



ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD FOUNDATION (E2F) 2023 IMPACT REPORT



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Founder & Executive Director's Message

I'm thrilled to present Environment and Food Foundation (E2F's) 2023 Progress Report, which showcases the remarkable strides our team—with the collective effort of our partners—has made to contribute to minimize and reduce climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. The pressing need to preserve our planet earth's rich natural resources and wealth of biodiversity therein cannot be overstated and neither is the intrinsic bond between the ecosystems and human well-being.

The past year has been eventful for E2F.

In the year 2023, we focused our activities in littoral region and south west region of Cameroon, precisely in the coastal city of Douala, Yawpwe fishing ground and lake Ossa wildlife reserve in Cameroon.

Our main activities were; Environmental education (Ocean Literacy), Policy Advocacy, Cleanup events, Research, conservation, restoration and reusing plastic waste bottles and ghost gears).

As I reflect on the achievements of the past year, I couldn't help but be grateful for our supporters, whether longstanding partners or new advocates, be they organizations or individuals—E2F is thriving because of all of you. I invite you to delve into our progress report, it is also an invitation to recommit ourselves to the cause of biodiversity conservation.

Together, we can build a future where people and nature flourish together, thereby paving the way for a sustainable, low-carbon and resilient development.

Achare Elvis AYAMBA

Director, E2F



We are on a mission to build a sustainable future where all have the right mindset to flourish with nature. To attain this we need support from all stakeholders and actors most importantly from the Indigenous People and Local Communities (IPLC).

Our journey has just began and we must keep impacting nature and people positively.

Our Achievements and Challenges

ACHIEVEMENTS

- We hosted over 05 cleanup events.
- We removed and collected over 19.900kgs of plastic waste from rivers, streams, mangroves and landfills.
- We removed over 20.000kgs of invasive aquatic weed from lake Ossa.
- Valorization of some of the collected plastics into crafts.
- We hosted over 15 environmental education training workshops with students and indigenous coastal people.
- Educated over 8,000 students and 6,000 indigenous coastal people on sustainable marine/aquatic ecosystems use and management.
- Revamping the E2F website to showcase our initiatives and impact in a more visually captivating manner.
- Participating in IMPAC5, COY18, COP28, INC3, Africa Forward conference 2023, Climate Chance conference 2023, LCOY Cameroon 2023 events holds significant importance as it provides a crucial opportunity to comprehend our role within the international policymaking sphere. These engagements offer insights into global perspectives, foster collaboration, and help shape our strategic contributions to address pressing global challenges..
- Establishing new partnerships with Ocean Conservancy, Global Ghost Gears Initiative (GGGI), we became a member of PREVENT Waste Alliance, we were officially accredited to United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signifies a proactive expansion of our network. In the longer run, this will propel us towards a collective vision of positive change, underscoring our commitment to meaningful and impactful initiatives.

CHALLENGES

- Establishing a consistent and secure financial pipeline to cover the essential operational costs, enabling us to continue making a meaningful impact on our mission.
- Expanding our reach to engage a widespread audience interested in conservation across diverse geographical regions and age groups.
- Broadening the scope of our programs and initiatives to accommodate more regions and communities.
- Achieving organizational goals while managing limited staff, time, and operational resources requires careful balancing.



E2F's TEAM

SN	Name	Function/Role
01	ACHARE ELVIS AYAMBA	FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
02	EPOLE RACHELLE MAKOGE	CO-FOUNDER/SECRETARY GENERAL
03	ACHARE VALERIE MANYOR	CO-FOUNDER/SENIOR PROGRAMS MANAGER
04	FELICIEN NYENTY ACHARE	CO-FOUNDER/CONSERVATION CO-ORDINATOR
05	STEPHEN MBI	CO-FOUNDER/CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
06	DONGMO NGUEMEZI DIVINE	FIELD ASSISTANT
07	NJOYA HAMIDOU COLLINS	FIELD ASSISTANT
08	GRACE MANYI	FIELD ASSISTANT
09	TAMBE GERTRUDE NDIP	FIELD ASSISTANT
10	MICHELLE	FIELD ASSISTANT
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		



ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2023

JANUARY 2023 ACTIVITIES

PARICIPATION AT IMPAC5

Our Founder & Director ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA represented Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) at the 5th International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC5) Vancouver, Canada.

He confessed that this has been his most meaningfully engaged international event so far in his 06 years career as Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP). His journey at IMPAC5 started at the IMPAC5 youth coastal connection, followed by IMPAC5 Indigenous Caucus, IMPAC5 (the congress) and finally IMPAC5 Leadership Forum.

He attended the Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress, (IMPAC5) as one of the 15th IMPAC5 young professional committee (YPC) members. As IMPAC5 YPC his principal role was to ensure the voices of youth are heard before, during and after the congress.

It was indeed a time of learning, growth, sharing, exchange, exploring ocean innovation, best practices and best knowledges. It was also certainly a time of celebration of success stories, relaxation, fun and most importantly networking. From reflection, cultural, storytelling and knowledge sharing activities, keynotes, technical workshops, Ocean literacy, to Climate Finance sessions for Collaborative Marine Management Plans, Meaningful Intergenerational Engagement, and Community-led Ocean Regeneration Initiatives, to panel discussions, to personal presentations and talks, and finally speaking at the leadership forum, the congress was booming with a biodiverse range of rational thinkers, sessions, innovations and ideas, in which he was fully engaged in.

His top 6 takeaways at IMPAC5:

- 1) Indigenous People as the Leads.
- 2) Youth at the Centre and meaningfully engaged.
- 3) Ocean Literacy.
- 4) We need Sustainable (durable) financial mechanism.
- 5) Science and innovative technology.
- 6) We need Global Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).



FEBRUARY 2023 ACTIVITIES

Environmental Education (EE) in Primary schools at Yabassi, Douala.

The goal of this work is to promote Environmental Education (EE) among children by organizing open public events that enable knowledge exchange and that catalyze action as we work together to achieve the overarching goal of the sustainable future. We aim to bridge information and knowledge gap. Also, provide children with experiential learning, access to tools and resources to learn about environmental conservation and sustainability. Through this activity, we hope to inspire children to take action to protect and preserve the environment, developing a sense of responsibility and ownership in our future generations. We also hope to create a community of young people who are actively engaged in environmental conservation and sustainability. Throughout this month we impacted over 460 pupils in EE.



MARCH 2023 ACTIVITIES

Cleanup Events

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 coastal 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.



APRIL 2023 ACTIVITIES

Ocean Literacy (Education) in Primary Schools in Douala.



We aim to bridge information and knowledge gap and empower the next generation of ocean warriors with the knowledge and resources they need to create a sustainable future. We provided children with the tools and education they need to become change-makers in their communities and help drive progress towards a bluer and healthier future for all.

The world today is facing a multitude of environmental issues, and the impact of climate change, pollution, biodiversity and nature lost is becoming increasingly evident. The world is connected by the Oceans. However, atlantic Ocean in Cameroon is highly threatened by plastics pollution, mangroves forests degradation, etc. It is imperative that we take steps to address these challenges and find sustainable solutions. One of the most crucial step to take is to engage in Ocean education.

The goal of this objective is to promote Ocean education among children by organizing open public events that enable knowledge exchange and that catalyze action as we work together to achieve the overarching goal of the UN Ocean Decade (2021-2030): to “Change (restore) humanity’s relationship with the Ocean”. We aim to bridge information and knowledge gap.



MAY 2023 ACTIVITIES

AWARENESS RAISING AND EDUCATION ON GHOST GEARS (ALDFGs)

In May 2023 E2F was awarded the Global Ghost Gear Initiative small grant entitled “Cameroon ALDFGs Reduction Initiative” by Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) and Ocean Conservancy.

With the support of GGGI, we aimed to expand our educational campaigns in additional regions in Cameroon through tailored-made workshops, developed state-of-the-art educational materials, engaged more than 100 small-scale fishers in prevention and mitigation activities and organized 2 raise-awareness campaigns.



JUNE 2023 ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION ON GHOST GEARS (ALDFGs)



Data collection on the main types of ALDFG that pollute the Douala estuary ecosystem and raising awareness on the results obtained was the principal activity this month.

The objective was to release questionnaires to at least 30 fishers to extract information about the different types of fishing gear, the scope of the problem and their overall awareness about the negative impact of ALDFG.

Importantly, the results from the survey showed that 100% of respondents stated that no measures have been implemented to combat this pressing issue.

Key Policy Recommendations from the survey results:

- **Raise Awareness and Education:** Launch comprehensive awareness campaigns and educational initiatives targeting fishers and the wider community to increase understanding of ALDFG, marine pollution, and marine litter.
- **Promote Recycling and Responsible Disposal:** Encourage and support fishing gear recycling activities and provide incentives for responsible disposal practices among fishers. Establish dedicated waste management infrastructure for fishing vessels.
- **Remove Ghost Nets:** Develop and fund programs for the systematic removal of ghost nets from the marine environment, involving fishers as active participants in clean-up efforts.
- **Engage Stakeholders:** Foster multistakeholder collaboration involving government authorities, NGOs, local communities, and fishers in the development of policies and strategies to combat ALDFG, marine pollution, and marine litter.
- **Monitor and Evaluate:** Implement monitoring and surveillance mechanisms to track progress in ALDFG and pollution mitigation efforts and assess the effectiveness of policies and initiatives.



JULY 2023 ACTIVITIES

GHOST GEAR STAKEHOLDERS AND CRAFT WORKSHOPS



We hosted 3 workshops in schools and coastal community of Takele, engaged the participation of 90 students per workshop, and combined theory and practice through the involvement of students in symbolic ALDFG collection activities. The goal was to collect and remove at least 200 kg from hotspots to comprehend the scale of the problem.

We also empowered fishing and local people to build green skills capacities. Trained 40 fishers on proper storing, sorting of their used fishing gear, provide incentives to participate in ALDFG prevention activities and enrich their profession. Organize at least 2 craft workshops aimed at coastal community residents, especially women, to convert recovered fishing nets into valuable crafts. This had set women of the local communities on the pathway to creating alternative sources of income and empower them.



AUGUST 2023 ACTIVITIES

WIND SUMMIT 2023: YOUTH FINDING SOLUTIONS TO PLASTICS POLLUTION

OBJECTIVES

- To discuss the dangers of plastic, youth engagement and their solutions to combat it.
- To shade light on impact of plastic pollution on the environment.
- The reusing of plastic bottles for construction and others.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase the sensitization and education of youth on the management of plastic bottles.
- Hosting of workshops on the valorisation of plastic bottles.
- Creation of communication facilities to inform the population/youth about organizations involve in recycling.
- Recruit more youth to collect plastics as a livelihood.
- Boost the circular economy in Cameroon with more emphasis on reuse.





SEPTEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

WORLD CLEANUP DAY 2023

Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) as a vibrant and influential environmental organization decided to join **Let's do it World (Cameroon)** to host events for the celebration of this day. As this particular day was concern we had as a programme the following activities; Eco jogging, Sensitisation of the local community, Environmental education with the local population, Cleanup

Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) was in the town of Yabassi and carried all the above mentioned activities.

The world cleanup day 2023; **CELEBRATING THE WORLD THROUGH WASTE VALORISATION** as we celebrated in Yabassi

was a good success and Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) appreciated Let's do it World (Cameroon) for their support.



OCTOBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

LCOY CAMEROON 2023

The Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) pre-consultation meeting in Limbe, South West region of Cameroon had been successfully organized as part of our Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) 2023.

The event organized on the theme “fostering youth engagement for sustainable climate action and a resilient future in Cameroon” featured inspiring keynote address discussing the urgency of taking action on climate change and the role of Youth in driving change. Engaging panel discussion session with 5 experience panelists from Government, no profits and private sector focusing on the effectiveness of policy and governmental action in supporting young people in addressing climate change.

There was also a two hours World Cafe session, where participants discussed in three groups around questions related to youth-led initiatives, marginalized communities and effective policy approaches for addressing climate change. The event was also spiced with an environmental song display by the Charismatic award winning artist.

Over 50 youths and over 20 partner organizations effectively participated in the engaging event, provided their inputs towards “fostering youth engagement for sustainable climate action and a resilient future in Cameroon”.

E2F was an official partner of LCOY Cameroon 2023 and Our founder was one of the coordinators of LCOY Cameroon 2023.

Some major take aware points from the deep conversation includes:

- They government needs to initiate and strengthen their funding mechanism to support Youth Climate Actions, build capacity, understand the needs of indigenous people and not impose solutions on them.
- Some Government bodies affirms commitment to recommending youth for international funding and offering networking opportunities to support youths.
- The youths calls on the government to go beyond moral support to support youth climate actions
- Youth were called to build and leverage synergies to take more action to address the climate crisis.
- Youths reminded to be conscious of their ecological and carbon foot prints because whatever they do can positively or negatively affect our environment.
- Government representatives calls on youths to be more responsible, intentional work on themselves, empower themselves get the leadership skills to attract government support.
- Youths encouraged visiting ministries and finding out the updates on opportunities that are happening, find support and other many opportunities in the ministry.
- Grass root youth led organization encouraged to boost their visibility to attract international support and funding.
- Grass root youth led organizations task to take more Climate action, and not only register organizations and go silent without taking actions.



NOVEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

UNFCCC 18th CONFERENCE OF YOUTH (COY18), DUBAI, UAE

Our Founder & Executive Director ACHARE Elvis AYAMBA was an official delegate of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 18th Conference of Youth (COY18). He represented both the nation of Cameroon and Environment and Food Foundation (E2F) at COY 18.

During COY18 our founder, did a presentation in an enlightening session representing the host of the session Water Energy and Sanitation for Development (WESDE), an NGO from Cameroon.

The side event was about Environmental Education as a Strategy to Face Climate Change Issues. The purpose of the session was to discuss key aspects of environmental education, but integrating sustainable development in teaching and learning, emphasizing living in harmony with nature.



DECEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

UNFCCC 28th CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (COP28), DUBAI, UAE

E2F's Objectives at COP 28;

1. Promote people (Youth and Indigenous people), nature (Ocean) and biodiversity positive climate solutions.
2. Explore partnerships and collaboration with like-minded Networks and CSOs to collectively influence climate outcomes that benefit vulnerable local and indigenous communities.
3. Participate in lobbying for reforming climate finance, adaptation finance, Ocean finance and lost and damage to increase funding to African Governments and IPLCs at the frontline of the biodiversity and climate challenges.

Priority Areas at COP 28;

- Operationalization of Loss and Damage fund.
- Funding for nature/Ocean - climate actions.
- Adaptation versus mitigation funding.
- Access to finance at local level.
- Global stock take – progress in implementing Paris Agreement in past 5 years.
- Real solutions versus false solutions.
- Climate change, biodiversity and pollution nexus.
- Design and effective implementation of NbS and/or ecosystem-based approaches to climate change mitigation.
- Carbon and biodiversity credits and offsets and other market-based approaches and their effects on biodiversity and people.
- Agriculture, Ocean and land issues
- Climate Justice.



OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS





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Connect with Environment and Food Foundation (E2F)

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