



Annual Report

2025

Pulling together

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Acknowledgement

Sweden government through WWF-Sweden to WWF-Cameroon project Leading the Change Civil Society, Rights and Environment have been a long-term funder for FORUDEF. Without their financial and technical support, it would not have been possible to attain FORUDEF goals.

Thank you to all the cluster villages in around the Bakossi National Park for their hospitality and efforts to see that project activities entrusted to them are implemented.

Acknowledgement to the Director and all the staff for making sure that FORUDEF continues to move in the right direction.



Executive Summary

This report highlights key achievements in community-based forest management, sustainable livelihoods, and biodiversity conservation around the Bakossi National Park. Significant progress was made in the Muaku Community Forest through the development and adoption of a Simple Management Plan and Annual Work Plan, demarcation of 14 km of forest boundaries, identification of encroached farmlands, and restoration of degraded areas through the establishment of nurseries and planting of bitter kola seedlings. Capacity building of the Community Forest Management Committee further strengthened local governance and reporting.

The Bakossi Non-Timber Forest Product Cooperative Society (BANOTIFOPCOOP) was substantially strengthened through improved cooperative governance, expansion of membership to 26 villages, and increased financial sustainability. Capacity-building initiatives enhanced NTFP value addition, processing, and marketing, resulting in income generation from cosmetic products and bush mango trade, while promoting sustainable harvesting practices that reduce pressure on forest biodiversity.

In addition, cluster platforms within the Bakossi National Park became increasingly functional, generating income through diversified livelihood activities such as honey production, pig rearing, cassava processing, and NTFP domestication. These initiatives particularly benefited women and ex-poachers, contributing to improved household incomes, community development, and reduced encroachment into the park. Overall, the achievements demonstrate a strong link between improved livelihoods, strengthened community institutions, and enhanced conservation outcomes in the Bakossi landscape.

Vision

FORUDEF envision communities in Cameroon living improved lives and in harmony with nature

Mission

FORUDEF is devoted to promoting the sustainable use of natural resources through protected areas management, Livelihood Support, and Community Health, Education for Sustainable Development and Strategic Partnerships in the SWR.

Goal

Our goal is to strengthen local capacities towards increased community access, participation and benefits in the sustainable management of natural resources, community health and livelihood improvement.

Our Values

- Sustainability

FORUDEF believes that its work should be long-lasting in effect, and continues and replicable in the long term without external supports or implements.

- Education

FORUDEF values training, information dissemination, and skill development as a means of inspiring development. Educational tools both build capacity and can be passed on to other generations.

- Empowerment

In order to be effective, responsibility for development strategies must be given to the target population, and their participation must be an essential component of all initiatives. FORUDEF values partnerships with local communities which precipitate the exchange of information and ideas, and leads to empowered, self-sufficient communities.

- Justice

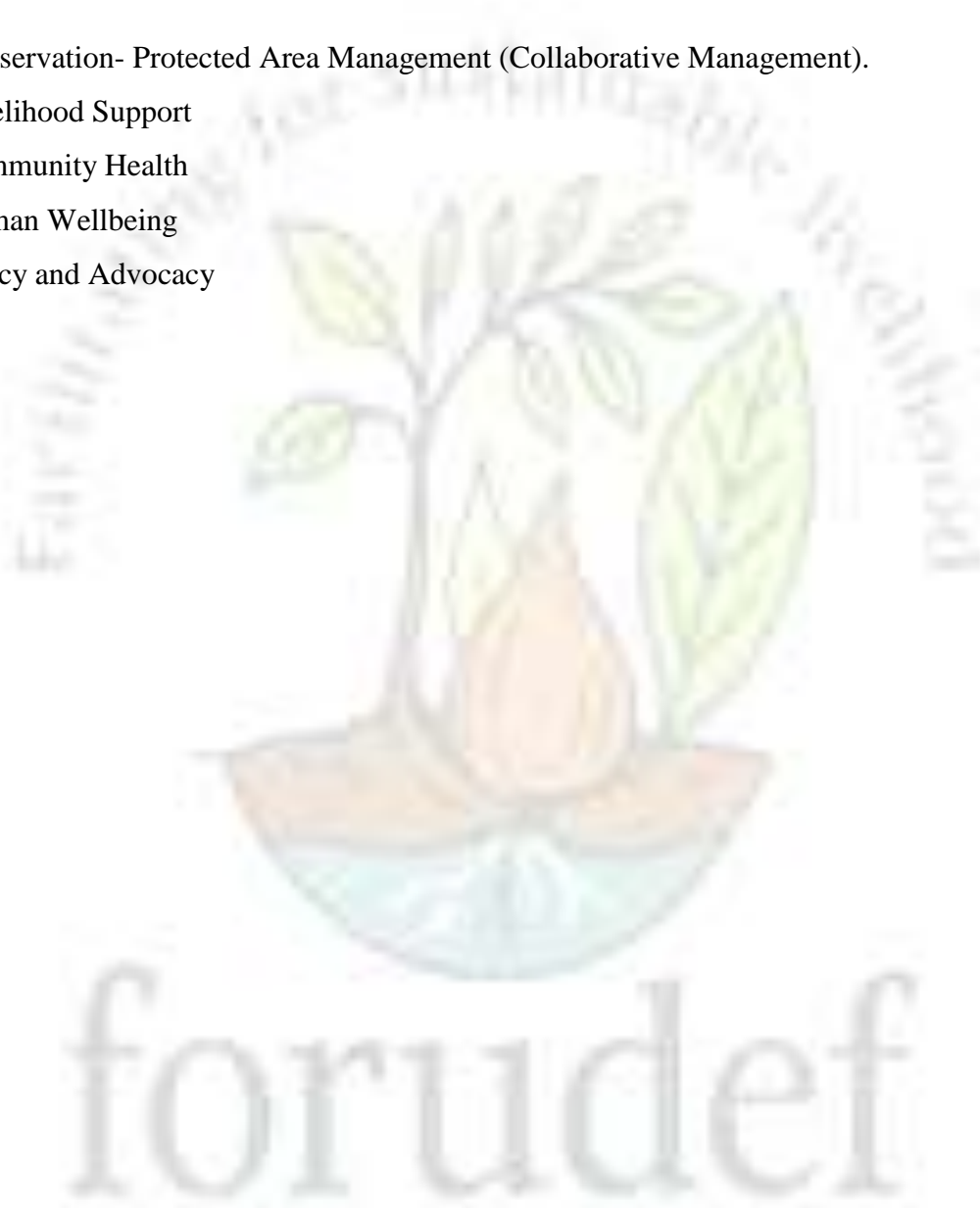
FORUDEF believes in the equal opportunity and rights of every individual irrespective of race, religion, gender or status, and believes that areas of injustice are addressed and rectified.

FORUDEF is committed to being a voice of justice in the SWR and working to ensure that all Cameroonians are treated equally.

Strategic Intervention Pillars

FORUDEF focuses on clusters of communities around parks as well as some thematic scope related to improving wellbeing of communities. The key strategic intervention pillars are as follows:

- Conservation- Protected Area Management (Collaborative Management).
- Livelihood Support
- Community Health
- Human Wellbeing
- Policy and Advocacy



This report is an account of FORUDEF actions and achievements in communities for the year 2025.

1. Achievements

1.1 Muaku Community Forest

- The Muaku Community Forest Simple Management Plan-Annual Work Plan prepare and adopted.
- Fourteen (14) kilometers of community forest boundaries demarcated and marked with paint.
- Twelve (12) farmlands within and at the periphery of the community forest with a combined surface area of 8.8442 hectares were identified as encroached.
- One hundred 100 bitter cola seedlings were prepared and planted for the regeneration of the areas.
- Supported the Muaku Community Forest Management Committee to establish a tree nursery with 1,000 bitter kola, an NTFP, seedlings to support restoration efforts within their Community Forest. So far, they have planted 500 bitter kola seedlings in an area covering 8.84-hectare, as part of their restoration work.
- Enhanced capacities of community forest management committee on Simple Management Plan reporting.



Figure 1: Identification of encroached areas of Muaku CF by local community members, Divisional Delegation K/M and FORUDEF Staff



Figure 2: Planting of bitter cola seedlings in encroached areas of the Muaku community forest by a team of community members, Divisional delegation of forestry and Wildlife K/M and

1.2 Bakossi Non Timber Forest Product Cooperative Society

- The capacity of the management of BANOTIFOPCOOP strengthened on cooperative governance, values, principles, the rights and obligations of members and cooperatives, and the importance of adhering to the organizational structure, resulting in the mobilization and upscaling of cooperative membership.
- Membership of BANOTIFOPCOOP has been upscaled to 26 villages. (Ekona-Bajoh, Boka-Bajoh, Jandu-Bajoh, Epen-Bajoh, Muaku, Elum I, Elum II, Edip, Mbuogmut, Muetan, Nzimbeng, Kodmin, Mekume, Elambeng, Ekanjoh-Bajoh, Mbat Ekangte, Elah, Ndun, Mualong, Enyandong, Muadelengoe, Ndubsi, Deck-Ehang, Ebase, Muedime, and

Mbang Bajoh) around the Bakossi National Park. The villages represented by their cluster President registered as members of the cooperative, and a membership registration fee of 396,000 XAF was collected and added to the BANOTIFOPCOOP annual budget.



Figure 3: Registrar of Cooperative/CIG for South-West Region build the capacity of BANOTIFOCOOP members on cooperative functioning

- BANOTIFOPCOOP generated 152,500 XAF from the sale of NTFPs cosmetic production (40 bottles of body lotion and 35 containers of hair cream). This was the outcome of the skills gained during the capacity-building workshop organized by FORUDEF and facilitated by Aafeeben in 2024. This money was reinvested in the cooperative business.
- BANOTIFOPCOOP has bought 300 kg of bush mango seeds for the cost price of 600,000 XAF, it is expected to be sold to generate an income of 720,000 XAF and a profit of 120,000 XAF.

- NTFP collectors and buying agents' capacities strengthened. Less post-harvest waste of NTFPs collected. Better harvesting and preservation techniques are implemented. The BANOTIFOPCOOP collectors and buying agents now practise sustainable harvesting techniques and processing and packaging methods tailored to different product types, including Njansang (*Allanblackia floribunda* & *A parviflora*), bush pepper (*Piper guineense*), bush mango (*Irvingia* spp.), and bitter kola (*Garcinia kola*) has led to improved quality and better marketing approach of these products. (The training has contributed to reducing the potential negative impact on the biodiversity of the park and the adjacent forest.)



Figure 4: Capacity building of BANOTIFOPCOOP NTFPs collectors and buying agent on NTFPs value addition

1.3 Functioning of Cluster Platforms in the Bakossi National Park

- The Southwest Cluster of the Bakossi National Park has begun generating income from some of the livelihood activities carried out in its cluster. For example, i) the cluster recorded 57 litters of honey harvested by members of the communities who benefited. According to the benefit-sharing mechanism, 27 litres of honey were returned to the cluster management, generating an income of 40,000 XAF from the sales. This money contributed to the cost of organizing cluster general assembly meetings and other community development activities within the cluster and ii) Mesaka and Menge women generated a combined some of 100,000 XAF from cassava processing charges and this money was used

to support the mill operator, purchase fuel and support community development activities such as the ongoing construction of an hammock bridge over river Ndipsong to facilitate movement of persons and goods.



Figure 5&6: Bottling of honey harvested from Southwest Cluster beehives and collection of domesticated bush mango

- Monitored the different livelihood activities carried out by the SE Cluster (CHEDE). (i) Seventy (70) piglets benefited by 32 ex-poachers in 8 communities during the LtC1 and LtC2 project phases reproduced 81 piglets of which 20 piglets were pass-over to an additional 10 ex-poachers as per their benefit sharing mechanism and a total sum of 4,485,000 XAF was generated from the sale of pigs in these communities. (ii) 7 ex-poachers in seven communities benefited from 80 beehives harvested 291 liters of honey and generated an income of 727,500 XAF.
- Empowered the South West Cluster (WEBACOP) to continue upscaling the planting of NTFPs in community member's farms. WEBACOP has initiated the planting of grafted bitter cola seedlings whereby 50 grafted bitter cola seedlings distributed (16 Eboko Bajoh, 16 Nyandong and 18 Menge) and 100 grafted coconuts seedlings (34 Eboko Bajoh, 33 Nyandong, 33 Menge) to reduce encroachment in the BNP while ensuring community access right to natural resources..

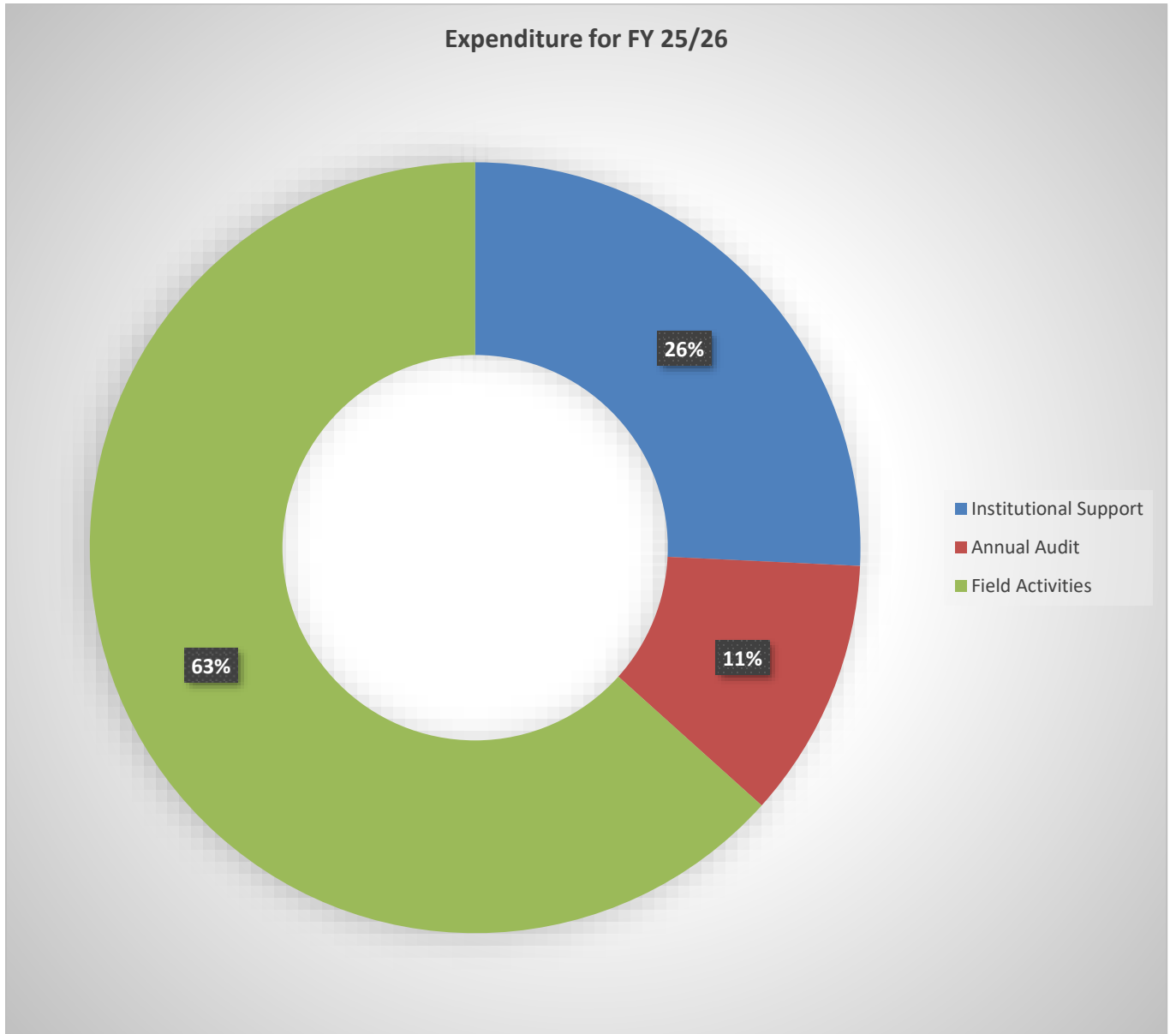
- NTFPs collectors group formed in the SE cluster made up of two groups. Group 1 composed of community members in the following villages Muetan-Aku, Nzimbeng, Elum II and Muaku and group 2, is made up of Mbougmut 1&2, Kodmin and Edip. In the North East Cluster, NTFPs collectors as per the 14 villages that made up the cluster. In the South West cluster 12 NTFPs collectors (3 male and 9 female) and local buying agents were sensitized.
- The South East Cluster distributed 445 bitter cola seedling to community members in 8 communities and the NE cluster distributed 445 bitter cola seedling in villages in the cluster.
- The North West Cluster constructed NTFPs nurseries made up of Moabi seeds in (Boku: 1500 seeds, Jandu: 1500 seeds, Epen: 1480 seeds and Ekona: 1564 seeds) to reduce encroachment in the Bakossi National Park.

Conclusion

Overall, the interventions recorded significant progress in strengthening community-based forest management, improving livelihoods, and promoting sustainable use of forest resources around the Bakossi National Park. The Muaku Community Forest achieved key milestones in planning, boundary demarcation, restoration of encroached areas, and capacity building, laying a solid foundation for effective forest governance. The Bakossi Non-Timber Forest Product Cooperative Society (BANOTIFOPCOOP) was substantially strengthened through expanded membership, improved governance, enhanced NTFP value addition skills, and increased income generation, contributing to both economic empowerment and biodiversity conservation. Additionally, the functioning of cluster platforms demonstrated tangible livelihood benefits through income-generating activities such as honey production, pig rearing, cassava processing, and NTFP domestication, particularly for women and ex-poachers. Collectively, these achievements have reduced pressure on the Bakossi National Park, improved community incomes, and reinforced community ownership and participation in sustainable natural resource management.

Financial Statement

FORUDEF’s income for Fy 25/26 came from a single donor which stood at 63,974,262 XAF. The figure below illustrate the expenditure in percentages.



Annex

List of Board Members

No.	NAME	POSITION
1.	ENOWTAKU ENOWKPEN JOHNSOB	BOARD CHAIR
2.	TABE SUSAN AYUK	SECRETARY
3.	NCHO MOSES TABE	VICE PRESIDENT
4.	MANGA DUKE	MEMBER/CONSULTANT
5.	DR. ABANGMA	MEMBER
6.	ENOWTAKU RENETTE	MEMBER
7.	NCHO SAMPSON	MEMBER
8.	TABE COLLINS OBARE	MEMBER-USA
9.	MISCHA TAYLOR	MEMBER-CANADA
10.	MATHEW TAYLOR	MEMBER-CANADA

List of Staff

No.	NAME	POSITION
1.	NCHO MOSES TABE	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2.	ELAGE RUTH NKE-ENOWMBI	PROGRAMME COORDINATOR AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
3.	ENOKENWA ALLEN TABI	PROJECT OFFICER
4.	NANJE DILYS	ACCOUNTS OFFICER