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# ANNUAL REPORT 2010



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## FOREWORD

This report attempts to highlight our development and conservation work with local communities and achievements in the year 2010. During this period, we focused attention not only on the economic empowerment of our target audience, but also intensified efforts in disseminating forest and wildlife policies at grassroots community level. We achieved this by strengthening local institutions that, in the course of time would demonstrate the ability to increase their own benefit margins from low-cost but fast income-generating activities that support livelihoods and safeguard biodiversity in particular and environment in general.

We therefore witnessed the emergence of livelihood support systems such as beekeeping and organic farming, as well as a series of local groups with expressed interest in these systems. At moment, the difficult question is how to enhance the expansion and sustainability of such community-based initiatives being put in place. Our initial catalytic support for livelihood improvement and self-reliance in part, attempts to provide a basic solution to this important question. This support stems from our little work with the grass roots in building local capacities in income-generating innovations, sustainable agriculture and wildlife conservation. While we would continue consolidating existing efforts, we would as well intensify the expansion of our activities to new communities. In addition, back ups to these activities such as Community Health & Education, Women's programmes and Rural Infrastructure would be developed in the course of time. We would not have recorded any success without our devoted staff. We pay our tributes to them. Most of our activities are organised in partnership basis with other institutions. We therefore extend our grateful thanks to the People's Trust for Endangered Species (UK), Rufford Foundation (UK), UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme, the New England Biolabs Foundation (USA) and Trees for the Future (USA), BEES ABROAD (UK) the Limbe Wildlife Centre for the varied financial and technical support given us to make our programmes a success. in the U.K, TOBA, CARE RURAL in Kumba, and the Y.D.C, Limbe, the Bangem Women's Forum and the Bangem Rural Council for such collaboration.

We are strongly encouraged by the enormous support given us by various government departments, especially the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Social Affairs, Livestock & Fisheries, Territorial Administration, Basic Education, Forestry and Wildlife and Environment and Nature Protection. We extend our gratitude to them as well as various NGOs and projects that contributed positively to our work, but not mentioned here.

**The CAD Crew**

## 2.0 CONSERVATION EDUCATION

### 2.1 Wildlife Policy Dissemination and Campaigns against Illegal Hunting of Endangered Species

Hunting of wild animals is an aged-old activity among local communities in the Bakossi and Muanenguba forest region of Cameroon. People hunt and sell bushmeat including endangered species such as Chimpanzees (*Pan Troglodytes*) and Drills (*Mandrillus leocophaeus*) to satisfy the basic needs of food, income and medicine. Most of the hunting methods and practices used are non-selective, unsustainable and fall short of fulfilling legal requirements of national wildlife policies and regulations. Hence, the existence of many endangered species is being threatened as people become poorer and increasingly place considerable pressure on wildlife resources. These critical issues needed redress.



A.D.O Forzar Egbe cautions hunters on respect of Wildlife Policy and Regulations

With financial support from the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and the

Rufford Foundation in the U.K, CAD together with local people initiated a participatory wildlife management project in early 2007. This project aims at addressing the plight of endangered species by raising local awareness about unsustainable hunting practices and the rising bushmeat trade through community-based meetings, workshops and campaigns. In addition, the project is tackling issues of poverty through the promotion of viable alternative livelihood support systems among forest dwelling populations in the Bakossi/Muanenguba region, with focus on the development of beekeeping, snail farming and livestock micro-projects to curb current pressure on wildlife resources.

It is worth noting that though local people are quite receptive in learning about the law, they raised important arguments about its content. Most people expressed dissatisfaction that the law totally prohibits the sale of bushmeat without taking cognizance of local people's reliance on wildlife resources. Others argue that it fails to

clarify roles and benefits of local populations in wildlife management. Yet several hunters frown at the aspect of double punishment (both fine and imprisonment at the same time) of victims. Some of the achievements and results in the course of project implementation include:

- 228 hunters from 32 village communities have been identified and sensitized against unsustainable hunting practices and rising bushmeat trade. They have been organized into Village Wildlife Groups (WMGs). These local structures to henceforth monitor and control illegal hunting activities at community level. In addition, common strategies have been identified to foster local participation in community wildlife management
- We organized 3 public enlightenment campaigns on illegal hunting, bushmeat trade and wildlife law. Over 3500 people have been informed and kept aware of the legal provisions of wildlife regulations and the impact of illegal uncontrolled hunting on both people's livelihoods and wild animal species. In addition, over 2000 leaflets and 100 posters carrying simplified information on the law, pictures of endangered primates and proper hunting methods were distributed to the public.
- Two sub-regional and six community-based workshops have been organized on the 1994 wildlife law various stakeholders in Bangem and Tombel Sub-divisions. 105 participants gained knowledge of the law and its legal implication in hunting protected and endangered wild animals species. Furthermore actors came up with important recommendations geared towards the enhancement of both policy implementation and wildlife management at grass root level.

## 2.2 Assisting Hunters in Alternative Micro-enterprises

Poverty remains a major drive behind unsustainable hunting and bushmeat trade. Again, local people face the problem of limited survival options (other than hunting and selling) bushmeat to meet up with livelihood imperatives. To order to assist curb local community dependence and pressure on wildlife resources, CAD has been building local capacities in alternative micro-enterprises such as beekeeping, snail and farming and livestock production. With the provision of basic equipment and materials hunters are able to set up their bee, snail and livestock farms. So far: 17 snail farms (with over 9826 snails), 9 group pig farms and 5 group bee farms have been established with local populations. These hunters are already yielding additional income and nutrients from these enterprises.

## 2.3 CAD's Participation at the Launching of the Bakossi National Park

Part of the Bakossi forest region (our project area) has been turned into a National Park by the government. CAD was among stakeholders invited to participate at launching and sensitization ceremony of communities on the newly created Bakossi National Park in Bangem. The event which was organized by the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and WWF-Costal Forest Programme, brought together over 150 people representing various stakeholders in the forestry and wildlife sector. In addition, the Chief Executive of WWF-Sweden visited CAD to have an understanding about how our work could fit into WWF's overall conservation and development strategy over the Bakossi landscape. It is worth recalling that CAD, together with PFPF, WWF Coastal Forest Programme, took part in the sensitization of communities around the Muanenguba region on the gazettelement process of the proposed Muanenguba Integral Ecological Reserve. During these meetings, local people were assisted to recognize the need to take forest management responsibilities over their forest resources

## 2.4 Environmental Education in Primary Schools

Our natural environment and the resources it contains have been subject to severe degradation due varied human interventions. In the Muanenguba forest region for instance environmental degradation is as a result of poor agricultural practices, intense bush burning, overgrazing and over exploitation of non-timber forest products, deforestation and unsustainable hunting of wildlife resources.



Training Pupils in Tree

These activities jeopardize the future of young children and their right to have access to and enjoy use of a healthy environment and the resources it contains. It is in this backdrop that CAD and some primary school authorities initiated a Primary School Environment programme with financial support from the New England Biolabs Foundation (NEBF) in the U.S.A. The aim of this project is to enable children develop analytical, career and thinking skills so that they can take responsibility and leadership over the management of their resources and environment at an early age. So far,

- ◆ CAD organized a broad-based sensitization workshop in October 2010 to orientate stakeholders on the Primary School Environmental Education project and its implementation strategy. 23 participants including children, parents, Teachers and NGOs and Ministries of Ministries of Basic Education, Social Affairs and Environment and Nature Protection took part in the launching of this project.

It is worth noting that four primary schools (Catholic School, Government Bilingual School, Government Practicing School and the French Primary school) have been fully engaged in this project and each institution has been assisted in the elaboration of a feasible action plan that opens the gateway for project continuity.

- ◆ In addition 88 pupils from two schools have been trained on organic gardening and tree planting techniques. Each of these schools now owns a garden and planted trees of economic value in orchards. Vegetables and trees planted include: cabbages, huckleberry, tomatoes, spinach, avocado, plums, apples and callaindra.
- ◆ CAD played an instrumental role in the mobilization of 156 school children to participate in the June 2010 World Environment Day. Besides planting 174 trees during the World Environment Week, technical presentations the role of forest and a round table discussion on the root cause and effects deforestation in Kupe Muanenguba Division. In addition, we organized a quiz completion between four primary schools and prizes (notebooks and stationery) awarded to meritorious children, teachers and schools.

## 2.5 Tree Planting Via Agroforestry

In conjunction with Trees for the Future (TTF) in USA, TTF Cameroon and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, we were able to initiate and execute our tree planting programme. Here rural farmers are assisted to integrate nitrogen-fixing trees in farming systems so as to increase food production and enhance food security as well as restore soil and forest habitats. In addition, through this project CAD is supplying farmers with seeds of nitrogen fixers such as Acasia, Calliadra, Neem to implement ally cropping. So far in 2010, up to 126 farmers have been trained on the importance Agroforestry and nitrogen fixing trees, and nursery establishment.



Corrie Mauldin of TTF USA  
Visits CAD's Agroforestry Project

Our main constraints and problems in natural resources management range from people viewing CAD staff as forest guards thus, hiding identity as hunters, lack of extension

means, resistance in some areas to desist from hunting, human/wildlife conflicts, poor communication network, and inadequate financial resources to expand activities to more needy communities.

***We place people at the center of development, and challenge development practitioners (ourselves) to 'go to the people, learn from them, plan with them, start what they know and build on what they have'.***



### 3.0 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Our drive behind sustainable agriculture has been to increase food production, improve soil fertility and household income levels as well as enhance a more sedentary farming system against the traditional shifting cultivation. It is worth noting some of these important innovations are currently spread among hunting communities as viable livelihood alternatives to hunting of wildlife, thus reducing pressure on endangered species of wildlife such as chimpanzees and gorilla. At the moment, our intervention in this component is in four main areas namely;

Organic Gardening, Snail Farming, Pig Farming, Tree crop farming and Apiculture

#### 3.1 Promoting Organic Vegetable Production

Following a series of sensitizations meetings on the need for alternative income and employment opportunities, we trained 45 people (20 men, 25 women) on organic gardening techniques. During this workshop, trainees gained practical skills in aspects such as site selection and preparation seed sowing, manuring, garden management and the role of vegetables in nutrition and income generation.



In addition, 25 youths have been assisted to set up their own gardens and are currently making a good living from the cultivation and sale of

vegetables. Vegetable crops planted include; cabbages, lettuce, tomatoes, garden eggs and *Amaranthus*. The limiting factor to the spread effect of this activity has however been lack of storage facilities, organized markets and bad roads to nearby towns where the demand for organic products is relatively high. Plans are however underway to organize vegetable growers into a Cooperative as a means to improve profit margins in market gardening.

The following household groups are engaged in organic vegetables production

#### 3.2 Promoting Snail Farming

As a newly introduced innovation in the region, this



activity is increasingly attracting local interest, particularly among women and children. Though snails

serve as an important alternative bushmeat, it is worth noting that this resource is itself subjected to severe threats not only in our project area but in West Africa in general where it is heavily collected for food and income. So far:

- 56 (26 men, 19 women and 11 youths) have been trained and gained skills in practical snail farming through 4 on-the-spot training sessions;
- 4 snail cages have been constructed with 4 hunters and Pepper sellers in Akid, muandon, Ngolleh and Muantah villages,
- More than 500 local people in different rural communities have been trained on the practical techniques of snail farming,
- Over 50 forest users with interest in snail farming have been identified for eventual training and assistance.

#### 3.4 Promoting Apiculture

Our beekeeping component barely took off

effectively in the second half of 2006 as a cost- and- labour - effective activity that can yield significant income and nutritional



benefits to the rural and urban poor with little environmental impact. So far;

- ★ More than 500 people have been reached;
- ★ Organized 3 village training sessions on beekeeping
- ★ 5 groups have been formed and being supported;
- ★ Over 100 bee hives have been installed, 64 of which have been colonized;

### 3.4 Promoting Pig Farming

We promote pig farming among local people as a way of achieving self-reliance in addressing the common problem of rural development and natural resources management. Our



approach we use here is **of Passing Over the Gift**. In this case, when a beneficiary group produces piglets, at least one piglet is passed on to a newly created group with interest in hunting or sale of bushmeat

We have so far we have trained 30 local people (14 men, 9 women and 7 youths) on pig farm construction and management. In addition we constructed 2 pig pens with hunters in Ngolleh and Muandon. CAD has donated a piglet to each of these household groups.

Achievements include:

- We have trained 10 pig farmers and assisted in the reinforcement of their pig styles.
- We are currently helping three of these farmers to have access to loans from the SOWEDA Livestock Credit Programme by building up feasible project proposals as one of the prerequisites for application for this loan.
- We have donated 9 piglets to wildlife and household groups in order to effectively engage them in pig farming.

### 3.3 Promoting Food Crop Production via Agroforestry

In conjunction with Trees for the Future (TTF) in USA and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, we were able to initiate a tree on-farm programme. The objective of activity is to sensitize, educate



train rural poor farmers on the importance of Agroforestry use of nitrogen-fixing trees on farming systems. In addition, through this project, CAD supplies farmers with seeds of agroforestry trees such as

*Acasia spp, Calliandra spp, Mahogany and Neem*. So far in 2007;

- ✓ Together with TTF-USA and TTF-Cameroon, we trained over 100 farmers on Agroforestry in August 2007 in Bangem under the supervision of the African Desk Officer for TTF -USA, Courie Maudlin.
- ✓ 859 trees have been integrated within farming systems in the year 2010
- ✓ One central nursery set up in Bangem (3000 Calliandra, 2500 Acasia & 199 Mahogany species)
- ✓ One sensitization meeting on Nitrogen-Fixing trees held with ASONEP group in Ndibse
- ✓ CAD supplied the following groups with seeds and assisted them in nursery establishment:

Group	Quantity of seeds donated by CAD	Species
ASONEP CIG	4000	Calliandra, Acasia Sp
Epie Household	3050	CA, Ac, Mahganay
Nokwe Household	2000	Ca, Ac
Okasi Houseehold	2000	
Adile household	10	Mahogany



### **3.5 Promoting Women's programme**

Women remain very important partners in all our sustainable development and natural resources management activities. As such, we are making concerted effort to support and empower them to improve their poverty situation and place in the society. In this light, we have so far supported the following groups:

- Introduced and trained the Bangem and Ndibse Peper Soup Women's Group on pig farming and snail farming;
- Trained 25 women on group dynamics and project cycle management in Kupe- Muanenguba and Manyu divisions.
- Sensitized women on the SOWEDA Livestock Credit Programme. Two of such groups have already forwarded their application files for this credit programme.
- Mborro or Fulani women are currently being mobilized to engage in agriculture. Some these women now produce Irish potatoes, beans and maize.

### **3.6 Supporting People with Disabilities**

For the past three years, CAD has been collaborating with the government of Cameroon through her Ministry of Social Affairs (the Bangem Social Center) in addressing the plight of people with disabilities in Bangem Sub-Division. This report is a summary of our exploits in our work with disabled people in the Bangem area from April to August 2008. While we focused attention on cripples, the mentally deranged and the elderly we equally made a mark shift mere sensitization to practice. Laying more emphasis on capacity building and the development and promotion of viable micro-enterprises that can yield the badly needed income and nutrients among our target audience (the disabled). However, it is worth noting that besides the handicap people reached, several normal persons equally gained practical knowledge and skills in enterprises such as snail farming, beekeeping and pig farming.

As a related activity, CAD from March this year embarked on the identification of vulnerable and orphans especially those registered in schools around the Bangem area. Already, a total of 15 of such children have been identified in schools, their birth records have also been tracked by making photocopies of their birth certificates though most of them need to establish birth certificates.

## **4.0 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND EDUCATION**

### **4.1 HIV/AIDS**

Due to growing statistics of those affected by HIV/AIDS in Cameroon, we make committed efforts to mainstream HIV/AIDS education in our development and conservation efforts with local communities in our project area.

- 1200 people sensitized on HIV/AIDS and advised them to undertake voluntary screening.
- We assisted in the formation of 4 Local HIV/AIDS Control Committees (LACC).
- Assisted these local committees to prepare and implement action plans;
- We organized one HIV/AIDS campaign for youths in Kumba;

### **4.2 National Rollback Malaria programme**

CAD is among the few National NGOs chosen by the Cameroon government to implement the outreach component of the National Programme on Roll Back malaria in Cameroon. In this programme, CAD is educating local populations on preventive strategies of malaria and the mosquito vector control. Over 1045 household families have been sensitized on malaria in the Bangem Health District. While 2041 mosquito nets have been distributed to children less than five years, 1065 pregnant women were being educated to undertake Intermittent Preventive Treatment in order to reduce the chances of malaria infection in new-born babies.

### **4.3 Information and Documentation**

- This targets both the formal and informal sectors and promotes learning by -doing -approach. Local farmers, particularly rarely have access to agricultural information with respect to prizes, new crop varieties and agricultural networks. Besides distributing circulars on new information, we also produce extension materials that we distribute to them. Such information is necessary for farmers to enable them increase production and enhance food security.

#### **4.4 Documentation Unit**

We initiated a small documentation center thanks to technical volumes donated to us by ILEIA, CTA, ECHO, Bees for Development, ITG, HDRA-The Organic organization. This center is attracting a good readership, as students, farmers and CAD staff and extension staff from other institutions find this unit quite resourceful.

#### **5.0 STAFF AT CAD**

Due to limited financial means all our staff are currently serving as volunteers. In 2010 the following volunteers worked at CAD:

##### **Martin N Etone**

He serves as the Coordinator at CAD. He holds a B.Sc in Botany with a wealth of experience in conservation and development matters.

##### **Ebong-Njume Icent**

He holds a Diploma in Wild Animal Domestication. He work as wildlife technician but now undergoing training as Forester at the Forestry School in Mbalmayo

##### **Kenneth Kendom**

He Holds G.C.E Advanced Level and Diploma in Apiculture. He serves CAD as Bee Technician.

##### **Atanga N. Wilson**

He is an Agronomist and serves us consultant.

##### **Hilary Ewang Ngide**

Holds a B.Sc in Biogeography and serves as our Wildlife officer.

**Ndime Nelson.** He holds G.C.E Advanced Level and a diploma Medical Laboratory Technology. He is our health officer.

#### **6.0 STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS**

We endeavour to maintain our good working relationship with some government and civil society institutions, particularly those whose activities fall within CAD's priority interest. In this way we try to keep abreast with national and regional developments that deepen our understanding of priorities. Viz,

##### **The People's Trust for Endangered Species (UK)**

This is one of our major partners in wildlife conservation initiatives in the Bakossi forest region of Cameroon.

##### **The Rufford Foundation in the UK**

We collaborate with the Rufford Foundation in Tackling the Bushmeat Crisis in the Muanenguba and Bakossi mountain forest regions of Cameroon.

##### **UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme**

CAD is being supported by the GEF small grants programme in the implementation of a Community wildlife Project in the Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve Region.

##### **Trees for the Future, USA**

TFTF supports our tree planting activities by providing us with a variety of seeds to develop farmers' agroforestry activities in Kupe Muanenguba division.

##### **New England Biolabs Foundation, USA**

NEBF is our major partner in our primary school environmental Education programs. Together, we try to build career skills in children in the area of environment and agriculture.

##### **WWF-Coastal Forest Project**

Through Partners for Productivity Foundation, WWF used us to sensitise over 30 communities around the Muanenguba region on the gazettement process of the Muanenguba Integral Ecological Reserve.

##### **BEESABROAD in the U.K**

This organisation provides us support and a wealth of technical information on beekeeping.

##### **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

We worked with this Ministry in drafting articles of associations for farming groups and legally registered them so as to increase their opportunities to access loans from credit institutions.

### **Ministry of Livestock & Fisheries**

We are currently collaborating with this ministry to assist livestock farmers get access to small government grants to enable them expand in their livestock activities.

### **Ministry of Public Health**

We collaborate with this Ministry in the National Roll Back Malaria Programme in which CAD is given the responsibility to sensitise communities and families malarial on preventive strategies and malaria vector control.

### **Ministry of Social Affairs**

Through the Bangem Social Centre, this Ministry support us in promoting activities of disabled people in Bangem Sub-Division.

### **Ministries of Forestry and Wildlife**

This Ministry gives us technical support in the area of Wildlife conservation in the Bakossi region.

### **Ministry of Environment and nature Protection**

We collaborate with this Ministry in our Primary School Environmental education programme.

### **The Limbe Wildlife Center**

This zoological center has been very instrumental in providing us with educational materials in Wildlife conservation such as posters and booklets.

### **Youth Development Centre**

We worked with this national NGO in training local communities on HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention and in the formation of local HIV/AIDS Control committees.

## **7.0 CONCLUSION**

Despite these achievements, we faced a number of difficulties including hunters hiding their identity, resistance in some areas to desist from hunting, human-wildlife conflicts, inadequate financial resources to sustain the micro-enterprises already developed with hunters, inadequate capacities of wildlife groups in monitoring and control of illegal activities at community level, poor communication network and death of pigs and snails.

In 2011, we shall be working to ensure the sustainability of alternative micro-enterprises introduced to hunting communities, improve the capacity of local wildlife groups and broaden the scope of our projects through activities such as Bushmeat Surveys, Primate Surveys, Construction of Livestock Multiplication Unit, Habitat Restoration and Environmental Education in schools.

By so doing the project will not only be responding to conservation needs but also to the needs of people whose lives are intricately linked to the forest.