With much skills developed by CAMGEW in GI, she is open to assist in the development of GIs in Cameroon and Africa.

K. NORTH WEST BEE FARMERS MESSENGER (NOWEFAM)

NOWEFAM is an offshoot from CAMGEW that converts bee farmers honey to money. CAMGEW in 2015 saw the need to assist bee farmers convert their honey and honey products to money by linking them to the market in the urban centers. This was done by creating North West Bee Farmers Messenger (NOWEFAM) which today is a legalized honey cooperative to assist farmers' convert honey and honey products to money. NOWEFAM is a social enterprise that promotes the marketing of products and materials in the honey value chain. She has also engaged in transformation of honey and bees wax. With income realized from NOWEFAM, forest communities plant more trees and engage in bushfire prevention.

In 2023, NOWEFAM assisted bee farmers to market over 17 tons of honey. NOWEFAM also carried out many other activities like education on bees, bee technology and marketing. NOWEFAM is a growing social enterprise. It is a Climate Smart HoneyShop that has helped to reduce bushfire in Kilum-Ijim forest and other areas in Cameroon Highlands as it converts bee farmers honey to money. Ownership of beehives in forest or grass fields permits bee farmers to fight or prevent bushfire so as to protect their beehives. NOWEFAM then make sure the produced honey equals money for sustainability purposes.

NOWEFAM owns a Honey shop in the Bamenda, North West Region of Cameroon where she exhibits her products to the general public. From her Honey shop, honey and its products are supplied to other cities and externally. She markets her product's locally, nationally and internationally to countries like Nigeria, U.S.A, France, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea etc. Honey is bought by individuals and taken out of the country. NOWEFAM is being nursed as a social enterprise. To create awareness, increase sales and knowledge on

honey and its products, NOWEFAM organizes exhibitions frequently. NOWEFAM also attends organized events like shows, Expo, exhibitions etc. which has helped in her publicity. NOWEFAM travels to towns like Yaoundé, Douala, Bafoussam, Bertoua, Buea and Magba to market her products and create awareness. NOWEFAM honey this year won a Bronze Medal from the Institute of Agriculture Obala. This has been an appreciation for her hard work and a means to expose NOWEFAM more to the world. NOWEFAM buys honey yearly from trained bee framers in Kilum-Ijim forest and also around Cameroon Highlands. This honey is then packaged and stored in the honey warehouse for sale. NOWEFAM honey is bought within the months of March and July.

NOWEFAM EVENTS

Commemoration the International Day of the Rural Woman: On 15th October 2023, CAMGEW (or NOWEFAM) commemorated this day in Ngounso-Magba, West Region of Cameroon under the theme “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”. During an open fair in Magba with over 400 participant show casing the strength of rural women to foster good wellbeing, health, food security, remote culture and solidarity, CAMGEW and NOWEFAM exhibited diversity of the honey value chain. CAMGEW and NOWEFAM through works of paintings and drawings showcased the honey value chain. The honey value chain is diverse including beehives, beeswax extraction, honey and bee wax detergents, lotions farming equipment and harvesting kits. Rural women have key roles to play in the food security, poverty alleviation, promote gender equality, sustainable livelihoods, conserve the environment etc.



Exhibition at the D.Os office in Magba during the 2023 International Rural Women Day celebration

NOWEFAM AND CSOs NETWORKING EVENT ON WORLD EARTH DAY:

On 26th April 2023, CAMGEW organized a networking and knowledge fair on nature based solutions in Bamenda for the Bamenda Western Highlands Forest area at Blue Peal Hotel Plaza, to celebrate World Earth Day under the theme “Invest in our planet people and businesses to work towards building a healthy economy for the planet”. This event was attended by 24 institutions and NOWEFAM also attended. There were more than 400 visitors. She showcase her products during the event. These products included: brown honey, stingless honey, white honey, bee smokes, bee suits, bee hives, honey wines, bee wax and its transformed products like body and hair lotions.



NOWEFAM stand during CSOs Networking Event World Earth Day in Bamenda

NOWEFAM Exhibiting her Products in Bankim: NOWEFAM exhibited her products in BANKIM of the West Region of Cameroon on the 23th of May 2023. This event took place at Bankim Baptist church premises where women came to learn how to transform beeswax to soap and honey to honey juice. This exhibition motivated the women greatly to turn what they learn to practice and built that confidence that they could tackle unemployment and poverty through apiculture.

Exhibition on the Occasion of Rebranding the Region through Economic Empowerment for a Healthy Skilled Ambitious And Responsible Citizens And Reestablishing Traditional Authority. A Cultural Values and Heritage in an Enabling Environment by 2023: On the 15th and 16th June 2023, NOWEFAM exhibited brown and white honey at HOTEL DE VILLE YAOUNDÉ on the occasion of rebranding the region through economic empowerment for a healthy skilled ambitious and responsible citizenry and reestablishing traditional authority on cultural values and heritage in an enabling environment by 2023 coordinated by PRO FRU FOBASHIE ANGWAFO 111 Honorable President of the Regional Assemble for the North West Region. This occasion was graced by some government official, traditional authorities, exhibitors and traditional dancers. While the officials had their meetings, the exhibitors exhibited their products outside. This was an exciting and interesting event animated by dancers that attracted buyers. This event lasted for two days and was a success with NOWEFAM selling all her honey and sharing many NOWEFAM flyers as well as complimentary cards.



NOWEFAM exhibit at HOTEL DE VILLE YAOUNDÉ during North West Regional Assembly

NOWEFAM Receiving Medals at Hotel De Ville: On the 20th to 22nd of June 2023, NOWEFAM received a medal in recognition quality honey marketing. The medals was award at HOTEL DE VILLE in Yaoundé. The medals came with certificates. The medal NOWEFAM received was bronze for brown honey. This event was in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture and other personalities. During this event the medal winning products were exhibited by the medal winners. NOWEFAM sold this honey and shared information for publicity to every interested persons.



NOWEFAM Exhibiting her Medal Honey

Exhibition At Salle De Fette Akwa, Douala: From the 11th to 13th October 2023, NOWEFAM attended an exhibition organized by Ministry Of Small And Medium Size Enterprises on the occasion of National Networking Day of parties involve in agricultural and AGRIFOOD value chain in Douala Cameroon at SALE DE FETE AKWA ,under the theme “The impact of AGRIDFOOD products on quality of the performance of AGRIDFOOD SMES and their contribution to import substitute as well as food security in Cameroon”. NOWEFAM exhibited her honey and honey transformed product. This event was attended by the representative of the Minister of Small and Medium Size Enterprise, some important dignitaries, buyers and exhibitors who exhibited their various products from the 12 regions of Cameroon.



NOWEFAM Exhibition in Douala on agricultural and AGRIFOOD value chain

Exhibition at Small And Medium Seize Enterprise Office in Bamenda: On the 28th of November 2023, NOWEFAM participated in an exhibition at The Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Promotion Agency in Bamenda. Twin ceremony to distribute equipment’s to SMEs and handing over of ILO certificates to SIYB consultants in the North West region of Bamenda. This event started with exhibitors exhibiting their various products and they later to the hall where there was distribution of support materials to local producers.



Visiting of Stands by the Governor's Representatives in Bamenda

The Regional Agro Pastoral Regional Show Bafousam: On the 19th and 20th of December 2023, NOWEFAM exhibited her products at the Agro Pastoral Regional Village Show in Bafoussam. This was a marketing, learning and sharing event. NOWEFAM participated in this event because she sells her products in the West Region with a sales point in Magba and Handicraft Village in Bafoussam.



NOWEFAM at the Agro Pastoral Regional Village Show in Bafoussam

The Subdivisional Agric Show Bamenda III Council: NOWEFAM attended The Subdivisional Agric Show organised by the Bamenda II Council. This happened at the premises of the Council on the 13th December 2023. NOWEFAM concentrated on the selling and exhibition of their honey and transformed products. The first prices and second prices were awarded with gifts like hoes trucks, manure etc. NOWEFAM was awarded with two bags of salt at the end of the event for participating.



Pictures of the exhibition Ground

THE REGIONAL AGRO PASTORAL SHOW UPSTATION, Bamenda:

On the 20th and 21st of December 2023, NOWEFAM attended the Regional Agro Pastoral Show organized at the SDO's EXPLANADE UpStation in Bamenda. During this event we had more than 100 expositors exhibiting their farm products and know how. NOWEFAM exhibited her own products. NOWEFAM was satisfied as many customers tested and appreciated their Honey Wine. Many visited the NOWEFAM stand with some buying products. NOWEFAM received a prize for her brown honey during the event.



NOWEFAM attending the Regional Agro Pastoral Show

Capacity Building Workshop of CCPT Medal Winning Producers at the Institute Agriculture Obala (Iao) from 29th November To The 2nd Of December 2023.: During this 4-day training session attended by 2 NOWEFAM staff, participants learned about product packaging, legalization, certification, increasing business capital through loans and also on entrepreneurship. This workshop was attended by medal winning producers from all over Cameroon. NOWEFAM was one of the winners of the medal for honey. The following businesses also got medals for the products: MICA FOODS, JOHINA, ALL IN ONE COOPERATION, BARAKA PALM OIL, SCOOPS-HYSOPE CAMEROUN, KITCHEN MASTER, EST MIEL-CAM, SELF HELP AGRO BUSINES PROMOTE and HEMYHOLDING.



Participants on 4-day training on product packaging, legalization, certification, increasing business capital

Trained person in apiculture respecting gender and beehives donated

ACTIVITIES			NUMBER/YEAR																						
	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		TOTAL
Gender	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	
Bee farming trainings	167	31	98	17	95	17	225	59	0	0	86	26	133	25	44	33	12	17	20	12	51	125	0	0	1503
Bee farming trainings in other areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	19	8	43	40	43	31			0	0	
Bees wax training in Kilum-Ijim forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	116	21	43	4	51	9	42	32	16	12	0	0	43	82	0	0	429
Beehives donated	200		262		105		225		0		120		238		151		29		0		352		0	0	1822
Beehives donated in other areas	0		0		0		0		0		26		0		27		76		11				0	0	
Bees Wax soap training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	29	1	65	0	27	0	20	20	130	301
Honey Drink/wine training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	22	0	49	0	0	0	40	10	140	281
Entrepreneurship training in Honey value chain	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	12	6	29	60	1	96	43	58	94	267	57	525	1191
Entrepreneursh ip training in other fields	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	N*	0	103	0	0							103

M = Men

W = Women

N* means not noted earlier. There is need to take time and calculate this from all trainings done earlier

SECTION 5

AGROFORESTRY FOR SOIL CONSERVATION AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT

INTRODUCTION

CAMGEW is engaged in agroforestry or agro-ecology to promote social, economic, ecological and cultural regeneration. Promoting agroforestry increases food production, income, jobs and soil conservation. CAMGEW is promoting agroforestry for eco-businesses. This is done through trainings in the field, CAMGEW agro-ecological farm, social media, poster presentation and field visits. CAMGEW agro-ecological farm is a demonstration, research, production and training site.

CAMGEW agro-ecology focuses on domestication of forest trees and other trees, shrubs and vegetables to provide nitrogen to the soil and promote organic farming, reduce pressure on the forest to meet local needs (firewood, vegetables, fruits, medicinal plants), provide bee forage, fodder for grazers to feed their animals, diversify various foodstuffs for farmers and local communities and discourage slash-and-burn (cause of bushfires) by crop farmer. The following activities were carried out in agro ecology program in 2023.

In kilum-Ijim forest area, CAMGEW is known for empowering forest communities through ‘....transfer of the forest to the farms...’ as popularly called by the locals. In 2022, CAMGEW expanded this activity to an agro-ecology program embracing a model that revitalize indigenous knowledge in conservation and sustainable agriculture. This was scale-up to Cameroon Highland forest area.



CAMGEW Agro-ecological Farm on development yielding fruits

A. DEVELOPMENT OF CAMGEW AGRO-ECOLOGY PILOT PLOT:

CAMGEW agro ecological farm was set-up in 2022. This setting up involved a continuous process of learning and experimentation on suitable crops and best agroforestry practices. In 2023, this farm provided learning space for women and children. Located at Ngounso, Magba west Region of Cameroon, this 4-hectare land demonstrate organic farming, mixed crop cultivation, cash crop production, best agro forestry practices and tree nursery development for farmers. In 2023, soya beans, groundnut, plantains, various fruits, medicinal plants were harvested from the demonstration plot. Heliciculture, also known as snail farming, was introduced in the demonstration plot in 2023. It is the process of raising snails for human consumption, cosmetic and pharmaceutical purposes. This involved construction of a snail farm, collection of various snails from the wild, carrying out studies in various types of snails and transformation to snail meat. Beside snail meat, snail shelves and slim is used by cosmetic enterprises and snail shelves is valued by livestock and artists. CAMGEW research identified 2 types of snails in West Region of Cameroon namely: garden snail, also known as Cornu aspersum and the Giant African Land Snail, also known as Achatina fulica. Snails are valued for their nutritional, medicinal, livestock and cosmetic value. The snail farm serves as a learning-by-doing environment on Heliciculture for local community, students and researchers.

Tree nursery and Distribution of agroforestry seeds and seedlings to farmers: CAMGEW nursery at the agro-ecology farm at Ngounso in Magba nursed various seeds of non-timber forest products and vegetables.



Development of tree nursery with women and children learning-by-doing in CAMGEW Agroecological Farm

340 persons received these seeds. These are seedlings of plants that serve the purpose of soil regeneration, food security and carbon sinks.



CAMGEW agroforestry nursery in CAMGEW Agroecological Farm

In 2023, these seeds were distributed to farmers in Njimom, Bankim and Magba.



Nursed trees distributed to trained farmers

Capacity Building on learn about impact of changing climate in vegetable cultivating: On the 5th of April 2023, CAMGEW brought together 50 women made up of crop farmers, bee farmers and animal farmers in her agroforestry model farm in Magba West Region of Cameroon to learn about impact of changing climate in vegetable cultivating and how women can adapt to this challenge. Vegetables are highly consumed and needed by women to improve on daily nutrition in their homes. It is thus important to build their capacity in sustainable cultivation of vegetables taking into consideration better yields and soil regeneration. This session was appreciated by grassroots women in Magba with comment that vegetables are becoming scarce and expensive especially in the dry season. Learning to adapt to changing climate in vegetable cultivation is therefore important to them. Each participant left with 10 food crop seedlings.

2023 CAMGEW statistics on Agroforestry training in Cameroon Highland forest area

date	location	Names of seedlings distributed	women	men	youths	No. of trees donated
05/04/2023	Ngounso-magba	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower,	50	0	0	500
19/06/2023	Ngounso-magba	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	35	0	F-15	800
31/05/2023	Ngounso-magba	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	30	0	F-20	1000
14/09/2023	Mashewum-magba	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner , paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	20	10	F-15 M-15	1200
20/09/2023	Kowait-njimom	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	30	30	F-20	1600
21/09/2023	Mansom-njimom	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	30	15	F-20	1300
18/10/2023	Bankim	Bitterleaf, Cayenne Pepper, four corner, paw-paw, sun flower, Njansang,	30	0	F-20	1000
Sub total			175	40	125	7400
Total beneficiaries 340 persons						

Part of the agro-ecological farm provides learning for snail and bee farming including variety of food with different colours, shapes, weight and nutritive value. This is a demonstration and learning center where farmer's capacity on sustainable agriculture is built. This farm also promote exchange visits between farmers, extension workers,

students and researchers to share knowledge, best practices and learn from each other. Not only a learning and demonstration site, CAMGEW aspires to expand its activities to agro-ecological and Ecotourism.

Join us to engage in agro-ecology to fight bushfire, conserve the soil, promote gender equality in sustainable agriculture, promote sustainable crop cultivation and diversify food production while protecting nature.

i. Challenges faced in development of agro-ecology and way forward

- Lack of irrigation system and water storage facilities to support production especially in the hot season. This contributes to reduction in crop yields and makes demonstration plot crop dry
- Lack of means of mobility to facilitate transportation of produced seedlings from nursery to donate to farmers
- Lack of storage house in the demonstration farm
- Stray animals especially in the dry season destroy some crops
- Lack of revolving fund to purchase all snails collected by the local farmers
- Lack of sales point to convert farmers products to money in Magba and other big towns
- Limited human resources especially monitoring and evaluation system for the farmland
- Lack of proper structuring of the plots
- Limited farm tools and modern devices to monitor ecological effects of agro-ecology in the demonstration plot

B. FARMER-GRAZER CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Farmer grazer conflicts are common in the Cameroon Highlands. This activity was aimed at promoting partnership and areas of integration between farmers and grazers to reduce farmer-grazer conflicts locally. These communities in West and Adamawa Regions host crop farmers, bee farmers and grazers. Farmer-grazer conflicts are common and this sometimes leads to loss of lives, animal and destruction of crops and property. This situation is often aggravated by the selfish interest of some individuals. CAMGEW held community dialogues in Njimom and Bankim. Leaders of grazers as well as farmers' unions in this community attended session. At Kowitz in Njimom, the Village Chief in his words remarked at the end of the workshop '.....this is what I as the chief of this village have been praying for... I plead with CAMGEW to give us this project banner which I will strategically place in the palace as a sign of my commitment to ensure these conflicts are discussed and managed during our weekly kings men meetings.....' Conflict management workshop was attended by 115 persons in 2023.



Farmer-grazer conflict management dialogue

Statistic of Participants in Farmer-Grazer conflict Dialogue

date	location	women	men	youths
18/07/2023	Kowait-njimom	24	15	F-26 M- 10
25/11/2023	Bankim	10	15	F-10 M-5
Sub-total		34	30	51
Total beneficiaries = 115 persons				

From the 18th to the 20th, CAMGEW in partnership with Center for Education and Environment visited villages affected by the construction of the Mape Dam in the West Region of Cameroon. CAMGEW was represented by Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy. These dialogues where held with 80 persons.



Community members engaging in dialogue to address farmer-grazer conflict

These villages included Mabonkou, Mapopa, Pomi, Matta Village, Matta Barrage, Manda, Ngoussen and Mamokimo. In each village we had discussions with the community members centered on how they have been negatively affected by the Dam, their social and economic conditions like electricity, schools, health facilities and water as well as the non- timber forest products available in their community, They were informed about CAMGEW activities in the honey value chain which made them more excited to visit CAMGEW field office in Magba West Region of Cameroon. In each community there were meetings with the women to know more about their agricultural activities: the cash crops, methods of farming and their difficulties.

Challenges and way forward for conflict management

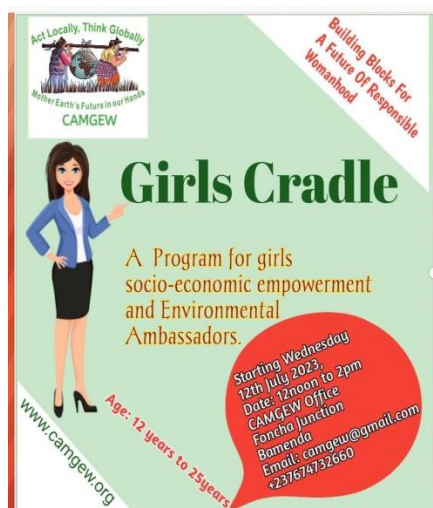
- Local inhabitants have limited knowledge on the exciting laws on farmer-grazer conflict. There is need to enlighten them
- Lack of partnership approaches in farmer grazer conflict management. This could promote win-win scenarios for farmers and grazers
- Male domineering cultural norms limit women engagements in farmers-grazer conflict management.
- Limited vegetation especially during the hot season for animals. These push grazers to allow their animals to stray in search of vegetation. This leads to more conflicts
- Lack of fences at crop cultivation sites in grazing land and on the other hand lack of animal confinement in farming areas. There is need to promote life fences that will provide fodder and food for booth farmers and grazers.
- Lack of engagement of cultural courts in sanctioning perpetrators of farmer grazer conflicts.

SECTION SIX

CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

A. GIRL CHILD EMPOWERMENT

Empowerment of girl child means **providing girls with equal opportunities, education, and freedom from violence and discrimination**. CAMGEW believes that when girls are educated and enlightened, empowered, healthy and free from violence and discrimination, their communities are more prosperous and stable. Gender-equitable education systems empower girls and boys and promote the development of life skills that young people need to succeed. They close skills gaps that perpetuate pay gaps, and build prosperity for entire countries. On October 11, the United Nations and partners including the UN Foundation celebrated the International Day of the Girl child and the extraordinary power of girls in our world. As an environmental and gender promotion organization, CAMGEW in 2023 intervened in areas of personal development of the girl child and in vocational training of girls to acquire life skills. Personal development was structured in to a program named 'Girls Cradle'. Supported by Association of Cameroon Physicians in America (ACPA), CAMGEW enrolled two girls in acquisition of skills in hairdressing and traditional embroidery.



Girls receive attestations after completion of training

CAMGEW started a girls' leadership program named "Girls Cradle" in 2023. This program was a trial phase to see girls' potential and determination to grow, be impactful and engage in conservation work. Through this program, CAMGEW Women Empowerment officer, who in her compassion and motherliness, was trying to respond to the struggles and request of many mothers towards engaging their girls in life changing processes. Building from her experience, Ernestine prepared a 7-module manual and facilitated the 14 days' program. CAMGEW targeted 15 girls but to our amazement, 50 girls registered and were dedicated to the program. These girls were engaged in climate action and until date they still receive coaching and follow-up from CAMGEW team. CAMGEW hopes to get financial and technical support to scale up this Girls Cradle program in the coming years.

The leadership training took an interactive approach towards the environment, power of positive thinking, respect and growth, hygiene and sanitation and collective action. This program benefited 50 girls.



Girl Child Development through girls' leadership program named "Girls Cradle" in 2023

The 50 girls brainstormed in discussion groups to understand the importance of business plan and advantages of green businesses for health and environment. This approach engaged more girls in development of green businesses and job creation.

i. Placement of Girls in vocational training institutions

This activity aimed at empowering girls to be self-reliant through acquisition of vocational skills. Vocational training skills give girls second chance education to learn basic life transforming skills and rehabilitate back into the world of income generation and economic independence. This activity placed two girls in existing vocational training institutions in Bamenda, North West region of Cameroon into hairdressing and make-up and traditional embroidery.



Identified girls receive various machines for their skill development and production after training

Placement of identified girls in vocational training institutions was followed by weekly follow-up on their progress. The project coordinator visited project beneficiaries in their workshops once a week. This kept the project team current on the progress especially successes and challenges.

CAMGEW also engaged trainees in Personal development workshops. These Personal development enabled girls to assess their skills and qualities, consider their aims in life and set goals in order to realize themselves, focus on possibility and take responsibility especially during challenging moments and maximize their potential.



These girls on vocational training participated in Girls Cradle Programme

This included workshops on building self-esteem and self-confidence, developing positive strength and talents, improving emotional intelligence, awareness on hygiene and sanitation and self-discovery.



Girls on vocational training receiving counseling and business mentorship

Counseling and business mentorship was also carried out for girls on placement in vocational institutions. Counseling enabled trainees to overcome psychological distress because of violation of their rights and socio-political crisis in the English speaking regions of Cameroon.

Business coaching enable trainees to overcome challenges, plan and priorities their goals and strategies in marketing their products. Good market strategies will enable them generate more income. Placement in vocational training situations started in June 2023 and benefited 2 girls. This was to enable them to be innovative and creative, drive positive vision and become self-reliant upon completion of their training in the coming year.

Summary of girl child empowerment data

Date	Description	Women	Men	Youths
July 26 th to August 7 th 2023	Girls Cradle Bamenda	0	0	F-50
June 2023 to December 2023	Vocational placement	0	0	F-2
Sub-total		0	0	52
Total		52		

Challenges and way forward on girl child empowerment

1. CAMGEW lack resources to engage more girls in personal development activities. GIRLS CRADLE has been carried out of CAMGEW members' contributions and volunteering. Girls at teenage age in our community need this assistance and funding to make Girls Cradle a program that benefit many girls.
2. There is need for boys empowerment programme because boys are in danger with the Anglophone crisis in Cameroon. They are the ones in the bushes with arms and they engage at early age in motorcycle business. They are open to drugs, gambling and poor sexual behaviours. They early dropout from schools.
3. One of the impacts of the Anglophone crisis in Cameroon is massive dropout of girls from formal school systems. This is unsustainable to breach the gender equality gap in future. CAMGEW needs assistance to provide second chance education through vocational training to many girls in her area of intervention as well as provide scholarships to girls in formal school systems
4. In our male domineering context, many girls are still restricted from attending girl empowerment sessions at grassroots levels. It is important to engage men in this process.

B. CAMGEW ON CELEBRATION OF 2023 WOMAN'S DAY ON THEME THE INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR GENDER EQUALITY.

CAMGEW brought together 12 civil society organizations in Bamenda, North West Region of Cameroon on the 9th of March 2023 for a dialogue on how women can drive innovation and technology at grassroots levels. The participants were made up of women driving change in food value chain, fashion industries, legal practices, communication and organic agriculture. These women shared amazing stories of how they started their innovations and various technologies they used in their diverse initiatives. Participating in this great event as many said was opportunity to learn from these great minds some of their amazing tools and how they came about their various products .This session was facilitated by Sevidzem Ernestine, women empowerment officer of CAMGEW.





Women participating in Womens' Day Event in CAMGEW office in Bamenda

CAMGEW in 2023, Engaged In Community Peace Builders Development of Simple Business Plan: Working in partnership with Center for Advocacy in Gender Equality and Development (CAGEAD), CAMGEW represented by Sevidzem Ernestine empowered 15 community peace builders in development of simple business plan on the 17th of August 2023. This took place at CAGEAD Head office in Bamenda. This workshop was crowned 'business for peace' by ensuring that participants' business plan are well analysed as suitable in a conflict affected area like North West Region of Cameroon. Ernestine ended this training by saying that 'a sustainable environment need to embrace peace and harmony in all it diversity'.

Entrepreneurship training summary data

Date	location	women	men	youths
June to December 2023	Bamenda (girls in vocational training(	0	0	F-2
4/08/2023	Bamenda (girls cradle)	0	0	50
	Bamenda (CAGEAD partnership)	13	2	0
Sub-total		255	47	331
Total		633		

SECTION SEVEN

CAPACITY BUILDING, EVENTS, PARTNERSHIP, LEARNING, NETWORKING AND 2023 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

A. NETWORKING NATIONALLY

In 2023, CAMGEW took part in several networking events in Cameroon as well as brought over 20 organizations for a networking fair. National networking builds solidarity between CAMGEW and stakeholders, created national visibility of CAMGEW activities and enabled CAMGEW learn from national actors.

CAMGEW Networking and Knowledge fair in Bamenda: On the 24th April 2023, CAMGEW organized a networking and knowledge-sharing event for environmental conservation organizations working in Bamenda Western Highlands Forest of Cameroon. 30 actors in Bamenda Western Highlands exhibited what they do: their vision, objectives, activities, target population and location. Over 650 people from the public visited the exhibition sites

During this event, CAMGEW displayed and presented on indigenous best conservation practices, experiences on women participation in forest regeneration and bushfire prevention. Organizations promoting women inclusion in conservation discussed their success stories, challenges and recommendations on how to promote women participation in conservation in Bamenda Western Highlands.



The various Ministries presented services offered by the government to support forest regeneration as well as the legal instruments put in place by the government. Attending were the delegates of Ministry of forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation and Ministry of Social Welfare. This promoted exchange of best practices and possible replicable initiatives by other organizations locally and informed government on actions going on at grassroots' levels, their challenges and hopes.



Women led eco-businesses during networking event

There was massive turn out of various environmental organizations not only from North West Region of Cameroon but also from South West and West Region. To promote full participation and engagement of actors to share their stories, conservation stakeholders were grouped in to 3 panels

1. Panel on Youths and conservation, which discussed youth lead initiatives, their challenges and recommendations.
2. Panel on biodiversity involved experienced organizations doing groundwork in protected sites in Cameroon. They discussed forest regeneration, wildlife conservation and water resource management. They discussed bottom-up approaches, their strategies to engage more women in environmental initiatives and made recommendations for policy improvements
3. Panel on Women and conservation was made up of women lead organizations and initiatives driving positive change in the world of gender equality and environment. Sharing their stories as women in environment was a motivating factor to many.

The networking event for conservation actors was organized for the first time in the history of conservation in Bamenda Highlands Forest area. This was exciting and educative. Conservation stakeholders, state universities, the media, students, eco-business operators, cultural leaders and members of government massively attended it. This created the space for actors to share best practices, learn replicable conservation and eco-business models encourage discussions and challenges on conservation through panel discussions and talks about the role of cultural leaders in driving conservation in Bamenda Western Highlands. After the networking event, three gender focused organizations were created by dynamic youths and women who were inspired by the diversity of the networking event. These organizations are Eco-friendly generation, Women Eco village Change Makers and Living Earth and Livelihood. These young organizations look up to CAMGEW for mentorship to be stronger. This has further enriched women lead interventions by civil society in our area, created more jobs for women and enhanced a community of practice in in conservation and gender promotion. CAMGEW hopes to do more coaching and mentorship for young organizations in nearest future. This event ended with a call for subsequent editions in the coming years.

Networking at National Institute of agriculture Obala-Cameroon on improvement of quality of non-timber forest products and agric food:

From the 20th to 22nd April 2023, CAMGEW was invited by the National Institute of Agriculture, United Nations Industrial Organization, Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Yaounde to share project activities on honey value chain development with over 100 farmers recognized during the medal winning completion of Cameroon locally made product. In 2015, CAMGEW had

organized bee-farmers in Kilum-Ijim forest area into a honey cooperative called North West Bee farmers Messenger (NOWEFAM). Till date this cooperative receives coaching and mentorship from CAMGEW. In February 2023, CAMGEW connected NOWEFAM to bee farmers that we trained on honey production in our Project zone to convert their honey to money. This honey was packaged by NOWEFAM and sent for the medal winning competition at national level. It was amazing that at the first harvest honey from our beneficiaries could emerge as a Bronze Medalist at national level. At the national level, CAMGEW was invited to share her experience of connecting communities from various regions of Cameroon through honey value chain development and the role our beneficiaries are playing in conserving the environment, incubating eco-enterprises and contributing to nation building. This was the same situation with a women cooperative in the Kilum-ijim forest area who were organized under the leadership of Emmaculate Berinyuy in 2020 to develop food value chain of crops harvested from agroforestry practices. Named as Women Ecovillage Change makers (WECMA), Emmaculate connected this cooperative with beneficiaries of our agroforestry trainings in our Project Zone. WECMA likewise NOWEFAM are offshoot from CAMGEW. Working together with Emmaculate, this cooperative has put in the market 3 types of Tea which were also medal winning teas at the national competition. These teas were awarded with Silver Medals for quality and originality. The joy of this innovation in the food sectors lead to massive vote of the cooperative members as well as recommendations of community members for Emmaculate to be the President of Women Ecovillage Change Makers Cooperative. In the words of the delegate of scientific research for the West Region of Cameroon ‘.....Emmaculate has experience in medicinal plants and eco-enterprise development... this women cooperative needs her leadership to powerfully evolve as ideal change makers for nation building.....’ Emmaculate spend 20% of her work time with this cooperative. Follow her initiatives with WECMA on facebook at WECMA WECMA and at www.wecma.org. This amazing initiative called Women Ecovillage Change Makers now gets much attention with more projects to serve humanity, the environment, women and girls. On 20 June 2023, Emmaculate received the medals in recognition of local made products (quality honey) in Cameroon. This recognition will boost the market of our beneficiaries and encourage them to actively participate in conservation and bushfire prevention.

CAMGEW Participation in JEICOM 2023 in Yaounde, Cameroon:

CAMGEW attended JEICOM 2023 from 1st of June to 3rd of June 2023. The Jeicom23 was organized at the Yaoundé Conference Centre by the United Towns and Cities of Cameroon, the umbrella organisation of local governments brings together 360 communes and 14 urban communities. For this 2023 edition, JEICOM aimed to promote the harmonious and inclusive development of local governments and cities, taking advantage of international cooperation and initiating development projects in sectors as varied as agriculture, agro-industry, livestock, fish farming, ecotourism, engineering and wood processing, as well as the implementation of social and solidarity economy projects in all the country’s municipalities. At the close of the international Economic day of Municipalities in Cameroon (JEICOM23) on 3 June 2023 at the Congress Hall in Yaoundé, investors and local elected representatives were unanimous in their commitment to the sustainable development of the country's territories, with 400 green projects in Cameroon. The curtain came down on the second edition of the International Economic day of Municipalities in Cameroon (JEICOM), held at the Congress Hall in Yaoundé, Cameroon. From 1 to 3 June 2023, four plenary sessions, six panels, forty-three thematic discussions and five hundred B-to-B meetings took place, attended by 5,000 people including local councillors (from the municipalities of Saint-Étienne in France and Tangiers in Morocco, etc.), political leaders (including the Belgian Minister of State), associations (Climate Chance, the International Association of Francophone Mayors) and hundreds of entrepreneurs from some twenty countries including Thailand, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Canada, Tunisia and France. These include the Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF). “We can provide expertise in

transport, waste treatment and the redevelopment of city centres, with the support of donors such as France and the European Union (EU),” says Éric Thouvenel, Director of International Development for the industrial company Razel, and head of the French employers’ delegation. Investors, notably in the fields of digital technology, agro-ecology, sanitation, health and renewable energies, targeted 400 projects. The resolutions of this event, which focused on regional food security, included speeding up the green transition in agri-food value chains, pooling decentralised cooperation strategies and the sustainable management of ecosystems. To achieve this, the association of United Councils and Cities of Cameroon(UCCC), which has been organising the JEICOM since 2021, has signed three agreements with commercial banks, notably Afriland First Bank and Société commerciale de banque (SCB), to finance green projects, and with the Floresta platform to reforest several communes using forest carbon. This event exposed CAMGEW to diverse services of local councils, strengthened CAMGEW relationship with mayors of many local councils and gender focal points in various ministries.



Participants at JEICOM 2023

Workshop on Greening the local councils and plastic waste management in Bamenda: On the 9th of June 2023, CAMGEW participated in a workshop on Plastic Waste management at the Regional Delegation of the General Assembly for the North West Region of Cameroon. This workshop hosted 60 lord Mayors from various councils in the North West, South West, Adamawa and West Regions of Cameroon. CAMGEW was invited and she shared how women in her REGAIN project are reusing plastics to nursed tree seedlings that will be later transplanted to the farmlands for soil regeneration, crop production and forest regeneration. This reduced plastic pollution in the environment. In CAMGEW presentation she talked about GBV challenges women are going through on a daily bases and make recommendations towards a plastic free pollution environment and the engagement of women in this process. Thanks to CAMGEW participation at JEICOM 2023, the mayors were able to identify and invite her to this very important event to share her experience to promote learning and replication by various local councils.



CAMGEW presents at Workshop on Greening the local councils and plastic waste management in Bamenda

Women entrepreneurship in Cameroon: On the 26th and 27th of July 2023, the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Family called on CAMGEW to share her women engagement in honey value chain efforts in a workshop to empower 150 women towards commercialization of Made-in-Cameroon products in the African Continental Free Trade Area. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is one of the flagship projects of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. It is a high ambition trade agreement, with a comprehensive scope that includes critical areas of Africa's economy, such as digital trade and investment protection, amongst other areas. By eliminating barriers to trade in Africa, the objective of the AfCFTA is to significantly boost intra-Africa trade, particularly trade in value-added production and trade across all sectors of Africa's economy. This workshop was attended by 4 beneficiaries of CAMGEW project in honey production from the West and Adamawa Regions. CAMGEW shared diverse activities in honey value chain development and how honey from our beneficiaries was recognized for quality at national levels. This was applauded by the Minister of Small and Medium Size Enterprises who recommends honey from our Region as ideal for the African Continental Free Trade.

Presentation of CAMGEW project at UNDP office in Yaounde-Cameroon: Before 14 civil society organisations, UNDP Small Grant Program focal point, CAMGEW presented interventions in the West and Adamawa Regions of Cameroon on the 25th October 2023. This was as a responds to request emerging from the partnership between CAMGEW and WECF-France. This visit was aimed at seeking areas of collaboration and funding between UNDP and CAMGEW.



CAMGEW sharing her success story in project interventions in the West and Adamawa Regions of Cameroon

Visit to French Development Agency in Yaounde: CAMGEW and WECF-France were received on 25th October 2023 in Yaounde by AFD grant officers. This was a collaboration visit to present CAMGEW's activities with women in West and Adamawa Region of Cameroon to AFD Cameroon and seek areas of collaboration with French Development agency office in Cameroon.

Collaboration with Universities: In 2023, CAMGEW received 5 students from the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Engineering of the University of Bamenda for internship from 6th February 2023 to 18th March 2023. During this period, students engaged in various activities promoting sustainable agriculture, developing local irrigation system and conserving the environment. They worked on urban gardening by reusing plastics, tree nursery development, agro-ecology and environmental education. This gave the students the opportunity to match class room knowledge with field practice. They also gained experience in administration and professional ethics. These students sort out above 500 plastic bottles that pollute the urban city of Bamenda for development of urban gardens. This urban garden involved production of vegetables with space management to adapt to land

scarcity and meet high demand for vegetables and foodstuffs. Urban gardening and waste management was in Bamenda of North West Region and plastic bottle use for tree nursery development, field vegetable gardening, honey value chain development and development of simple irrigation system was in CAMGEW Agro-ecological Farm in Magba of West Region of Cameroon. CAMGEW thank MINEPIA – Magba for the support they gave these students. CAMGEW offer university students internship, mentorship and coaching opportunities in her fields of intervention.



Using plastic bottles for urban gardening



Students using plastic bottles for nursery development

Students and vegetable gardening



Students helping in developing a simple irrigation system for CAMGEW Agroecological Farm



Students from University of Bamenda engaged in Honey value chain development

CAMGEW attended the launch of the YOUNGO (Local Conference of Youths) Cameroon statement to COP28: This event took place in Yaoundé on the 18th October 2023. During the local conference, youths added their voices to fight climate change. This was the first Local Climate Change Conference in Cameroon and the first statement from Cameroon youths to the UNFCCC. Representing CAMGEW, Emmaculate Berinyuy as one of the Youth Climate Action delegates worked with other youths for 3 months to come up with a statement. Emmaculate attended COP27 in Egypt in 2022 and learned from the diversity of the global community. We appreciate WECF for supporting her participation at COP27. We are glad her participation was impactful.

B. COMMEMORATION OF GLOBAL ADVOCACY DAYS

International Women's Day 8th March 2023: To commemorate International Women's Day 2023 in Bamenda, CAMGEW brought together 12 civil society organisations in a round table discussion on women led interventions to promote innovation and technology in the North West Region of Cameroon. This brought to light local technology, digital tools and indigenous knowledge used to promote environmental education, urban gardening, grafting of fruit seedlings, agro forestry, forest monitoring and soil health.



CAMGEW Bamenda celebrate Women's Day

CAMGEW team at Ngounso, Magba office in West Region of Cameroon, celebrated women's Day with 35 women. Women shared their views about women's Day, how a woman can be innovative and how technology has influence their lives. An example is the production of cassava flour which has moved from 100% handmade to involve production machines in the process. They said they call on women to produce in quantity and quality for the market. Women also discussed challenges related to innovation and technology especially inadequate energy to run the machines, experts to handle maintenance at local levels. This to the participants was the first Women's Day celebration ever organized at Ngounso.



CAMGEW Magba celebrates Women's Day

Orange the world Campaign against Gender based Violence: The Orange the World against GBV Campaign was launched in 2008 under the leadership of the UN Secretary General to support civil society led 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence around the world. CAMGEW believes in holistic approaches towards conservation and gender promotion.

We cannot reach our sustainability targets without thinking of human rights, CAMGEW joined the world to orange the world against GBV. This 16 days activism took place from 25th November to 10th December 2023 under the global theme "UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls". Marking the launch of this campaign, CAMGEW carried out a workshop with 8 girls to discuss their rights and role to prevent GBV in the community. These girls are benefiting from CAMGEW vocational and personal development activities.



CAMGEW Oranging the World with the use of Theatre Arts

World Food Day 2023 in her field office of Ngounso –Magba: 2023 World Food Day of October 16, 2023 was commemorated under the theme "water is life, water is food, leave no one behind". Working in Magba, Njimom and Bankim since 2022, CAMGEW built capacity of over 600 women in Agroforestry and bee farming. These sustainable farming models promoted socio-economic and environmental rights of women in these areas. To commemorate World food day, an interactive session was held with 45 women on the role of water in agriculture, women as key actors in sustainable water management, planting of water shed trees, maintenance of our water sources and most importantly the need to consume adequate water to promote good health. This interesting session ended with an appraisal of various foodstuffs cultivated by these women. CAMGEW

acknowledges in a special way the presence of her technical partners from Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)-France during this interesting session.



CAMGEW commemorate World Food Day in Magba

International day of the Rural Woman on the 15th October 2023 in Magba: On this day, CAMGEW celebrated the rural women by acknowledging dedicated female small holders farmers. During an open fair in Magba with over 500 participants displaying the strength of rural women to foster good health, food security, promote culture and solidarity, CAMGEW exhibited diversity of the honey value chain in commemoration of 2023 Rural Women Day. The year 2023 was celebrated under the theme "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All", CAMGEW through works of art such as painting and drawings showcased the honey value chain. Rural Women have a key role to play in food security, poverty alleviation, promoting gender equality, sustainable livelihoods, conserve the environment and promote a fairer and brighter cultural, social and economic experience.



International Day of Eradication of Poverty 17th October 2023: CAMGEW brought together 37 women in CAMGEW agro-ecology tree nursery in Magba to commemorate international day of eradication of poverty under the theme 'Dignity for All in Practice'. CAMGEW efforts in eradication of poverty at grassroots level have been evident in honey value chain development, entrepreneurship, medicinal plants value chain and agroforestry. On the 17th of October 2023, CAMGEW discussed the way forward with these grassroots women. Women resolved to engage in sustainable agriculture, cultivation of various vegetables, which are lacking in Magba area and promote solidarity among them. CAMGEW donated various seedlings of vegetables to women to boost production of vegetables locally.



Women receive vegetable seedlings on 2023 Day to Eradicate Poverty

Day of the African Woman 2023: African Women Day commemoration at CAMGEW marked an appreciative moment for women who make up the work force of CAMGEW and drive the organization’s vision, mission and objectives in 2023.

World Wildlife Day 2023: On the 3rd of March 2023, CAMGEW carried out environmental education with 50 elementary school pupils on identification of wildlife. Pupils created various images about wildlife especially various wild animals and plants eaten by animals. CAMGEW is dedicated to building future nature lovers.



Children celebrate 2023 World Wildlife Day with CAMGEW

World Environment 5th June 2023: The Ministry of Environment and Protection of Nature invited CAMGEW to join its event marking the commemoration of world day of environment. These activities took place from the 1st to the 5th of June 2023. Remarkably was the planting of 500 trees in the sacred forest of Mankon Fon’s Palace in Bamenda, Cameroon, radio programs and award of recognition to active youths who took part in environmental activities in the North West Region of Cameroon. Represented by Emmaculate Berinyuy in the radio programme, CAMGEW talked about the role of women in environmental activities in radio programs and how women can get involved. Together with 15 stakeholders representing 15 conservation organisations in the North West Region of Cameroon.

Day of the Girl Child 11th October 2023: CAMGEW commemorated this day in Magba with 30 girls under the theme “invest in girls rights: our leadership, our wellbeing”. Girls raised their voices calling for the right to education, environmental rights and support to develop and grow to responsible womanhood.



Girls raising their voices to call for the right to education and support to grow to responsible womanhood

World Youth Day 15th August 2023: In Bamenda, CAMGEW and youth led civil society organisations namely Eco-friendly generation, Women Ecovillage Change makers, North West Bee Farmers Messenger commemorated this day by displaying green enterprises developed locally. CAMGEW engage youths in conservation and gender promotion activities in Cameroon Highlands. 60 persons attended this.



Youths displaying their various eco-businesses

In Magba field office, this day was characterised with discussions at CAMGEW agro-ecology farm on how to invest in sustainable agriculture. This discussion was attended by 50 youths.



Youth and children reflecting on how to invest in sustainable agriculture

C. CLIMATE CHANCE CONFERENCE YAOUNDÉ 2023

Introduction: Local governments, businesses, organised civil society and citizens already hold the levers for the low-carbon transformation of our societies, but this transition cannot be achieved without equipping the actors and breaking down the silos between them. Accelerating action in the fight against climate change and the preservation of ecosystems at the local level requires dialogue and collaboration between all non-state actors in their diversity: local governments, businesses, civil society. There is need to establish links between themes, sectors and stakeholders. By linking actors, policies, strategies, commitments and initiatives at sub-national, national and global levels, we strengthen action at all levels. It was with this objective that the Climate Chance Association was created following a first event, the Climate and Territories Summit in Lyon in 2015, which brought together climate actors ahead of the COP21 in Paris. Since its creation in 2015, Climate Chance brings together all of the actors involved in the implementation of the objectives of the international Agendas on Climate, Biodiversity and Desertification, in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals. It is the only international association seeking to connect all non-state actors from Europe and Africa, working on the acceleration of local action: from local governments, businesses, and civil society organisations, to the media, researchers and citizens. The Climate Chance Association supports the central role of local actors in climate action and the inseparable link between the climate, biodiversity and desertification agendas, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Climate Chance's value lies in its capacity to create an environment conducive to accelerating climate action.

In 2022, CAMGEW represented by Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki, attended the Climate Chance conference in Dakar-Senegal. This her first attendance build collaboration between CAMGEW and Climate Chance Association. In 2023, Climate Chance Conference took place in Yaounde Cameroon where CAMGEW played a significant role to the success of this conference in Cameroon. The Climate Chance Association brought together on the 23rd and 24th of October 2023 in Yaounde, at the Institut Français in Cameroon, 800 African actors from the "climate community": high-level personalities, experts, actors in the field, representatives of local governments, businesses and organised civil society. In 2023, the Climate Chance Conference which took place at the French Institute, Yaounde in Cameroon was attended by 5 CAMGEW team members: Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy, Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki, Dinyuy Rita, Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy and Njioh Banardine Yafe.



CAMGEW as one of the organizers of Climate Chance Event



CAMGEW Team at the Climate Chance Conference

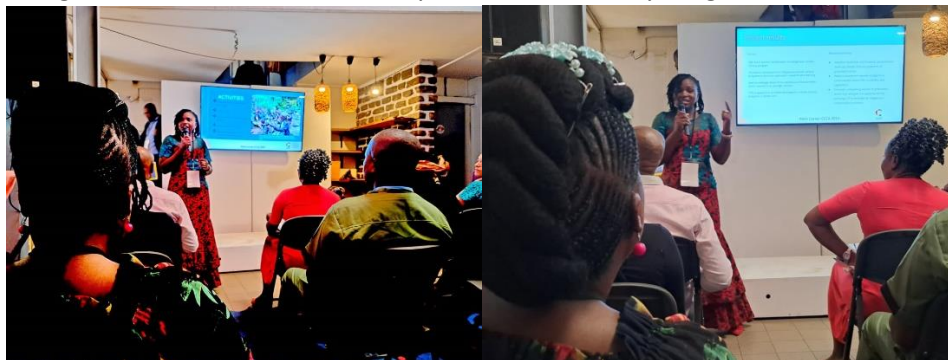
a. The pitch Corner

Gender Linkages between conservation, apiculture and economic growth 24/10/2023: CAMGEW first presentation at the Pitch corner was by Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy and attended by over 30 stakeholders. CAMGEW intervention on forest regeneration, bee farming and economic empowerment of women has benefited many in the Cameroon Highlands. This work has not only contributed to climate mitigation and adaptation struggle but has also led to development of enterprises at local levels. ‘....there is need to balance the economic and conservation equation and promote gender equality..... The linkages between conservation, bee farming and gender equality are wide..’ CAMGEW team leader-Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy said.



CAMGEW on Gender Linkages between conservation, apiculture and economic growth at Pitch Corner

Revitalisation of indigenous knowledge for conservation and women engagement in climate action in the Kilum-Ijim forest area 24/10/2023: This pitch was delivered by Women Empowerment officer-Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki. CAMGEW experience in conservation with a gender lens proofed indigenous knowledge to be an asset towards sustainable environment and livelihood. However, this knowledge is fast disappearing. This is because this knowledge is neither documented nor passed over to the young.



CAMGEW presenting on Revitalisation of indigenous knowledge for conservation

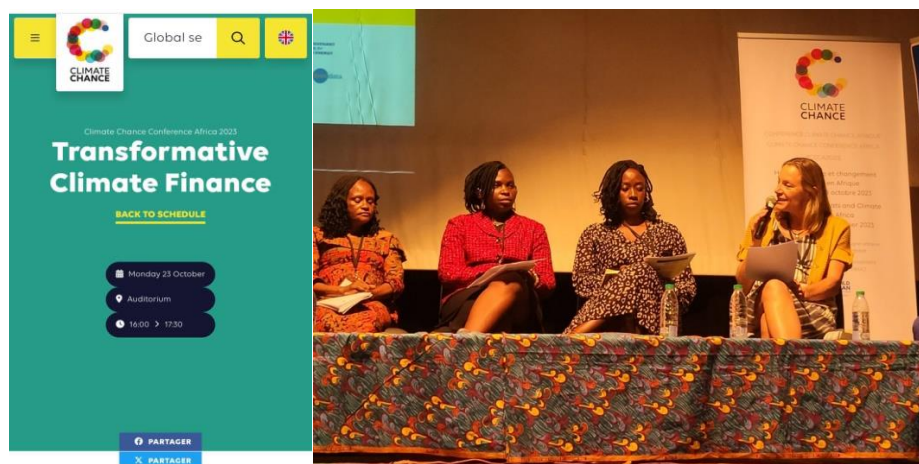
b. Side events

Workshop on Nature-based solutions and urban planning: the role of urban forestry 23/10/2023: this workshop is to share information, experiences, best practices and urban forestry tools for implementing climate, biodiversity and anti-desertification actions in Africa, in preparation for COP 28. Panellists were made up of Armand ASSENG ZE, FAO, Bobbo SALIHOU, Mayor of the City of Ngaoundéré, Pierre LIRAWA, Mayor of Yagoua and Wirsy Emmanuel BINYUY, Team Leader Cameroon Gender & Environment Watch (CAMGEW) and moderated by Baudelaire Kemajou, Director of the Centre Technique Forêt Communale du Cameroun, President of Mairie Conseils. CAMGEW represented by Wirsy Emmanule Binyuy emphasised on the role of urban forestry in nature based climate interventions and urban planning. This workshop brought the role of urban trees in greening the environment, mitigating climate change and greener cities. He recommended collaboration between urban planners, the councils and civil society organisations to promote urban forestry.



CAMGEW presents on Nature-Based Solutions

Round table on Transformative Climate Finance 23/10/2023: This round table was organised by Women Engage for a Common Future and moderated by Anne Barre, Treasurer of Climate Chance, Gender and Climate Policy Coordinator for WECF (Women Engage for a Common Future). Panelist at this round table were made up of Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki,- Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW), Dorothée Lisenga, President of the Executive of Femmes Autochtones et Communautés Locales pour le Développement Durable et Participatif (FACID) and of the Coalition des Femmes Leaders pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable (CFLEDD), Aïssatou Diagne- Senior Climate Change Officer at the West African Development Bank, Blondel Silenou, Country coordinator, CSOs readiness to the GCF – focus Africa, Project Executive Director, Young Volunteers for Environment (YVE) Cameroon, Durando Ndongsok, Director General, S2 Services. Building from field testimonies, CAMGEW shared women experiences in accessing finances at local levels. This is often challenging for them considering the fact that financial institutions demand collaterals inform of property, infrastructure and so on. Women are also challenged by ongoing gender based violence and violation of their rights. This limits their ability to thrive. '...grassroot women and feminist organisations need direct access to climate funding to scale up their initiatives and boost impacts at grassroots levels.' says Ernestine.



c. Advocacy Corner

The climate chance advocacy corner was characterized by the phrase statements about the conference. Sevidzem Emmaculate, Dinyuy Rita and Njioh Banardine Yafe shared their thoughts at the advocacy frame corner.



CAMGEW team at Climate Chance conference

d. The closing Ceremony

The Climate Chance Conference Africa 2023 ended with the adoption of the Yaoundé Roadmap on sustainable habitat that was the most widely endorsed by non-State actors.

See details of the Yaounde Declaration at [Yaounde Roadmap for Sustainable Habitats in Africa, Climate Chance Conference Africa 2023 | Climate Chance \(climate-chance.org\)](https://climate-chance.org/yaounde-roadmap-for-sustainable-habitats-in-africa)



SECTION EIGHT

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING WITH THE UNITED NATION ORGANISATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

CAMGEW has engaged in a series of activities with various UN Agencies Our aim had been to gain global attention through networking and creating partnership to continue learning and sharing We grow stronger likewise others through this knowledge, skills and expertise we gain This helps in influencing decision making locally, nationally and internationally. CAMGEW does this to make voices of communities we work with heard. This is done by interacting with different stakeholders in different events.

A. CAMGEW 2023 ENGAGEMENTS AT COP28 IN DUBAI

United Nations Climate Conference (COP 28) Dubai: Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki represented CAMGEW during the 28th edition of COP popularly known as COP28, which took place in Dubai from the 30th November 2023 to 13th December 2023. More than 70,000 delegates attended COP28, including the member states (or Parties) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Business leaders, young people, climate scientists, climate activists, Indigenous Peoples, journalists, and various other experts and stakeholders were also among the participants. This also included more than 150 Heads of State and Government, representatives of national delegations, civil society, business, Indigenous Peoples, youth, philanthropy, and international organizations. CAMGEW was supported by Women Engage for a Common Future to get accreditation and blue badge to attend COP28. COP28 was marked by networking, success story sharing and learning from the global community.



Delegates in COP28 in Dubai



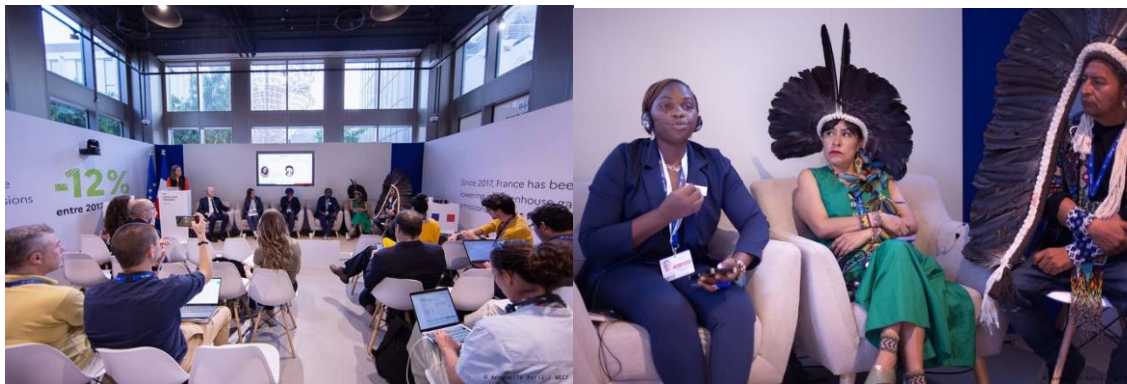
CAMGEW Speaks at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on the 4/12/2023:

Scaling up climate action GJCS workshop 6/12/2023: CAMGEW works and experiences in conservation and gender promotion with Gender Just Climate Solutions Award Winners (CAMGEW being one) was shared in a workshop organized by Women Engage for A Common Future COP28 Dubai and attended by 25 persons. This workshop was part of WECF efforts to strengthen the capacity of award winners to access financial and technical support.



CAMGEW shares her works on conservation and gender promotion with Gender Just Climate Solutions Award Winners

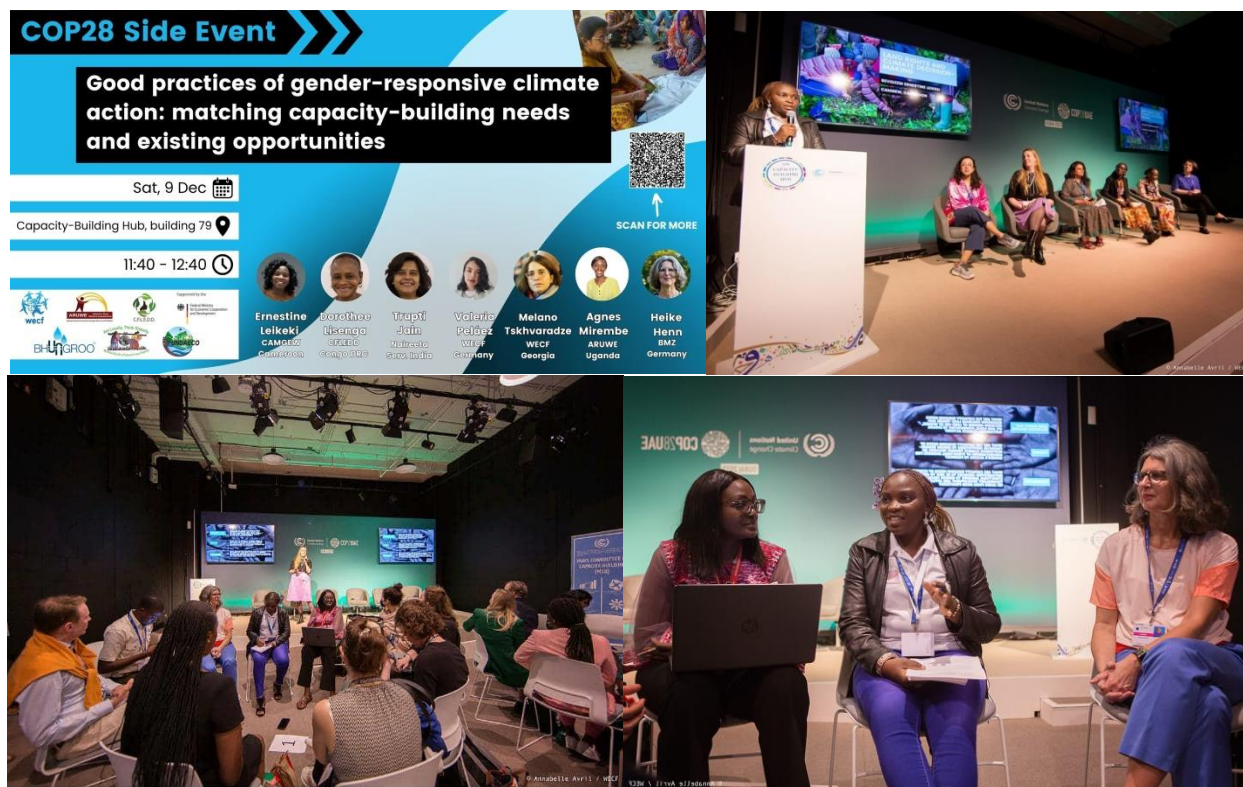
French Pavilion 8/12/2023: This event had discussions on forests as vital reserves for humanity and brought testimonies from the field, presenting exemplary practices that intergrade gender justice into management of natural resources, the fight against climate crisis and the conservation of biodiversity. CAMGEW was speaker at this event sharing best practices on capacity building in honey value chain and agroforestry in the West and Adamawa Region of Cameroon within the framework of French Development Agency Funded Project. CAMGEW presentation stressed the fact that women integration in climate mitigation and adaption can change the narratives and significantly drive conservation outcomes.



CAMGEW Discussing on forests as vital reserves for humanity

Gender Responsive Climate Action: Capacity building Pavilion 9/12/2023: At the capacity-building hub, CAMGEW and other stakeholders promoting gender equality in environmental work organised a world café on good practices on gender responsive climate action. This event was attended by over participants. Key change makers at this event Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki, (Cameroon), Trupti Jain (India) and Mirembe Agnes (Uganda) set the stage by sharing success stories of gender just climate actions and structural barriers they face. After their pitches, they joint in leading interactive discussions. Ernestine working in Cameroon highlands with 16 years' experience attracted the audience with her recommendation on women land rights.

CAMGEW recommended that women ownership of land needs more investment especially in developing countries where cultural norms and practices are strong. She called for technical and financial support as well as policy enhancement at local, national and global levels on women land rights. This event created opportunities for dialogues on topical issues like women's rights and access to land, decision-making, finance and technology.



World café on good practices on gender responsive climate action

Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) Pavilion 9/12/2023: This event focused on gender-just and community rights perspectives on forest and biodiversity convention as pathways for climate justice. This fire chat discussion discussed grassroots actions on promoting women rights to the environment and brings recommendations to the global community. CAMGEW called on climate stakeholders to give local communities the opportunity to tell their stories as well as support them technically and financially. She emphasised the role of community media and leaders in promotion of community rights on forest and biodiversity.



CAMGEW at the Women and Gender Constituency Fire Chat

West African Development Bank (BOAD) Pavilion 10/12/2023: CAMGEW was invited by the Project Officer of West African Development Bank, Aissatou Diagne to present her actions with women in Kilum-Ijim forest area. This event was titled “women in climate action’. Attended by 25 persons, CAMGEW gender responsive climate interventions and livelihood activities for grassroots communities were presented. On recommendations, CAMGEW asked for the removal of barriers by multilaterals and cooperation’s to permit local organisations to access direct finances from them.



CAMGEW in women in climate action' Event

Restitution of Climate Chance Conference 10/12/2023: Climate Chance Conference took place in Cameroon in October 2023. CAMGEW was one of the organisers of this international conference that was attended by over 600 persons. At COP28, CAMGEW was called up for the restitution of this conference. This restitution took place at La Francophonie Pavilion on the 10/12/2023. As a Cameroon, civil society organisations, CAMGEW commented on the Yaoundé Climate Chance Declaration especially on provisions related to women entrepreneurship, urban housing and local techniques and tools in infrastructure, access to finances.

RFI interview 11/12/2023: IUCN invited Sevidzem Ernestine at the Media Centre to talk on CAMGEW forest regeneration in the Kilum-Ijim forest in Cameroon. This 10 minutes interview informed many participants about CAMGEW forest regeneration work. After the interview, Ernestine had a host of audience whose questions generated further discussions on CAMGEW vision, mission and objectives.



CAMGEW at RFI interview on forest regeneration in the Kilum-Ijim forest in Cameroon

The people's assembly 11/12/2023: The people's assembly was an exciting moment at COP28. This assembly was an opportunity to listen to observers speaking out about diverse issues related to violation of their rights, the children parliament spoke on children related challenges and activist raised their voices. This was a moment of speaking out truth to the authorities.



CAMGEW joined activists to raise their voices to speak out to authorities.

Film of CAMGEW presence at COP28 named 100 ways to catch the Wind: In September 2023 at New York, USA, Sevidzem Ernestine of CAMGEW meet Sarah Kuck, at the Evening Celebrating Gender Just Climate Solutions. Sarah is an independent filmmaker dedicated to telling stories of climate activist and women in environmental space. Her project with Ernestine was called '100 Ways to Catch the Wind', and it features women who are bringing their local climate change solutions to the international stage to demand support for their communities. At COP28, Sarah and her team followed up Ernestine's activities in preparation for this film. We look forward to this film come 2024.

COP 28: What Was Achieved and What Happens Next?

Signalling the 'beginning of the end' for the fossil fuel era: COP 28 closed with an agreement that signals the "beginning of the end" of the fossil fuel era by laying the ground for a swift, just and equitable transition, underpinned by deep emissions cuts and scaled-up finance. As COP 28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber said: "We have language on fossil fuel in the (COP) final agreement for the first time ever." It clearly points to the direction of travel in the energy transition. In the short-term, Parties were encouraged to come forward with ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with the 1.5°C limit in their next round of climate action plans (known as nationally determined contributions) by early 2025.

Enhancing global efforts to strengthen resilience: In a major step forward, Parties agreed on targets for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) and its framework, which identify where the world needs to get to in order to be resilient to the impacts of a changing climate and to assess countries' efforts. The GGA framework reflects a global consensus on adaptation targets and covers the themes of water, food, health, ecosystems, infrastructure, poverty eradication and cultural heritage. The decision gives adaptation progress a future orientation for the first time, reflecting aspiration and ambition, as opposed to the previous practice of measurement against past efforts. The GGA aims to guide adaptation planning and strategies at all levels, and to align the finance, technology and capacity-building support needed to achieve these.

Climate Financing: Climate finance took centre stage at the conference, with Stiell repeatedly calling it the "great enabler of climate action." The Green Climate Fund (GCF) received a boost to its second replenishment with six countries pledging new funding at COP28 with total pledges now standing at a record USD 12.8 billion from 31 countries, with further contributions expected. Eight donor governments announced new commitments to the Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund totalling more than USD 174 million to date, while new pledges, totalling nearly USD 188 million so far, were made to the Adaptation Fund at COP 28. However as highlighted in the 'global stocktake', current climate finance flows channelled by multilateral, bilateral and private sources taken together are far short of the trillions eventually needed to support developing countries with clean energy transitions, implementing their national climate plans and adaptation efforts. In order to deliver such funding, the 'global stocktake' underscores the importance of reforming the multilateral financial architecture, scaling up climate finance through grants and concessional finance and accelerating the ongoing establishment of new and innovative sources of finance.

At COP 28, discussions continued on setting a 'new collective quantified goal on climate finance' in 2024, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries. The new goal, which will start from a baseline of USD 100 billion per year, will help support the implementation of a new round of national climate plans that need to be designed and submitted by early 2025.

Linking climate action with nature conservation: COP 28 resulted in unprecedented recognition and momentum for linking efforts to address the climate and biodiversity crises. Alongside pollution, these make up the triple planetary crisis – the three, main interlinked environmental issues facing humanity. Governments were called on to consider ecosystems, biodiversity and carbon stores, such as forests, when developing their stronger national climate action plans (known as nationally determined contributions), which are due by early 2025. This call was part of a wide-ranging, comprehensive decision by Parties on the world’s first ‘global stocktake’ to ratchet up climate action before the end of the decade with the aim of limiting the global temperature rise within 1.5°C. The decision emphasized “the importance of conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris agreement temperature goal” through protecting “terrestrial and marine ecosystems acting as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases and by conserving biodiversity.” This also includes “halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030”, which would eliminate about 14% of global emissions and enhance the capacity of forests to store more carbon. This is the first time such a pledge has garnered formal recognition under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Recognizing “the need for enhanced support and investment including through financial resources, technology transfer and capacity-building” for these combined efforts to address the climate and biodiversity crises, governments are urged to approach this based on “the best available science as well as Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge and local knowledge systems”. Nature-based solutions were also recognized in the decision on the ‘global stocktake’, recognizing that nature and biodiversity are keys to mitigating a heating planet and protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of a changing climate. All these efforts are to be aligned with the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which was agreed at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada in December 2022. Among the Biodiversity Framework’s 23 commitments, are protecting 30% of the planet’s land and oceans for nature by 2030 (the so-called “30x30” pledge) and restoring 30% of the planet’s degraded ecosystems.

Ramping up practical climate solutions: In parallel with the formal negotiations, the Global Climate Action space at COP28, provided a platform for governments, businesses and civil society to collaborate and display their practical climate solutions. The High-Level Champions, under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, launched their implementation roadmap of 2030 Climate Solutions. These are a set of solutions, with insights from a wide range of non-Party stakeholders on effective measures that need to be scaled up and replicated to halve global emissions, address adaptation gaps and increase resilience by 2030. The conference also saw several major announcements to reduce emissions and boost resilience in certain sectors:

One hundred and twenty-five countries signed onto the UAE Climate and Health Declaration, and finance providers mobilized an initial tranche of USD 1 billion for climate and health solutions. The Declaration urges governments to act to protect communities and prepare health systems for climate impacts, such as extreme heat stress and increased spread of infectious diseases. One hundred and thirty-seven Heads of State and government committed to new ambition on food systems transformation within their national climate plans under the COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action, alongside regenerative agriculture and climate-food innovation financing commitments totalling USD 2.6 billion.

The EU and its Member States announced EUR 175 million in support of the Methane Finance Sprint to boost methane reduction. These funds will help catalyse efforts from government, industry, and philanthropy to reduce methane emissions across the energy sector.

Looking ahead: The negotiations on the ‘enhanced transparency framework’ at COP 28 laid the ground for a new era of implementing the Paris Agreement. UN Climate Change is developing the transparency reporting and review tools for use by Parties, which were showcased and tested at COP 28. The final versions of the reporting tools should be made available to Parties by June 2024. COP 28 also saw Parties agree to Azerbaijan as host of COP 29 from 11-22 November 2024, and Brazil as COP 30 host from 10-21 November 2025. The next two years will be critical. At COP 29, governments must establish a new climate finance goal, reflecting the scale and urgency of the climate challenge. And at COP 30, they must come prepared with new nationally determined contributions that are economy-wide, cover all greenhouse gases and are fully aligned with the 1.5°C temperature limit. “We must get on with the job of putting the Paris Agreement fully to work,” said Stiell. “In early 2025, countries must deliver new nationally determined contributions. Every single commitment – on finance, adaptation, and mitigation – must bring us in line with a 1.5-degree world.” Urging people everywhere to raise their voices for change, Stiell said: “Every one of you is making a real difference. In the crucial coming years your voices and determination will be more important than ever.”

CAMGEW CONCLUSION ABOUT COP28

CAMGEW was well represented at COP28 and financially supported by Women Engage for a Common Future International. Telling CAMGEW stories, helped in creating visibility, searching for technical and financial partners and learning from diverse climate actors. This is a space to also share our thoughts and recommendations towards a better world. CAMGEW promotes sustainable global climate experience sharing and uplift climate mitigation and adaptation interventions. Sevidzem Ernestine returned to Cameroon on the 12th of December 2023.

B. UNITED NATION GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK

Introduction

In 2023, CAMGEW represented by Sevidzem Ernestie attended the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly and SDG action week from 16th to 22th September 2023. Heads of State and Government gather at UN Headquarters in New York on 18-19 September 2023 to review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and provide high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to the target year of 2030 for achieving the Goal. Women’s Major Group (WMG) invited Ernestine. The Women's Major Group (WMG) was created as one of nine Major Groups after the 1992 UN Conference on Environment & Development held in Rio. This high profile event was characterized by networking and policy recommendation to the global community.

CAMGEW Activities carried out in New York during UN General Assembly

SDG Mobilization Day (16 September, 2023): This day was named mobilization day during the summit. This day created convening and mobilization opportunities for stakeholders across civil society, the private sector, youth, women, scientists, and local and regional governments. The SDG Mobilization Day was held on Saturday, 16 September, 2023 from 10:00 – 18:00 at UN Headquarters. CAMGEW was speaker at a remarkable event titled ‘Towards A Rights-Centered Gender-Transformative Economy, Including A New International Financial Architecture’ This event was organized by Women’s Major Group supported by UN Women from 11:00am to 13:00pm at UN headquarters Conference Room 2. CAMGEW was called upon to make recommendations towards SDG advancement and policy. CAMGEW 16 years’ experience as grassroots organizations with a world of experience was found instrumental by the world leaders to make meaning recommendations in current financial

architecture. CAMGEW represented by Sevidzem Ernestine Leikeki lifted grassroots voices at the United Nations headquarters during this event. Her presentation was around gender equality especially transformative economy, including a new international financial architecture. ‘...we must ensure that the voices of grassroots women and girls in all their diversity are heard by global policy makers..’ said Ernestine. She called on world leaders to step up their actions and convictions and implement agenda 2030 and resource those initiatives that work on the intersection of gender inequality and the plenary crisis at the grassroots levels.

March pass to end fossil fuels with fellow feminists in New York City: Over 75000 feminists march to kick off climate summit in New York City on 18 September 2023. CAMGEW represented by Sevidzem Ernestine was among these thousands demanding an end to warming-causing fossil fuels.



Feminists demanding end of fossil fuel use

Tens of thousands of demonstrators flooded the streets of midtown Manhattan in New York for the March to End Fossil Fuels, calling on President Biden to take action to phase out fossil fuels and address environmental injustice. The march marked the beginning of New York’s Climate Week, where world leaders gathered for a U.N. summit.

Global People’s Assembly 18/09/2023: CAMGEW joint the global call to action by participating in the global people’s assembly in New York. The Global People’s Assembly 2023 was held on 17th and 18 September 2023 in New York – at the UN SDG Summit and the UN General Assembly. The Global People’s Assembly (GPA) brings people’s representatives together and creates a strong voice at the SDG Summit for the midpoint of Agenda 2030. With 350 in-person participants at the Church Centre to the UN (opposite the UN Headquarters on 1st Avenue) and an additional 2040-registered participants joining online from 127 countries, the assembly aimed to monitor and discuss SDG implementation. AT this assembly, CAMGEW emphasized on bottom-up approaches towards climate mitigation and adaptation, revitalization of indigenous knowledge and funding for gender transformative initiatives.

Funding Transformation: An evening celebrating feminist climate solutions 19/09/2023: Women Empowerment and Development Organization (WEDO) organized this event. In 2022, CAMGEW was supported by WEDO under the Gender Just Climate Solution Scale Fund. Their support advocated for women socio-economic and environmental rights in the North West region of Cameroon. The event in New York was aimed at celebrating the successes of this project while lobbying for more financial and technical support. Talking to 50 stakeholders who attended this event, Ernestine said that CAMGEW solutions to conservation and gender equality are holistic in nature: providing livelihoods, improving biodiversity, creating leadership roles for women and girls and shifting power in communities. Her presentation was followed by moments of networking. This eventually led to invitation for a reapply for financial support for Gender Just Climate Solutions Scale Fund and collaboration with

Sarah Kuck-an independent filmmaker. CAMGEW looks forward to the outcome of the 2024 scale fund and development of film by Sarah Kucks

Feminist Foreign Policy Side Event 20/09/2023: During the UNGA78 High Level Week, there was a ministerial-level side event focused on feminist foreign policy. Within the margins of the High-level week of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, a side-event of the Feminist Foreign Policy+ Group was held on 20th September 2023. CAMGEW was present at this event. The foreign ministers of countries committed to feminist foreign policies, including Germany, Spain, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Rwanda, Chile, France, Canada, Mexico, Belgium, Colombia and Argentina, attended the side event. The participants discussed activities, challenges and opportunities, goals within the feminist foreign policy framework.

CAMGEW Attend Regional Summit on Congo Basin: Bridging Food Sovereignty, Biodiversity Conservation, and Climate Resilience: On 25 August 2023 in Democratic Republic of Congo CAMGEW through Wirsiy Emmanuel participated in a summit organized by The Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA), the largest CSO coalition championing food sovereignty across the continent. The theme was “Regional Summit in reconciling food production with biodiversity conservation and climate emergency in the Congo Basin”. The summit gathered aspirations to forge a path forward amidst the challenges of food systems, biodiversity conservation, and the looming threat of climate change. CAMGEW was interested in discussions that focused on agro-ecology. She learned much from the summit in this line and has been putting it into practice in CAMGEW Agro-ecological farm and CAMGEW Agro-ecological Centre.



SECTION NINE

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. 2023 CAMGEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

CAMGEW 2023 Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was held in Yaoundé on the 26th October 2023 by a gender balanced board made up of 5 males and 5 females.

This board meeting had the following objectives:

1. Presentation of 2023 activities, challenges and recommendations by the execution team
2. Brainstorm on CAMGEW vision, mission statement, objectives, target area and target population and ensure they reflect the present realities of CAMGEW interventions
3. Adopt new resolutions on the organizations strategy
4. Make recommendations for fund raising, replication of activities to other areas, human resources challenges and networking opportunities.

Presentation of 2023 activities, challenges and recommendations by the execution team

CAMGEW 2023 activities were presented to the BOD by CAMGEW execution team represented by Njioh Banardine Yafe, Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy and Dinyuy Rita. Banardine. The following activities were carried out at the various CAMGEW offices. In CAMGEW Oku field office Banardine said 121644 native trees had been planted to regenerate the Kilum-Ijim forest, there was availability of tree nursery to prepare seedlings for forest regeneration and agro forestry trainings. Over 500 persons joint honey value chain development in the forest area, 310 women gained more knowledge on indigenous climate knowledge and over 500 children in environmental education. Her presentation informed the BOD of challenges they face in the field such as the socio-political crisis in the English speaking Regions of Cameroon, limited energy supply and internet connection making reporting very challenging, limited funding to implement conservation activities especially with a more gender lens and insufficient technical support for staff capacity building. She recommended that conservation efforts need everyone including BOD members.

Activities of CAMGEW work at the Head Office in Bamenda, were presented to the BOD by Sevidzem Emmaculate Berinyuy. Her presentation talked about administrative developments at the head office, fund raising efforts, girl's leadership and personal development program, partnership with University of Bamenda and advocacy efforts on women's socio economic and environmental rights. She also presented on the setting up of the field office at Ngounso in West Region of Cameroon with the coming of the REGAIN project in 2022. CAMGEW work hosted by Magba field office extended CAMGEW interventions on honey value chain and agro-ecology in the West and Adamaoua Regions of Cameroon. CAMGEW set up an agroecologica demonstration farm for learning, research, exchange of best practices and demonstration. Emmaculate mentioned challenges such as lack of mobility means to facilitate CAMGEW team, limited funding for planned activities. Emmaculate called on the BOD to make regular visits to the execution team and be part of the growth through their recommendations.

Dinyuy Rita discussed finances with BOD. She presented a summary of CAMGEW income and expenditures for 2022 and 2023. She said, CAMGEW carried out activities were more than available funding. This means that CAMGEW execution team does more of voluntary services and needed

funding. She encouraged the BOD to assist in fund raising and plant a tree by promoting marketing of CAMGEW trained bee keepers' products. Rita talked of need for a permanent building for CAMGEW head office as it will enhance proper installation of financial software system and limit lapses that pose a threat to financial management. She also recommended financial management training for all CAMGEW team members as everyone goes for field work and uses money.



CAMGEW Staff Presenting CAMGEW Activities for 2022 to the General Assembly

- **Brainstorm on CAMGEW vision, mission statement, objectives, target area and target population**

Created in October 2007, CAMGEW has been working in the Cameroon Highlands. Her greatest impact over the years has been in the Kilim-Ijim forest area. As of 2023, she has reached out to over 80.000 persons on environmental education, forest generation, bushfire prevention, honey value chain development, girl child empowerment, entrepreneurship, agroforestry and revitalization of indigenous knowledge to drive conservation goals. The remarkable successes are worth scalable and worth replicating. This led to extension of these activities in other areas of Cameroon Highlands of the West and Adamawa Regions of Cameroon in 2022. It is therefore important to rethink CAMGEW's vision, mission, target area, target group and objectives to reflect her present context and future aspirations of the organization. It was crucial to revise CAMGEW mission statement, vision, area of action, target group and objectives and integrate current approaches into CAMGEW formal documents.

Supported by Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA), CAMGEW worked on several proposals to revise her vision, mission, objectives, target group, target area. These proposals were presented to the BOD for refining and adoption. The BOD brainstormed on them for approval.



CAMGEW 2022 General Assembly Exchanging Ideas to Make CAMGEW Better

The following was approved by the BOD

1. Adoption of CAMGEW new vision, mission, objectives, target group and target area

Vision: A society free from poverty, gender inequality and unsustainable environmental practices

Mission: We do environmental protection by strengthening the capacity of community members especially women and youths in agro-ecology, eco-businesses, forest regeneration and livelihood improvement in the Cameroon Highlands Area.

Target Area: Cameroon Highland Forest and environs.

Target Group: Forest users, farmers, Grazers, grassroots women and children, community leaders.

What we offer: agro-ecology, Non-timber forest products, value chain development, Tree nursery development, Forest regeneration, environmental education, Children and youth development, women/girls empowerment, social regeneration, Advocacy.

Global Objectives: An inclusive and sustainably managed Cameroon Highland Forest through forest regeneration and agro-ecology for natural regeneration, eco-business development and gender promotion in conservation

Specific Objectives:

- Local government actors supported, gender equality and citizens' engagement promoted to ensure effective management of the Cameroon Highland Forest.
- Women in Cameroon Highlands are empowered and participate in forest management and community development.
- Eco-business operators in Cameroon Highland Forest area informed on diverse non-timber forest products, master the techniques of production to produce good quality and sufficient quantity for the market.
- Agro-ecology operators have adequate capacity, conserve the soil and have increased revenue through the commercialization of their products.
- CAMGEW developed 3 projects and sought funds to handle challenges in the Cameroon Highland Forest area and develop a good system to manage funds.

- CAMGEW will work with like-minded organizations and people locally, nationally and globally, to share knowledge, experiences on forest local governance issues and learn from them.

2. The Board members resolved to collaborate in fund raising strategy of the organization

This collaboration will involve project proposal development, search for financial partners and contributions from BOD members.

3. BOD resolved to support beneficiaries on honey value chain development to source a market for their honey and honey products

This support is essential as it will not only encourage bee farmers to prevent bushfires but will also encourage development of local enterprises by our beneficiaries, increase income and job creation at grassroot levels.

4. Brainstorming on Target Area

CAMGEW now is covering other areas than just Kilum-Ijim forest. She has expanded to cover **Cameroon Highlands Forest area**. The success of conservation and gender promotion activities have also been replicated in other areas of Cameroon.

Locating Cameroon Highlands: Geographically the Cameroon highlands or eco-region encompasses the mountains and highland areas of the boarder region between Nigeria and Cameroon, excluding Mount Cameroon (Ndenecho, 2011)



Figure 2: A Map of the Cameroon Highlands

Source: Thia, (2014).

Most of the eco-region lies within a narrow rectangle of some 180 km by 625 km, oriented southwest to northeast and originating about 50 km inland of Mount Cameroon (Neba, 2006). At the southern extremity, the eco-region covers the Rumpi Hills, the Bakossi Mountains, Mount Nlonako, Mount Kupe and Mount Manengouba. It then extends northeast towards the Mambilla Plateau, with an extension north to the Bamenda-Banso highlands and outliers northeast to Mambila and northwest to the Obudu

Plateau of Nigeria (Gvoždík *et al.*, 2020). The main trend of the eco-region continues north-east along the western flank of the Adamawa Plateau to Tchabal Gangdaba with two small outliers further east (Ndenecho, 2011; Gvoždík *et al.*, 2020). The highest point within this eco-region is Mount Oku at 3,011m in the Bamenda-Banso highlands (Zimkus and Gvoždík, 2013; Denys *et al.*, 2014). Most of the remainder is below 2,600m in elevation. At about 800 m to 1,000 m the eco-region grades into lowland vegetation communities of other eco-regions (Ndenecho, 2011). In the majority of cases, however, the lower boundary of these forests is now determined by conversion to agricultural land. Although located in tropical Africa the mean maximum temperatures are below 20°C due to the effects of altitude. At the southern extremity, closer to the coast, rainfall is around 4,000 mm per annum, declining inland to 1,800 mm or less.

5. Restructuring of CAMGEW Agro-ecology farm

CAMGEW has been working on agro-ecology for some time but then this department was not well structured. With the extension of CAMGEW activities to West and Adamawa Regions and challenges of farmers in these areas, there was need for an agro-ecological demonstration, research, production and learning farm to encourage community learning directly and indirectly on soil regeneration, organic crop production, and domestication of non-timber forest products, agricultural green economy, extension services and agroforestry models. This farm has tree nursery for seedling preparation, plantains, various tropical fruits, medicinal plants, cereals, vegetables, coffee, sun flower and others. This structuring of the agro ecological system involved demonstration farm, exhibition and training center, human resources strategy. As of 2023, this farm measure 4 hectares.

Challenges in the farm and way forward

- Harsh dry season in Ngounso Magba that affects production in the farm.
- There no irrigation technology that will ensure water supply in the farm in the hot seasons
- Lack of farm storage facilities to enable storage of farm tools and produce. This is a challenges when farms produce are harvested

There is need for a farm house to store produce and farm tools. This will reduce post-harvest waste and improve management of farm tools.

- So far, CAMGEW has invested much financial and technical resources into the farm. The income in terms of achievements are still very low as of 2023. There is need for a strategic action plan towards production, scale up pre-tested successful products and community capacity building and plant for more crops with economic, social and environmental benefits. This will maximize achievements of the farm in the coming year.
- Plantains like other products are producing well. However, the commercialization of raw farm produce is slow. There is need for value chain development including transformation of produce to other items such as plantain flour, soya beans flour, peanut butter etc. This will reduce post-harvest waste during storage and increase value of farm produce.

- The scale of the demonstration farm needs expertise in agriculture or related field. This will improve management and maximize production space. There is need to strategies human resources for the farm in terms of coordination, management, transparency and accountability.
- Lack of transportation means for farm activities is a challenge. Truck and vehicles or any form of mobility assistance maximize time, reduce post-harvest waste, and facilitate commercialization and aid in mobility of the team in Magba
- Lack of marketing platform for farmers empowered in Njimom, Magba and Bankim. These farmers are developing individual agro ecological farms and need to be supported with a platform for knowledge exchange, marketing and networking.

CAMGEW needs support for a platform financially and technically to set-up this platform this in terms of infrastructural and human resource development.

B. ACTIVITY EXTENSION TO MAYO DARLE IN ADAMAWA REGION OF CAMEROON

In 2023, CAMGEW extended her activities to Mayo Darle Sub-division in Mayo Banyo Division of the Adamawa Regions of Cameroon. This area is part of the Cameroon highlands. This extension was led by Wirsy Emmanuel Binyuy, Director of CAMGEW. In 2023, CAMGEW carried out the following activities in Mayo Darle:

- Feasibility studies on bee farming potentials in the area. This was carried out by Director of CAMGEW Wirsy Emmanuel Binyuy
- Information of authorities of CAMGEW presence and area of intervention
- Capacity building in honey production and beeswax extraction
- By December 2023, CAMGEW has a field office at Mayo Darle with the support of delegation of MINEPIA. MINEPIA host CAMGEW base in Mayo Darle with two personnel's until CAMGEW will get a suitable building

C. COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

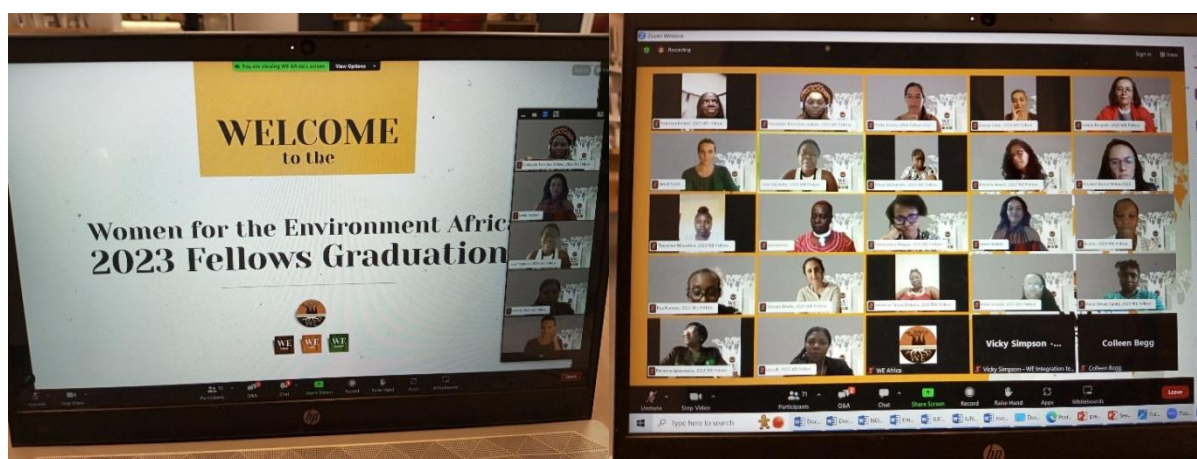
In 2023, CAMGEW enhanced her collaboration with many like-minded civil society organizations and stakeholders in Cameroon. Through a network created in 2022, CAMGEW brought these organizations together which as of 2023 has 228 members who collaborate with CAMGEW to promote conservation and livelihoods initiatives in Cameroon. This network share best practices, knowledge, information, successes and challenges that promote women socio-economic and environmental rights. Membership into this stakeholder space is accessed through this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CjoP0S6meyE8VRZTPC2iW2>

D. PERSONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

Building staff capacity means enhancing the skills, knowledge, and abilities of employees to perform their roles effectively. There were various methods and principles used for building staff capacity, such as providing training, workshops, and seminars, matching tasks to skills, encouraging collaboration and trust, creating hands-on learning opportunities, and focusing on long-term growth. CAMGEW focused on coordinating staff work schedules and setting attainable goals for staff members. In 2023, worked on capacity building of her team in happened in several ways.

Staff enrolment into Second year of Master Degree studies: Ernestine enrolled into Masters of Science Degree program at the University of Science and Technology (BUST), Bamenda, North West Region of Cameroon with accreditation from Faculty of Agronomy and Agricultural Sciences (FASA), University of Dschang- Cameroon. Ernestine enrolled in September 2022 and is expected to graduate in August 2024.

WE Africa 2023 Fellow and Travel to Namibia for Professional Development course: In January 2023, Ernestine was admitted into the professional development program called 'Women for Environment, (WE) Africa. Women for the Environment Africa is a mentorship program for women leaders who focus on conservation and environmental protection in Africa. **Ernestine attended the first in person retreat in Namibia in March 2023.** WE Africa was created to empower women leaders in African conservation to transform their own and others' leadership, creating strong mixed gender teams to achieve a greater environmental outcomes. Ernestine graduated as WE Africa Fellow on 6th December 2023. The skills gained from this professional development helped CAMGEW rework on her mission, vision and objectives.



Ernestine graduate from WE Africa Fellowship Program

Staff Enrolment into First Degree program School of Agriculture : Emmaculate Berinyuy has been staff of CAMGEW since February 2015. Working on honey value chain development and assistant project officer for conservation and livelihood projects. Emmaculate has experience in medical nursing with a six months diploma. Her impact in CAMGEW was being felt in value chain development of medicinal plants value chain, honey value chain, teenage girls' empowerment, children environmental education, women empowerment and in agroforestry capacity building of women. CAMGEW agro-ecology program needs human resources to provide technical impacts at grassroots levels. Working as Project Officer for REGAIN project since February 2023, she realized that capacity building is crucial to be an impactful leader and adapt to changing times. In October 2023, Emmaculate enrolled into a six semester BSc program on Agronomy and Agribusiness which will end July 2026. This professional program requires constant field work to be successful. The projects where she is active in CAMGEW will provide her moral and technical support through her studies. Upon graduation her studies as an agric-technician, she will be useful in driving CAMGEW vision and mission and specifically CAMGEW specific objective 2, 3 and 4.

Staff Enrolment in Teachers Training College: Njioh Banardine enrolled in to Grade 1 technical teachers training college in Oku. Banardine has been CAMGEW staff since 2013 working as project assistant on engagement of women forest regeneration and livelihood activities. In September 2023, Banardine enrolled in to grade 1

teachers training college and was working 50% of her time. This two semester studies coupled with her years of experience will strengthen her to mainstream environmental protection in the education domain. Her knowledge will be useful in environmental and nature education.

Capacity Strengthening on Monitory and Evaluation in Bamenda North West Region of Cameroon

6/12/2023: On the 6th of December 2023, CAMGEW was among the 18 community based organizations that were trained on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) by Cameroon Society of English Speaking Evaluators - CamSEE. CAMGEW was represented by Ngum Bridget Nnam. Participants learned about M&E systems for CSO management, transforming and analyzing data using Power BI software.



Participants at the monitoring and evaluation training

CAMGEW attend workshop on the use of humour to address environmental crisis: CAMGEW attended workshop in Hotel Yaahot, Nlongkak – Yaounde, Cameroon on the 27 and 28 March 2023. This workshop was organized to use humour to raise environmental awareness especially as we suffer from climate change, deforestation, pollution and species extinction. It was attended by 20 scholars, practitioners and comedians from across Cameroon. CAMGEW was invited to share her experience on climate action, inclusion and livelihoods and how women are impacted by forest exploitation and deforestation in Cameroon. The workshop looked at ways to integrate comedians in tackling climate crises and the need to foster new collective ways of thinking and communicating about climate change. It looked at the need to combine research, practical action and comedy to make things work for the environment. Comedians like 237 Town Cryer, Piment Noir, Valery Ndongo and others participated. This workshop was supported through a Public Engagement with Research Seed Fund and Inspiration Award from the University of Oxford, with project funding from the British Academy, the Wolfson Foundation, and Mansfield College.

2023 CAMGEW Awards

CAMGEW won the prestigious Life Time Achievement Award for Nation Builders, Gold Category 2023 in Cameroon. This award by the Media Group in Cameroon recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations doing exceptional work to promote development locally and nationally. Represented by Emmaculate Berinyuy, CAMGEW received this Award in Bafoussam, West Region of Cameroon on the 11th of November 2023.



CAMGEW wins the prestigious Life Time Achievement Award for Nation Builders, Gold Category 2023 in Cameroon

C. CAMGEW's ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2023

a. Women Empowerment and Child development

- Continue with counseling services for Bamenda Highland Area community
- Train, organize and support women in solidarity groups in Bamenda Highland Area
- Advocacy to protect women rights and interest around the Bamenda Highland Area
- Carry out trainings on improved personal hygiene, nutrition and health for women and girls.
- Work on the development of children as future leaders of our communities

b. Forest conservation

- Develop new strategies and put them to action to fight bushfires, deforestation, encroachment and over hunting that degrades the Cameroon Western Highlands forest
- Sensitize Cameroon Western Highlands forest communities on forest conservation, law and sanctions
- CAMGEW to continue with forest regeneration through nursery development and native tree planting in Cameroon Western Highlands forest and continuous with forest education for communities.

c. Agroecology Capacity building for farmers in Forest Communities:

- Capacity building of communities (farmers and grazers) on agroforestry techniques and donation of agroforestry seeds/seedlings for planting in Cameroon Western Highlands forest Area.
- Agroforestry encourages the development of various food value chains like medicinal plants and engage more women and youths in forest monitoring.

d. Honey Value Chain Development

- Capacity building on honey production and transformation of honey to honey juice, honey wine and bees wax to soap, powder soap, body lotion, candles, etc
- Capacity building of community members on entrepreneurship in honey value chain
- Build capacity of community members to engage in production of bee farming technologies/equipment like bee suits, bee smokers, honey drainers, bees wax extractors, multiplication of queen bees
- Train more bee farmers and controllers on traceability and honey and bees wax quality control
- Capacity building on packaging and marketing of honey, bees wax and their transformed products
- CAMGEW to increase rolling funds to keep on buying honey from farmers' cooperatives.
- Sourcing funds to construct the storage and transformation unit of the Honey shop

e. Environmental education

- Carryout weekly environmental education activities for children in Cameroon Western Highlands forest
- Developing environmental education materials for children/communities in Cameroon Western Highlands forest Area

f. Capacity Building in Urban Gardening

- Recycling of plastics to tree nursery pots, vegetables and medicinal plants cultivation
- Techniques to grow organic crops in urban space as alternative income source

- Reduce plastic pollution by converting waste to wealth
- g. Sharing of Skills and Knowledge with other communities/institutions**
- Continue sharing skills and knowledge on Honey Value Chain with like-minded or interested organizations nationwide and abroad.
- Making all information of CAMGEW accessible to public in either hard documents and/or online
- Building of local networks with other organizations and supporting them
- h. Advocacy and Sharing of Knowledge and Skills**
- CAMGEW Promotes Women's Ecological and Socioeconomic Rights.
- CAMGEW brings every forest stakeholder to the table for better debate to increase forest and biodiversity engagement for better decision making
- CAMGEW mainstream gender in forest biodiversity conservation
- CAMGEW revitalize Communities' Indigenous Knowledge and Practices for forest conservation
- i. Volunteering and Internships**
- Give more opportunities for students/volunteers to work or carryout internships and research and Get into partnership with organizations and networks to get volunteers to improve on our work
- Helping young organization grow
- j. Organizational development**
- Building capacities of forest institutions like FMIs, Cooperatives and others
- Promoting CAMGEW staff development and Improving on CAMGEW communication strategy
- Improving on CAMGEW infrastructural/material development
- Promoting project fund raising and improving on Project development
- Work on Administrative/Financial Procedure document and on CAMGEW financial management system
- In-service trainings for CAMGEW staff

2023 REPORT CONCLUSION

CAMGEW did well to serve communities and protect nature. CAMGEW received recognition for this work. Our dream is to build a stronger organization that make their team members happy and help communities get better and the environment protected. CAMGEW is proud of what has been achieved to build community solidarity for economic, cultural, ecological and social regeneration. Our website www.camgew.org and Facebook page can give you more information about us.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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USEFUL LINKS

CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH CELEBRATES WORLD BEE AND BIODIVERSITY DAYS WITH HER PARTNERS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SISwxERggI>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_k1ECBH3ig FOREST REGENERATION FOR CHILDREN FOR
BEES <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TwDiXGj3zk> APICULTURE FOR FOREST
CONSERVATION <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TD5Ljp7brgY> WOMEN FOREST RIGHTS
<https://www.facebook.com/energyglobe/videos/483309868915796/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bD2fpbvsgQ>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41UmIFAFAgU> CONSERVATION AND HONEY VALUE CHAIN
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=To2WzRduuDs>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBqEgnjsWSg> HONEY AND FOREST
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdNOs6lecXo> BEES BEYOND HONEY LONG
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4hMytIS7tc> BEES BEYOND HONEY SHORT
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8QEVj6hBo8>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz5SMmacMYQ>

AWARDS

Gender Just Climate Solutions Award Winners 2019:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz5SMmacMYQ&feature=youtu.be>
<https://www.wecf.org/nl/gender-just-climate-solutions-award-winnaars-bekend/> <https://www.wecf.org/nl/gender-just-climate-solutions-award-winnaars-bekend/>

Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (Cameroon), Climate Change Mitigation, UNDP Equator Prize 2019 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDaVjcV_CBw
<https://vimeo.com/364895282>

Community Statement: Climate Change Mitigation Category Winners, Equator Prize 2019 PRESENTED BY CAMGEW Sevidzem Ernestine

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqdh_xS2r

[Eg](#) CAMGEW Receives UNDP Equator Prize Award 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCtj6zOVh>

P8 CAMGEW GENERAL ACTIVITIES VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyM89iaLnHw&feature=youtu.be&hd=1>

UNDP Equator Prize Award 2019 New York:

<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2019/equator-prize-announces-20-winners-for-local-innovative-climate-.html> UNIDO Prize Award May 2019 on

Agrofood and Biodiversity in Rome Italy:

<http://www.unido.it/award2019/3rd-unido-itpo-italy-international-award-ceremony-at-exco-2019/>

OR <https://thefocusonline.wordpress.com/2019/05/20/cangew-wins-unido-itpo-italy-2019-international-award/> Guardian Post National Award 2019: <https://thefocusonline.wordpress.com/2019/04/15/camgeews-biodiversity-eco-community-efforts-yielding-fruits-and-gaining-recognition/>

National Energy Globe Award 2019:

<https://www.energyglobe.info/cameroon2019?cl=en&id=334228> National Energy Globe Award

2018: <https://www.energyglobe.info/cameroon2018?cl=en&id=249436> OR

<http://themedianpaper-yde.blogspot.com/2018/08/biodiversity-conservation.html>