

**REPORT ON THE SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON THE  
1994 WILDLIFE LAW ORGANISED BY CAD/RSG IN  
BANGEM ON THE 24<sup>th</sup> OF NOVEMBER 2010**

*Reported by:*  
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## **PREFACE**

The proceedings of the workshop documented in this report is the joint effort of CAD and other stakeholders active in the wildlife sector in Bakossi Landscape in the S.W Region of Cameroon. I would like to express deep appreciation to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation (RSG) based in the United Kingdom, for the financial assistance towards the realization of this workshop. The active participation and the outcome of the workshop is our commitment in supporting the efforts of the government of Cameroon in sustainable wildlife management and in providing an enabling environment for wildlife policy implementation.

I very much appreciate the establishment of a feasible strategy for wildlife management in the Bakossi Landscape area. I strongly believe that if fully operationalised, not only shall we be able to influence the reinforcement and implementation of the 1994 wildlife law, but our experience would rekindle the spirit of other initiatives in other parts of Cameroon, exchange experiences and above all gradually but steadily increase our impact in the various communities that we work.

***Martin N. ETONE***  
**CAD Coordinator**

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Since its enactment, in 1994, the Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries Law and its 1995 Decree of Implementation are the main instrument governing the exploitation and use of natural resources in Cameroon. Unfortunately, many people remain ignorant and unaware of the content of this law and its legal provisions. Worse still, the complexity and dispersed nature of these legal instruments make its interpretation and application difficult. It is in the light of the above reasons that CAD organized a sensitization workshop in Bangem with the intention to bring the law closer to the people as well as explain and break it down to a simple understandable and usable form.

This report presents the proceedings of the sensitization workshop on the 1994 Wildlife Law and its 1995 Decree of Implementation. The workshop that held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 at the Women Empowerment Centre hall in Bangem, was organized by Community Action for Development (CAD) with financial support from the Rufford Small Grants Foundation in the U.K. Presided over by the First Assistant Senior Divisional Officer for Kupe Muanenguba Division, **Mr. Tabe Etchok**, brought together **51** participants drawn from the Technical Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, local administration, NGOs, Traditional authorities, hunters and bush meat sellers. Throughout the workshop, participants maintained active participation in both group and plenary sessions. This was reflected in the nature of discussions and the strategic recommendations made in the course of the workshop.

## 2.0 WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

### 2.1 Opening Session

The workshop started at 9.00am prompt with the National Anthem, then prayer from Mr. Stephen Ekomewang of the Ministry of Basic Education. This was closely followed by a word of welcome from the Deputy Mayor to the Bangem Council, Mr. Ekonloeh Benedict, who lauded CAD's initiative for organizing the workshop. Moreover, Mr Eknoloeh denounced current local hunting practices, which he described as non-selective, risky, little income yielding and placing stress on wildlife resources. He however remarked that if local people are engaged in unsustainable hunting practices it is partly because of ignorance on existing wildlife regulations. Furthermore, the Deputy Mayor said the 1994 Wildlife Law was promulgated to protect animal species and make hunting more sustainable and profitable. While she pledged the Council's support to CAD's conservation and development efforts, he equally called on participants to hold fruitful deliberations that would culminate in a feasible strategy to enhance wildlife management in the Bangem Municipality.

Next was a keynote address by the Coordinator of Community Action for Development (CAD), Mr. Martin N. Etone. The Coordinator thanked participants for accepting CAD's invitation to the workshop and expressed much gratitude to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation (RSG) for the financial support given CAD to make this crucial meeting a resounding success. The Coordinator situated the workshop within the CAD's vision of merging conservation concerns with livelihood imperatives to achieve sustainable development and enumerated strategies being put in place to improve local livelihoods and natural resources management. He further noted that the 1994 Forestry, Wildlife and Fishery Law and its 1995 Decree of Implement are

the main instruments governing Forestry, Wildlife and Fishery issues in Cameroon. But regretted the fact that most people, particularly those in the Bakossi Landscape still remain ignorant and unaware of this law, which has to affect the way local communities and other stakeholders exploit and use wildlife resources. Moreover, he said the workshop was aimed at keeping local people informed about the law as well as breaking it down in a simple, understandable and usable form. He further emphasized that local communities need a good knowledge of existing wildlife regulations in order to reshape attitudes towards participatory wildlife management; reduce conflicts over use of resources and curb human pressure on wild animal species.

Furthermore, the Coordinator drew participants attention to the March 1999 Yaounde Declaration in which the Heads of State in the Congo Basin laid emphasis on sustainable wildlife management and the need for various actors in the wildlife sector to support their initiative. He disclosed that it was in the light of supporting this government's efforts that the CAD/RSG Participatory project emerged to spread knowledge on wildlife conservation and orientate local populations towards alternative livelihood activities that reduce stress on wild animal species. He concluded by calling on participants to put ideas together and elaborate a wildlife Strategy for the Muanenguba and Bakossi forest regions.

In his opening speech, the Senior Divisional Officer for Kupe Muanenguba Division, **Mr. Tabe Etchok B.**, appreciated CAD's efforts in bringing various actors in the wildlife sector together to share information and knowledge on the 1994 Wildlife Law with respect to the exploitation of wildlife resources. He denounced the wanton destruction of wildlife resources through deforestation and illegal activities such as poaching and other unsustainable hunting practices in the area. He said the Central African Sub-region has been plunged into a bush meat crisis because of the unwise exploitation of resources by some logging companies and unscrupulous individuals involved in illegal hunting activities. The Divisional Officer called on joint and urgent corrective actions if sustainable wildlife management has to be achieved.

He also, highlighted efforts being made by the government of Cameroon to redress unsustainable exploitations of natural resources. Among these were the enactment of the 1994 Forestry, Wildlife and Fishery Law that allows for participatory approaches to wildlife management and the 1999 Yaounde Declaration in which Central African Heads of State exhibited a strong committed to sustainable wildlife management within the Congo Basin. In order to reinforce these efforts at Divisional level, he called on local populations to desist from poaching and avoid encroachment into the Bakossi National Park and other zones earmarked as reserves within the Division. In addition, the Senior Divisional Officer called on civil society organizations and local communities to take the lead in giving maximum support to government's action to safeguard not only Cameroon's wildlife resource-base for the betterment of both the present and future generations. The Administrator encouraged participants to take interest in alternative food and income sources if sustainable wildlife management has to be achieved. Again, he urged workshop participants to endeavour to come up with other approaches to curb the current pressure on wildlife especially as CAD is in the process of putting in place Wildlife Vigilante Committees in various villages. He ended by officially declaring the workshop opened

### **3.0 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS (RESULTS)**

#### **3.1 Workshop Objectives**

- \* To explain the 1994 Wildlife Law and its legal provisions to local people;
- \* To highlight the effects of current local unsustainable practices on both people and wildlife resources;
- \* To elaborate a strategy for wildlife management and livelihood improvement in the Muanenguba/Bakossi forest areas.

#### **3.2 Expected Outputs**

- \* Local people are aware and understand the legal provisions of the 1994 wildlife law;
- \* Participants recognize the harmful effect of poor local hunting practices;
- \* The participation of local communities in the implementation of the law is enlisted;
- \* A strategy on wildlife management is elaborated.

### **4.0 PARTICIPANTS EXPECTATIONS**

In a brainstorming exercise with the Facilitator, Mr. Marcel Ekwoge, participants expressed the wish to satisfy the following expectations by the end of the workshop:

- \* Learn the Law on Wildlife
- \* Know about co-habitation between man and wildlife;
- \* Explore the advantages of wildlife protection and experience from other projects;
- \* Matching the Law, forest and wildlife;
- \* Know about the type of animals under protection
- \* Expect to know the various methods of hunting;
- \* Know what the law says about alternative use of livelihoods;
- \* Understand the role of local people in the implementation of the wildlife law.

### **5.0 WORKSHOP METHODOLOGY AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

#### **Workshop Methodology**

- \* *Presentations*
- \* *Brainstorming*
- \* *Discussions*
- \* *Question and answers*
- \* *Group work*
- \* *Plenary sessions*

**Workshop Principles**

- \* Nobody knows everything, but everybody knows something
- \* Feel free to ask questions;
- \* Use simple language;
- \* Respect ideas of others;
- \* Give everyone a chance;
- \* Be straight to the point
- \* Respect time and make fun

**6.0 TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

Two main papers were presented closely followed by a discussion session. These included:

- \* *An Overview of Local Hunting Practices in the Bakossi Landscape: Impact on Wildlife Resources and Local Livelihoods, By Martin N. Etone (CAD Coordinator)*
- \* *The 1994 Wildlife Law and its Legal Provisions by Mr. Julius Ntongwe (MINFOF)*

**6.1 Presentation I: An Overview of Local Hunting Practices in the Muanenguba/Bakossi Forest Region: Impact on Wildlife Resources and Local Livelihoods, By Martin N. Etone (CAD Coordinator)**

This paper highlighted current hunting practices in the Muanenguba/Bakossi region and push factors for such unsustainable practices. In addition, it examined the advantages and disadvantages of local hunting methods, current threats and impact on people and wild animals, traditional norms in favour of wildlife management, hunting and gender and the efforts being made by CAD in redressing the situation with local communities. It was reflected that poverty is the main drive behind unsustainable hunting practices, as people desire to satisfy the basic needs of food, income, medicine and cultural imperatives. However, it was noted that local hunting methods and practices fall short of fulfilling existing wildlife policy and regulations.

**Discussions:**

Discussions centered on the need to improve local participation in wildlife management, knowing which species of animals are endangered and legally protected, cultural values pushing people to hunt, and possibilities of detecting animals killed through chemical poisoning. One of the participants explained that poisoned animals are identified if the tongue and anus are black with a characteristic unusual smell. This presentation ended with lunch at 2.00pm.

**6.2 Presentation on the 1994 Wildlife Law and its legal Provisions by the Divisional Chief of Forestry and Wildlife for Kupe-Muanenguba Division, Mr. Julius Ntungwe Mbulle**

This was the presentation of the 1994 Wildlife Law in its entirety. Some aspects that render the said Law and its Decree of implementation, major evolutions in the Wildlife sector were outlined. Emphasis was laid on aspects relating to hunting by

local populations. During the first day of the workshop elements such as main application instrument, classification of animal species into various Classes; A, B and C, with classes A and B being under strict protection were treated. Besides explaining modalities for the killing of such animals, Mr Ntungwe also treated principles prohibiting the killing of Classes A and B animals.

Other aspects treated during this part of the workshop were Traditional Hunting and Hunting Arms, the legal responsibilities for killing of protected animals, Liability, Offences and their corresponding Penalties. In addition, the MINFOF Delegate explained certain factors that hinder the field implementation of the law among which were:

- \* Ignorance and lack of awareness of the 1994 Law by local populations and other stakeholders;
- \* Inadequate capacity of stakeholders in wildlife management;
- \* Inadequate involvement of actors (NGOs, local populations, economic operators etc) in sustainable wildlife management efforts;
- \* Inadequate Personnel/Logistics for MINFOF to monitor and control wildlife exploitation

He concluded by calling on all to exploit the wildlife resources sustainably for the interest of the present and future generations thus adopting the new wildlife policy prescribed by the 1994 Law.

### **Discussions:**

Perceiving the law as strict, participants, with worry, asked to know what other sources of income they could engage in especially those who earn a living from hunting as well as reason why trading in bush meat is not allowed. It was however explained that hunting is an unreliable income source and participants advised to indulge in profitable agricultural activities. Moreover, Chief Same Samuel Epie of Ekanjoh Bajoh remarked on the population's total ignorance about the Wildlife Law and recommended that copies of it made available for distribution to various communities to help sensitize expose more individuals to the law. He bitterly frowned at the Government's attitude of making laws without sensitizing the population on them.

## **7.0 GROUP WORK AND GROUP RESULTS**

During this session, participants broke into three work groups to make an analysis of feasible alternative livelihood options to unsustainable hunting and sought ways that local participation could be enhanced in the implementation of the wildlife policy and regulations. Group 1 comprised of all the Traditional Authorities (Chiefs), while group 2 and three were made of Hunters/Bushmeat traders and Government Officials, NGOs/ Opinion Leaders respectively.

### ***Group work Themes***

- \* *What alternative activities can we do to reduce pressure on wildlife (alternative sustainable livelihood activities)*
- \* *What can we do to improve local people's participation in the reinforcement and implementation of the 1994 Wildlife Law?*

### ***Guidelines for group work***

*Group had as guidelines to:*

- \* *Elect a secretary*
- \* *Elect a chairperson*
- \* *Discuss and answer both questions on flip charts*
- \* *Present results in plenary*

## 7.1 Group Results

After intensive discussions among various participants within the groups, various rapporteurs presented group results in a plenary. Results obtained were as follows:

### Group 1: Chiefs.

	<b>Results:</b>
1.0 What Alternative activities other than hunting can we do to reduce pressure on wildlife?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Encourage animal husbandry and poultry;</li> <li>* Create fish ponds e.g. frogs and fishes</li> <li>* Carry out wild animal domestication such as grass cutters and snails</li> <li>* Creation of community hunting zones</li> <li>* Creation of community forest zones;</li> <li>* Restoration of degraded landscapes through tree planting;</li> <li>* Encourage micro-enterprise development among hunters/bushmeat sellers</li> </ul>
2.0 How we can improve local participation in the reinforcement and implementation of the Wildlife law?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Organize follow up seminars/workshops on the wildlife law at Clan level</li> <li>◆ Create village wildlife committees to keep watch on illegal hunting and consult MINFOF and NGOs</li> <li>◆ Produce and distribute simple information on the law to every Chiefs Palace</li> <li>◆ All Traditional Rulers should make efforts to have a good mastery of the wildlife law</li> <li>◆ The Law should be translated into the local language and taught in traditional council meetings</li> </ul>

### Group Two: Hunters and Bushmeat Sellers

	<b>Results:</b>
1.0 What Alternative activities other than hunting can we do to reduce pressure on wildlife?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Promote modern agricultural techniques among local populations;</li> <li>* Domestication of animals such as cutting grass;</li> <li>* Do beekeeping and snail farming</li> <li>* Do fish farming</li> <li>* Keep pigs</li> </ul> <p><i>N/B: to attain all these, local people need both technical and financial support from the government of Cameroon, NGOs and donors.</i></p>
2.0 How we can improve local participation in the reinforcement and implementation of the Wildlife Law?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Creation of community forests;</li> <li>◆ Sustain the sensitization on the law and campaign against unsustainable hunting</li> <li>◆ Creation of village wildlife committees</li> <li>◆ Government should give assistance for people to open up alternative businesses</li> <li>◆ Reduce taxes on butchers</li> <li>◆ Creation of more captive programmes such as zoological gardens</li> <li>◆ Involve local communities in protected area management</li> </ul>

**Group Three: Government, NGOs and Opinion Leaders**

	<b>Results:</b>
<b>1.0 What Alternative activities other than hunting can we do to reduce pressure on wildlife</b>	<p>Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Livestock and fisheries</li> <li>* Micro-business</li> <li>* Domestication of wildlife e.g. snails, cutting grass (cane rats)</li> <li>* Diversification on the use of animals for cultural values;</li> <li>* Financing of micro-projects of community by the government and philanthropic organizations</li> <li>* Promotion of craft work</li> <li>* Promotion of eco-tourism</li> <li>* Improve farm to market roads and maintenance by local populations..</li> </ul>
<b>2.0 How we can improve local participation in the reinforcement and implementation of the Wildlife Law?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Formation of village wildlife management committees;</li> <li>◆ Acquisition of hunting zones</li> <li>◆ Sustain sensitization of local populations on the wildlife law;</li> <li>◆ Provide environmental education in primary schools and colleges;</li> <li>◆ Copies of the wildlife law need to made available to all stakeholders and in school libraries</li> <li>◆ Involvement of local communities in protected area management</li> </ul>

**8.0 ELABORATION OF STRATEGIES ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT****Guiding Question**

*Now we all have some knowledge of the wildlife law and understand the problems and importance of wildlife resources, how can we have greater impact in the implementation of the law and enhancement of wildlife management in the Muanenguba and Bakossi forest regions?*

During this session, participants continued working in plenary, drawing inspiration from the previous group work, then harmonized results.

Following this harmonization of group results, participants came up with the strategies:

- ◆ Continue the sensitization of local populations against unsustainable hunting practices;
- ◆ Organize follow-up workshops at clan or community level to allow a greater spread of knowledge on the wildlife law;
- ◆ Introduce and promote the domestication of wild animals such as grass cutters (*Thryonomys swinderianus*) and snails;
- ◆ Introduce viable alternative activities to hunting such as beekeeping, livestock production to local populations;

- ◆ Facilitate the creation of community forest and community hunting zones;
- ◆ Promote modern agricultural techniques such as organic gardening and agro forestry;
- ◆ Promote the restoration of degraded landscapes and habitats through tree planting;
- ◆ Encourage animal husbandry and poultry;
- ◆ Create village wildlife management committees to monitor hunting activities;
- ◆ Provide environmental education on wildlife conservation in primary schools and colleges;
- ◆ Encourage micro-enterprise development among local people particularly among hunters and bush meat sellers;
- ◆ Produce and distribute simple information on the law to various target groups;
- ◆ Build local capacities on protected area management;
- ◆ Promote eco-tourism and craft work;
- ◆ Conduct research on the marketing of bush meat in the region.

## 9.0 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of the workshop, participants formulated the following key recommendations aimed at facilitating sustainable wildlife use and management as well as promoting local participation:

- 9.1 Participants noted little local awareness on the importance of wildlife conservation. It was therefore recommended that CAD and MINFOF should embark on sustained community-based sensitization campaigns against poor hunting methods and on the importance of wildlife to humanity.
- 9.2 Taking into account the success of the workshop (held at sub-divisional level) and the need to achieve widespread knowledge of the law, participants recommended that follow-up workshops should be organized at clan or community level;
- 9.3 In order to ensure circulation of information on the law, participants also recommended the production of a leaflet bearing simple and understandable information on the wildlife law and the need to make copies available in Chief Palaces, school libraries and to other stakeholders in the wildlife sector. In the same light chiefs specifically expressed the need for a translation of the law into the local language
- 9.4 In order to improve local people's participation in policy implementation and sustainable wildlife management, participants recommended the need to assist local communities in the acquisition of community forests and community hunting zones. In addition, there is need for local community organization into

wildlife committees to monitor hunting practices at village level; build their capacity in eco-tourism development and in protected area management

9.5 Participants recommended the need to develop alternative livelihood support systems that would curb the current pressure on wildlife resources. Some of these systems include: wild animal domestication, promotion of agriculture, animal husbandry and the development of micro-enterprises among local populations.

9.6 Participants recommended the provision of environmental education in primary schools and colleges with respect to wildlife conservation, noting the retentive ability of children and their tendency to share information gained in school with parents at home.

9.7 In order to understand the current situation of the wildlife resource base in the region, workshop participants recommended the need for wildlife research, particularly on the marketing of bush meat in the project area.

9.8 Participants recommended the initiation of a habitat and landscape restoration programme through tree planting.

9.9 Above all, participants expressed the need for the intervention of the government, NGOs and donor organizations through the provision of both financial and technical support to wildlife management efforts of local people.

9.10 Men and women have important but sometimes different and complementary roles to play in wildlife utilization and conservation and therefore recommended the recognition and incorporation of the roles of both men and women in any wildlife management strategies.

## 10. WORKSHOP EVALUATION AND CLOSING

### 10.1 Workshop Evaluation

	<b>Bad</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Total</b>
Topic/objectives	0	17	34	0	51
Content	0	32	19	0	51
Presentations	0	16	35	0	51
Organization	0	23	28	0	51
Facilitation	0	24	27	0	51
Participation	0	22	29	0	51
Target	0	17	36	0	51
Time	24	16	10	1	51

### 10.2 Closing

In his remarks, the Coordinator of CAD, Martin N. Etone extended his grateful thanks to all participants for their varied support and participation to make this workshop a resounding success. He called on all stakeholders to generously share the knowledge gained on the Wildlife Law with others who need it but were not opportune to take part in the workshop. The Coordinator ended by earnestly requesting local communities and other actors in the wildlife sector in Bangem Sub-

Division to actively get involve in the implementation of the strategic recommendations that emerged from the workshop.

Next was Mr Stephen Ekome from the Ministry of Basic Education who appreciated CAD for facilitating knowledge of the law and urge the management of this organization not to relent efforts in educating the local masses about sustainable wildlife management.

The next speaker was the Clan Chief of Bangem, His Royal Highness Chief Nnane Emmanuel, who expressed profound gratitude to CAD for initiating this sensitization exercise on both the law and wildlife Management among local communities and noted that this is a strange issue in the ears of local populations in the Bangem. The chief reiterated the need to rear frogs and urged people to respect the law and the animals God created for them.

In her brief closing remarks, the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Ekonloeh Benedict expressed gratitude for CAD's effort in bringing conservation knowledge closer to the people. In addition, he pledged the council's support to CAD particularly in the area of wildlife management and urged all to begin surveillance over unsustainable exploitation of wildlife resources within the Municipality and make reports to Council Management. He ended by wishing participants a safe return to their various destinations.

## 11.0 ANNEXES

### 11.1 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### WORKSHOP ON THE 1994 WILDLIFE LAW ORGANIZED BY CAD/RSGS ON 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2010 IN BANGEM

##### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

S/N	Name	Address	Function
.1	Ekane Godlove	CAD Bangem	Extensionist
2	Samuel Mesue Ndode	Muaku	Councilor
3	Timothy Komebong	Muambong	Rider
4	Mbongwe Peter	Bangem	Facilitator
5	Njume Martin Sone	St. 2, Bangem	Farmer
6.	Marcus Metuge	Elah	Chief
7.	Epole Edie Lilian	CAD Bangem	Secretary
8.	Ebene Nsako Clementl	MINEP/KM	Chief of Bureau, MINEP
9	Budi Tayor Didier	Plaza Electronics	Manager
10	Sumbele Fredrick	Mekome wildlife group	President
11.	Ekane Nnane Ivo	Muabi	Councilor
12	Kowac Bandolo	The Detective Newspaper, Tel: 9687704	Journalist,
13	HM Chief Nnane N. E	Paramount Chief, Bangem	Traditional Ruler
14	Ngonde Simon	Mekume Bajoh	Catechist
15	Mbwoge Fidelis Bwene	Ekanjoh Bajoh Wildlife Committee	Secretary
16	Ngole Marcel Ntube	PIDEC, Bangem	Development Agent
17	Apella Magellan	CERUT	Sociologist
18	Same Akang Jay	E.N.S	Teacher
19	Olive Ejang	The Post Newspaper, Mt. Cameroon Radio	Journalist
20	Sume Henry Ewang	Ekanjoh Bajoh	Chief
21	Ebonjume Icent	CAD	Facilitator
22	Ekanjoh Janet	Bangem	President, Pepper Soup group
23	Ekwelle Isaac Diabe	Nninong Wildlife Committee	President,
24.	Nkong Ngude John	Nninong Wildlife Committee	Vice President
25	Chief Ekane Ivoson Maths	Ndise Aku	Traditional Ruler
26	Ekane David Epie	Muaku	President
27	Chief Same Samuel Epie	Mbogmut	Clan Chief
28	Reagent Chief Ekwenongene Alexis	Muebah-Nninong	Clan Chief
29	Atanga Wilson	Buea	Agronomist/Facilitator
30	Enojumbah Godlove	CAD, Bangem	Volunteer
31	Chief Nnane Nnoko	Bangem	Traditional Ruler
32	Reverend Wan-Chi Christopher	Pastor, PCC Bangem	Chaplain
33	Ntongwe Pamela	Bangem Council	Mayor's Representative
34	Ajebe Nnoko Ngaje	CERUT Bangem	Head of Forestry Unit
35	Chief Ewane Fidelis	Muanjikom	Traditional Ruler

36	Nhon Epiekome Philip	Mbwogmut I	Councilor
37	Enongene Robert	Nteho II	Secretary
38	Ekane Joseph	Nteho II	Councilor
39	Ekome Stephen Ewang	Mbwogmut	Councilor
40	Kenneth Kendong	CAD, Bangem	Bee technician
41	Martin Etone	CAD Bangem	Coordinator
42	Tabé Etchok B.	A1 SDO	A.D.O

## 11.6 PRESS

### PRESS RELEASE

Hunting and trading in wildlife are age-old activities in among local communities in the Bakossi forest landscape of Cameroon. These forest-dwelling populations hunt and sell bush meat to satisfy the basic needs of food, income, medicine and some cultural imperatives. However, local hunting methods and practices in use are non-selective, and unsustainable, thus, placing considerable pressure and stress on endangered animal species in the Bakossi and Muanenguba area. The main drive behind such poor practices is poverty, inadequate capacity in wildlife management and ignorance wildlife policies and regulations.

As part of the process to break this ignorance and foster community wildlife management in the region, a workshop on Cameroon's 1994 Wildlife Law will take place in Bangem, head quarter of Kupe-Muanenguba Division on 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2010. The workshop, that is organized by the local NGO, Community Action for Development (CAD), aims at explaining the legal provisions of 1994 Wildlife Law to local populations as well as deliberating on better strategies for wildlife management in the Bakossi forest region of Cameroon.

Sponsored by the Rufford Small Grants Foundation (RSG) in the UK, the workshop will draw participants from government departments, NGOs, Opinion Leaders, Councils, Traditional Authorities, Hunters and game traders in Bangem Sub-division. By the end of the workshop, participants will be expected to elaborate a strategy for sustainable wildlife use and management for the region.

It should be recalled that Community Action for Development (CAD) has, for the past years, been working with local communities in a host of other activities including organic farming, beekeeping, livestock production, Tree planting and AIDS and Malaria education.

**CAD Coordinator**

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

CAD	Community Action for Development
MINFOF	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
RSG	Rufford Small Grants Foundation
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
MINEP	Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection
PFPF	Partners for Productivity Foundation
PIDEC	Philanthropic Development Center