



*Supporting Livelihoods & Saving Wildlife*

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



## **Contact CAD**

Community Action for Development (CAD)  
P.O Box 85 Bangem, South West Region, Cameroon  
Tel: +237 677 31 31 20 or +237 696 02 3299  
Email: [communitvactionfordevelopment@yahoo.com](mailto:communitvactionfordevelopment@yahoo.com)

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### List of Acronyms

BACCOOP	Bangem Area Conservation Cooperative
ACEFA	Family Farm Competiveness Improvement Programme
CAD	Community Action for Development
CIGs	Common Initiative Groups
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GHoA	Green Heart of Africa
NEBF	New England Biolabs Foundation
NFCU	Nninong Farmers' Cooperative Union
TOCODEC	Tombel Conservation and Development Cooperative
WEBALEPCO	Western Bakossi Environmental Preservation Cooperative
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature

## Table of Contents

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CAD .....	3
Our Mission: .....	4
Our Core Thematic Areas .....	4
Institutional Governance: .....	4
Biodiversity Conservation & Livelihoods: .....	4
Water And Sanitation: .....	4
Our Area Of Operation .....	4
Our Governance Structure .....	4
Our Target Group .....	4
2. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS IN 2017 .....	5
2.1 WWF's Civil Society Support Project .....	5
2.2. Empowering Rural Farmers In Bakossi National Park Area .....	7
2.3. Women Empowerment By Means Pig Production .....	10
2.4. Enhancing Food Production, Nutrition And Income Security Amongst Underprivileged Farmers Through The Development Of Agro-Ecological Systems .....	11
2.5 Empowering Local Hunters In Alternative Enterprises To Hunting .....	12
3. CAD'S CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES .....	12
4. CAD's Membership To Networks And Coalitions .....	14
6. CAD's STAFF In 2017 .....	14
7. SOME IMPORTANT VISITORS TO CAD IN 2017 .....	15
8. BUILDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS .....	16
9. LESSONS LEARNED AND KEY CHALLENGES .....	17

## FOREWORD

*From our humble beginning in 2003, we have continued to play the role of a catalyst in mobilizing and empowering local and marginalized communities through a range of programmes and activities to address the root causes of poverty and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources. It gives us great pleasure to share achievements, experiences, lessons and challenges in 2017 with our target audience. This report opens up another chapter of supreme success in the field of sustainable development and conservation. 2017 was indeed a year of tremendous accomplishments as it passed adding more maturity, skills, good governance and specialization to our work.*



*Through the promotion of conservation-related agro-pastoral initiatives and capacity building of community-based organisations (CBOs), we could contribute to supporting and improving on the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities while enhancing their participation in sustainable natural resources management in the Bakossi Landscape in particular and the South west Region of Cameroon in general. In 2017, we were able to reach over 542 households in over 50 communities. Our target farmers produced over 695.5 tons of food quarterly with an average household production of 3.8 tons. In addition, they generated over XAF 56million (104,810 USD) with an average household income of XAF 300,000 (562 USD). In the area of livestock, 5,038 animals (fowls, pigs and goats) were kept by target farmers in 2017 with an average of 27 animals per household.*

*However, our challenges stemmed from loss of animals due to the African swine fever, post-harvest losses due to lack of storage and packaging facilities, marketing challenges leading to difficulty in evacuating produce and products to markets to the socio-political unrest in Anglophone Cameroon.*

*We sincerely thank our partners: The World Wide Fund for Nature-Cameroon, Vibrant Village Foundation, USA, Manos Unidas, Spain, Addax-Oryx Foundation, Switzerland and the New England Biolabs Foundation, USA for the varied financial assistance given us to drive community development and rational natural resources management in the South West Region of Cameroon. We also thank staffs from the local departments of the Ministries of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries, Agriculture and Rural Development, Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development, Forestry and Wildlife and Territorial Administration for their technical and administrative support to our work.*

*Finally, we extend our sincere gratitude to our staff, traditional authorities and target groups for their active participation and commitment in project and program activities. We hope to continue working with you in the years ahead.*

**Martin Etone**  
**CAD Coordinator**

## 1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CAD

### Who We Are:

Community Action for Development(CAD) is a conservation and development organisation created and registered in 2003 by the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization via Prefectural Order No. 480/A/G.42/162/PS as an apolitical, end, non profit making, civil society





### **Our Area of Operation**

We work in the South-west Region of Cameroon, particularly in the Bakossi landscape (in Kupe Muanenguba Division) and the Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve Area (in parts of Meme and Fako Divisions). However, CAD can extend her activities to other parts of Cameroon depending on her financial and human resource base.

**Our Mission:** To promote sustainable community development in the Bakossi Landscape and the Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve areas through biodiversity conservation, livelihood support, water and sanitation and building strategic partnerships.

### **Our Core Thematic Areas**

**Institutional Governance:** *(Human resource development, office infrastructure and building partnerships)*

**Biodiversity Conservation & Livelihoods:** *(NTFP domestication, forest policy dissemination, hunting & anti-poaching campaigns, livestock and food crop production via agro forestry, livelihood advocacy)*

**Water and Sanitation:** *(Potable water, catchment protection, hygiene & sanitation education, provision of sanitation facilities).*

### **Our Governance Structure**

CAD constitutes the General Assembly (GA) that is the main decision-making body, the Board of Directors that makes policies and directs the affairs of CAD and the Coordination or Executive Directorate charged with the implementation of the decisions of both the Board and GA and oversees the effective implementation of projects and programmes of the organization. The management and technical team comprises of a staff body of 9.

### **Our Target Group**

CAD is working with over 4,416 beneficiaries from 736 household families. These include: women, men and unemployed youths, school children, peasant farmers, indigenous people, hunters, retired and retrenched workers, cooperatives and Common Initiative Groups (CIGs).

## 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS IN 2017

### 2.1 WWF's Civil Society Support Project

2017 was transitional for the partnership between CAD and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Cameroon following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2014. Within the framework of this partnership, CAD is implementing the livelihood component of the WWF's SIDA-funded Civil Society Support Project. Through this partnership, six (6) eco-cooperatives are engaged in and are generating income from green business enterprises as well as participating in sustainable natural resources management in the Bakossi landscape. So far we achieved the following:

#### 2.1.1 Consolidating the Institutional Capacity Development of CAD

- CAD's financial support from WWF increased from 20 million FCFA (37,388 USD) to over 40 million FCFA (74,773 USD) in 2017 following a series of grants amendments. This increased CAD's scope of activities and performance in service delivery. In addition, CAD is experiencing a relative increase in staff stability, motivation and performance.
- The capacity of our accountant was improved through an in-house training organized by CAD using expertise from WWF-Coastal Forest Programme office. The accountant now has a mastery of the use of key financial tools and standard accounting procedures. It is worth noting that, CAD's financial report was rated the best by WWF-CFP amongst CSOs working with them in the implementation of the WWF Civil Society Support Project.



#### 2.1.2 Consolidating the Institutional & Technical Capacity Strengthening of Conservation Cooperatives

- The institutional and technical capacities of six eco-cooperatives have been improved through a series of trainings on governance, leadership, data collection, record keeping and tree nursery establishment. These cooperatives can now collect and partially analyse data on their own prior to submission to CAD, thus facilitating the tracking of project progress and impact.
- 29 members (22 men and 7 women) members of the Tombel Conservation and Development Cooperative (TOCODEC) had improved capacity in tree nursery establishment, planting and monitoring during a workshop organized in Tombel by CAD in May 2017. With the knowledge acquired, TOCODEC set up a tree nursery with assorted tree species.
- CAD facilitated the development four (4) Benefit Sharing Schemes for four (4) cooperatives (ALINKUPE, WEBALEPCO, SOCOEPDDL and NFCU) via a series of cooperative-based workshops. Co-operators now have a better understanding on how their benefits will be shared. It should be recalled that the Tombel Conservation and Development Cooperative (TOCODEC) already shared benefits to test the workability of a similar tool earlier developed in 2016.



- CAD facilitated the assessment of the implementation of cooperative business plans and Articles of Associations through an enlarged workshop in September 2017. Key areas of deviations from both plans and articles of associations were identified and factored in project execution. This also provided an opportunity for understanding achievements and gaps to inform future decision-making processes.

### 2.1.3 Providing Grant Support to Eco-Cooperatives

- WWF and CAD provided grants to three conservation-cooperatives to the tune of 3 million FCFA (5,612 USD) as catalytic support to facilitate the implementation of their business plans. Through this support the Nninong Farmers' Cooperative Union (NFCU) completed the construction of a pig farm with 18 pigs in Muaku and bought feed and veterinary drugs to enhance animal production and growth. With the same catalytic support, the Western Bakossi Environmental Preservation Cooperative (WEBALEPCO) in Mekom extended its piggery size and bought a field motorcycle. The motorcycle increased the cooperative's business outreach from 3 to 8 communities and reduced spending on feed transportation from 32,000FCFA (60 USD) to 6000FCFA (11 USD). Meanwhile, SOCOEPDDL purchased a refrigerator to preserve slaughtered chicken during periods of low sales.



WEBALEPCO's Pig Farm in Mekom

- WEBALEPCO raised 133 pigs and a gross income of 2,375,000FCFA (4,443 USD) from the sale of pigs. Meanwhile NFCU and ALINKUPE generated 20 and 37 pigs respectively. In addition, BACCOOP and SOCOEPDDL raised 600 and 452 fowls and income of 639,700FCFA (1,197 USD) and 885,800FCFA (1,657 USD) respectively.

### 2.1.4 Analysing and Strengthening the TOCODEC Honey Value Chain

- With financial support from WWF, CAD facilitated the analysis of a honey value chain for TOCODEC. The honey value chain is currently being strengthened with financial and technical support from WWF and CAD. In addition, the Peoples China Embassy contributed some needed equipment in support of this value chain strengthening process. All these have further improved the institutional and technical capacity of the cooperative and its income-generating potential. In 2017, TOCODEC installed 513 bee hives, produced 2,095 litres of honey, 2,063 candle sticks and 714 litres of honey drink. The cooperative generated a gross income of 1,600,000FCFA (2,993 USD) from honey sales with a net profit of 402,500FCFA (753 USD).





## 2.2. Empowering Rural Farmers in Bakossi National Park Area

The Vibrant Village Foundation in the USA continued to support us in improving local food and income security of rural farmers in the Bakossi National Park Area. The outcomes and impact of this project became visible in the field as beneficiaries could testify of its legacies, especially in boosting food crop production, processing and income. Over 1280 farmers were reached, producing an average of 695.5 tons of food quarterly with an average household production of 3.8 tons. This yielded about XAF 56 million (104,810 USD) with an average household income of XAF 300,000 (562 USD). As reported, beneficiaries used this income for health care, house maintenance, paying school fees or buying other household items. Some groups such as the Enyandong Community CIG used the income to diversify their businesses. Some specific outputs of the project in 2017 include:



### 2.2.1 Promoting Organic Food Crop Production

- Sixteen (16) farmers groups supported are practicing soil improvement techniques such as agro-forestry, composting and crop rotation. They created agro-forestry systems with over 5000 nitrogen-fixing trees (*Acacia* and *Caliandra sp*) integrated with crops such as maize, cassava, plantain and vegetables. In addition, farmers groups were supported with assorted farm tools and inputs to facilitate food crop production activities. Over 695.5 tons of food were produced quarterly with an average household production of 3.8 tons.



*Woman Farmer in an organic food crop farm in Bangem*

More so, they generated about 56 millionFCFA (104,810 USD)

quarterly with and average household income of 300,000FCFA (562 USD).



*Harvested Corn in Nteho (left) and Farmers locally packaging tomatoes in New Bell (right)*

- In addition, we trained 16 farmers CIGs in group governance, leadership and record keeping. These trainings helped to increase farmers' participation in group meetings and activities. Also,



farmers are relatively collecting information and keeping track of their agricultural activities, expenditure and income using tools designed and made available by CAD.



*Building capacities of rural farmers in group management and leadership*

### 2.2.2 Supporting Food Crop Processing

Following the installation of 6 multi-purpose food processing machines in 6 village communities by CAD, farmers processed about 50 tons of food quarterly, generating approximately 1.7 million FCFA (3,180 USD). In addition, nine (9) non-target communities also process their food using these machines. Cassava and maize are transformed into *water fufu*, *kum kum* and *garri*, pap, corn flour and corn beer. The machines also facilitated the emergence of small businesses such as restaurant and selling of processed food. These petit businesses are contributing to farmers income in the project area.



*Farmers processing food in Muakwe (Left) and Ndibse (Right)*

### 2.2.3. Promoting Sustainable Beekeeping

CAD supports modern beekeeping to support local livelihoods and contribute to biodiversity conservation. Following donation of assorted bee keeping equipment by CAD, 11 farmers groups installed 90 bee hives in 8 apiaries. Some of these groups produced additional hives to scale up the numbers received. A total of 142 litres of honey was produced in 2017 with an average income of 45,000FCFA (84 USD). Some of the honey produced is consumed locally and the rest marketed to the Tombel Conservation and Development Cooperatives (TOCODEC), a specialized bee keeping cooperative supported by CAD and WWF.



*Harvesting of honey in Nteho (Left) and CAD's field staff testing quality of honey in Ndibse(Right)*

### 2.2.4 Small scale livestock enterprises

- 78 (48 male and 30 female) farmers representatives gained improved skills and knowledge on modern livestock production and animal feed compounding. These trainees equally passed on the knowledge to 300 farmers via group-based training sessions. Farmers are now able to set up small piggery and poultry businesses and compound their feed with coaching from CAD. The target farmers raised 5038 animals (Pigs, chicks, goats) quarterly with an average household number of 27. Generally, the farmers earned over 11.8 million FCFA (22,449 USD) from livestock production quarterly with an average household income of 64,900 FCFA (122 USD). Furthermore, the CAD's livestock demonstration was rehabilitated and stocked with 10 piglets and 200 chicks. The farm serves as a reservoir for chicks and piglets for onward transmission to new groups. .



*Fowls in CAD's livestock demonstration farm (Left and Group piggery in Mbu (Right)*

*Supported women farmer in pig farm in Muanyet*



### 2.3. Empowering Rural Women in Pig Production

With financial support from Manos Unidas, CAD is supporting 172 women from 7 women groups in the Bangem Area in livestock production through capacity building, development of modern livestock infrastructure and equipment support. The following achievements have been recorded so far include:

- ❖ Constructed seven (7) modern pig farms for 7 women groups in 7 communities. 55 persons (26 women and 29 men) gained knowledge and skills in modern piggery construction. CAD also assisted the groups with assorted building materials.
- ❖ CAD purchased and donated 26 improved breeds of piglets (Duroc and Landrace) and 70 bags of animal feed to the women's groups.



*Ndibse widows' Pig farm (Left) and donation of piglets in Muanyet (Right)*

- ❖ We improved the governance and leadership capacities of 31 women groups representatives during a training workshop organized in November 2017. This workshop enhanced the organizational and functional capacity of women as reflected in their activity participation and commitment in project activities to foster their socio-economic development.
- ❖ Trained 35 women representatives on modern pig production and feed compounding. The skills and acknowledge acquired are being practiced by the group in pig farm management.



*Training women representatives on group management (Left) and Modern piggery techniques (Right)*



*Supporting farmers with piggery equipment*

## 2.4. Improving Food and Income Security of Underprivileged Farmers

With funding from the Addax & Oryx Foundation Switzerland, CAD is working with 500 underprivileged farmers to improve on food crop production, nutrition and income as well as restore degraded eco-systems. Though this project is still at its embryonic stage, it has so far recoded the following:

- The technical and institutional capacities of 10 farmers groups have been assessed and capacity building gaps identified. Also, the groups were reorganised and their legality determined.



*Contact and reorganisation meetings in Ndibse (left) and Mbu (Right)*

- Organised an inception workshop with 35 project stakeholders (25 men and 10 women) including farmers, traditional leaders and CAD staff. This workshop gave farmers the opportunity to know more about the AO Foundation and project implementation strategy.



*Project inception workshop with target groups and community leaders*

- Set up a tree nursery of over 7, 000 seedlings including agro-forestry, fruit, timber and water-loving tree species. Seedlings will be used to develop agro-forestry systems and restore degraded water catchments and sacred forests.



*CAD central nursery (left) and transplanting of seedlings into polythene bags (Right)*



## 2.5 Empowering Local Hunters in Alternative Enterprises

Unsustainable hunting practices and the high dependence of local communities on hunting as a source of food and income pose a great threat to wildlife. Through CAD-New England Biolabs Foundation (NEBF) partnership, forest dwelling communities, especially hunters and bush meat traders are being empowered to engage in alternative food and income-generating activities such as beekeeping, piggery and poultry. Over 600 people were sensitized and kept aware of suitable hunting practices and the legal provisions of the Cameroon 1994 Forestry and Wildlife law with respect to hunting. This was facilitated by producing and distributing leaflets and posters on sustainable hunting practices and village meetings. In addition, identified hunters were supported with assorted farm equipment, 25 piglets and 400 fowls.



*Sensitisation of hunters in Muanjikom (Left) and group based poultry farm (Right)*

## 3. CAD'S CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

### 3.1 Staff Training

- Mr. Tansi Godwill was trained on the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation or Adaptive Management by WWF-Cameroon in partnership with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW). He gained skills and knowledge in conservation project development, management, monitoring and adaptive management.
- Mr. Martin Etone was trained in REDD+ and Methodologies for calculating carbon credits by GIZ, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) and ECO Consult in USA.
- Miss Tedognmo Hermine was train on standard financial procedures and use of supporting documents by WWF-CFP
- Five (5) CAD staff trained in organisational governance and leadership with support from WWF-Cameroon and Manos Unidas respectively.
- Five (5) staff trained on modern piggery techniques and animal feed compounding by CAD and Manos Unidas.



*CAD staff demonstrating project conception during training on MIRADI (Left) and training on governance and leadership (Right)*

### 3.2 CAD's Participation in Other Workshops and Trainings

CAD benefitted from the works of other civil society organizations and government departments by participating in their workshops and seminars. These workshops were an added advantage to our capacity building process. Workshops attended in 2017 include:

- WWF-Stakeholders workshop in Mbalmayo for the development of the WWF Leading Change Project. Through workshop the WWF Leading Change Project Proposal was developed.
- IUCN workshop in Yaounde for the review and Validation workshop on national restoration programme by the IUCN to GEF.
- Enlarged cooperative workshop organised in Nkongsamba organised by CAD and FORUDEF with support of WWF Cameroon for 7 conservation cooperatives in the Bakossi landscape for sharing of experiences and best practices.
- Workshop for the analysis of the TOCODEC beekeeping Value Chain in Kumba organised by CAD with support from WWF-Cameroon.



*WWF Program Manager orientating cooperatives and staffs during enlarged cooperative workshop*

### 3.3. Capacity building of community based organisations

- Workshop on group management and leadership organised in Bangem with the hired services of a consultant for women groups organised by CAD and Manos Unidas, Spain
- Workshop on tree nursery creation, management, monitoring and apiforestry organised by CAD for TOCODEC in Tombel
- Workshop on Modern Piggery techniques and feed compounding organised in Bangem by CAD and Unidas, Spain for women groups in Bangem
- Trained cooperatives on the development and implementation of benefit sharing scheme.





### 3.4. CAD's Membership to Networks and Coalitions

CAD belongs to the following networks and coalitions through which capacities of member organisations are built and experiences and best practices shared:

- The South West Civil Society Organisation Network (SWECSO)
- The UNDP's Global Environment Facility Grantee Network
- The IUCN-PPI Grantee Network
- The Civil Society Coalition for Natural Resources management, Cameroon
- The Civil Society Coalition on Business and Industries

### 3.5. CAD's STAFF in 2017

- **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.
- **Tansi Godwill Tansi.** He holds a B.Sc. in Environmental Science and M.Sc. degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Management with a track record in achieving social, economic and environmental results of projects. He serves as Projects Officer at CAD.
- **Teshoukong Tedongmo.** She serves as the Administrative and Finance Officer. She is an affiliate of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and holds a Professional diploma in Accounting and business from the ACCA-UK.
- **Ekangaky Manuella:** She serves as Gender and Advocacy Officer at CAD. She holds a Master of Engineering Degree in Social Sciences for Development.
- **Obasse Emmanuel Odine:** He serves as Livestock Officer at CAD. He holds a National Veterinary Diploma
- **Ayamende Joel Fon:** He serves as Agricultural Technician at CAD. He holds a HND in Agricultural Engineering.
- **Prudence Wongbi:** She holds a B.Sc. in Accounting. She served as the Administrative and Finance Officer.
- **Nzegge Deric Epoge:** He holds a National Veterinary Diploma; He served as livestock Technician at CAD.
- **Azii Neville:** He served as Agricultural Technician at CAD. He holds an HND in Agricultural Engineering.
- **Ngabe Lawson:** He serves as Field Assistant at CAD.
- **Ekwelle Celestine:** He serves as driver at CAD.



*Some Staff at CAD in 2017*

#### 4. SOME IMPORTANT VISITORS TO CAD IN 2017

Name of visitor	Address of visitor	Purpose of visits	Date of visit
Ngwaenmbi simon	BERUDA-Belo	Visit	17/03/2017
Dr Olle	WWF Sweden	Visit	30/03/2017
Epole Anna Akang	Deputy Mayorn, Bangem Council	To submit documents for Mboku Women and Daughters CIG to CAD office	26/01/2017
Ngwainmbi Simon	BERUDA North West Region	To supply bee equipments	17/03/2017
Talambe Oliver	Divisional Delegate of Labor and Social Security for Kupe Muanenguba	Inspection and control visit	03/04/ 2017
Ngone Victorine	FLORA TRAVELS AND TOURS Limbe	Visit	26/05/2017
Ziki Timothy	Divisional Delegation of MINADER/ Kupe-Muanenguba	To collect the semester report of CAD to update MINADER data report for 2017 under partners	12/06/2017
Pegue Nonge Fideis	WWF	To collect brand questioners	05/07/2017
Atemkeng William	Conservator BNP	Courtesy	11/07/2017
Theophilus Ngwene	WWF-CFP	WWF/CSO supervisory visit	31/07/2017
Ekane Mary	Divisional Delegate of Environment, Nature protection and Sustainable Development for Kupe-Muanenguba	Contact visit	13/10/2017
Atoh Emmanuel	Divisional delegate of livestock for Kupe-Muanenguba	To have an appraisal of the activities of CAD and to collect information of livestock cooperatives with whom CAD is working with in the division	15/11/2017
Takem Takem Stephen	Sub Delegate MINADER Bangem Sub-Division	To collect some statistics on support for agricultural projects	27/11/2017
Berghome Lidwina	WWF Limbe	To orientate the new accountant on some financial processes	01/12/2017
Elena Fernandez Luis Badaroca	MANOS UNIDAS SPAIN	To follow up project implementations	06/12/2017



## 5. BUILDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

CAD has been receiving enormous support from diverse national and international organizations including donors, the government of Cameroon, other civil society organizations and the local populations. Therefore, we endeavour to maintain our good working relationship with all these partners, particularly those whose activities fall within CAD's priority interest. In this way we try to keep abreast with international, national, regional and rural development programs. Some of these partners include;

- **The People's Trusts for Endangered Species (PTES), UK:** This is CAD's pioneer donor. PTES has been very instrumental in supporting our wildlife conservation and livelihood initiatives.
- **Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Cameroon:** CAD is currently working with WWF for the implementation of the livelihood component of the WWF's Civil Society Support Project funded by SIDA since 2014.
- **Vibrant Village Foundation, USA:** This Foundation is supporting our Rural Farmers' Empowerment project from 2014 to 2017.
- **Manos Unidas, Spain:** We are working with Manos Unidas in Empowering Rural Women in livestock production and marketing.
- **Addax-Oryx Foundation, Switzerland.** Addax is funding our agro-ecology project aimed at enhancing Food Production, Income and Nutrition of Underprivileged farmers in the Bangem area.
- **New England Biolabs Foundation (NEBF), USA:** NEBF has been funding our Environmental Education and Wildlife Management activities since 2007 till date.
- **The French Embassy to Cameroon:** This Embassy funded our *Prunus africana* conservation activities in the Muanenguba area.
- **EU Can Aid Belgium:** Supported our work with rural farmers on livestock production and management.
- **UNDP-Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Program (GEF)-Cameroon:** Supported our community wildlife management project in the Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve Region from 2009 to 2011.
- **The Rufford Small Grants Foundation, UK:** Funded our Bush meat project in Muanenguba and Bakossi mountain forest regions of Cameroon
- **TRAFFIC Central Africa:** Supported our work on anti-poaching in the Muyuka region
- **Plan Cameroon:** CAD worked with Plan Cameroon in the implementation of the Global Fund Round 9 of the National Malaria Project.
- **The Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife:** This Ministry gives us technical support in the area of Wildlife conservation in the Bakossi region.

- **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development:** We work 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 Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development:** We collaborate with this Ministry in our primary school environmental education program and in promoting other environmental activities in Kupe Muanenguba Division.

## 6. LESSONS LEARNED AND KEY CHALLENGES

### 6.1 Lessons Learned

- Working with local people in an eco-business activity such as piggery; poultry, beekeeping and food crop needs much technical and financial resource commitment for success to be guaranteed. Thus, long term financing mechanisms for CSOs are very crucial.
- Civil Society organizations can be very productive and supportive to conservation and development initiatives if their institutional and technical capacities are well developed, more especially if they can solve issues of staff turnover.
- Even when a project is strictly that for women, men have an instrumental role to play in order to enhance project success and sustainability.
- Farmers administer a mixture of *Aloe vera* and limestone to pigs (given three times per week) as a local prophylaxis against African swine fever and Swine Erysipelas. Pigs that were treated in this way survived the epidemics. In addition, some farmers have confessed that using a mixture of the herb known as *Comelina sp* and palm nuts serves as a preventive for Swine Erysipelas. CAD is trying to exploit these experiences by testing it with other livestock farmers.
- Farmers improvised poultry farm heaters by use of locally-made iron drums to warm up chicks. These local heaters are quite efficient in generating heat to warm up the chicks, thus reducing mortality through overcrowding in search of warmth.



*Women farmer watering an individual agro-forestry nursery i*



*Agroforestry in Nteho village*



## 6.2. Key Challenges

Below are some of the challenges CAD faced in 2017:

Problems/Challenges	Attempt to mitigate problem
Farmers incurred pig losses due to the outbreak of the African swine fever.	Ensured groups maintained good hygiene and sanitation practices and reduce visits of person to piggeries
Some cooperatives and farmers groups are still faced with governance problems.	Sustained training on cooperate governance and group management
Death of chicks during transportation and installation	Negotiated with MINEPIA offices to regularly provide technical advice to cooperatives and farmers groups
Inadequate skills for cooperatives and farmers groups to report on their activities. This in turn makes project reporting difficult for CAD and results in the loss of some vital project information.	We make field visits and phone calls to collect available project information from cooperatives and farmers groups
The socio-political crises in Anglophone Cameroon hindered communication and slowed down the implementation of activities.	We resorted to travel to areas that had internet access in Francophone Cameroon
Lots of requests from our needy communities than CAD can support.	CAD's exposes them to other opportunities such as ACEFA and PRODEL programs through which government channels assistance to farmers.

## 7. SOME PROJECT CASE STUDIES

**Case study 1:** *“CAD is small but doing big things. The piglets, equipment, and training given by the Manos Unidas-supported project are crucial in supporting women empowerment and livelihood improvement of beneficiary families in our Municipality”* **Ana Akang, Deputy Mayor Bangem Council**



### Case study 2:

*“Community Action for Development is really for the Community and it is the husbands of the widows. People like us are regarded in the community as outcast but CAD has taken it on her to enhance our livelihood and income level”* **President Ndibse Widows CIG**

