



E2F ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES, 2022

ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD FOUNDATION (E2F) ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES, 2022



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Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve, Cameroon



Douala-Edea national park, Cameroon



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A word from the Founder & Executive Director

Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) is an environmental nonprofit and nongovernmental organization which was founded in 2017 by **ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA** and by some fisheries and aquatic sciences engineers as co-founders. E2F's mission is to halt and reverse the degradation of marine, freshwater, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems (seascapes and landscapes) through: Environmental education, campaigns, advocacy, and policy, marine liters/debris management, research and conservation programs

E2F's vision is to build a sustainable future, where people and nature thrive, striving on a clear path to sustainable, low blue carbon, and resilient development in Cameroon and Africa. We envision to see communities in Cameroon and Africa wherein every human has:

The opportunity to contribute to the socio-economic development of their community,

Access to sufficient quantity of affordable nutritious food,

The right mindset to live in harmony with nature.

Our 03 critical goals are:

- To Empower Climate Action,
- To Conserve and Protect Nature and Biodiversity,
- To Reduce Environmental Pollution (especially Marine pollution).

In the year 2022, we focused our activities in littoral region and south west region of Cameroon, precisely in the coastal city of Douala, bios des singes wildlife reserve, lake Ossa wildlife reserve and down beach, dockyard, limbe in Cameroon.

Our main activities were; Campaigns, Advocacy, Policy at the local, regional and international levels, Environmental Education, Cleanup events, Research, conservation and closing the loop (reusing plastic waste bottles and ghost gears).

In the year 2023, we seek to scale up our activities through:

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Setting up a full scale plastics recycling plant (factory) which include modern collection, transportation, sorting, storage, recycling (both mechanical and chemical) systems for plastics waste in Douala, Cameroon.

Engage in manual and mechanical removal of invasive aquatic weed *Salvinia molesta*, promote agroforestry, developing alternative livelihoods for farmers and fishermen, running ecotoxicology study of water parameters, and promote ecotourism in lake Ossa, Cameroon.

Set up mangroves plants nurseries, replanting of mangroves plants, developing alternative livelihoods for farmers, promote and develop ecotourism in Douala-Edea national park, Cameroon.

Above all we are looking forward to influence international policies on climate change, nature and biodiversity lost and marine pollution in the year 2023.

I wish to seize this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and supporters both individuals and organizations for their technical, financial, material and moral support. We also wish to thank the indigenous people, local communities and administrative authorities for accompanying us to meet our mission.



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Summary

Environment and Food Foundation (E2F), is an environmental nonprofit and nongovernmental organization (NGO) that implements programs on marine, freshwater, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems conservation, Environment and climate literacy, campaigns, advocacy and policies, marine litters/debris collection and valorization, mangroves conservation, wetlands management, and other aquatic ecosystems along the Cameroon coastline with support from many stakeholders and organizations. E2F mission is to promote the sustainable use and management of marine and aquatic ecosystems through advocacy, environmental education, conservation projects and research. E2F aim is to conserve the rich biodiversity of our marine, freshwater, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems through; Conserving marine, freshwater, coastal and terrestrial biological diversity, Ensuring the sustainable use of renewable natural resources and Promoting regenerative agriculture, by contributing to minimize marine plastics pollution, conservation of threatened marine/aquatic species and habitats, conducting research and studies, the development of alternative sources of income that will eliminate primary reliance on the aquatic resources, raising awareness and environmental education in local communities.

In 2022, E2F focused on four (04) main programs:

The first program entitled; **Collection and valorization of marine plastics waste in Douala, Cameroon.** The implementation of this program started in the city of Douala, Cameroon. The main activities executed in this program were: Campaigns, Advocacy and policy, Hosting cleanup events and collecting plastics, reusing of the collected plastic waste bottles to construct eco-friendly products namely eco-benches, bulb coverings, eco-chairs, paving tiles, increase awareness and environmental education in communities and schools on sustainable management of plastics waste.

The second program entitled; **Participatory management and conservation of mangrove forest ecosystems in the Douala Estuary, Cameroon.** The program's activities implemented were; Environmental education and awareness raising on sustainable management and use of mangrove forest ecosystems in coastal communities, replanting of mangroves plants, cleanup events in mangroves.

The third program entitled; **Biodiversity conservation through community participation in lake Ossa wildlife reserve, Cameroon.** The activities implemented in this program were:

Manual and mechanical removal of the invasive *Salvinia molesta* weed in the lake Ossa, increase



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awareness and environmental education in communities, setting up of plant nurseries, planting of native plants along the banks of lake Ossa.

The fourth program entitled; **Collection and Valorization of abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gears (ALDFGs) at the coast of Limbe, Cameroon.**

The activities implemented in this program were; Community engagement, research and development, stakeholders workshop, construction of a collection point, collection of ghost gears and craft workshop.



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Our core team

SN	Name	Function/Role
01	ACHARE ELVIS AYAMBA	FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
02	EPOLLE RACHELLE MAKOGE	CO-FOUNDER/SECRETARY GENERAL
03	STEPHEN MBI	CO-FOUNDER/CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
04	FELICIEN NYENTY ACHARE	CO-FOUNDER/CONSERVATION CO-ORDINATOR
05	ORANG COLLIN EBOT	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
06	CHI MARY	FIELD ASSISTANT
07	NJEI RHEINARD	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) OFFICER
08	NJUMBE YVONNE	FIELD ASSISTANT
09	DONGMO NGUEMEZI DIVINE	FIELD ASSISTANT
10	ACHARE VALERIE MANYOR	SENIOR PROGRAMS MANAGER
11	SUZANNE SINCERE DE TALLA	COMMUNICATION, INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION OFFICER
12	NJOYA HAMIDOU	FIELD ASSISTANT
13	BETEK BESSEM LADY- DIANA	FIELD ASSISTANT
14		
15		



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Our core team



Founder & Executive Director



Co-founder/Secretary General



Co-founder/Conservation Coordinator



Co-founder/Chief of Operations

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SOME OF OUR MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

- ❖ We hosted over 11 cleanup events.
- ❖ We removed and collected over 20.900kgs of plastic waste from rivers, streams, mangroves and landfills.
- ❖ We removed over 50.000kgs of invasive aquatic weed from lake Ossa.
- ❖ Valorization of some of the collected plastics into crafts.
- ❖ Recycling of plastic waste into paving tiles (eco-bricks).
- ❖ We hosted over 09 environmental education training workshops with students and indigenous coastal people.
- ❖ Educated over 2,000 students and 6,000 indigenous coastal people on sustainable marine/aquatic ecosystems use and management.
- ❖ Our Founder & Executive Director, **ACHARE ELVIS AYAMBA** was awarded one international award: Commonwealth Youth Awards for Excellence in Sustainable Development Work 2022 (<https://thecommonwealth.org/news/20-finalists-announced-commonwealth-youth-awards-2022>).
- ❖ We attended 9 international conferences in-person on climate change, Ocean, protected areas and marine protected areas.



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E2F'S ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2022

Activities of January 2022

Stakeholders' workshops on used fishing nets at Down-Beach, Limbe, Cameroon.

This workshop had as goal to bring together fishers, divers, fishing companies, community leaders, youths, sea food traders, women, government officials, academia and consumers to discuss issues surrounding used fishing gears and the economic benefits to the community. We hosted 2 successful workshops for two consecutive days, with a total of 70 participants.

- Day 1: We discussed the issues on used fishing nets as seen from the perspective of the stakeholders.
- Day 2: We reflected on discussion of the previous day. A workshop resolution (drafted policy) was reached by all stakeholders present.



Stakeholders workshop on used fishing nets



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February 2021 activities

Construction of a collection hub and collection of used fishing gears at Down Beach, Limbe, Cameroon.

The Collection hub is a waste collection, separation and treatment facility for recovered used fishing gears. It is also a data center for all abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gears (ALDFGs) related data.

It serves as the collection point for recovered fishing gears, data collection centre, reporting centre and complaint centre. This facility will serve as a reservoir of raw materials for craft making.

Collection of used fishing gears is a process of retrieving discarded nets from the shores of the community and taken to the Collection Hub.



March 2022 activities

Crafts workshops at Down Beach Limbe, Cameroon.

The craft workshop aimed to provide community residents, especially women, with the necessary skills to convert recovered fishing nets (gears) into valuable crafts.



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This will set women of the local communities on the pathway to creating alternative sources of income and livelihood.

This was an activity designed for youths and women in the local communities with the set objectives to empower and create alternative sources of income as support for their fisher-husbands.



April 2022 activities

Cleanup events at Pont Combi, Douala, Cameroon

E2F as an organization addressing the issue of plastic waste always hosts cleanup events on a regular bases. More than 20 E2F plastic ambassadors participated in the cleanup event. The cleanup event took place in a river at pont combi, Douala, Cameroon. This river is highly polluted with plastic bottles and the river is biologically death. The plastic bottles were picked up, weighed, registered and collected for reusing. Over 2,000kgs of plastics waste was removed from the river during the cleanup event and collected.



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May 2022 activities

Mechanical and manual removal of invasive aquatic weed *Salvinia molesta* from lake Ossa, Cameroon

This was aimed to engage the fishermen in a cleanup event, to demonstrate the practical aspects and usage of the collection trawl in the lake Ossa for the removal of the invasive weed *Salvinia molesta* in the lake. Also engage the fishermen in the manual removal of the invasive weed.

E2F staffs, government officials and fishermen, farmers, women engaged in a collective effort for the mechanical and manual removal of the *Salvinia molesta* from the lake.

About 35 fishermen and 5 eco-guards accompanied E2F team for the manual and mechanical removal of salvinia in the lake.

Over 50.000kg of *Salvinia molesta* was collected from lake Ossa during this event.



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Mechanical removal of Salvinia

June 2022 Activities

Clean up events: World Environment day and World Ocean Day celebration

Throughout the month of June 2022, E2F hosted 03 consecutive cleanup events and 3 environmental education focus group discussions in celebration of world's environment day and world's ocean day. Over 40 volunteers participated in the in the cleanup during the celebration of world Ocean day. Over 20 volunteers participated in the cleanup event in celebration of world environment day. During these 03 cleanup events more than 5,000kgs of plastic waste was removed and collected.



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July 2022 activities

IUCN African Protected Areas Congress (APAC), Kigali, Rwanda.

The inaugural African protected Areas Congress (IUCN-APAC) was the first of its kind in the Africa region. This was the first time African governments, CBOs, NGOs, indigenous and local communities (IPLCs), academias and youth came together to discuss the conservation of African protected areas. E2F was fully represented by our founder ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA.

During the congress he participated in a side event on conservation conversation: Youth and indigenous knowledge in co-management of protected and conserved areas hosted by Youth4Nature. He also did a presentation on Youth and IPLCs: Critical insights on their role on the conservation of nature.



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August 2022 activities

Cleanup event at Pont Combi, Douala, Cameroon.

E2F is strengthening the plastic supply and value chains, creating new jobs, as well as relieving Douala, Cameroon from plastics pollution. We aim to change the paradigm on plastics by monetizing and turning what was once waste into a resource, as a way to reduce extreme poverty in Cameroon.

E2F hosted 02 cleanups, involving over 30 volunteers and indigenous people who were present in the cleanup events. Over 4,000kgs of plastic bottles were picked up and collected during these cleanup events.

During these cleanup events we also did environmental education with over 60 people.



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September 2021 activities

Trees and Seas Festival; Environmental education and Cleanup events at Bios des singes mangroves and pont combi, Douala, Cameroon.

During the month of September, the main activity we did was the Trees and Seas Festival of Blue Communities of Plastics Oceans International.

While celebrating this festival, we successfully implemented the following activities; 01 cleanup event at pont combi, 03 cleanup at bios des singes mangroves, 01 liter fishing at bios des singes, 03 environmental education workshop.

We collected over 5,200kgs of plastics, educated over 300 indigenous coastal communities members.



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October 2021 activities

Global Climathon Climate week workshops at Alexandria, Egypt

Climathon Climate is a global community of local change-makers working together to help our cities, towns and regions achieve net-zero emissions and systems change. Our founder ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA spent a week long of activities in Alexandria, Egypt attending this great event. He participated in workshops and side events on climate literacy, crafts using plastics, reusing and recycling. He was also interviewed by Climathon to share his initiative and nature story.



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November 2022 activities

1) International 17th Conference of Youth (COY 17), Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt 2022.

2) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), 27th Conference of Parties (COP27), Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt 2022.

3) The Ocean X Climate Summit, Sharm in Egypt 2022.

4) Global Landscape Forum (GLF) Climate Summit, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt 2022.

5) World Climate Summit: The Investment COP Egypt 2022.

We were fully represented for the first time by our founder ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA in all these international events.

At COP 27, our founder was one of the African Youth Caravan delegate to COP 27, Egypt, with 3 key messages on resilient, youth action and just energy transition.



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December 2021 activities

Environmental Literacy at Lake Ossa, Dizangue, Cameroon.

Manual Removal of *Salvinia molesta* from lake Ossa, Cameroon.

The major threat in the lake Ossa currently is the presence of the invasive *Salvinia* plant in the lake. In 2015 *Salvinia molesta* a plant native to Brazil was found in lake Ossa. In 2019, the invasive *Salvinia* plant spread more aggressively in the lake especially in the hot-spot of African Manatees the most charismatic species in lake. Presently the *Salvinia* weed has already occupied over 40% of the total surface area of the lake.

As a step towards the mitigation of the threat of invasive aquatic weed *Salvinia molesta* in lake Ossa, E2F team and local population (fishermen) engaged in an environmental literacy event and a participatory manual removal of *Salvinia molesta* using hand nets, baskets, and nets.. The collected *Salvinia* was valorized locally by using it to produce manure and biogas.



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Our Partners and Supporters





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