

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

CAMEROON WOMEN IN ACTION SOCIETY

(CAWAS)



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NTARIKON MANKON

Bamenda II Sub Divison,

NW Region, Cameroon

Authorisation: N° 008/E.29/1111/VOL.8/APPB

Report prepared by Leinyuy Saber Emelienne (CAWAS Delegate/CEO)





1. INTRODUCTION

1.1: OVERVIEW OF CAWAS

Cameroon Women in Action Society is made up of committed members with women having more than 80% membership, who share the same goal which is make the community a better place for everyone to live in through empowering women and the girl child. CAWAS strongly believes that if a women is empowered the community can sustainably stand on its feet. CAWAS is officially registered and backed by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family. So far finances have been generated through members who happily do it while many offer services of resource persons. CAWAS could do better if some of the projects are backed up by donors. CAWAS maintains a collaborative and partnership relationship with other community based organisations and NGO who step in to offer professional services for free during trainings and workshops. CAWAS also belongs to a community of practice on Gender Based Violence against people living with Disabilities under Cameroon Baptist Convention CBC, an active member of SNWOT a coalition formed to contribute in the restoration of peace in the on-going crisis in the NW/SW Regions of the country and an education cluster member in the North West Region under UNICEF.

1.2: Vision and mission

VISION

Enhancing gender balance, women and girl child emancipation for the promotion of sustainable development.

MISSION

To fight poverty in all aspects so as to improve on the livelihoods of women, their children and family.

1.3: OBJECTIVE

1. Promote gender balance and women empowerment and emancipation from her sufferings through seminars.
2. Promote affordable, reliable and accessible modern technology which is sustainable, efficient, effective and possibly renewable to be at the reach of women to reduce their sufferings;
3. Promote women's participation in decision making processes to enhance accountability and transparency in the society;
4. Promoting the availability of food, portable water, shelter and education for women, their children and family;
5. Providing and seeking of sources of livelihood for women and children especially those involved in prostitution;
6. Sensitise and support less privilege women and children especially those living with HIV/AIDS.
7. Support children in the orphanage.
8. Encouraging agricultural, economic, cultural and social diversification.

1.4: PRESENTATION OF CAWAS

Cameroon Women in Action Society (CAWAS) is a non-profit Organisation with authorisation N° 008/E.29/1111/VOL.8/APPB, created by women and run by women and some few men (with not more than 20% membership) to improve on the livelihood of Cameroonians and safeguard our environment for the future generation. CAWAS works to promote sustainable development and has as mission to fight poverty in all aspects so as to improve the livelihoods of women, their children and family. The rural

areas in North West Region of Cameroon where we are based depend heavily on agriculture for survival and food crop cultivation is mostly done by women.

Our Vision goes thus:

1.5: OUR VALUES:

Honesty and Integrity

Respect

Accountability

Fairness

Discipline

Passion

Leadership

Innovation

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1.7: Letter from the CEO

Dear Stakeholders, Partners, and Friends,

As we reflect on the achievements of

2024, I want to take a moment to express my

heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support

and commitment to our mission at the Cameroon

Women in Action Society (CAWAS). This past year has been transformative, filled with impactful initiatives aimed at empowering women and advocating for gender equality in our communities.

Throughout 2024, we successfully implemented various programs, including our outreach initiatives for vulnerable populations, educational workshops on health and sanitation, and engaging peacebuilding activities. The response from the communities we serve has been nothing short of inspiring, highlighting the importance of our collective efforts in fostering positive change. I am particularly proud of our outreach programs, which reached over 600 women and girls, and the establishment of scrabble clubs that are not only fun but also enhance critical skills among children and students.

As we move into 2025, we are excited to expand our initiatives, particularly the scrabble clubs into more secondary schools, where we aim to host inter-school competitions and prepare participants for national tournaments. We believe that these activities will further empower our youth and promote a spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition. We also plan to initiate new projects that will focus on women's empowerment, sustainable agriculture, and advocacy against gender-based violence. Our goal remains



clear: to elevate the voices of women and ensure that their contributions to society are recognized and valued.

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to our dedicated team, volunteers, partners, and supporters. Your belief in CAWAS's mission and your willingness to stand with us in these efforts have made all the difference. Together, we are not just changing lives; we are reshaping communities and building a brighter future for generations to come.

As we embark on this new year, I invite each of you to continue this journey with us. Your involvement, whether through collaboration, advocacy, or support, is crucial as we strive to create a world where every woman and girl has the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you once again for your invaluable contributions. Let us work together towards achieving greater heights in 2025!

Warm regards,

Leinyuy Saber Emelienne

CAWAS Delegate/CEO

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2. Partnerships and Collaborations

In 2024, CAWAS partnered with several organizations, including the **SNWOT** for peacebuilding initiatives, **Talk Pregnancy With Dr. Noella (TPWDN)**, **LISUDEV**, and the **Centre for Advocacy in Gender Equality and Action for Development (CAGEAD)**. These collaborations have enabled CAWAS to extend its reach and effectiveness in addressing critical issues affecting women and communities.



CAWAS leads a team in partnership with SNWOT in Bui division

3. Key Activities and Workshops

3.1 Testing the Peace Building Manual

In collaboration with SNWOT, CAWAS led a team in Bui division to test the **Peace Building Manual**. This initiative aimed to engage and strengthen the capacities of women and community leaders in sustainable local peacebuilding and community dialogue. Singing was utilized as a tool for community dialogue, effectively spreading peace messages.



3.2 Workshop on Action on Preconception Care (AP-CARE)

On **February 4, 2024**, CAWAS participated in a workshop organized by TPWDN and LISUDEV focusing on **Action on Preconception Care (AP-CARE)**. The workshop featured educational presentations on various topics related to preconception care, emphasizing its importance for both men and women. CAWAS plans to incorporate AP-Care discussions into its Gender-Based Violence (GBV) clubs in secondary schools. We extend our gratitude to Dr. Noella and LISUDEV for their invaluable contributions.



Cawas Cameroon participated in an advocacy workshop organized by Centre for Advocacy in Gender Equality and Action for Development for the institution of MHM

3.3 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Activities

- **March 5, 2024:** CAWAS participated in an advocacy workshop organized by CAGEAD to promote the institution of MHM policies in schools. The workshop brought together students, teachers, traditional leaders, and civil society actors to enhance understanding of MHM.
- **March 27, 2024:** On **World Menstrual Hygiene Day**, CAWAS engaged in sensitizing women and girls about menstruation. Activities included distributing sanitary pads and educational materials to over **200 women and girls** at the Bamenda Regional Hospital and PMI Nkwen. We thank our partners for their support.
- **March 28, 2024:** CAWAS conducted a session with teenage girls at Loveworld School Atiakom, where they learned about menstruation, hygiene practices, and received sanitary materials. The excitement and engagement from the girls were commendable.



CAWAS takes part in World Menstrual Hygiene day 2024

3.4 Back to School Relief Program

On **March 29, 2024**, in partnership with **SAVE THE COMMUNITY**, CAWAS reached out to over **300 vulnerable children** in three orphanages in Banenda II, providing school items, food, and clothing. This initiative aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 and 4, promoting education and reducing inequalities. Special thanks to our Mother, Ma Vivian Mekom, and our dedicated team for their efforts.



CAWAS in 2024 back to school relief

3.5 Workshop on Women and Girls' Engagement in Peacebuilding

UN Women in Yaoundé	From September 25 to 27, 2024 , CAWAS, represented by CEO Leinyuy Saber Emelienne, attended a workshop organized by . The workshop focused on supporting women and girls' engagement in peacebuilding processes, covering key concepts such as conflict analysis, prevention, and advocacy. Participants designed advocacy messages addressing issues affecting women, girls, and minorities.
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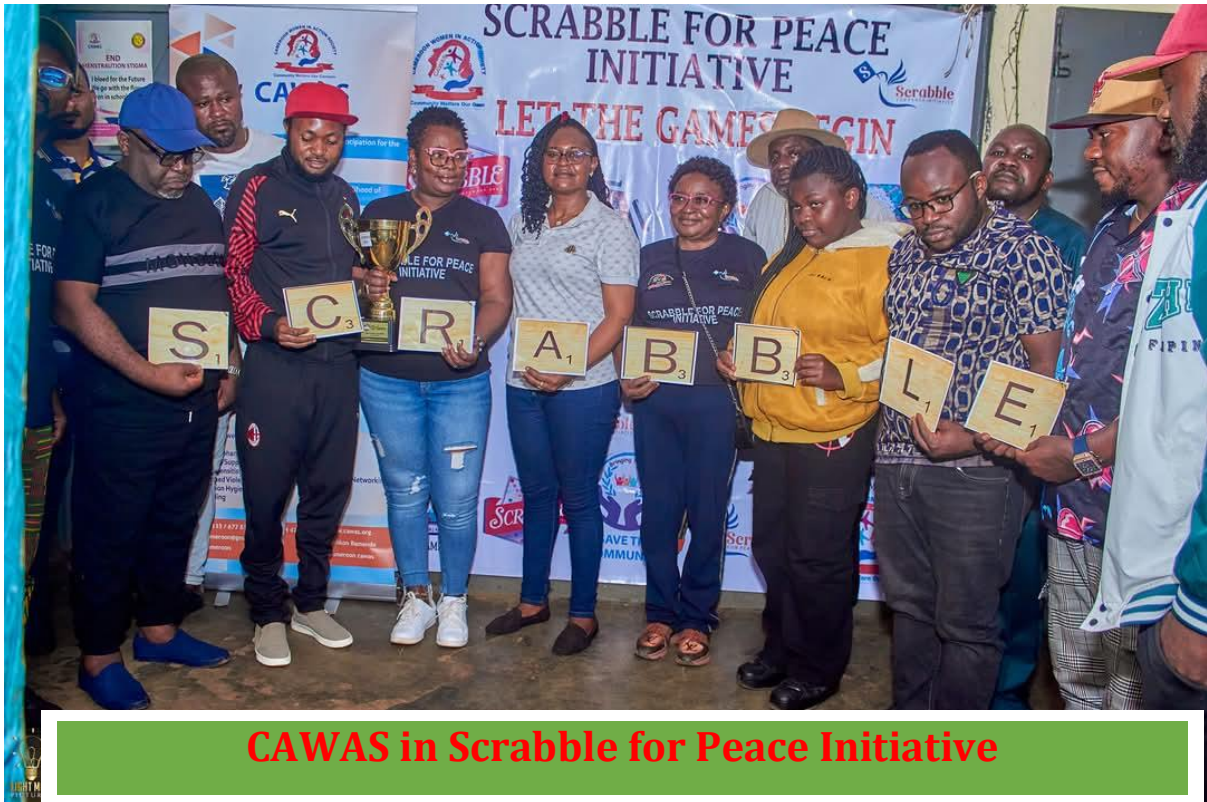


UN Women in Yaoundé

3.6 Scrabble for Peace Initiative

Scrabble for Peace Initiative

On **October 12, 2024**, CAWAS partnered with the to gather Scrabble players and enthusiasts in the Northwest Region. The event encouraged participants to form Scrabble clubs and foster community engagement through the game while promoting peace.



CAWAS in Scrabble for Peace Initiative

- **3.7 November 8, 2024:** CAWAS launched the **16 Days of Activism Against GBV** with a march through Bamenda, advocating for the theme "Respond and rebuild after the abuse."
- **November 27-29, 2024:** CAWAS conducted sensitization campaigns in various schools, including GBHS Downtown and Progressive High Secondary School. Over **500 students** participated in educational sessions on GBV, learning about its forms, reporting mechanisms, and prevention strategies.



3.8 Year-End Celebrations

- **December 19, 2024:** CAWAS celebrated with widows in Baforchu, where team member Madam Bi educated them on GBV and prevention strategies. The women expressed gratitude and a commitment to change any past behaviors related to GBV.
- **December 20, 2024:** CAWAS

distributed food, provisions, and Christmas gifts to four orphanages—Good Shepherd Home, Luc Menorah Foundation, Solidarity Orphanage, and Divine Touch Orphanage—as part of a season of sharing and joy. Special appreciation goes to Ma Vivian Mokom for her unwavering support and belief in CAWAS’s mission.



CAWAS join the kids to celebrate the end of year festivities

4. Impact and Achievements

Throughout 2024, CAWAS has made significant strides in strengthening the capacities of women and advocating for gender equality. Key impacts include:

- **Peacebuilding Initiatives:** Successfully implemented community dialogue sessions using innovative tools like singing, which not only spread peace messages but also engaged the community in meaningful discussions.
- **Health Promotion:** Conducted workshops and outreach programs on preconception care and menstrual hygiene management, reaching over **600 women and girls** and enabling better health practices.
- **Education Support:** The back-to-school relief program provided essential educational supplies and support to more than **300 vulnerable children**, ensuring they have the resources needed to succeed in school.
- **Advocacy for GBV:** Launched robust advocacy campaigns and educational sessions that reached an extensive audience, raising awareness about GBV and empowering communities to take action against it.

- **Relief and Recovery Efforts:** Implemented outreach programs that provided essential support to vulnerable individuals, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and patients in hospitals, enhancing community resilience and aid access.

- **Education Support through Scrabble Clubs:** Established scrabble clubs aimed at teaching the game to children and students, thereby improving vocabulary, developing mathematical skills, and enhancing cognitive abilities.

- **Community Engagement:** Fostered community connection and involvement in relief initiatives, ensuring that the needs of the most vulnerable populations are addressed effectively and inclusively

- **Collaboration with Stakeholders:** Fostered strong partnerships with various organizations, local schools, and community leaders, building a network of support for ongoing and future initiatives.

5. Future Projects

- 1- **Project for 2025:** CAWAS plans to extend scrabble clubs to 10 secondary schools, setting the stage for inter-school competitions while preparing participants for upcoming English scrabble national tournaments. This initiative aims to further enhance students' vocabulary, critical thinking, and mathematical skills through engaging and educational gameplay.

- 2- **Women Empowerment Seminars:** CAWAS will organize a series of seminars focused on empowering women through education, entrepreneurship, and leadership training, aiming to equip them with the necessary skills to thrive in their communities.

- 3- **Health and Wellness Programs:** Building on the success of previous health initiatives, CAWAS plans to implement more workshops on maternal health, nutrition, and mental well-being, targeting women and girls in rural areas.

- 4- **Sustainable Agriculture Projects:** To support food security and economic independence, CAWAS intends to introduce sustainable

agricultural practices and training for women, enabling them to improve crop yields and income.

- 5- **Advocacy for Gender-Based Violence Prevention:** CAWAS will continue its advocacy efforts against GBV, launching new campaigns and educational programs aimed at raising awareness and reducing incidents of violence in the community.
- 6- **Community Resource Centers:** Plans are underway to establish community resource centers that will provide access to information, technology, and support services for women and children, fostering a safe space for learning and empowerment.
- 7- **Collaboration with Local Governments:** CAWAS aims to strengthen partnerships with local government bodies to influence policy changes that support women's rights and promote gender equality in decision-making processes.

5. Acknowledgments

CAWAS expresses profound gratitude to all partners and stakeholders who contributed to our mission in 2024:

- **SNWOT, Talk Pregnancy With Dr. Noella (TPWDN), LISUDEV,** and **CAGEAD** for their invaluable support in various workshops and initiatives.
- **SAVE THE COMMUNITY** for the collaboration in the back to school relief program and continuous support throughout the year.
- All volunteers, team members, and community leaders who dedicated their time and efforts in making our programs successful.

- **Ma Vivian Mokom**, whose vision and belief in our work have been a driving force behind CAWAS's initiatives.
 - **Mr and Mrs Guillaume Kabert** : For supporting us in our projects
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6. Financials

Balance Sheet Summary

As of December 31, 2024, the financial position of the Cameroon Women in Action Society (CAWAS) is as follows:

- **Total Assets:** 41,000,000 FCFA

Income Statement Summary

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, the financial performance of CAWAS is detailed below:

- **Total Income:** 81,000,000 FCFA
 - **Source of Funds:**
 - Grants: 69% of total income (approximately 55,869,000 FCFA)
 - Member Contributions and Other Sources: 31% of total income (approximately 25,131,000 FCFA)
- **Total Expenses:** 85,000,000 FCFA

Net surplus/deficit

- **Net deficit for the Year:** 4,000,000 FCFA

7. Conclusion

The year 2024 has been a transformative year for CAWAS as we continued our commitment to empowering women, advocating for health, and fostering peace within communities. Our diverse programs have created significant impacts, equipping women and community leaders with the skills and knowledge to promote sustainable change. As we look forward to 2025, CAWAS is committed to expanding our reach and

enhancing our initiatives to serve the community better, ensuring that the voices of women and vulnerable groups continue to be heard and addressed. Together, we strive to build a future that embraces equality, health, and peace for all.

End of Report

Date: December 31, 2024

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