#### **DEVELOPMENT FOR HUMANITY - DEH NGO**



DEH- CAMEROON, officially registered as a nonprofit organization under the Cameroon law with registration No. No. 05/E.29(1111) vol.8/APPB of 23 September 2008

DEH...For a holistic, just, participative and integrated development of Humanity

# ACTIVITY REPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR HUMANITY (DEH)- CAMEROON NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024

Report prepared by:

Peng Ernestine (Mrs)
Director
DEH Cameroon

#### Contacts:

Post: DEH Cameroon, P.O. Box 5041 Nkwen- Bamenda, Republic of Cameroon

Emails: info@dev4humanity.org; Website: www.dev4humanity.org

Phone: +237 671474422

#### Introduction

The year 2024 was a fantastic year for Development for Humanity (DEH) as it strived to provide community based services, in spite of funding difficulties. This report summarizes the organization's achievement following the achievements and plans emanating from the 2023 narrative report.

#### **DEH'S Vision and Achievements for 2024**

The key areas envisaged for Development for Humanity (DEH) in 2023 can be summarized as follows:

- 1. 25 scholarships for vulnerable children
- 2. Fully engage in the INCITIS FOOD aquaponics project
- 3. Set up own aquaponics innovation center and train/support aquaponics innovators
- 4. Strengthen volunteerism
- 5. Open up DEH for internship opportunities
- 6. Increase search for possible funding sources for DEH's traditional activities
- 7. Continue to establish new partnerships, especially in the field of research and development
- 8. Engage in participatorily identified rural development projects for the poor in North West Cameroon

The 2024 annual report will be structured along the lines of the above mentioned (envisaged) achievements. Additional achievements will follow the reporting on activities planned in 2023.

#### **Achievements in 2024**

#### 1. Scholarship program

The scholarship program was eventually replaced by support to IDPs, as this was considered a better value for money and impacting many more people, given the limited funds.

# Development For Humanity: Confidence Building of IDPs and Underprivileged persons in Cameroon

Development for Humanity (DEH) over the years has been trying to offer assistance to orphans from the North and South West Regions of Cameroon plagued by the sociopolitical crisis. In December 2024, the Coordinator of DEH, Mrs. Peng Ernestine led a delegation to the compound of the Quarter Head of Bayelle I, the Quarter head in the person of Mr Azinui Ngufor welcomed the delegation and they had a working session with 20 Internally Displaced People (IDP) as presented by the quarter head. He was happy collaborating with DEH to address some of the issues faced by underprivileged and IDPs within his community. They came from different division of the North and South West Regions seeking refuge, hope and assistance. They all have their stories of

horrors and has taken some years to recover while others are still on the recovery and adaptation process within the community.

The Coordinator brought to them some words of encouragements and hope as well as cash, some laundry and food items and that all is not lost and that the future is bright. DEH carries out a yearly process of enlarging people's freedom and opportunities by improving their well-being. DEH encourages people to decide who to be, what to do and how to live a better and sustainable life which helps restore trust and linking them to livelihood opportunities. Participants were given time to share their thoughts and some of them were students who were very grateful for the assistance and that some people out there were thinking about them.

In his closing remarks, The Quarterhead of Bayelle said that his doors are always open and ready to receive the Coordinator of DEH and her team to offer more assistance to those who were not part any time so as to constantly brighten the future if IDPs within his community.







A young IDP offering a word of thanks to the DEH team

# Embracing innovative circular Aquaponics Initiative in Cameroon: engaging stakeholders

As one of the first organizations to join the Integrated and Circular Technology for City Region Food systems in Africa (INCITIS FOOD) project (<a href="www.incitisfood.eu">www.incitisfood.eu</a>) at the Bamenda University of Science and Technology – BUST Living Laboratory (LL) in Bamenda, Cameroon (<a href="https://incitis-food.eu/knowledge-hub/living-labs/lab/bamenda-university-of-science-and-technology-bust/">https://incitis-food.eu/knowledge-hub/living-labs/lab/bamenda-university-of-science-and-technology-bust/</a>), DEH encouraged 30 famers belonging to 3 cooperatives to visit the LL and acquire knowledge and experience of circular agricultural systems. In this way, Development for Humanity is creating a generation of farmers who can produce high yields with minimal environmental impact, and reduction in carbon footprint. In addition, DEH adopted the chopped and flipped system in its training and demonstration farm in Bambui – Cameroon. However, regular energy

remains a key obstacle to adopt multiple systems in the farm. DEH is determined to look for energy solutions in 2025, and at least support some trained farmers to adopt circular technologies.

#### 2. Set up own aquaponics innovation center

Feasibility studies and technical drawings for an eventual aquaponics training and support center at DEH were carried out in 2024. These tools will support future applications towards a center of excellences for circular technologies at DEH. The Board of Directors made donations to install a chopped and flipped system at our training and demonstration center



Chopped and flipped aquaponic system at DEH demonstration center, Catfish and spices cultivated in the system

#### 3. Strengthen volunteerism

As one of its goals, DEH is interested to engage with professional schools and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), by means of providing spaces for practical knowledge acquisition. In 2024, 6 students from the University of Bamenda Cameroon (www.uniba.cm) engaged as volunteers at DEH, where they eventually did internships and research on circular agriculture.

### 4. Other community engagement activities The following key activities were carried out by DEH at community level:

1st Jan- 30th April 2024: Gender Based Violence Activities workshop on the protection of the rights of girls and awareness creation in high schools in the North West region of Cameroon.

11th February activities 2024: community based Sensitization campaigns on the education of girl child in parimary schools.

1st August-September 30th 2024: training workshop with physically challenged persons in the North West region of Cameroon

October 2024: Engaging youths in protecting a traditional heritage and touristic site, the Bafut Palace





Teenage girls participating in talks on GBV at different sessions organized by DEH in 2024



People physically challenged after



Aerial view of the heritage site, the Bafut Fon's Palace



Children after being sensitized on their educational rights, 10.02.2024



DEH staff and community youths after cleaning the Bafut Fon's Palace

#### 5. Consultancy assignments and project proposals

18th October to 5th November 2024: Impact assessment on the CAMGEW interventions on beneficiary livelihoods and the environment in consultation with CAMGEW Bamenda

#### **Project Proposals Submitted**

DEH through its staff and in partnership with the Bamenda University Institutes of Science and Technology (BUST) developed and submitted project proposals in the 2024 calendar year, etntitled: Perceptions and Drivers of Climate-Resilient Food Systems Adoption in Bamenda City, Cameroon, submitted to the Global Disaster Preparedness Center. We did not make it through to the final grantees, though we were among the selected projects.

23rd October 2024: DEH actively participates in the open day to provide information on the Open Call for the INCiTiS FOOD project



DEH staff and other participants on the open call meeting at BUST, 23 October 2024

## 6. Increase search for possible funding sources for DEH's traditional activities, and new partnerships for development

DEH was successfully awarded a grant by the FIFA foundation in 2024, entitled: "Engaging Fulani and Grassfield Communities through Football". The central Objective of the project is to Use football as a tool to engage Fulani and Grassfield communities, promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence in the North West region of Cameroon. The specific objectives include (1) Strengthen relations between young people from both GrassField majority and Fulani Minority ethnic groups living in the same communities in and around Bamenda city in the North West region of Cameroon, through their engagement in football activities, (2) Encourage inter-activities through engaging youths from both Grass Field Majority and Fulani Minority to carry out activities jointly within their local communities, and (3)Promote the spirit of community service amongst young people within their local communities through clean-up campaigns.

The project will run for 2 years (2025-2026), and targeted over 600 beneficiaries, mainly male, female, minority groups, and people with disabilities.

DEH was also retained as implementing partner for a project awarded to the University of Bamenda, Cameroon, under the umbrella of Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) (<a href="www.ruforum.org">www.ruforum.org</a>). The project is entitled: Harnessing Agri-food Systems and Entrepreneurship Development in the Horticulture Value Chain in the Western Highlands of Cameroon (ASEHCAM). Activities will only

kick off in 2025. DEH will be involved in the tree planting component of the project in the Western Highlands of Cameroon.

Although funding remained largely locally driven in 2024, it is relieving to end the year with a successful grant for a project to be implemented in 2025.

#### Other achievements

#### **Environmental and Natural Resource Management**

In 2024, DEH followed up the five (5) tree nursery promoters in Bambui, a community in the periphery of Bamenda city in Cameroon, who were trained and supported technically through two workshops on nursery practices and bee farming, respectively in 2023.

DEH also collaborated with the Bamenda University of Science and Technology (BUST) in setting up a coffee nursery with 4 coffee varieties in 2024. The coffee nursery hosts over 1000 coffee seedlings that will be out-planted by farmers in 2025.

#### **Conclusions for 2024**

In general, DEH's achievements in 2024 are very satisfactory. We continue to brace the insecurity emanating from the oongoing sociopolitical crises in the North West and South regions of Cameroon and dare where others would not. The FIFA grant has been a strong motivation for the staff and management of DEH. We will continue to expand our networks and partnerships for development in 2024. Of particular interest for 2024 is the EU-funded INCiTiS FOOD Aquaponics Project (<a href="www.incitis-food.eu">www.incitis-food.eu</a>), for which DEH is warming up to participate in its open call and enhance to its capacity as a service organization in the project currently hosted at the Bamenda University of Science and Technology, Cameroon. The FIFA and ASEC projects have come to enhance the organization's capacity for community engagement and peace building.

#### Final word

Development for Humanity looks forward to an exciting 2025, DEH continues to strive for meaningful partnerships for development, and welcomes well-wishers and partners who want to support its humanitarian activities in any form. If you are willing to support this noble initiative, please contact the organization directly best by email (<a href="mailto:info@dev4humanity.org">info@dev4humanity.org</a>) or phone +237 671474422). Personal contacts can also be made directly to the Director or Programs Coordinator mentioned on the cover page of the report. Together, we can bring joy and hope to many.

And the second

Peng Ernestine Nejeh M. Education Director