



NAKONG DEVELOPMENT INSIGHTS

Transforming Lives and Communities

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EDITORIAL

LEAVING LEGACY IN HEART OF COMMUNITIES

22 years ago, Nkong Hill Top Association (NADEV) was born with the ambition of remaining a development organization, rooted in the communities we serve and capable of being resilient in times of adversity.

Some 22 years down the lane, we have made landmark achievements touching the lives of thousands of Cameroonians across several communities in the South West Region and part of the North West Region.

While commemorating our Silver Jubilee in 2016, and in our incessant drive to leave a legacy in the lives of communities, we launched a five year strategic plan. This plan was aimed at ensuring that communities are empowered, sustainable and living in harmony. Despite the daunting

challenges posed by the ongoing socio-political crisis rocking the two English speaking regions of Cameroon, we are happy to announce that the organization is still making great strides.

Within the last two years we have, indeed, directly reached 3,075 beneficiaries including 2,176 women representing 70.77%; 627 men representing 20.29%; 143 boys representing 4.65% and 132 girls representing 4.29%. through our activities.

In June 2018, we brought in an independent/external evaluator to monitor and evaluate our works in the field, and the report of this exercise is quite revealing. The evaluator noted that economic related activities had a great impact on the lifestyles and status of our beneficiaries, over 93% of whom were women including widows.

Most of our beneficiaries testified that their living standards have changed greatly. Our female-beneficiaries attested that they are now very supportive to their families and less de-

pendent on husbands and relatives. Some testimonies were also recorded of beneficiaries moving to bigger houses, renovating houses, becoming capable of paying children's fees etc. thanks to our support. Buoyed by the foregoing, we (the Board, management and staff of NADEV) have recommitted ourselves to seeing communities that are empowered, sustainable and living in harmony.

We hope to do this with the continued highly valued support of our strategic partner, All We Can-UK, the beneficiaries, Government line ministries, councils, other civil society organisations and development partners, both local and international.

We believe strongly that NADEV and the communities shall attain this vision through collaborative effort to transform conflict into enduring peace and sustainable development so that, together, we continue to Change Lives and Build Communities!

EVALUATOR COMMENDS NADEV'S IMPACT ON YOUTHS, WOMEN



After two and a half years into the implementation of our five year strategic plan we thought it necessary to do a mid-term evaluation on how well we are faring.

This, according to the Board and Management of the Organisation, is necessary so gaps can

be identified and amended in the continuous implementation of the strategic plan. It is with this in mind that we contracted an external evaluator to assess the performance of NADEV so far.

After reviewing the strategic plan document, interviewing Board, management and staff, and talking to over 700 sampled beneficiaries in the field, the evaluator commended NADEV's strides in the realization of her vision:

"NADEV has a far reaching vision which was actualized through a bold initiative in 2015 by the elaboration of the 5 year stra-

tegic plan. This plan has been executed by 50%. The midterm evaluation represents an attempt by NADEV to have an insight of what has actually been done and to engage adaptive measures where possible and also to capitalize on identified best practices. Thousands of lives have been positively impacted within the sixty seven (67) communities and beyond. Strategies to sustain project gains are ongoing with the partnerships being cultivated by NADEV," the evaluator noted.

They lauded NADEV's efficiency in helping communities to become empowered, sustainable and living in harmony.

VULNERABLE WIDOWS FIND SOLACE IN LIVESTOCK FARMING

NADEV's livelihoods programme has reached out to an additional 44 widows in Menky, Fossong, Mabonji, Kang Barombi, Ombe New layout and Mpundu Balong villages in Lebialem, Meme and Fako divisions, through livestock support.



The programme entailed the construction of a backyard pigsty followed by the donation of two piglets to each of the widow beneficiaries. This was followed by a six month continuous supply of improved pig feed and a monthly follow-up for veterinary care.

The widows were also trained on pig farm management and techniques like hygiene, different types of pig feed, disease identification and control and marketing strategies. Eleven months down the lane, some of these widows are already making remarkable changes in their lives.

Madam Emilia Njombu of Ombe New layout village is today enjoying a comfortable veranda in her

compound thanks to proceeds from livestock farming. "I followed the training NADEV gave us and fattened the piglets they donated. Recently, I sold one of the pigs at FCFA 90,000 and used the money to renovate my veranda that was completely degraded. I have also

used the balance to restock my pigsty," Madam Njombu attested.

Another widow, Madam Eveline Ngema Ngendo, has bought sheets to roof an uncompleted house left by her late husband, thanks to one of the piglets she sold at FCFA 80,000 Frs. She is also using proceeds from livestock farming to provide her daughter's school need at the University of Buea.

NADEV's Livestock Farming project, remains a veritable source of livelihood to vulnerable widows in South West Cameroon, with the lives of over 300 widows impacted since the project inception.

MORE WOMEN/WIDOWS ENLIGHTENED ON THEIR RIGHTS

Nkong Hill Top Association for Development (NADEV) has over the years been engaged in advocating for women and widow's rights through community sensitization programmes. In 2018 the sensitization programme has reached several villages including: Mabonji, Botoland, Debuncha, Mbinbia, Batoke, Motomboloumbo, Bonamanja, Bakingili, Last Bush, Mondoni, Ngeme and Bonganjo.

Aimed at reducing the ills of widowhood practices and increasing public awareness on widows' right and the reproductive health of their children, the sensitization programme helped more women/widows to know their rights.

Many women in these communities also understood the difference between gender and sex, the importance of sharing roles and responsibilities between their male and female children and the disadvantages of co-habitation popularly known as 'came we stay'. As a fall out some couples living in such relationship opted to marry officially and obtain their marriage certificates.

SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVES; SOURCE OF LIVELIHOOD TO LOW INCOME WOMEN



Through the Nkong Women Entrepreneurship Project (NWEP), NADEV has this 2018 trained 144 women on small business management in Mautu, Tiko, Bonduma and Great Soppo.

Boosting the economic resilience of low income women has been the major re-occupation of NADEV over the years. Even with the deepening Anglophone crises, the organization has not relented its effort at increasing the profit margin of low income small business women in the South West Cameroon.

These women gained knowledge on techniques in starting up a small business, risk management, good record keeping, customer relations, marketing and savings mobilisation. At the end of the training, each of the women received a loan of 50,000 FRS from Nkong Credit for Development (NC4D). This initiative continues to change the lives of many women in the South West Region.



NADEV GRADUATES 150 "COME WE STAY" COUPLES



Through a partnership with the Sub Delegations of Women's Empowerment and the Family in Muyuka and Buea, NADEV successfully induced the graduation of some 150 couples from cohabitation between 2017 and 2018. These couples who, have been living in free union "Come We Stay" over the years, legalized their living together during a mass marriage celebration at the Divisional Delegation of Women Empowerment and the family for Buea and Muyuka councils.

The realization of this dream has been a culmination of incessant awareness creation campaign on Gender Based Violence. Prior to the mass marriage, these couples received pre-marital counseling from the Divisional Delegation of Women Empowerment and the Family, on living a responsible and healthy marriage life; free of domestic violence.

The couples greeted their new civil status with a lots of joy and excitement, thanking the Divisional Delegation of Women

Empowerment and Family for the counseling sessions. "It came to me as a very big surprise because I was always reluctant to legalize my marriage and did not have enough money to do it. I have always prayed to Allah to legalize my marriage first before having children. So, when I received a call from NADEV telling me that they want to support me, I was really in shock and could not believe it. May Allah continue to strengthen NADEV as they continue this good work of impacting people's lives," Mr Oumarou, one of the Buea-based beneficiary couples commended.

He disclosed the new civil status has earned them (him and the wife) much respect from friends, family and community members, who regard them as responsible people. Mr Oumarou is now a proud father of one, gotten shortly after the NADEV-induced mass marriage.

TRADITIONAL RULERS ENGAGED IN REDUCING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



Reducing gender based violence like widowhood malpractices, early /forced marriages and reproductive rights issues remains a major concern to Nkong Hill Top Association for Development

folk, NADEV has resorted to working with traditional rulers. In the Tiko Sub Division of South West Cameroon, for example, the Organisation has sensitized/trained some 30

(NADEV).

To reduce the proliferation of these forms of violence against the female

traditional incidences of gender based violence in their communities, its effect on community development, what the law says about it and some mitigation measures.

The fallout of the training and sensitization has been the development of an action plan against gender based violence by community representatives. The Chief of Bonganjo and some of his traditional council members were the first to de-

velop this action plan. They worked with NADEV on the training and sensitization of village members against gender based violence. This resulted in the moderation of some cultural norms to favour women.

The Chief of Bonganjo, and other Chiefs, within the Tiko Sub-division are increasing taking lead in adjusting traditional practices to reduce the violation of women in their communities.

NADEV, HAND-IN-HAND WITH ARTISANAL MINERS



In continuation of its support for artisanal miners and in partnership with the Divisional Delegation of Mines, Industry and Technological Development for Fako, NADEV recently established identification documents for the miners.

During an exit event in July at Las Vegas Hall - Toll

Gate Mudeka, the miners from Mungo Beach, Mudeka and Yoke received their cards from NADEV.

To ensure that the restructuring work that started in 2017 stays sustainable, NADEV has currently continued the monitoring and coaching of newly created simplified cooperatives.

"We now run a weekly Njanji with proceeds from our mining activities. I think through this Njanji, we can generate income to realize our goal of establishing a sand depot in Buea that will erase middlemen hindering us from making desired profit in this sector," said Mr Godlove, President of the Mudeka Miners Cooperative.

NADEV believes that, post programme follow-up will further strengthen capacities and empower humankind economically in the artisanal miners sector.



YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP; TYING LOOSE ENDS



Some of the trainees of the youth entrepreneurship trainings organized by NADEV during the year 2018 are actively carrying out business

activities. NADEV followed up their initial training by carrying out site visits to their business places including documentation centres, fruit businesses, food crop farms, a rabbitry etc. and providing

practical training on business plan development and book-keeping to enable them to have a good mastery of

their businesses. Today, the lives and businesses of the youths within these parts of Cameroon, are much better than before. "The youth entrepreneurship training has been very useful to me as a young entrepreneur.

Through the training, I have been able to expand my rabbitry and make enormous surplus from it," said Leumaga Pierre of Batoke village. Meanwhile, Flubert Vefonge of Ngeme village, now has a business of her own.

"Shortly after the training, I decided to set up a documentation center. At first, I was confused on the type of business to set up but through NADEV's training and constant coaching,

I was able to generate a business idea, which is this documentation centre you see today," he testified. Trainees, yet to initiate a business, continue to work with NADEV to fine tune their business plans as they prepare to start one.

HUMANITARIAN AID TO IDPs; GIVING TO MAKE THEM SMILE

As thousands of people continue to flee their homes to different parts of Cameroon due to the deepening Anglophone crisis, NADEV has mobilized partners and its members to provide relief to some of them.

Beginning in June 2018, NADEV partnered with the South West Regional Delegation of Women Empowerment and the Family and other Civil Society Organisations including The Mentors' Foundation, Dynamic Women of Vision, Forum for Women Advancement and Development, Foundation for Inclusive Education and Saint Joseph Women to lay the foundation for national and internal humanitarian assistance.

NADEV and her partners engaged in a survey and profiling of Internally Displaced Persons in 18 villages within the Buea Municipality. The survey culminated in bringing out key statistics on internally displaced persons in need food, shelter, medical and psycho-social support, education for children, identification papers and knowledge about their rights.

REDUCING TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN THE CRISIS CONTEXT

The Anglophone crisis rocking the two English speaking regions of Cameroon has arguably accelerated the rate of teenage pregnancy in these parts of the country.

Even before the onset of the crisis, NADEV had realized that the rate of teenage pregnancy and teen mothers in farming communities was increasing. The crisis has come to make things worse, requiring urgent action.

NADEV has chosen to target teens in some areas for sensitization and assertiveness trainings.

This enabled concerned stakeholders to have a common and comprehensive understanding of the IDPs situation within the Buea municipality. This induced and guided their support to hundreds of displaced persons within the municipality.

RELIEF ACTION VIA JTMT

NADEV on its part swung into action through its Josephine Tita Memorial Trust (JTMT), providing support to IDPs and their host families in the form of food stuff, clothes, toiletries and other non-food items. At the end of the distribution, one beneficiary expressed gratitude to NADEV for its kind gesture. "I am indeed grateful for this assistance NADEV has given us at a time like this. Some of us do not have anything to eat or wear be-



cause we left our houses without collecting anything. Thanks to NADEV, we now have food to eat and clothes to put on amongst others," one of the beneficiaries attested.

This, and testimonies from some of the beneficiaries about their plight brought tears to the staff and Board members of NADEV, leading to their resolve to continue to seek means to assist more displaced persons

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IMPROVING SERVICE DELIVERY IN HEALTH CENTRES

Good service delivery is not only a vital element in the health sector but very crucial to the achievement of health-related Sustainable Development Goals.

It is against this backdrop that NADEV is partnering with the South West Regional Delegation of Public Health and Health Sector Support Investment Project (HSSIP) to help community members and health centres identify problems and seek local solutions to service delivery in health centres in and around the Buea Municipality. Some of the health centres in-

cluded in this project include; Molyko Health Centre, St. Luke Clinic, Tole, Bokwaongo, Buea Road, Buea town, Police, Bwasa Likombe, Military and Hope Out Reach health centres.

So far, NADEV and partners have surveyed the perceptions and collected feedback from over 863 clients on the quality of health care services within these health centres/clinics. These perceptions and feedback have been analysed and recommendations made for improvement to the respect health facilities. Few months after, some com-

munities are already witnessing an improvement in health care delivery in some of these health centres. "I visited the Bokwaongo Health Centre recently and noticed that nurses there have become more receptive, unlike the past when they use to shout creating fear and panic in patients," a client in Bokwaongo noted.

Such an improvement in health-care delivery is laudable and should be emulated by all other health centres within the Buea Municipality and the country as a whole.

LATRINES CONSTRUCTION, NEW STRATEGY TO IMPROVE HYGIENE IN MAUMU



Slab under construction

Inhabitants of some communities in and around the Buea Municipality including the Maumu village have for a long time resorted to defecating in bushes and local streams, a practice that is a health hazard for the community and even the larger municipality.

In a bid to ameliorate this situation NADEV has partnered with the Maumu traditional authorities and identified the need to construct latrine slaps for households in the village. This led to the construction of some 13 latrines,

in June 2108, for families in Maumu village. Beneficiaries participated in the construction process; excavating the pits and providing some local materials. At the end of the latrine construction, many households and community members could not hide their feelings.

"I pray God continue to bless NADEV for bringing a lasting solution to my problem. Before the construction of this latrine, my children and I used nearby bushes and streams for defecation. At night, we defecated in buckets and only emptied it in the morning in the stream or bushes. We are indeed grateful," Madam Poulaine Atebong of quarter 7 testified.

Now that the people of this community have improved sanitation facilities, it is very clear that the state of hygiene and sanitation of the Maumu village will

COOPERATIVE CREATION, KEY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Cooperatives have been acclaimed as key in value chain development in Cameroon's agriculture development today.

Recognizing this role NADEV has been active in creating and ensuring the effective management of cooperatives in Fako. It is thus that four agricultural cooperatives have been registered in Tole, Tiko, Buea and Mile 14 Dibandja.

These cooperatives include Golden Tomatoes Farmers' Cooperative Society with BOD (GOTOFARM-BOD) 34 (26 male and 8 female), Tiko Sustainable Poultry Farmers Cooperative Society with BOD (TISUPFACOOB-BOD) 22 (13 male and 9 female), SELF Expanding Cooperative Society with BOD (SELEXCOOP-BOD) 19 (7 female and 12 male) and Mount Ci-

nan Cooperative Society with BOD 25 (17 male and 8 female)

These cooperatives are contributing enormously in tomatoes cultivation and processing, production and sales of table birds and layers, marketing of soya bean oil, fowl droppings, pig farming and production and processing of plantain products such as plantain chips, and flour.

The success of these cooperatives is largely attributed to NADEV's intervention. "We are grateful to NADEV for assisting and accompanying us through the sensitization, registration and coaching process which was a problem to us," said Mr. Ndola Galaba, President of GOTOFARM-BOD Tole. He added that, they can today boast of a registered cooperative thanks to NADEV.

NADEV'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2020

OUR IDENTITY

We are a hill Top Organization. We have a special name and position in Cameroon. We have developed and nurtured the ability to adjust in times of crises and become resilient. We have the ability to remain focused in our field of expertise and our credibility as a learning organisation is on the rise.

WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

We want to see communities that are empowered, sustainable and living in harmony

Our Mission

We are a Cameroonian based Organization dedicated to accompanying communities to become empowered, sustainable and living in harmony

Our Values

- Equity for all
- Accountability and transparency
- Upholding Human Dignity
- Dedication to community

Our Motto

Transforming Lives and Communities Goal

Goal

To improve the socio-economic status of the rural and urban underprivileged and marginalised population, especially women and youths

Strategic Pillars

- Enterprise Development
- Sustainable Livelihood and Agriculture
- Strengthening NADEV's Capacity
- WASH

Cross Cutting Themes

- Gender
- Governance

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