



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

AJESH

Founded on June 4, 2006 by a group of development experts, AJESH is legalised under law No. 90/053 of 19/12/1990 relating to freedom of Associations as a Non-Profit, apolitical and non-religious Organisation in Cameroon.

VISION

An empowered, healthy and sustainable society that is free from poverty and injustice in harmony with its environment.

MISSION

To improve on the socio-economic conditions of communities, through the empowerment of community members to sustainably manage their natural resources.

GOAL

To empower communities towards the improvement of their socio economic wellbeing through participatory management of their natural resources.

VALUE

Humanity: The Other, our focus of interest

Respect: We take into account the rights and values of each individual.

Integrity: We respect norms, standards and values.

Commitment: We put all our energy into our action

Excellence: The best of us for better performance

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A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT (CEO)

FOREWORD



HARRISON NNOKO NGAJE

This report is a summary of our activities implemented in the year 2020. This particular year was a turning point not only in the life of AJESH but also to Cameroon and the world at large. The socio-political crisis that brought in a lot of insecurity as from 2017 in the North West and South West regions of Cameroon had grossly limited not only AJESH's activities in the area but those of all other Civil Society Organizations, the private sector and even the government. In early 2020 while AJESH was extending its activities in other regions of the country in order to stay afloat, came the COVID-19 Pandemic that was global and which had a devastating effect on the general economy of the nation and world at large.

Despite all these setbacks, we continued with our community-centered approach to biodiversity conservation, sustainable management of natural resources and the enhancement of the livelihoods of the local people through the promotion of biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices and supporting communities to access markets through Value Chain Development. The intimate collaboration we had with our partners in the implementation of our activities was responsible for the high success we registered.

AJESH made important strides, daring into the Yabassi Key Biodiversity Area which includes the Ebo forest (part stretches to the Yingui council) and the gazetted Yabassi council forest in the municipalities of Yabassi and Yingui Supported the communities of Ndokama and Dibeng in the littoral region with farm tools and other inputs to secure and restore their livelihoods.

Within the context of the Open Timber Portal Project for the promotion of legality within the Congo basin, AJESH carried out Independent Monitoring of Illegal logging activities in and around logging concessions in the Yabassi forest area.

AJESH initiated and implemented activities geared at supporting, empowering women on their rights to livelihood land and assisting them carry out advocacy within the littoral region starting from the village level.

AJESH facilitated the elaboration and documentation of business plans for 41 cooperatives in Fako, Meme and Lebialem Divisions of the SWR of Cameroon.

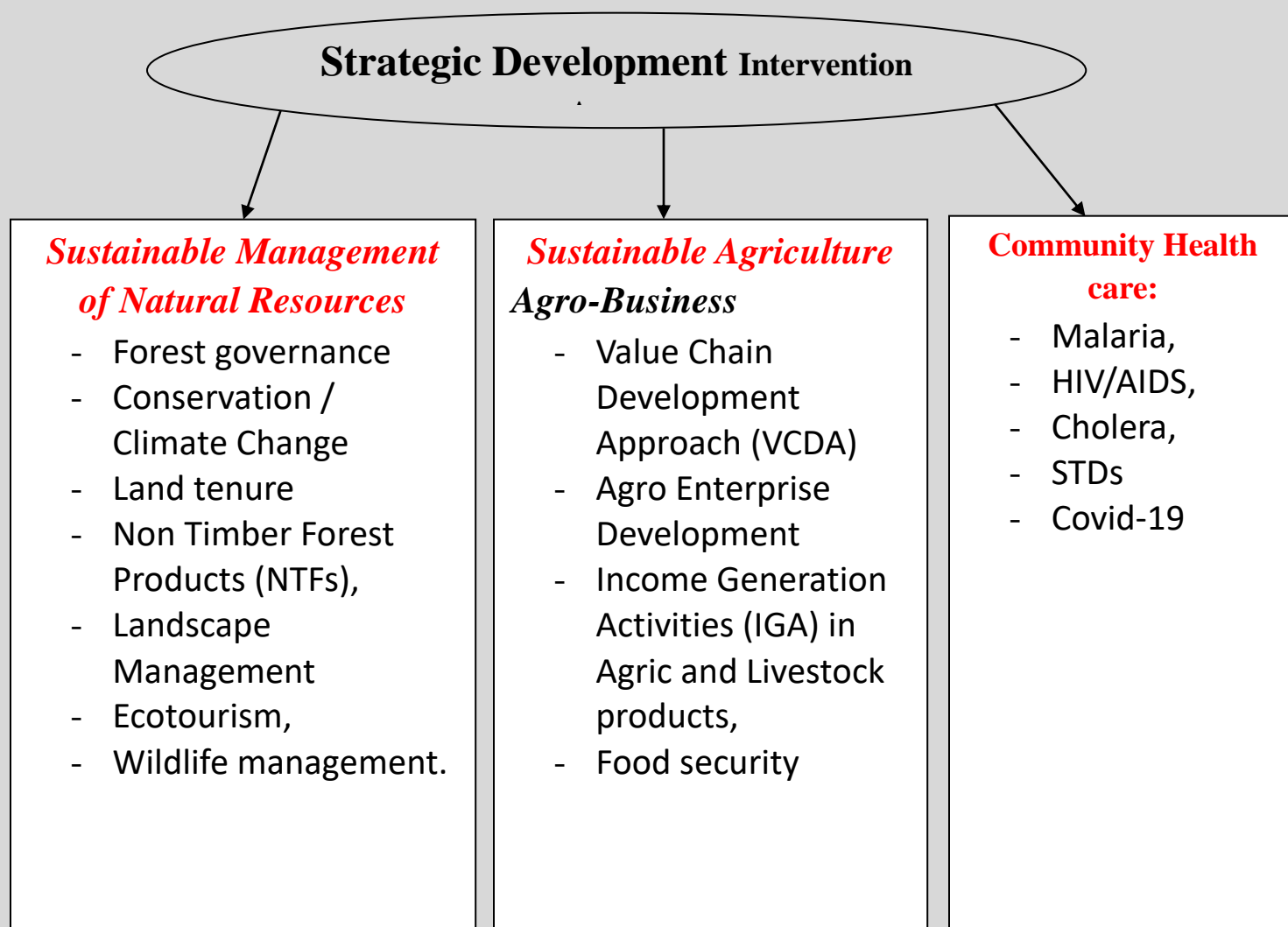
AJESH recruited and trained 15 mobilization/sensitization agents that assisted it carry out hygiene promotion using home visits, group outreach and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) approaches. The promotion was centered on COVID-19, Cholera and menstrual hygiene and was carried out in the Buea, Tiko and Limbe municipalities. IDPs and other vulnerable persons benefitted from COVID-19 and Menstrual hygiene kits.

AJESH continued to implement its community health project (AMCUID) that seeks to Achieve and Maintain Universal Coverage of Interventions to fight Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis for Long-term Impact.

We would not have attained this level of achievement without the commitment and support from our staff, consultants and partners.

We therefore extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following institutions that provided us with necessary financial support: FLAG, Global Green Grants, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), AIVDP/IDB/GoC, Global Fund/MINSANTE.

STRATEGIC INTERVENTION AREAS (2015-2021)



INTRODUCTION

In continuation of our activities spearheaded by our vision, mission, objectives and values, AJESH in consideration of the SDGs guiding its intervention areas reached out to communities through its community based projects in the southwest and littoral regions of Cameroon in 2020, conceding in pursuit of the 2035 vision of Cameroon, the growth and employment strategic paper (GESP), the Agenda for Sustainable Development, in support of governments efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through an integrated approach, particularly SDG1 “To end poverty in all forms everywhere”, SDG2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”, SDG3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”, SDG13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”, and finally SDG15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”.

AJESH is still fully committed to government reforms aimed at enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and coherence through delivering better together at the national and decentralized levels, including, in support of the GESP, Vision 2035 and SDGs, through participation in actions that aim at contributing to the achievement of the Vision 2035;

AJESH'S COLLABORATORS

AJESH acknowledges that through working with our basket of partners over the years, we have been able to reach out our targeted population which has enabled us to achieve our major sustainable development goals. AJESH has been actively working in Cameroon now for 15years with its geographical coverage being guided by the arising needs of our targeted population and our partners requiring our services; thereby making our territorial inclination dynamic. AJESH successfully coordinated its activities

from its Kumba and Limbe based offices where logistical, administrative and technical support to its various field operations are provided.

As a result of its geographical coverage, AJESH has been linked to both national and international networks and organisations. These include;

National Networks

- ❖ Forest Monitoring Coordination (FGM)
- ❖ Forest Community Platform (FCP)
- ❖ National Engagement Strategy (NES)
- ❖ National Land Observatory
- ❖ Cameroon National Forest Forum (CNFF) under the auspices of COMIFAC
- ❖ National REDD+ platform
- ❖ Coalition of Natural Resources Management (CNRM)
- ❖ Dynamique Citoyene (NETWORK of civil society organisation members monitoring Public Investment Budgets)
- ❖ KAAC: Korean Alumina Association Cameroon
- ❖ National Network for the Defenders of the Rights of Environmental Defenders.
- ❖ Member of the SWECSON (South West Civil Society Organisations Network)

International Networks

- ❖ Member of FSC
- ❖ UNCCD-UNEP African CSOs Platform
- ❖ Law for REDD+ platform
- ❖ FLEGT.org
- ❖ Registered member EC (PADOR)
- ❖ One Tree Planted
- ❖ Registered member of Global Giving
- ❖ IFA (International Federation on Ageing) member
- ❖ CIF(Council of International Fellowship) member

Partners

Authentic to its mission, AJESH in collaboration with its partners continued signing and executing agreements that formed the basis for its realisations in 2020; among which were the following partners:

Ministries:

MINFOF (Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife): As a continuation of the C2D PFSE2 programme, AJESH continued to support Village Management Committees on forest governance practices. AJESH also supported the sustainable management of protected areas.

MINADER (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development): Through the Agriculture Infrastructure and Value Chain Development Project, AJESH carried out series of activities with farmers.

MINEPAT (Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development): collaborated immensely in the development and testing of local level land use plans (councils).

MINSANTE (Ministry of Public Health): Jointly implemented the dual tract malaria project.

MINRESI (Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation) via IRAD (Institute for Agricultural Research for Development): Supporting AJESH with Office space in Kumba.

Municipal Councils:

Bangem, Kumba 1, Mbonge, Nguti, Tinto, Yabassi and Yengui councils

National and International NGOs/Programs

National:

IRESKO	FODER	NRC
CED	PNDP	
CEFAID	FEICOM	
Plan Cameroon	AIVDP	
Rainbow Environment Consult		

International:

Global Green Grants Fund (GGF)

NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council)
LTS International UK
EFI (European Forest Institute)
Global Fund
Plan International
Rainforest Foundation UK/DFID
JAFTA (Japan Forest Technology Association)

Cluster Platform

AJESH is a member of;

- The wash cluster
- The health cluster
- The COVID 19 communication platform

Research Collaborations

AJESH collaborated with the Ebo Forest Research Project (EFRP)

And also with CADASTRA

PROJECTS/PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTATED IN 2020

AJESH within the year 2020 continued executing projects that incorporated technical training or awareness raising or material/financial support. The projects executed included aspects of; natural resource management/protection, community land rights, sustainable agricultural practices, community capacity building, women empowerment, community healthcare and wellbeing. All these were in respect to AJESH's 3 core strategic intervention areas. The primordial tool of our success was the adaptation and engagement of the participatory approach which puts the community people at the heart of what concerns them in harmony with their environment. It is important to note that; all projects implemented were in accordance without respective strategic areas of intervention.

❖ Sustainable Management of Natural Resources

Forests Governance

AJESH continued to increase the forest community's involvement in decision making processes in relation to natural resource management, relevant to the protection of the forest and wildlife in view to alleviate poverty and contribute to the development of equitable, transparent and sustainable forestry and wildlife management which will improve governance and livelihoods for forest communities.

Also, local communities were continuously supported to understand the forestry law as well as international conventions on forestry, wildlife and climate change ratified by the government of Cameroon for a better understanding of their property rights and benefits over the resources of their customary forests.



Within the context of the Open Timber Portal project for the promotion of legality within the Congo Basin through independent observation of natural resources and ensuring the respect of forest laws,

which help to protect the earth's natural resources and the people that depend on them, AJESH in partnership with FLAG carried out independent monitoring of illegal logging activities in and around logging concessions as well as social engagement agreements between companies and communities within the forestry sector, to identify non conformities such as the non-respect of clauses and any other irregularities in the Littoral Region of Cameroon.

- AJESH monitored illegal logging activities in and around logging concessions precisely in Nsake village in Yabassi Subdivision of Nkam Division of the Littoral Region
- Observed and documented illegalities in and around logging concessions precisely in Nsake village in Yabassi Subdivision of Nkam Division of the Littoral Region



- researched on community's engagement in the management of Sales by Standing Volumes (SSVs) in logging concessions in the littoral Region of Cameroon.



Group picture with some community people in Nsake village.

Conservation

AJESH with its collaboratorsimmensely contributed in Nature conservation in a bid to secure the protection of the biological diversity as well as its inhabitants and various species, especially because over the years conservation has been one of the priorities in Cameroon. This greatly had the community people involved using the participatory approach.

The activities geared towards the promotion of the conservation of natural resources by AJESH were focused on both communitysensitisations on the importance of conserving their resources so to respect the aspect of sustainability and community mobilisation which focused on their full involvement. The major results were;

- AJESH sensitised communities on the sustainable management of their land within the littoral and southwest region in Cameroon precisely around the Korup National Park, Bakossi National Park, Takamanda National Park and the BanyangMbo Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Mobilised communities and enhanced their knowledge and understanding of conservation

Land Governance

a. Supporting women rights to livelihood land

Cameroon is part of a global trend towards large-scale investments in infrastructure, agriculture, extractive industries, industrial facilities and real estate that are displacing many people and deprives families from the land from which they obtain their livelihoods.

Weak governance systems and corruption practices have given room for gross disrespect of national and international human right conventions, and have led to large land areas allocated to agribusiness and logging concessions leaving the population, particularly women and youth, with little or insufficient land for their livelihood activities.

Land is a vital livelihood resource, though the rights of women and girls are seriously compromised, especially when traditions and customs triumph over formal laws. Women's land rights can contribute to their empowerment and be key to reducing poverty and developing a community. With guaranteed land rights, agricultural production will increase; women will have better access to credit, develop their self-esteem and be able to develop their own skills. While women's equality of property rights is now better accepted, as indicated by laws and public policies, their effective implementation still faces significant obstacles, which range from patriarchal attitudes and cultural practices to a lack of widespread political determination and resources.

Access to land and ownership of land for women is often problematic in Cameroon, especially when the law and culture collide. But the fact remains that, Women's land rights are fundamental for women's economic empowerment. The current growth in private land ownership and commercial farming are exerting strong pressure on land and are a threat to women's land ownership rights. And in such cases they feel deprived and

left out within the decisionmakingprocessthatissurroundingtheir right to land access and ownership.

Hence AJESH and itspartner Global Green Grantssubsequentlyinitiated and implementedactivitiesgearedtowardssupporting and empoweringwomen on theirrights to livelihood land within the littoral regionstartingfrom the village level. The results obtainedincluded ;



Women of discussing about their plights regarding their rights to land for their livelihood activities

- Women were mobilised and sensitised on the different land laws and advocacy mechanisms within Yabassi in Nkam Division
- Key women from Logutoka, Yabassi, Ndockban I, Banen, Ndogboa, Bodisman, Monkonto, Dibeng, Ndogfaya and Nsake villages within Nkam division had their capacities on land laws and advocacy strategies strengthened
- Elaborated and documented with the women their plights concerning land acquisition for their livelihood activities
- Collaborated with the Yabassi Council to ensure that the women's plights could be tabled to their various chiefs for change

b. Advocacy with chiefs to recognise women rights on land

The chiefs and concerned stakeholders over time did not give much consideration to the women's role within their communities and have always regarded their rights to land as unimportant because they have the notion that a woman's place is limited to the kitchen. This has made them less concerned and unaware of the women's worries regarding their insecurities in land access and ownership within the community.

Within the customary norms in Cameroon, it is the chiefs and notables that have supreme authority over land related issues as the law regards them as the traditional authorities over land and are normally consulted for their approval before giving a land title to an individual within a community. With the women plights concerning their access to land being documented, AJESH with funds from Global Green Grants, supported the women to advocate towards their chiefs for a reconsideration of a woman's position to access to land for their livelihood activities within Yabassi. The following results were attained;

- Women from Logutoka, Yabassi, Ndockban I, Banen, Ndogboa, Bodisman, Monkonto, Dibeng, Ndogfaya and Nsake villages within the Nkam division were supported to advocate for their rights to livelihood land
- Organized and facilitated an advocacy meeting between the chiefs of Logutoka, Yabassi, Ndockban I, Ndogboa, Bodisman, Dibeng, Ndogfaya and Nsake villages and the women of Logutoka, Yabassi, Ndockban I, Banen, Ndogboa, Bodisman, Monkonto, Dibeng, Ndogfaya and Nsake villages within the Nkam division respectively



Chiefs and women advocacy workshop in Yabassi

- Successfully succeeded together with the women to get the chiefs to reconsider women situation regarding access to land
- Documented the chiefs resolutions regarding women’s rights to land and the men’s perspective towards women regarding land access

Climate Change

In the quest to evade the impacts or worst consequences of climate change in Cameroon AJESH continued to contribute to government's implementing credible efforts towards the fight against climate change in Cameroon. This has been through different sectorial ministries (agriculture, forestry, environment and nature, construction, transport, and industrial development) plans and measures that are both innovative and encouraging in their various sectors of activities geared towards implementing REDD+ initiatives.

- AJESH and other civil society stakeholders and the Cameroon Government partnered in the validation of the Redd+ strategies funded by
- Mobilised communities towards the acquisition of community forest in----
- Continued to conduct Research on the BIOCHAR technology so as to significantly contribute in reducing global warming emissions and if possible remove existing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere
- In partnership with our partners, participated and facilitated a survey testing of BIOCHAR with
- Continued to sensitize and train communities and other stakeholders on the Plant and animal material turned into charcoal to store carbon—is highly proposed as a **climate** mitigation strategy.
- Continued capacity building of civil society actors and community members on climate change mitigation, adaption and resilience approaches. Over 60 community people and local CSOs were reached with messages on REDD+ in 2020.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The development of Cameroon in the year 2020 still very much largely depended on agriculture, an economic sector which virtually generates 23% of gross domestic product and employs 62% of the population. Due to its agro-ecological diversity, Cameroon has great potentials for agricultural production to contribute towards its over 23 million people and beyond, thus contributing towards feeding the world's 9 billion

people. Until the late 80s, Cameroon was considered self-sufficient in agricultural production and played a role of food garret for its neighbouring countries. Since early 90s, Cameroon began spending billions of francs CFA to import large quantities of food items (rice, maize, onion, tomatoes, milk and poultry) even though relying on national products has a clear comparative advantage. This has been very worrisome as it undermines local production potentials and pushes many producers out of the production chain as a result of unfair competition. Today, the national strategy to bring about agricultural progress includes the experimentation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which Cameroon intended to commercialize by 2019.

But still there is lack of access to adequate amounts of safe and nutritious food which is a public health concern worldwide and particularly in Cameroon. That said, the agriculture sector is still experiencing numerous challenges including low levels of input e.g. via governments subsidies as well as the expected adverse impact of climate change on agriculture now and in the future.

Agriculture equally continues to be tagged as the key driver of deforestation and degradation with the consequences being the adverse climatic changes.

AJESH therefore continued to contribute in ensuring that the ecosystems are protected by promoting eco-friendly agricultural practices in order to reduce deforestation and forest degradation while ensuring that the livelihoods of the farmers are improved. On this note, AJESH carried out activities on sustainable agricultural systems and food crop productivity in 2020 through the following activities:

- AJESH Continued to enhance community capacity on value chain in Meme, Fako and Lebialem divisions in Cameroon



- The Economic Development Project (EDP) dubbed: Agriculture, Infrastructure and



e

Value-Chain Development Project (AIVDP) is an initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development which is intended to make a significant contribution in poverty reduction in the South West Region in collaboration with AJESH;

- Facilitated the elaboration and documentation of the business plans of over 41 cooperatives within Meme, Fako and Lebialem divisions.



- Supported the communities of Ndokama and Dibeng in the littoral region through the distribution of emergency farming assistance tools to secure and restore their livelihoods.

- Supported the initiation phase of the rehabilitation and livelihood restoration for over 4 communities notably; Ndokama, Dibeng, Matamba and Jeng affected by illegal amass of land by exploitation companies in the littoral region of Cameroon



❖ COMMUNITY HEALTH and HUMANITARIAN CARE

a. Humanitarian Actions

In 2020 Cameroon was still faced with a socio-political crisis. The crisis heated up in 2016 when activists in Cameroon's South West and North West regions protested the predominant use of the French language in institutions within the Anglophone regions. This is an expression of deeper, long-held grievances around good governance and equitable political and social representation, what started as a struggle for equality and justice by citizens of these regions spiralled into a full-blown crisis. Armed groups seeking an end to what they consider domination of the Anglophone south by the francophone north have risen against the government's security forces that has led to the killing of thousands of people and the displacement of others from their homes.

Factories have shuttered, roads have become impassable, warehouses have been destroyed, and truck drivers and other persons are routinely kidnapped for ransom. “Fighting has continued to intensify in the so-called Anglophone regions between security forces and armed groups.

The Southwest and the Northwest regions have been affected, in the last few years, by crises which have caused great insecurity on many fronts, challenging vulnerable communities such as women, children, and the poor – many of whom live in bushes and marginal lands with their livelihood sources threatened, this has led to increased hunger and food deficiency related diseases (malnutrition). In this atmosphere of insecurity (physical, food, hygiene, and health), sexual and gender based violence is prevalent and social cohesion between various groups is threatened.

AJESH continued to engage in humanitarian actions in Fako division in the southwest region in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) through its Life-Saving Emergence Assistance to Internally Displaced and Vulnerable Persons in the South West Region of Cameroon. It is a project funded by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). The following actions were carried out through the implementation of the project:

WASH

For the realisation of the action, the following were achieved

- 15 community mobilisation/sensitization agents were recruited and trained with 5 each from Tiko (New and old Pungo), Buea (Tole) and Limbe (Moliwe) in Fako division
- community mobilisation, sensitization and information on hygiene promotion was successfully carried out in Tiko (New and old Pungo), Buea (Tole) and Limbe (Moliwe). This was done mainly through home visits and group outreach and

also using Information, Education and Communication (IEC) tools provided by NRC.

- Posters on the symptoms and preventive measures against COVID-19 were pasted at public places.
- A total of over 3,800 persons were reached with the hygiene promotion messages.

The hygiene promotion activities were centred on COVID-19, cholera and menstrual hygiene, and the key activities were;

COVID 19 Hygiene Promotions



Data collection of COVID 19 hygiene situation in the three project areas

- Entry of data collected and submitted to NRC
- Assessment of the population needs for COVID 19 kits through the administration of a structured questionnaire;
- Profiling of COVID 19 beneficiaries in Tole and in Old and New Pungo
- Distributed over 500 COVID 19 kits with; 250 each in Tole and in Old and New Pungo

- Monitored the distribution process to track progress and delivery of the COVID 19 kits;



Conducted a post distribution monitoring exercise to

establish the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries and to verify their usage of the kits through interviews

Promotion of actions against Cholera

- Community mobilization and sensitisation on cholera hygiene promotion was conducted in Moliwe, Tole and Tiko
- Data collected about the state of cholera prevalence
- Entry of data and submission to NRC

Menstrual hygiene promotion

- Profiled women and girls of childbearing age (15-49 years) in Moliwe, Imbe
- Distributed over 250 Menstrual Hygiene Kits (packs of sanitary towels, buckets, soap, Camel water etc.) to women and girls



b. Preventing Malaria, HIV/AIDs, etc. in Communities

As a continuous process in partnership with the ministry of Public health under the Global Fund Funding Mechanism in Cameroon to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; ensuring consistent integration of community activities of the three Programs namely National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP), National AIDS Control Committee (NACC), and the National Tuberculosis Control Programme (NTCP). AJESH in fidelity advances with the implementation of “Achieve and Maintain Universal Coverage of Interventions to fight Malaria for Long-term Impact” abbreviated **AMCUID**.

In collaboration with the personnel of the Ministry of Public Health, Plan Cameroon and IRESCO, AJESH works to facilitate the implementation of the harmonized community intervention strategy whose goal is to ensure that at least 80% of the population adopts conducive practices to the promotion of healthy behaviours, the prevention and integrated management of diseases (Malaria, Acute Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, Malnutrition, Onchocerciasis, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, etc.) including combating violence and promoting FP at community level, especially in priority intervention areas.

- Within this program, AJESH is covering four (04) out of the selected Seven (07) Health Districts in the South West Region and is tasked with facilitating the implementation of Community Based Interventions in these districts which involves overseeing the day to day activities of Community Health Workers in their respective communities. In order to intensify the awareness in communities on the use of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets as a means to protect them from malaria which has been the number one killer disease in Cameroon over decade's, AJESH through its community workers carries out series of educational activities with the support of the state health personnel working at the health districts and health Area Levels. Realisations include:
 - Continued training of over 250 CHWs in Konye, Ekondo Titi, Nguti and Tombel Health districts on the context of the project < Achieve and maintain universal coverage of interventions for the fight against malaria for long term impact> (AMCUID).
 - Recruited and trained new CHW agents for Konye, EkondoTiti, Nguti and Tombel health Districts to replace the inactive ones.
 - Continued revision with CHW the process on BCC, Advocacy, Counselling, home visit, diagnosis of uncomplicated malaria, educational talks, refer cases of early malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and pregnant women to the hospital (for ANC) etc. These CHWs worked directly with the community people counselling them in their homes, groups, during clinical sessions, and during public gathering such as national days, cultural festivals, etc. on malaria control and prevention, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS.
 - Distributed CHW working materials in all the health districts and did put at their disposal first aid drugs for minor cases.
 - Carried out monthly and quarterly supervision of all trained CHWs in the four health districts covered by AJESH.
 - Did administration of medication to uncomplicated malaria patients within communities with no functional health facility.

- Carried out bimonthly home visits and onsite data verification in all the Health Areas within health districts covered by AJESH, and encouraged household members on the usage of their mosquito nets, diagnosed cases of complicated and uncomplicated malaria and reported to the nearest health facilities for follow up of patients.
- Carried out advocacy action on Behavioural Change on health related matters.
- Contributed to the follow-up on the use of mosquito nets.

COVID 19 Awareness promotion

- Sensitised the community within AJESH's 4 health districts about COVID 19 and its symptoms. This was done during home visits by CHW's
- Educated and promoted the prevention methods from contracting COVID 19
- Followed up and documented suspected cases of COVID 19

RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Human Resources

The Board of Directors (BoD)

AJESH's Board of Directors is the Administrative Decision making organ of the organization. Its members define the action plans, the budget and the annual accounts of the organisation. Composed of the founding members and some newly elected members by the General Assembly to which are added persons appointed or invited by the Board of Directors.

As of 31 December 2019, AJESH's Board of Directors membership stood at ten (10) disaggregated as follows: 6 women and 4 men.

The Board meets at least once annually to permit them plan the next year. As at ending 2019, the composition of the BoDs is as follows:

NAME	POSITION	PROFESSION	Location	SEX
Marie Louis Kelle	Chairman of the Board	IT Technician	USA	F
Andrew Enongene Kang	Financial Secretary	Health Specialist	Cameroon	M
Kelly Herber Dunning	International Adviser / Representative	Prof. Auburn University USA	USA	F
SerahMalikeNgoe	Member	Nurse	Cameroon	F
Christina Fonbah	Member	Agronomist	Cameroon	F
John EwaneNnoko	Adviser	Social Scientist	Cameroon	M
Emmanuel Edie Etoke	Member	Agronomist	Cameroon	F
Catherine Meye	Adviser	Sociologist	Cameroon	F
Harold Ngole	Legal Adviser	Lawyer	Cameroon	M
AjebeNgaaje	Member	Forester	Cameroon	M

Staff strength

AJESH is committed to respecting the environmental, social and regulatory standards of the state in putting into practice its key values in harmony with a good working environment.

By this reporting period, AJESH's staff strength stood at 16 (5 female and 11 male) direct contracted staff and 265 community workers with tacit contracts.

For the security and safety of personnel and for the smooth functioning of the organization, AJESH has put in place series of policies and regulatory documents to uphold social and moral conduct of both the staff and the target audience.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

To further enhance staff capacity they participated in workshops, conferences and trainings both nationally and internationally as follows;

- In February 2020, a staff participated in an experience sharing workshop on community land rights and land governance organised by Both Ends Netherlands in Zambia
- In February and March 2020, a staff participated in the 6th African regional session on the realisation of SDGs in Zimbabwe organised by the United Nation Economic Commission for Africa (ARFSD)
- 4 staff participated in the training on independent observation of illegalities performed by logging companies. The training was organised by Field Legality Advocacy Group (FLAG)
- 4 staff participated in a training on project implementation and management organised by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- In September A staff was trained on peace building, mediation and community mobilisation organised by Global Forum for the Defence of the Less Privileged (GFDLP)
- A staff participated in an information and sensitisation workshop the 2020 financial law and citizen based budgeting organised by Reach out in July 2020
- Still in July a staff participated in a peace keeping workshop organised by the Cameroon association for inter-religious dialogue (ACADIR)
- Two staff benefited from an international masters scholarship on community development and smart agricultural engineering funded by Korean International Cooperation Agency (KIOCA)

Material Resources

Offices

- | | | |
|----------|---------------|-----------|
| - Kumba | - Yaounde | - Yabassi |
| - Limbe | - EkondoTiti, | - |
| - Nguti | - Mbonge, | - |
| - Tombel | - Konye, | - |

Equipment

- 8 Desktop computers,
- 6 Laptops
- 8 Yamaha motor bikes
- 2 Vehicle (4x4)

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

AJESH operated in 2020 with a budget estimated at approximately FCFA 282 600 375 valued for both assets and physical cash.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED: 31st December 2020

		2020	2019
	<u>NOTE N°</u>	<u>FCFA</u>	<u>FCFA</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Global Fund/Plan Int./IRESKO		88,435,650	45,565,450
Global Green grant Fund (GGF)		2,800,000	0
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)		8,000,000	10,744,250
NES		3,834,500	0
AIVDP		4,912,000	4,995,900
BIP		4,754,500	0
Japan Forest Technology Association (JAFTA)		15,000,000	14,997,500
Full C Foundation		26,800,000	6,800,000
FEICOM		0	3,500,000
EFI / LTS International UK		0	18,000,000
PNDP		0	33,834,500
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6	154,536,650	138,437,600
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Office Rents		11,671,123	11,671,123
Personnel Cost		20,518,053	14,518,053
Administrative Cost		13,218,440	10,958,440
Training Cost		3,650,000	1,650,000
Working Cost		88,830,000	76,030,000
Maintenance / Repairs		6,595,000	4,565,000
Investment Costs		10,030,000	19,030,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	154,512,616	138,422,616
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT		24,034	14,984

GOOD GOVERNANCE

True to the policy of good governance, AJESH fixed and institutionalized the principle of management by focusing on the result. This is how each staff is evaluated annually in relation to his/her performance with regard to the expected results. This assessment allows for the personnel to improve on his/her weaknesses and to maintain its good points. In the same vein, AJESH is subject to regular internal and external audits as well as the certification of the annual financial statements by an independent auditor. Another good practice is in the strict application of the administrative and financial procedures manuals and the related policies.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

- Heightening of the socio-political crisis in the two English speaking regions of Cameroon. The guns are loud.
- Dwindling funding opportunities to achieve planned activities for the year.
- The unresponsive attitude of some persons towards the community project.
- Gross social insecurity and looming political unrest with increasing climate change impacts on farmers.
- Kidnapping of personnel and harassments from the Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) and regular state soldiers.
- Gross administrative bottlenecks.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For all the actions carried out throughout the year 2020, AJESH presents its sincere thanks to donors, the Government of Cameroon, technical and financial partners, the international and related non-governmental organizations, sister associations and organizations national non-governmental organizations. AJESH team wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all the representatives of the Ministries, Councils, local, national and international NGOs, and local community representatives who gave

their time, ideas and contributed positively during the implementation of our projects during this period.

In particular, the AJESH team appreciates RFUK, C2D-PSFE2 (MINFOF), FODER, IRESCO, LTS International UK, EFI, Rainbow Environment Consult, The Tenure Facility, RRI, WRI, Eyes on Africa, Transparency International (Cameroon), and PNDP for providing the necessary financial and material backing that contributed to the realisation and attainment of recorded achievements. Special thanks go to the following:

The government of the Republic of Cameroon through:

The Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF), AJESH has a signed convention with the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) - Cameroon, through funds from Credit for Indebtedness and Development (C2D-PSFE 2) to organize, reactivate and train Village Forest Management Committees (VFMCs) around Forest Management Units (FMUs) in the South West Region, Cameroon to effectively participate in the management of these units. AJESH collaborates with **PSMNR-SWR** through MINFOF in facilitating the Organization and Reorganization of Village Forest management committees (VFMCs) around Forest Management Units (FMU) 11 002, 11 003/4 managed by SEFECCAM. AJESH also collaborated in the implementation of collaborative management approaches of protected areas.

Ministry of Economic, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT), AJESH collaborates with the Ministry of Economy Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) in developing a Concept for developing a multi-partner programme, common methods and mapping platform for sustainable Land Use Planning in Cameroon. AJESH Jointly elaborated the national guidelines for community participatory mapping and land use planning for Cameroon.

Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEPDED), worked together on climate change related issues.

Ministry of Public Health (MINSANTE), AJESH has a long standing partnership since 2009, working on malaria, Cholera, HIV/Aids, and community follow up of community health related programmes.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER): Through the divisional delegations, AJESH supported farmers with improved planting materials and set up demonstration farms.

Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation (MINRESI) via Research organization (IRAD). Through our collaboration, Farmers are benefiting the supply of improved disease free and short cycled planting materials (e.g. Cassava Cuttings).

Councils

- Municipal Council of Nguti Municipal Council of Mbonge
- Municipal Council of Kumba 1 Municipal Council of EkondoTiti

National and International NGOs:

- EU – Cameroon Office Rainbow Environment Consult
- IRESCO Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- Plan Cameroon FODER - Yaounde
- CED – Yaounde GDA Reach Out
- FORUDEF MUDEC CENDEP

National Programmes and Projects

- C2D-PSF2 – MINFOF and French Government
- Achieve and Maintain Universal Coverage of Interventions to fight malaria for long-term Impact” (AMCUID) – MINSANTE/Global Fund/Plan Cameroon
- National Community Driven Participative Programme (PNDP)
- Agricultural Infrastructure and Value Chain Development Project (AIVDP).

International

- EFI (European Forest Institute) LTS International UK
- Full Circle Foundation Hong Kon

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