

## I.A.A ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019.



### 1.) ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

I.A.A- Integrated Agricultural Association

CAMGEW- Cameroon Gender and Environmental Watch

EM- Effective Microorganisms

CISEGD- Community Initiative for sustainable Environment and Gender development.

SHUMAS - Strategic Humanitarian Services

MINADER- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

MINEPIA- Ministry of Livestock Fisheries and Animal Industry

MINFOF- Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife

MINPROFF- Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family

MINJEUN- Ministry of Youth Affairs,

OVC- Orphans and other Vulnerable Children,

CNLS- National Aides Control Committee,

CRC- Convention on the Rights of the Child,

CVEAD- Child Victim of Exploitation, Abuse and Discrimination,

UNHCR- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

VWA- Voluntary Welfare Agency,

COHESODEC- Community Health and Social Development for Cameroon.

## **2.) I.A.A PRESENTATION.**

Integrated Agricultural Association (I.A.A) is a Cameroonian non-profit, non-sectarian and apolitical Organization founded on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2016 by the founder; Dungrila Pascal Mbimenyuy, recognized on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, as a non-profit NGO by Law No 90/053 of 19/12/1990 governing associations in Cameroon, with authorization N° 09/E.29/1111/Vol.8/ALPAS and Tax Identification No M021716022560S. The goal is to ensure Food security, Promote Disease prevention, Promote Social Justice, promote social, economic, and environmental well-being by (i) helping to create "sustainable economic development in rural communities in Cameroon, (ii) empower and train youths and women-owned producer cooperatives, and (iii) educate Cameroonians about the importance of organic farming and organic food.

I.A.A is Women led Organization with main focus on empowering farmers through organic food production and commerce. I.A.A also transforms subsistence farms into profitable businesses by helping smallholder farmers access good training, affordable capital, quality inputs and better crop prices. I.A.A has in existence for four years, with a focus on smallholder farmer empowerment, defending indigenous minority rights, education, health care and community development. I.A.A empowers and defends the interest of the marginalized and other vulnerable groups at the grassroots level.

### **3.) SITUATION.**

Orphans and other Vulnerable Children (OVCs) are many in communities where I.A.A works. This is due to HIV/AIDS as well as armed conflict and other socio-economic issues like poverty and lack of economic opportunities in such communities. However, some have lost one or both parents, while some are from very poor family backgrounds, others work on street, some are disabled, others internally displaced, neglected/abandoned, and others are refugees. These children lack access to basic needs like education, nutrition, shelter, health, sanitation and clothing.

In Cameroon, the unemployment rate is 30% while that of underemployment stands at 75% (International Labor Organization's 2013 report). It is worth noting that Cameroon has a population of over 20 million inhabitants and most of the people belong to the middle class. It may interest you to know that the working population of Cameroon is about 12million and only a little over 200,000 people work in the public service. With government being the highest employer, this implies that the other 11.8million people who are not government employed are a call for concern.

Most of the barriers to resolving the unemployment challenge in Cameroon includes: 1-the unprecedented economic crisis suffered in the 1990s 2-the educational system of Cameroon which focuses mainly on theories and abstract concepts with little or no training in technology and entrepreneurship, 3-low-quality jobs, 4-skills mismatch, 5-inadequate job matching, 6-the work experience trap, 7-lack of access to capital, 8-little or no entrepreneurship and business training, 9-limited youth participation, 10-social discrimination and corruption, 11-frustration and discouragement, amongst others.

It is no doubt that youth unemployment is one of the major challenges Cameroon faces today as thousands of young people find no opportunities after school. The effect of this “cankerworm” is ravaging and dragging the country's economy down. This will go a long way to delay its most talked about emergence come 2035. Some of these youths engage in the search for “greener pastures” abroad-thus migration and brain drain. For those other youths who are not daring enough, the end results is usually high crime waves, street children, teenage pregnancies, sexual harassment, drug abuse, gambling, amongst other ills.

In Cameroon, school girls become pregnant as a result of lack of understanding of family planning. This is also because the information on reproductive health is not widely disseminated for better access by young girls and women of reproductive age. School girl's records poor academic performance as a result of menstruation. During this period, these girls register irregular absenteeism from school because of stigmatization and lack of basic menstrual hygiene information and services. Married women deliver children too close as a result of lack of reproductive health information and family planning which result in poor health and sometimes unsafe abortion and maternal death.

#### **4.) I.A.A SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR OPHANS AND OTHER VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVCs)**

I.A.A is working to put smile on the faces of these children and give them hope. I.A.A supported 890 OVCs in Wum and Befang, Menchum Division in 2019, with educational materials and psychosocial support through home visits. This was to ensure social protection and the survival of these children in a socio-cultural environment where they find themselves.



**Educational support in Befang with books and school bags.**

#### **5.) I.A.A INTEGRATED ORGANIC GARDEN/TRAINING FARM.**

I.A.A trained and supported youth, smallholder farmers in Kumbo, in the production and marketing of fresh vegetables. She trained 500 and provided counseling services to 2000 visiting farmers in sustainable vegetable gardening and sustainable bee keeping. I.A.A distributed up to 200 tons of fresh vegetables in Kumbo and Bamenda.



**Working on I.A.A demonstration farm.**



## **6.) SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT.**

I.A.A set out workshops to increase access to reproductive health information among school girls and women of reproductive age in Bamenda and Kumbo. These workshops with different groups of individuals were organized order to discuss reproductive health, and address the questions of the participants, and more than 1000 people were reached through media and physical events. The workshops involved youth and school children (one for male students and one for female students), sex workers, and local communities. For each workshop, every effort was made to make the participants feel that they were in a safe environment.

All workshops usually start with an open question session to answer the sexual health questions of all participants. In addition to these workshops, radio talk shows were held in local languages, which also included a call-in question and answer session.



## **7.) THE WATER PROJECT.**

I.A.A supported the construction of a water system in Kenya, by making financial contribution through “The Water Project” USA to make available clean and safe water in a secondary school with population of more than 2000 people.



**I.A.A supported a water project in Kenya as water is one of her priorities.**

## **8.) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Integrated Agricultural Association (I.A.A) wishes to thank CAMGEW, CISEGD, COHESODEC and all the community members of their moral and technical support to start our activities in 2019. I.A.A is also grateful to all her members for making all the financial contribution to strive for success in her work throughout 2019. Special appreciation goes to board members Mr. Dungrila Pascal Mbimenyuy; president, Mrs Dungrila Sendaline Kinyuy; vice president, Mrs Anna Yulem; treasurer, Mrs Emmalian Limnyuy; Financial Secretary, Mr Yimbo Marcel Banye; secretary General and Mr Abdulai Dzedzemoon; Adviser, for all their efforts for having executed properly all their planned activities for 2019. We also thank all other persons who assisted directly or indirectly by being very resourceful and collaborative in the course of our activities. Many thanks to I.A.A team, Dungrila Pascal Mbimenyuy; -Project leader, Fonyeni Remihance-Project Assistant; shufai Kibai-Garden Tender, Emile Seka- Volunteer, Melanie Berinyuy-Volunteer and Veronica Loweh that never spared any effort in supporting our work.

## **9.) A WORD FROM PROJECT LEADER**



I.A.A has prepared this report to share her successes and challenges to the public. We learn much by doing in this work and there is a high possibility of replication and scale-up of its activities. It

will be our joy to learn that our activities have been replicated in other areas. We are ready to provide more information on our activities to anyone to use and to assist in field work. We are also open to create partnership with anybody or institution interested in this work. We will gladly welcome support to continue this work in the targeted communities and in other areas. Feel free to contact us for details information. We have periodic bee farming training, mushroom training, Moringa training and sustainable vegetable gardening where we train, support and follow up farmers and youth to make sure they manage their farming activities sustainably. I wish to thank all the I.A.A members that helped to sponsor this work especially. After executing these activities in 2019, I feel strong, as I have grown in knowledge, skills and experience. I.A.A is ready to learn and do more from its tangible experience.

**Dungrila Pascal Mbimenyuy**

**Project Leader/I.A.A Director**

Integrated Agricultural Association (I.A.A).

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