



## INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (I.A.A)

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### 2025 ANNUAL NARATIVE REPORT.

From Agroecological farming to Market Gardening, Business management, Nutrition and Climate resilience; Empowering smallholder farmers, Internally Displaced Women and youth with limited or no formal education in the Northwest and West Regions of Cameroon.

#### 1.) GALERRY:



#### 2.) INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS.

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Ministry of Livestock Fisheries and Animal Industries

- Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
- Ministry of Environment, Nature protection and Sustainable Development
- Ministry of Youth Affaires and Civic Education
- Ministry of Women Empowerment and the Family.
- Ministry of Social Affaires
- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Sport and Physical Education
- Cameroon Gender and Environmental Watch (CAMGEW)
- Green Care Association
- Community Empowerment Agency for Sustainable Development (CEMASUD)
- Network of Environmental Stakeholders Cameroon (NEST-CAM)

### **3.) DORNORS AND SUPPORTERS.**

- ❖ Earth Rising Foundation
- ❖ Seed Programs International
- ❖ Future In Our Hands
- ❖ GlobalGiving Foundation
- ❖ Swiss Embassy in Cameroon
- ❖ Our Kids Climate Fund
- ❖ Earth Guardians International
- ❖ Thrive Philanthropy
- ❖ The Vegan Society
- ❖ The Pollination Project Foundation
- ❖ Karuna Foundation
- ❖ Global Youth Mobilization
- ❖ AstraZeneca
- ❖ Lush Charity Pot

### **4.) DESCRIPTION OF INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (I.A.A);**

Integrated Agricultural Association (I.A.A) is a development and humanitarian grassroots non-profit organization which aims to end hunger and poverty, conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable food system and integrated sustainable rural development in Cameroon, through sustainable agroecological practices and community empowerment. The IAA's key programs are sustainable agriculture, environmental protection and management, education, health, human rights, women's empowerment, and water and sanitation, and animal welfare/protection. Climate change and gender equality are also important cross-cutting issues that the I.A.A works to address in Cameroon.

### **5.) REPORT SUMMARY:**

- 115 market gardens and 140 kitchen gardens supported with 57,500 grams of huckleberry seeds and 1400 grams of cabbage.
- 230 jobs created on vegetable value chain and over \$200 saved per family on grocery markets for 140 families per month.
- 35 community trainers empowered on climate smart agriculture and water management techniques.
- 314 smallholder farmers trained on agroecological farming practices and biodiversity preservation.
- 240 Internal Displaced Women trained on business management and nutrition/balance diets.

Total number of direct beneficiaries: 844,

Total Number of Women beneficiaries: 760

Total Number of male beneficiaries: 84

Total number of indirect beneficiaries (community and family members): 11,816

Percentage of women beneficiaries: 90.05% Percentage of male beneficiaries: 9.953%

## 6.) BACKGROUND.

Cameroon, like many African Countries south of the Sahara, possesses vast agricultural potential that remains largely untapped, despite over 70% of the population being engaged in agricultural activities. The challenges faced by poor peasant farmers and women in accessing resources and sustainable farming practices have hindered the realization of this potential.

Historically, shifting cultivation and fallow systems were the norm, aimed at improving soil fertility and yields. However, with the population surge in Cameroon from 7.7 million in the 70s to over 28 million in 2025, the resulting land pressure has led to overuse of land, causing a decline in soil fertility and productivity. In response, farmers have resorted to heavy use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and environmentally damaging slash-and-burnt systems, and deforestation for agricultural expansion, exacerbating the situation.

According to reports by UNOCHA, Cameroon hosts over 845,000 internally displaced people as of early 2026 and over 2.9 people are in urgent need of support due to ongoing conflict and environmental stressors. The situation began in 2014 with instability in Central African Republic which became exacerbated by the impacts of climate change, unpredictable extremes of rainfall and resultant flooding and soil erosion compounded by droughts.

## 7.) INTERVENTION APPROACH.

In an effort to address these challenges, I.A.A implemented impactful agricultural, economic and nutritional program in Galim, Bamenjim, Bamenda and Foumbot; Bamboutos, Mezam and Noun Divisions of West/NW region of Cameroon, aimed at empowering smallholder peasant farmers and internally displaced people to increase their knowledge of ecological farming/climate smart agriculture, biodiversity and improve family income and health. The activities include:



1.)

**Ecological farming:** Through farmers' field school program I.A.A provided training on integrated pest management, organic farming and conservation agriculture practices, such as planting with green manure, using native varieties and seeds, agroforestry and no till practices, mulching and rotating crops each year and planting around predicted weather. This did not only reduce the environmental damaging practices like deforestation, heavy use of chemicals and slash and burnt systems, but also



achieved larger goals including biodiversity conservation, habitat improvement for wildlife and livestock, increase food security and gender equality, and reduction in farming input costs.



**Capacity building:** Through hands-on-learning workshops, peer community farm mentors have been trained on climate-smart agriculture and integrated development approach including organic compost production and application, water management, and irrigation techniques and group dynamics, climate tolerant seeds and cooperative farming/governance. This did not only help to increase access to farm resources and sustainable farming practices, but also increase peace building and cultural understanding between IDPs and host communities.



**Economic Empowerment:** Through market gardening and business management program, women IDPs and youths were trained in workshops on sustainable huckleberry production, horticulture and received huckleberry seeds, 500 grams each to start their individual market gardens. The business management component focused on various topics common in rural communities; steps in becoming an entrepreneur, how to make a simple business plan, costing, and savings in micro business, sources of business funding, record keeping and loan management.



**Enhancing Nutrition and Family Health:** Through our kitchen garden approach, families that cannot otherwise afford to buy vegetables at grocery markets, including malnourished and displaced families were supported through hands-on-learning workshops on kitchen garden techniques, vegetable diversity and balance diet to reduce malnutrition and improve family health. Participants received vegetable seed resources and continued mentorship and support.

## 8.) IMPACT.

The economic empowerment component of the program saw direct support of 115 women and youths with gardening resources, allowing them create over 230 jobs in the agriculture sector, enabling them to provide basic needs for their families. The agroecological farming saw the empowerment of over 314 smallholder farmers and IDPs on conservation and organic agriculture, enabling them to reduce heavy use of chemicals and environmental damaging slash-and-burnt systems by 67% leading to increase productivity and biodiversity preservation. Over 71% participating communities and families indicated increase family income, saving over \$200 on grocery markets per family allowing them to provide for family health, children education and overall wellbeing.

## **9.) CHALLENGES.**

- Limited financial and material resources hindered the program's ability to reach out to more individuals in needs.
- Follow up of beneficiaries afterward was difficult due to their remote location and the organization's inability to acquire adapted transport vehicle.
- Global funding cut and international geopolitical tensions hindered the ability of I.A.A to access much needed funding due to its small nature to compete with large established organizations.

## **10.) WAYFORWARD.**

Integrated Agricultural Association (IAA) will not only depend on membership funding and grants, but will create an agroecological farm including the production and marketing of local seeds, affordable consultation services to agribusinesses and honey distribution. This will be a self- sustaining social component which will continuously generate income to sustain the organization. IAA will continue to apply for many grant opportunities while joining networks of like-minded organizations to build strong partnership that would enable us have access to technical and financial support. IAA will step up efforts to organize smallholder farmers into producer and marketing cooperatives and saving/loan groups which will be a local financial backing for farmers without the capacity to obtain loan from banks. IAA will reach out to the international community to request for general, digital and transport support to adapt its activities on the current environment.

## **10.) A WORD FROM THE CEO OF I.A.A, DUNGRILA PASCAL MBIMENYUY.**

It is with great joy and enthusiasm to be doing what we do for our community. We love our work and we celebrate everyone who is part of this incredible mission. I thank our donors, board members, staff, volunteers, supporters and beneficiaries for working with us throughout 2022. You are our heroes because you make the change we seek to happen. Once again, congratulations on being part of our work. I.A.A has prepared this report to share her successes and challenges with 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 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 training and regular interventions in different areas of development and humanitarian activities across different communities of Cameroon. After executing these activities in 2025, 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.

With sincere gratitude!