

H4BF 2018 Annual Report



Motto: *"Making it Better for all"*

Mile 3 Nkwen, Bamenda, North West Region, Cameroon

Website: www.h4bf-foundation.org

EMAIL: info@h4bf-foundation.org

NUMBER: +237 6 50 48 49 00

EDITORIAL

Notwithstanding all the challenges that H4BF has encountered since inception we are very proud to be able to always meander through all these challenges and have been able to contribute positively and in a significant way towards supporting the policies and action of Cameroon government.

H4BF has come a long way to where she finds herself today. H4BF started in 2009 sponsoring underprivileged children forced to premature adulthood through the gratis of some volunteers from abroad and within the country. By 2014, she was recognized by the state as a development association per the law in force. In the early 2016s H4BF started rehabilitation and installations of water systems in schools yearly.

H4BF helps to mobilize local benefiting communities and locally available material. When all these two are on the ground, H4BF helps implement the project per the plan set by the 3 partners (*H4BF, volunteers and the community*).

H4BF has been doing this effectively, efficiently and transparently to the satisfaction of all stakeholders especially foreign volunteers. This is what has provided H4BF' positive image and credibility. These are the ingredients that have paved the way for H4BF success and reputation.

H4BF focuses on integrated sustainable rural development and to achieve this she has 7 independent and interrelated programs (*Agriculture, Health, Education, Environment, Water and Sanitation, Women empowerment and Volunteering.*) that spawn from the goodwill initiatives of the aforementioned international volunteers.

H4BF is a low resource organization whose funding is project oriented specific consequently we are unable to pay for professional and qualified staff. On the contrary recruit young university graduates as volunteers with no skills and rather coach them and build their capacity. While they are serving for free, they gain practical experience which improves their profile and increases their marketability. Once they gain the skills, they move to other organizations or institutions that can pay them and we recruit others. This makes it very difficult to plan ahead.

A board of trustee consisting of focused, determined and hardworking members, the visionary nature of H4BF management, diligence and passion of a majority of key staff members, the results-oriented nature of the organization, provide a good base for the organization's governance structure. This good governance structure together with the respect of project terms

to the satisfaction of all stakeholders has over the years enabled H4BF to turn our challenges to strengths and continue to grow from strength to strength.

As aforementioned and notwithstanding all the odds, H4BF has set principles that culminate to its success. Transparency, accountability, good governance, hard work and determination have enabled H4BF to achieve quite a lot which most often is misinterpreted and construed as if we are a high resource organization.

To reinforce our good governance approach and what we have done, we have created a communication department, which works with other print and audio-visual media to share with all the stakeholders and give equal opportunity to prospective beneficiaries.

2018 was a very successful year for H4BF. It is our hope that the example of selfless service and sacrifice for our underprivileged brothers and sisters should be the goal for everyone to join hands with our head of state, President Paul Biya to realize the lofty dream of Cameroon becoming an emerging economy by 2035.

We look forward to 2019 with a lot of determination to drive the dream of our fatherland to reality. We intend to establish more partnerships and get into more networks to reach out to the needy communities in our country.

The successes registered in 2018 were thanks to the continuous moral, financial and material support of our international partners, local partners like the government departments, the councils, Village development association, church organizations and local networks just to name a few. It is our hope that these partnerships will yield more juicy fruits in 2019 to the benefit of our fatherland.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2018 has been a successful year for H4BF. Despite of the numerous challenges faced in the course of the year, H4BF has been able to widen her scope to reach all the 3 regions of Cameroon. Though with limited resources, H4BF has been able to carry out projects under each of her key programs. 2018 achievements under each program are summarized as follows:

EDUCATION PROGRAM;

H4BF received over 283 applications from schools within, North west, South West and West region demanding Water, Hygiene and Sanitation assistance. Out of the 283 schools that applied for assistance this year, over 50 feasibilities were carried out in the different schools. Out of the 50 feasibilities, over 8 different school projects have been completed and handed over to the various communities. Each school project consisted of a borehole, WaSH kits, 3 block toilets each with hand washing facilities, and a school environmental program initiated. H4BF awarded more than 50 scholarships to some children from poor communities around the country.

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM;



H4BF through her integrated training and demonstration center (Biofarm) in Ako, Donga Mantung engaged in seed production of crops such as maize, to benefit some 60 women groups in the 2018 cropping season. In November 2018, H4BF-Biofarm graduated 17 youths and leaders of farming communities after a 10 months training on livestock

production, crop production, renewable energy, fish farming and apiculture. H4BF awarded some prizes to 5 distinctive trainees, and these prizes comprised of financial and farm materials support. Under the H4BF/HOBEFI training program, some 35 youths were selected in October 2018, for the second batch of this training. A greenhouse was constructed at the Biofarm center.

To enable the center, develop and experiment new crop varieties and nurse tree species that are susceptible to high temperature.



Front view of the greenhouse



Side view of the greenhouse



Cucumber growing in the greenhouse



Exotic paprika growing in the greenhouse

HEALTH PROGRAM;

We have a total of 18 nurses from 29 rural communities all over the national territory. Out of the 18, some 10 nurses (6 state registered nurses and 4 nurse assistants) completed their training and supported to become entrepreneurs and to open health clinics in rural areas, while 8 are still undergoing training. In addition to those, H4BF selected in 2018, some 6 new student nurses from 6 rural communities, and are currently undergoing training in St Louis University of Health and Biomedical Science. H4BF extended Water to Ako health. Under mainstreaming of HIV and AIDS, some 60 women groups were sensitized on prevention of HIV and AIDS and care for infected persons.

WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAM; H4BF also believe that the failure to provide safe drinking water and adequate sanitation services to all people is the greatest development failure of the 20th century. Though with limited resources, H4BF endeavor to provide potable

water to about 3 communities in 2018. Water supplied in these community's borehole powered by Solar and rehabilitation of 10 existing hand pump water points within 3 regions of Cameroon.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM;



In 2018, H4BF partnered with Mbiame, New Vision to plant trees in Bui division. This project is at the first phase, and the second phase is planned for 2019. It included the protection of 3 water catchments, at the Didango community, West region water catchment. Some 3300 seedlings of *Prunus Africana* (pygeum) were planted in those catchments.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (gender-based violence);

In 2018, H4BF offered about 8 training workshops to some 60 women groups from the North West and West regions of Cameroon. These training workshops focused on: gender-based violence and women rights, manure application, food and nutrition/diet related diseases, the expectations of farmers/business women. 43 women groups benefitted from the production loans of H4BF. This loan ranges from 100.000 FCFA to 600.000 FCFA each, depending on the size of the group and the type of joint activities carried out by the group. The total loan awarded to these groups in 2012 amount to about 18, 000.000 CFA (eighteen million francs CFA). Over 32,000 community members sensitized on gender base violence and women rights.



Under volunteering, H4BF worked with a total of 16 volunteers; 14 internationals from England and Germany, with 2 national volunteers. H4BF also received about 11 interns in the course of 2012, all from government and private universities around Cameroon.

RECURRENT CHALLENGES

The number of communities in need of support from H4BF is increasing with each passing year, and H4BF intervene in as many communities as possible, depending on available resources. Under the education for example, H4BF received more than 283 applications from 3 regions of Cameroon. Due to the limited funds, just 50 feasibilities were carried out and only 11 schools out of those were constructed. Beside this limited fund for projects, H4BF lack operational cost; paying of office stationeries, payment of staff salaries and bills. We have limited computers to enable staff deliver quality report within given deadlines. H4BF do not

have sufficient coordination vehicles to effectively implement activities, monitoring and evaluation of projects and carrying feasibilities in the most remote parts of the country.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Generally, the year 2018 has been a very challenging but also a successful one for H4BF, since the organization was able to implement a series of projects in some needing communities around Cameroon. For the past years, our greatest challenge was to reach all the 10 regions of Cameroon, but thanks to our partners and the determination of our team, we were able to realize this in the course of 2018. H4BF is more than ever committed to play an important role in the development of rural Cameroon, and to accompany the country in reaching the objective of becoming an emerging nation by horizon 2035.

On the road to accomplish her humanitarian task for 2018, H4BF received vital support from partners, which enabled her to forge ahead. For this, H4BF on the behalf the 2012 beneficiaries want to appreciate the support received from the following:

- First and foremost, the various government departments their support.
- Global Aid for Africa, Rural development foundation, International cities of peace, MastePeace Foundation and Aspen Artisan Alliance
- We also acknowledge the efforts of staff, who worked tirelessly to ensure that the organization realizes her 2018 objectives.
- We also appreciate the support from our local partners; local councils, churches etc.

Our greatest thanks goes to the Almighty for granting us the wisdom, knowledge and strength to successfully go through this year, while hoping for more protection and resources we need for the achievement of our objectives for the year 2019.

