



GLOBAL VILLAGE CAMEROON

Organisation Non Gouvernementale Pour la Protection de L'environnement et le Développement durable

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A STUDY ON THE LIVING CONDITION OF THE POPULATION LIVING AROUND THE DENG DENG FOREST

A – INTRODUCTION

Képéré Deng Deng is a second class chiefdom which is situated at latitude 804m from sea level and lies between Latitude 5° 36' and Longitude 13° 59' and has a population of about 5 thousand inhabitants. Képéré Deng Deng is located in the East Province of Cameroon in the Lom and Djerem Division under the Sub Division of Belabo. She also falls under the Belabo Rural Council. The Képéré population is dominant and more illustrious. There are equally the Baya, Kakou, Pol, Bobilis and many other small groups of people present in this region. These people are Catholic Christians, Lutherans, Muslims or protestants. There are very few government workers (less than 15) in the region. The inhabitants of this region depend on hunting, artisanal wood exploitation, farming and on petty businesses. The literacy level here is about 25%.

There exist a second class traditional chief based in Deng Deng and many third class traditional chiefs. All these traditional chiefs are considered as local administrators who help in maintaining peace, order and promoting development. They are recognised by the government to perform these functions and therefore the government collaborate with them to continue fulfilling this task through government administrators. These chiefs represent their people. The third class chief who heads the third class chiefdom is answerable to the Second Class Chief who heads the second class chiefdom and the second class chief is answerable to the Divisional officer who heads the Sub Division.

A.1 – Geology, Relief and Soils

In the litho- stratigraphic context Képéré Deng Deng is a polycyclic pedestal ortho-derivative which is made of a cover of metamorphosized volcanic sedimentary materials. These materials which stem from the base are trapped in a ditch of the Lom belt. They are also crossed by numerous magmatic intrusions.

The polycyclic ortho-derivative pedestal underwent some successive orogeneses and of general orientation N 130°. This vast pedestal would be the beginning of grano- dioritic composition but would have been affected subsequently by the regional microclisations phases.

The general relief is a tray, being connected to the morphology of pedestal. They however finds as much in pedestal polycyclic as in set schisto- quartzitic of Lom. Gold is also bound to vertical shearing zones. The region is characterised by tectonic seismic activities and is one of the four zones in Cameroon with relatively strong seismic activities.

A.2 – Climate and Vegetation

The zone of survey is a zone characterised by a sub-equatorial climate of Guinean type with two rainy seasons. The yearly average temperature is 23°C and the annual rainfall stands at 1578mm. The dry season is between December and April and one observes rainfall also between July and August which is accompanied by small dry seasons. The zone of survey has a weak population density and the quality of air could be qualified as excellent because it is free from pollution.

The zone is largely made of semi-deciduous forest in the South and in the North the savannah vegetation is dominant. Képéré Deng Deng falls much in the Semi deciduous dense forest and the transition to savannah vegetation is very brutal although still marked with forest galleries. The savannah is browsed regularly by fire during the dry season and would have the tendency to spread.

A.3 – Methodology used and the objective of carrying out the studies

This study was carried out to know the living condition of the population living around the Deng Deng forest in order to strategise on how to orientate our sensitisation campaign against poaching and over exploitation of forest resources which is rampant in the Deng Deng region. This is aimed at promoting participatory sustainable forest resource management.

Various stakeholders in the forestry domain were consulted at Deng Deng, Belabo and Bertoua. Many other government offices, elites of Deng Deng, groups, traditional chiefs in the region, church leaders and other leaders in the Deng Deng area were consulted to gather useful information for this study. Information gotten from Divisional officer and Mayor of Belabo was very vital and added much flesh to our work. We also read written material on the Deng Deng region. This report is therefore based on the information gathered while on field visit to Deng Deng, Belabo and Bertoua from 23rd to 27th of September 2006 and from relevant documents read.

B - TYPES OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN KEPERE DENG DENG, THEIR IMPACTS AND LIMITATIONS

B.1 – Agriculture

The principal crops grown in Képéré Deng Deng are cassava, maize, plantain, banana, and coco yams which are mainly for consumption. Yams, groundnuts and cucumber are grown mostly to sell. Bush meat and fish are the major sources of protein and they are gotten from the forest and rivers in the areas respectively. Okra in leaves and fruits serves as vegetable for the population.



A family sharing a meal prepared from cassava and okra together at Deng Deng

Agriculture is given little attention in this region by the population because it takes much time to yield fruits as compare to fishing, hunting and artisanal logging that gives fast and immediate money with comparatively little straining. Agricultural methods used in this region are inferior resulting in poor output. No credit facilities are available to promote investment in the agricultural sector and so this sector remains under developed and can not improve on the living standards of the population. Prices of agricultural products remain low in the region as there exist a lot of difficulties to sell agricultural produce, firstly due to poor roads linking the area to nearby towns and secondly due to the lack of a market and a fixed market day in Deng Deng for trading to occur.

B.2 – Animal Husbandry

Animals like goats, sheep, pigs and fowls are reared in the region for subsistence by the population. These animals are seen moving around loosely with no control. Conflict have always resulted in the villages from these loosely kept animals as families sometimes fight over an animal for ownership because they had let loose an animal for long without it coming home. Confusion sometimes comes due the problem of animal identification and ownership. The animals defecate every where as they move. These animals are local or traditional breeds that hardly put up meaningful weight no matter how long you keep them. They are reared mostly for sale in times that the family has a pressing financial problem.



Animals are seen moving without control in the region

B.3 – Forest Resources

The people of Képeré Deng Deng depend highly on the forest for their livelihood. Their culture, tradition, feeding habits and livelihood had evolved closely with the forest. They depend on the forest for vegetable, fruits, food, water, protein, shelter, medicine, nuts, palm wine and for many more other needs. The forest gives them a source of subsistence activities. One village youth told us that ‘the forest is the backbone of the Deng Deng community’. We were made to know that from the ancestral period the forest had been divided to various families in the forest community and those generations that follow only come in to inherit. This, the new generation has come to meet. They said, no stranger could come in to the forest for any activity without consulting and paying some money to the family concern and the traditional chief of that area.



The population of Deng Deng live closer to their forest as it is a source of their livelihood. They say the forest is the backbone of their community

We discovered that hunting of animals was done by villagers and the poached animals were sold to bushmeat traders who come from towns to buy regularly. The poaching of gorillas

and chimpanzees has gradually reduced as bushmeat buyers do not more prefer buying it for the law prohibit their killing as endangered species. For many years the population of the region have not been accustomed to eat the flesh of these great apes, so they are hunted for sale. The Chief of Deng Deng said, the population of the great ape has gradually witness an increase and this could be justified by the fact that they are frequently seen now in the forest. The Chief of Lom Pangar also told us that for one to see a simple animal in the forest now to hunt like porcupine one need to move for more than 5km, which he said, were not the case before.



The population still engage in indiscriminate hunting. This baby monkey was caught from forest.

It is clear that most wood cut down in the Deng Deng forest (labelled artisanal) is not done by villagers. Foreigners (from other parts of Cameroon and other countries) come in and pay money to the families and chiefs involve, exploiting the forest. The money they pay is not commensurate with what they exploit and so can not bring about any meaningful development in the village. We were shocked with the amount of wood laying in Goyoum (one of the village in Képéré Deng Deng with a train station) ready for transportation through train. The Mayor of Belabo Rural Council who is the local administrator for this region told us that most of the wood exploitation described as artisanal is done by Chadians mostly, who pay no taxes to the state or pay the right price for the wood they exploit. He lamented saying that the resources of the nation are drained without the population benefiting from them and concluded by asking this question ‘how can we develop’.

There exist a Forest Post in Deng Deng with a Chief of Post (a forest technician) and three interns who work in Képéré Deng Deng. While talking with them they explained to us the efforts they are putting to stop poaching and to promote sustainable forest resource management. Many other people saw the need to incorporate non governmental organisations to participate fully in the management and control of vehicles that leave this area to town with bush meat. They acknowledged the presence of corruption whereby bushmeat buyers pay some money to forest guards to buy their way out with bushmeat to towns. When our team visited the Belabo bushmeat market we still saw that poaching was still an issue that called for concern from the quantity of bushmeat we saw being sold in the market. One lady told us in a discussion with her in Belabo that she has grown up eating bushmeat and it is difficult to change.

Talking with some village elites and youths, they reiterated that there is the need to take in to account these facts:

- a strong sensitisation campaign (like what Global Village Cameroon had been carrying out) to be carried out with the population to curb poaching and over exploitation of the forest resources to involve the infants, youths, elders and leaders simultaneously for the dream to have their forest sustainably managed to come true.
- they saw the need to provide youths with alternative sources of livelihood to improve on their living standards. This they said will tilt away their minds from depending solely on the forest for livelihood,
- modern agricultural methods to be introduced in the region accompanied by a provision of agricultural tools to the villagers to engage them in agricultural activities,
- introduce the domestication of some forest species that are threatened and/or have high economic value to improve on standards of living, provide employment and reduce the pressure exerted on the forest resources,
- the introduction of modern breeds of animals in the region that will be able to put up weight within a short space of time to replace the old local breeds that exist in the villages. They said these new breeds will fetch them more money and improve on their standards of living when they are trained on how to rear them in enclosures,
- they needed credit opportunities to engage in other businesses.

Although, there is still the high practice of poaching, the population told us that there is a gradual change in mentality of the people especially now that they see many animals are lost from the forest. They saw the need for environmental sensitisation of the people on what the law says about wildlife and its protection and of educating the population on sustainable forest resource management. Some people said, it was necessary to engage in this sensitisation campaign because they say hunting of animals especially the great ape was still going on in hiding.

B.4 – Business activities in Képèré Deng Deng

The region has some businesses that have sprung up and others that had existed for long. Drinking bars with beer and soft drinks are prominent in the village of Deng Deng. The drinks are sold at exorbitant prices as compared with prices in towns because of difficulties encountered to transport the drinks to this region through the poor roads. Many people are seen drinking despite the poverty that hit hard on the population. These drinking bars have diesel electricity generators to provide light and music. Palm wine tapped from some forest palms is also sold in local bars and here you could see a large number of people drinking it because it is affordable.

Some few provision stores that sell basic needs of the population also exist in Deng Deng. We visited one of the provision shops to buy but felt cheated because of the high taxed prices for goods. It is normal here for businessmen and women in this region to use the fact that the region is enclave and escalate prices of goods and services.

This time, that we visited the field to collect this data, we saw that some goods that could only previously be bought from towns were being sold in the village. This included shoes and dresses. When we talked with the lady selling the goods she said many people are welcoming the initiative and are buying. She expressed optimism that things will change

with time. Sells of some other items like food was done between families since no market exist in Deng Deng for trading to occur.

Deng Deng that hosts the second class chiefdom has no market and no fixed day for people to buy or sell their produce. Sells of goods is done in various houses. The limitation of this is that it closes the way for traders from towns to come in to buy from them on a specific site and on specific days. Ouami and Lom Pangar have specific days in a week to market their fish and bush meat either dry or fresh.

C – BASIC SERVICES AND STATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE AREA

C.1 – Communication Network

Communication in general, is a major problem in this region. The region is accessible by train whose station is in Belabo (the Sub Divisional headquarter of the region) and Goyoum (where wood leaves the region through train) closer to Deng Deng. After dropping from the train you need to hire a motorcycle to Deng Deng and this takes one hour from Goyoum and three hours from Belabo. Another possibility is taking a Bus from Yaounde to Bertoua (the provincial capital of the East Province) and then leaving Bertoua via Belabo through car and then to Deng Deng using a car if any or motorcycle. All these distances are short except for the bad roads that make the journey cumbersome.

During the dry season the region is more accessible through vehicles than in the rainy seasons. Many a times, big forest trees fall and block the roads in the rainy season caused by the high winds or storms that accompany the rains. These trees are sometimes so big that it takes time to saw them and clear them off the roads. This disturbs activities in the region. There is no telephone network in the region or electricity. Telephone network services are only available in Belabo and Bertoua. We can say this region is enclave.

C.2 – Health Services

The region has very poor health services. There is a Health Post in Deng Deng for the Képèré Deng Deng a second class chiefdom with a population of about 5000 people. This post has a pharmacist and chief post as employers to serve the population. The chief of Post is hardly present and the Health post is always closed. For about 6 months the Health post has not been supplied with drugs and equipment, said the retired nurse living closer to the Health post that the population depend on privately to solve their health problems. We were told that the population still rely highly on witchdoctors when they are sick, thinking that someone is responsible for their poor health situation. They only go to consult in the health post when the situation is getting worst. The population still depend highly on medicinal plants harvested from the forest to solve their health problems as they say that, the forest still remain their only sources of hope for a healthy life. We learned that, a new private clinic had been set up in Goyoum one of the villages in the second class chiefdom.



Health Post building located in Deng Deng constantly closed.

When we failed to meet the Chief of Post for Health, we talked with the retired nurse who informed us that all through his working life in Deng Deng he had seen that the following diseases are common in the region: malaria, diarrhoea, romatism, eye problems, yellow fever, skin infectious, hernia, tuberculosis and onchocerciasis (river blindness). He said HIV/AIDs could be present but he had not yet seen any case. There could be a possibility to determine the HIV/AIDS infection rate if there is available laboratory equipment to test for HIV/AIDs.

People with severe cases of illnesses are evacuated from the village to Belabo and Bertoua (where better health services are available) for treatment. They do same with pregnant women.

C.3 – School services

Képèré Deng Deng has very low literacy rate. No secondary school exists in this region. There are six government primary schools existing here which do not function effectively or efficiently because of lack of infrastructure, educational materials and staff. All the six schools have about 2-3 teachers to teach 6 classes. All the schools are found in Deng Deng, Goyoum, Mbaki II, Mbambo, Gbadanga and Woutchaba.



Children of classes one to six coming out of the two classes where they attend lectures presently taught by three teachers in Government primary school Deng Deng

See statistics for teachers and pupils in various schools for last year. These teachers are either government employed, Rural Council of Belabo employed or Parents employed.

Schools	Approximate Number of pupils	Number of Teachers
Deng Deng	133	3 { One government employed (Head teacher) One council employed One parent employed
Goyoum	Between 100 and 120	2 { One council employed One parent employed
Mbaki II	Less than 100	3 { One government employed (Head teacher) One council employed One parent employed
Mbambo	Between 120-130	3 { One government employed (Head teacher) One council employed One parent employed
Gbadanga	Less than 50	I council employed
Woutchaba	Less than 60	I council employed

Source: Head Teacher of Government Primary School Deng Deng

The lack of teachers in these schools and the accompanying lack of benches for pupils to sit on and the lack of classes and working material make education not easy. This has led to poor performance in public examinations by these schools. Their performance in the Entrance Examination to secondary and technical schools and the written final examination to obtain a Certificate of Primary School Completion had remained very poor. See school results below.

Types of Exams		Deng Deng	Goyoum	Mbaki II	Mbambo	Gbadanga	Woutchaba
Entrance Examination to secondary schools	Total number of pupils sat	7	5	0	0	New school	2
	Total number of pupils that succeeded	2	0	0	0		0
Entrance Examination to Technical schools	Total number of pupils that sat	4	0	3	0	New school	0
	Total number of pupils that succeeded	1	0	1	0		0
Primary school Leaving Certificate Examination	Total number of pupils that sat	22	7	4	3	1	6
	Total number of pupils that succeeded	6	2	3	3	1	0

Source: Inspectorate of Nursery and Primary Education Belabo

With these poor results many parents in this region are resolving to send their children to nearby towns like Belabo and Bertoua for them to obtain better education.

C.4 – Portable water and energy provision sources

This region has no portable water. The population fetch their water for domestic use from natural springs. The two modern wells built by a timber exploiting company SOFIBEL got bad some two years ago and had never been repaired. Only drinking bars in the village uses diesel electricity generators for lighting and for playing music. There exist only 4 to 5 small diesel electricity generators for lighting in the village of Deng Deng. The population depend on fuel wood for their energy needs and uses kerosene for lighting. The recent skyrocketing prices of fossil fuel, has also affected the affordability of these population to purchase this kerosene. Prices have risen in Cameroon but those of this area have witness greater increases. We were surprise to see a litre of kerosene sold in the village at 575 FCFA while at Belabo and Bertoua it is sold at 400 FCFA (£1=1050 FCFA). Very few families in the region can still afford for lighting and this has caused many of them to always go to bed early. The nights are not still productive for primary school pupils who can not more read during this period as their parents can no longer afford to light the house for long hours in the night. Children mostly help their parents after school in the day and only have time to do their homework or read in the night. This seems difficult. Grid connection to electricity ends in Belabo and Bertoua.

D – INDICATORS OF DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR DRAW-BACKS

D.1 – Existing associations

Associations have been known to play a big role in the development of Deng Deng. The first association to be created in this region was in 1993 and was called Association pour le Développement de Deng Deng (meaning Association for the Development of Deng Deng) and has been headed by a woman called Mrs Sammy Chantal. Presently, there exist five associations in Deng Deng and these include: Association pour le Développement de Deng Deng, Ngal NekoMain, Mandon, Ogoldjal and Goro-Magna respectively in their order of popularity and strength. Every member of the community of Deng Deng belongs to one of these associations. Women have made things work through these organisations as they remain a dominant sex. Mrs Sammy Chantal told us that out of the 42 members that exist in her association there are only 10 men. Mrs Sammy Chantal still heads the network of all associations in the area. She says the presidents of all associations always come together to see how to push development forward in the community.

Mrs Sammy enumerated the activities they associations engage in like:

- promoting savings with the aim of buying zinc to roof their houses. Houses in this region are roofed with mat made from palm fronds and many families of recent want to make a change to zinc roofing. Mrs Sammy said that more than 15 persons in her association have roofed their houses thanks to support of the association;
- members in need of money could come in and borrow money from the association and pay back with interest;
- every member of her association is obliged to pay 500 FCFA and give one savon tablet each in case a member gives birth to support her during that difficult times;
- to help members increase their agricultural produce all association members jointly go and work in a member's farm. This takes a rotatory form with a working programme for farms not to neglect any member;
- there is also a school fees savings scheme that operates in the associations. This savings scheme goes all through the year and is only shared in August of each year for parents to prepare children for school and pay their fees as schools starts every early September;
- every December interest for money saved is shared to all members of the associations according to the amount saved and the interest rates usually go up to 10% of the sum saved.

The community acknowledged the important role these associations are playing and said it was their dream to see the associations go a step further to engage in the transportation and sell of their agricultural produce in towns. They said it was easy for the association to do this than for it to be done individually. The issue of brick compressor machine that mould bricks by compressing soil was also raised. The said, renting the machine was so expensive and sometimes when you rent the owner could come to collect it when work is not completed. They lamented saying, the owners of the machine do not even live in Deng Deng. They said it is difficult to negotiate again when they come to collect because there is always another person waiting for the machine's arrival for him/her to start work. It is the dream of every household to see their homes built with bricks (instead of using the old fashion construction

with sticks and mud) and roofed with zinc rather than with mat. We asked them whether the associations were not viable enough to buy those scarce machines in the village to rent to their members and to the other community members instead of renting from outside. They said, it was a good idea and that they will discuss about it in their associations and network.

D.2 – Forest resource management

There has been some advancement in the degree of management of forest resources both at the local and the national level. At the local level the killing of the great apes like gorillas and chimpanzees is no more done in the open. The truth is that, it still happens. Other animals in the forest like monkeys are still greatly targeted. There is still indiscriminate hunting. When we talk with people openly no body is ready to say that hunting is still rampant. When we paid a visit to the Belabo bushmeat market, we were surprise to see the amount of bushmeat present in the market for sell. This could be the case in other markets in nearby towns. Much need to be done.

The traditional authorities say nobody can enter the forest without passing through them and negotiating with the families that owned the piece of forest. If anybody attempt to do so, their ancestors will not let them in, lamented the chief of Lom Pangar. The traditional chiefs of the region can have a strong role to play in stopping this forest exploitation by foreigners from happening.



Traditional Chiefs say nobody can enter the forest without passing through them

At the level of the government, the Forestry Post in Deng Deng says, they had tightened their belts and are bent to stop poaching. They said, they check all vehicles that leave the region and seize bushmeat when they see it. Some people proposed that NGOs should get involve in the checking process to avoid possibilities of bribery in this region.

The recent June 2006 government ministerial decree signed by the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife partitioned the Deng Deng forest in to a Reserve for Gorillas and chimpanzees, a research forest, council forest and UFA (that is a forest that will be exploited of timber for 50 years with reforestation taking place simultaneously as major activities). This decree has come up and is a step forward towards sustainable forest management but there is still need

to see to it that this is implemented and that ecoguards are sent to protect these forest reserves, council forest and research forest. The population still need also to change their mentality towards sustainable management of the forest resources. The population is raising their voice in demand for a community forest. We continue to lobby and advocate for a sustainable management of the Deng Deng forest and also that the population should also be allocated some forest for their use and management. This decree come as an answer to one of our recommendation on the management of the Deng Deng forest in a report called *In Whose Interest? The Lom Pangar and Energy sector Development in Cameroon* co-authored by Global Village Cameroon, Bank Information Center Washington, USA and International Rivers Network California, USA published in June 2006.

The transportation of bushmeat through train has been banned frustrating bushmeat traders who come to buy from far away towns. This could also be done with wood transportation through training permitting the train to transport only certified logged wood. The government and other stakeholders in the forestry domain need to be lobbied for this to happen. Global Village Cameroon will not relent any efforts to carry out advocacy and lobbying activities to see this become a reality.

We have as role to see how to combine the traditional forest rules and practices of these people, the forest laws and best practices that the government has come up with and mainstream all of this to promote participatory and sustainable resource management.

D.3 – Participatory approach adopted by the population

After working with the population to build their capacity for long, they have come to see the need to join their heads together and work as one for “united they stand and divided they fall” they say. The recent meetings held with the population have always been heavily attended and the participation of both men and women is encouraging. The traditional chiefs have become so open to their people and people closer to their traditional rulers. An association made up of villagers who are enlightened just sprung up to work at the interest of the community in defending their interest and rights by participating in decision making process with other stakeholders engaged in development activities in the region. The association is the eye of the villagers especially the illiterate ones. It is about being legalised. We hope that with this the future will be bright. The execution of this Environmental Education program with this forest community to sensitise them on sustainable forest resource management is promising to create an impact on forest resource management in the region.



Participation of villagers during our consultation phase to come up with this study report was encouraging.

D.4 – Lom Pangar dam project

The Lom Pangar dam project still stands with its EIA not yet validated. The studies to know the present state of the Deng Deng forest is still to commence. The cumulative impact studies of the Lom Pangar dam and the Chad-Cameroon pipeline is still being carried out. These studies were asked to be done before the final decision is taken about Lom Pangar dam project.

E – STRATEGIES PROPOSED TO SOLVE THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED IN THIS REGION

As concerns problems identified in the health, agricultural, animal rearing, economic and sanitation sectors in this report, we will encourage and/or lobby various stakeholders in these domains to come in with rescue measures.

Global village Cameroon is competent to handle the following problems identified and they will be tackled in this order:

- what can be done immediately
- what can be done in a short run
- what can be done in a long run

E.1 – What can be done immediately?

Considering that our study has proven that there is still high poaching and forest resource exploitation, it is necessary for Global village Cameroon to embark on a strong environmental sensitisation campaign against poor forest resource management. This we have decided to start with the preparation of different guides for teachers of both primary and secondary schools to use in sensitising pupils and students respectively. A guide for village leaders and traditional leaders in the region is already being prepared to help them take the lead in the sensitisation campaign with their population. These guides will be handed to them during capacity building meetings organised with the various groups. These different guides

for the various groups will present the importance of the Deng Deng forest, its value, the threats that it encounter, the legal framework guiding its use and best forest practices that promote sustainable forest management. The guide will be different for the three groups of people. We have already started preparing guides and lessons for the environmental sensitisation campaign. We should be visiting the field again by the end of October 2006 to engage in this environmental sensitisation campaign with the various schools teachers and leaders in the region.

E.2 – What can be done in a short run?

After carrying out the sensitisation campaign, different wall pictures on sustainable forest management best practices will be produced for primary schools, secondary schools and for the public by mid November 2006. These pictures will be pasted in strategic positions in the region to always refresh the memories of the population on the need to sustainably manage the forest resources. We also expect that as the teachers engage in environmental education programmes with students and pupils, they will demonstrate that they have gotten the message to live in harmony and sustainably with the Deng Deng forest through the articles, poems, songs, drawings and essays that they will produce. Prizes will be given to students and pupils that come up with the best articles. We will engage in this phase of the programme immediately we finish with the capacity building programmes for teachers and village leaders. This stage will end with a general sensitisation campaign with the whole population of Deng Deng that will be accompanied by a video documentary on best forest practices that promote sustainable forest resource management from a chosen forest community that now engage in sustainable forest resource management.

E.3 – What can be done in a long run?

The population of this region grew up eating bush meat and therefore it is difficult stopping them from eating it. It is clear that the wild animals are becoming scarce. Global Village hopes that in the future when she must have achieved a behavioural change pattern in this population from poor forest resource use to sustainable forest resource management. There will be a need to provide the population with another source of livelihood like the domestication of some wild animals and plants to meet their protein and food needs and provide them with employment. This animal and other high economic valued plants and animals could be domesticated and sold to big towns where the demand for bushmeat is high. This will be a source of revenue for the population that could improve on their living standards and tilt their minds from the forest that has been gradually losing its potential.

E.4 – Advocacy and Lobbying

Global Village Cameroon will try to influence the government of Cameroon to

- prohibit the transportation of the exploited and uncertified timber through railway.
- provide a community forest to the population of Deng Deng so that they could effectively participate and benefit from forest resource management.
- reinforce checks on vehicles that leave the forest communities towns against the transportation of bushmeat.
- increase the number of forest and wildlife workers that work in the Deng Deng forest.

- organise regular patrols in the forest region and nearby towns to fight against poaching by seizing bushmeat (especially bushmeat from endangered wildlife species like gorilla and chimpanzees) from traders.

As concerns the provision of modern energy sources to these people who have been living without it for many years now, Global Village Cameroon has been involved in a campaign to see these rural areas provided with renewable energy in Cameroon.

During our usual sensitisation campaigns with the population to build their capacity we will also share with them any information we have which we think is important to improve on their living standards.