## ANOTHER YEAR ON ENVIRONMENT AND HUMANITY





ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

*2022* 

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#### LISTS OF ACRONYMS

- FCFA African Financial Community Franc
- FY22 Financial Year 2022
- NGO Non-Governmental Organization
- SDG Sustainable Development Goals
- UN United Nation



#### MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Dear All,

It is again with much pleasure that I present Den Planet's 2022 Financial Year (FY22) Annual Report to you. The year was yet another very challenging one within and without but, we were stronger, and more committed as a team.

Our gratitude to all our partners, collaborators, volunteers and staff for the incredible work and dedication towards achieving our goals and building more sustainable communities and futures.

During this financial year, a total of 1733 beneficiaries (855 youths, 412 women and 466) men reached excluding our online participants and beneficiaries. Our impacts were greatly felt in areas of Environmental Education, Sustainable Waste Management, Sustainable Farming and Conservation. We carried



out multiple workshops and campaigns to continuously raise awareness on the changing climate and its devastations and the need for everyone to get concern. Our efforts towards environmental education and conservation education doubled. We had the privileged of working with three schools as we created and boosted the Echo-School Clubs. We saw the need to greatly involve youths in our campaigns and programs as they are the future.

In course of the year, we took part in the UN 16 days' activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to raise awareness about the strong link between the environment and gender-based violence and how it can be mitigated. We reached out to close to 2000 people online with our campaigns and got critical responses. Just to know, many environmental activists especially women have suffered from GBV and even killed for pointing out wrong unsustainable practices by industries and companies.

Our vision has become even wider in perspective as we live the experiences every day in different communities. We become even more concerned as we notice how distracted and careless people are concerning their environment and the global challenges of climate change and global warming, even with the devastating climate related floods, droughts among others.

In 2023, we are looking forward to more partnerships, collaboration and impact in more vulnerable communities with our green projects. By this, we are therefore calling on all to join us in any way possible; partner, volunteer, donor, among others. We intend to double our outreach target population especially with the youths to get them more involved in securing a safer future; in policy making, field action and involve in campaigns, design innovative green project ideas and implement them.

With more youths being environmental ambassadors, we are certain of a reversal in the present trajectory in emissions. This is urgent following the warnings from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), that Africa is expected to be hit hard by the impacts of Climate Change as there are already clear signs felt by the different sectors. We therefore need to understand the forecast

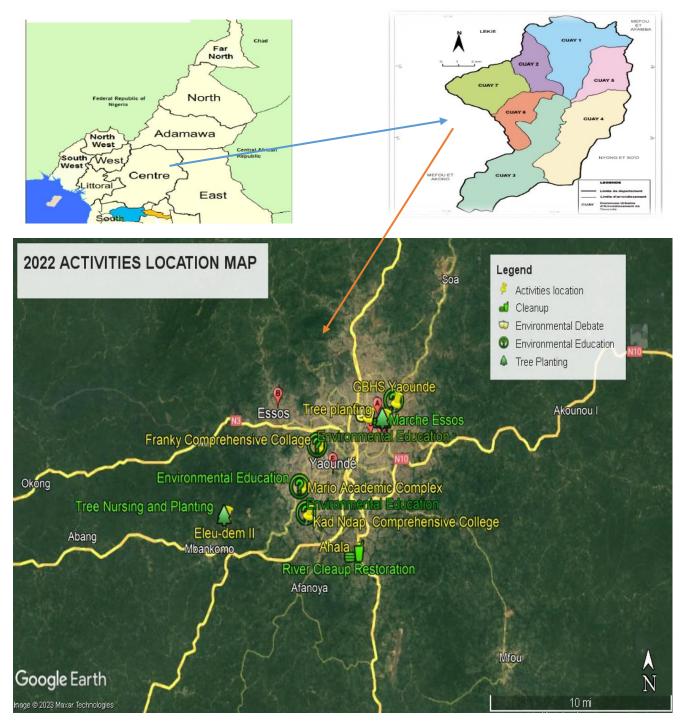


trajectory and the steps and tools needed to help us adapt and to reduce impact economically, socially, and even politically. We want to contribute enormously to Cameroon's INDC through collective efforts with the government, private sector, and academia.

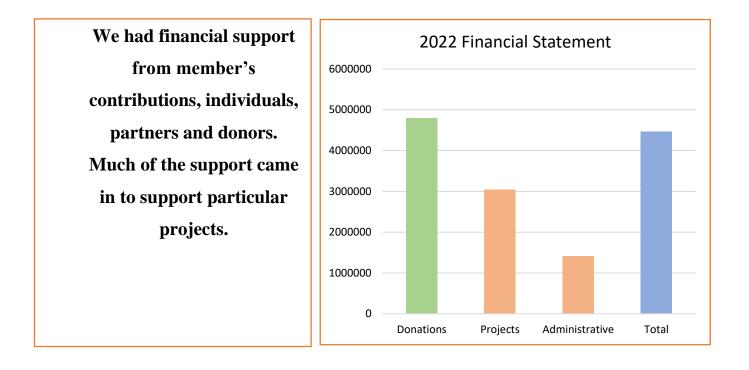
We need each other to achieve these goals and to assure the youths of an accommodative future. I am even more determined now than ever.



#### OUR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES LOCATION







#### 2022 FINANCIAL YEAR IN NUMBERS



#### ABOUT DEN PLANET

#### About Den Planet

Den Planet is a Cameroonian NGO which is not for profit making, non-denominational and apolitical in nature. It is a philanthropic and development-oriented organization. The activities of Den Planet are geared towards environmental protection and conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation and sustainable development of especially vulnerable communities.

#### **Telling Den Planet's story**

The constant environmental setbacks and climate change effects observed in especially poor communities, such as hazards of floods and droughts, water scarcity, food insecurity, air, soil and water pollution, just to mention a few, stirred an interest in some environmentalists, social and economic workers. They decided to unite for a common purpose of forming an organization that will intervene in reducing the impact of climate change and building resilient in communities through capacity building, campaigns and community green projects for sustainable development.

This initiative was applauded by many other lovers of nature who joined the team to create more awareness on environmental protection and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in Cameroon, and the Sub Saharan Africa.

#### **Brief history**

As a young organization, we are proud of our achievements so far. We started as an organization and now have partners we work with for the common goal. We have had numerous positive impacts on communities through our joint efforts in creative and innovative strategies.

Individuals and communities have become more aware of the importance of a clean, healthy and sustainable environment through our sensitization campaigns, education and training workshops.

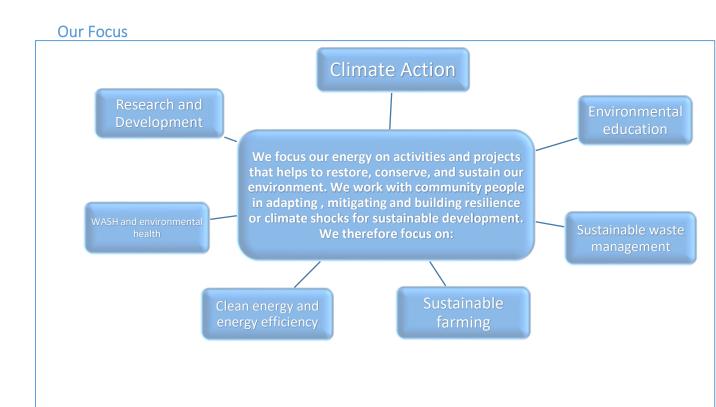
#### **Our Mission**

To create an enabling environment for communities through campaigns and sensitizations that will enable more environmentally suitable actions and projects to curb the carbon emissions of these communities.

#### Our Purpose

Our purpose is to create awareness and empower especially vulnerable communities so they can join in reducing the environmental setbacks they face and reducing their carbon footprint individually and as a community.





#### **Our Values**

#### Innovation

At Den Planet, we place innovation at the center of our project's ideas. With the current rate of environmental degradation there is need for completely new technologies and concepts to help solve these issues. We work with other organizations to develop innovative solutions to these setbacks (we promote circular economy).

#### Love for nature

Our love for nature and the environment is the reason why we are fighting this course. The whole team is made up of people ready to put in time, money and skills, to a better environment and sustainable livelihoods of communities.



#### **Gender Equality**

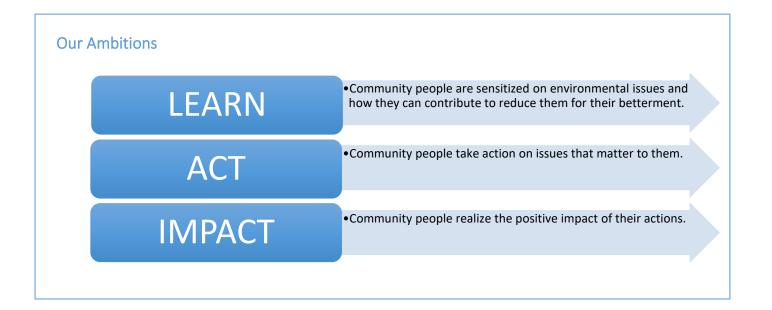
We consider gender to play a major role in environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Women are often neglected in many communities and most often, are not empowered with knowledge and the necessary skills or opportunities to join in the pressing community setbacks. We think empowering women and girls is one major way to create maximum awareness on these issues and to getting the necessary action required to reduce the negative impacts on communities.

#### Integrity

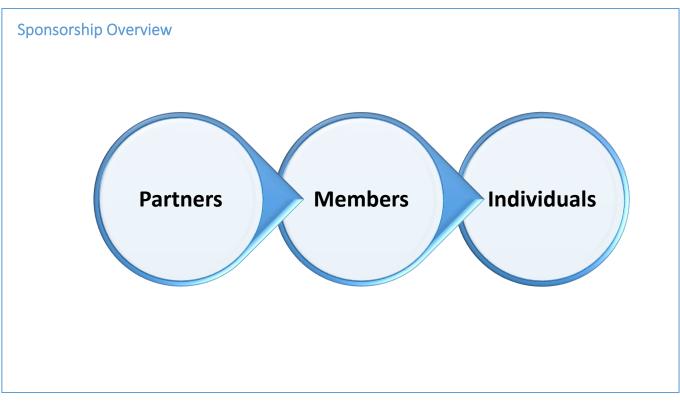
Here, at Den Planet, we are open and accountable to all our activities and projects. we create an atmosphere of trust and honesty as we believe that transparency gives room for more trust and support of our vision by all stakeholders.

#### Appreciation of diversity

Though we are fighting a common course, we place much value on the diversity of persons directly or indirectly involve with our projects. We consider the cultural and social norms of the communities we integrate before, during and after our projects. There is progress and innovation in diversity.









#### OUR LINK TO UN SDGs

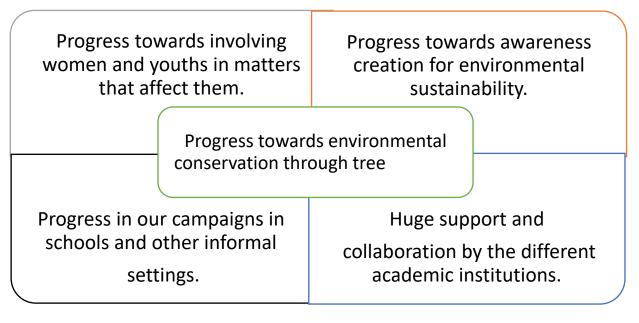
# Our link to UN SDGs





#### PROGRAMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS ACTIONS, PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2022

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) designed to be a blue print to enable and serve as a guide towards the achievement of a sustainable future for all, not only guides private individuals but also SDG driven organizations like Den planet. We recorded progress in the following:



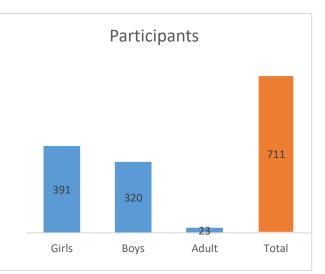
We successfully carried out several activities in the FY22



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

We carried out several activities in schools under the Eco-School Club. This activity impacted over thousands of students in the different schools as well as their homes and communities. One of which was at Franky comprehensive collage, Mario Complex Secondary School, Government High school Yaoundé. These schools gathered 711 students and adults. Interesting environmental games were used to pass on very useful and practical knowledge and information to the participants.





#### **Impacts**

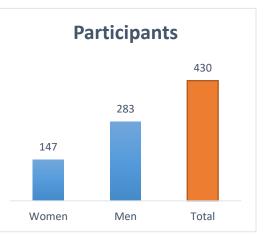
At the end of the activity, the involvement of stakeholders from the educational sector was more effective. It rose from the appropriation and implementation of recommendations on proper waste disposal in the school milieu as well as at home.



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#### **CLEANUP CAMPAIGN**

Due to the negative effects and impacts of waste plastics in many communities especially on aquatic animals, a lot more people are becoming worried over this and joining campaigns to save the environment. 430 people were involved in the activities to pick plastics in the Ahala river and neighborhood including Den Planet team. It was a joint effort including some environmental organizations, recycling companies and individuals to free this river and its surrounding from plastics pollution which will go a long way to improve the health of the entire community. As it is often said "Many hands make work lighter", which was the case with this activity. These plastics were gathered in very large quantities and were taken out of the river site to accessible points where transportation will be









easy. Approximately, 10tons of plastics was retrieved from the river and its banks and handed to the recycling and waste management companies.

#### Impacts

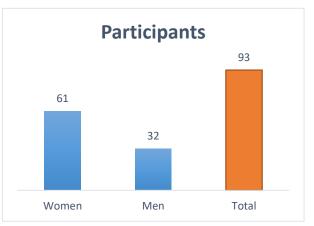
At the end of the activity approximately 10tons of plastics were collected, the press was present at the site to carry the information of creating awareness to go globally and the various participants carried plaques carrying environmental awareness messages. other outcomes were as follows;

- The river and the environment was less free from waste plastics pollution hence saving aquatic animals in it.
- The hygienic condition of the river and environment was improved and standing water that generate mosquitoes was reduced.
- The river gained free flow without waste plastics as obstacles, it also reduced flood in the area.
- The river is now serving domestic, commercial and industrial purposes.



#### ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

We successfully carried out an environmental awareness campaign at the Essos market and neighborhood, in the Yaoundé 5 municipality. The traders were mobilized on environment hygiene in the market and at their homes, waste management, and the importance of tree planting in our communities. Den Planet, Let's do it Cameroon and Yaounde V Council were partners in this awareness creation, including the Mayor himself.



A mobile chargeable microphone speaker was used for this exercise. There was clean-up of the market and tree planting around the market for shelter and retainment of the ground to reduce erosion. The Yaounde V Council Mayor took the lead in the tree planting.



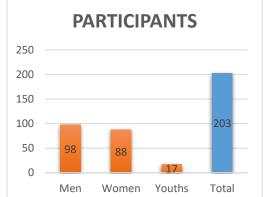


#### TREE PLANTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

The tree planting exercise was led by the lord Mayor of the municipality with him planting the first tree. 203 people were present to aid the exercise and 190 trees were planted.









#### Impacts

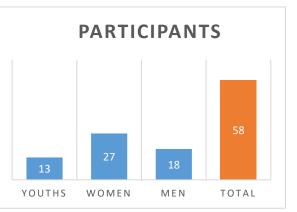
Trees planted will go a long way to impact the entire city in that, it increases water and air quality, provide shades, conserve biodiversity, prevent erosion, and sequester carbon.



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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DEBATE**

An Environmental expose was done at the Yaoundé 5 council hall including the council, Den planet, Let's do it Cameroon, traditional authorities in the council area, representative from MINDHU, delegation from the ministry of environment. The aim of the debate was to identify the environmental challenges faced by different sectors, the progress made and propose measures towards mitigating and adapting to these environmental setbacks.





#### **ORGANIC HOME GARDENING (SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE)**

We, regularly carryout organic gardening as we encourage the 3Rs; Reduce, Reuse and Recycle with household wastes. It is done using waste plastic bottles and bags for environmental purposes and to economize space. The waste collected both organic and nonorganic plays different roles in this gardening. The organic waste such as kitchen byproducts is composed while inorganic waste like plastic bottles/bags is used to carry the decomposed organic waste. Check out the wall at the back with growing kitchen spices.











#### Impacts

The garden was made using waste plastics bottles and kitchen waste, hence reducing plastic pollution in the environment and preventing odor and waste that go to road sides and gutters.

#### WOMEN'S DAY 2022

Den Planet and Girls in Action for Sustainable Development took out time to share knowledge with the community women of Oshie and friends on women's day, under the theme **"Gender Equality today for sustainable tomorrow**". They were educated on how important it is to enable the girl child as much as the boy to exercise their full potentials.











#### YOUTH CAPACITY EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

This workshop on the theme; "Youth Voices for a Sustainable Future", held from 8 to 13 August 2022, 9am to 2pm, at Presbyterian Church Simbock Yaoundé. This was a joined effort by Den Planet, Care Foundation and Haven of Rebirth (HAREB).

**Purpose:** To promote a collective action against environmental degradation, gender-based violence and ill health.

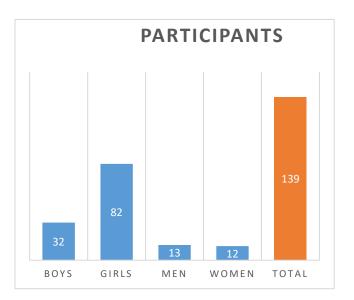
With its main focus on Environment /Climate change, Health, Gender, Entrepreneurship and Career coaching (development and growth)., this brought together some 139 participants and facilitators. There was so much enthusiasm within the participants especially with the practical sessions and the project ideas that each participant had to present at the end of the workshop.



There was equally a visit to River Mefou to witness marine plastic pollution and its devastation to the inhabitants and the surrounding environment.

There was prize awards to the best written environmental project idea, and also certificates were awarded to all attendees.

These six days workshop stirred much interest within the participants in environmental issues and many of them indicated interest in serving as volunteers and Climate Ambassadors for Den Planet.



#### **General objectives**

- > To create awareness on environmental concerns, gender, and health.
- > To increase the possibilities of youths to be ambassadors of sustainable development.
- > To transfer skills and know-how to youth.
- > To review existing indicators that act as hindrances to sustainable development.
- > To promote decentralisation in the NGO and CSO sector.



The following are summaries of modules presented during the workshop:

#### Module 1: Key Definitions

Participants were made to understand the following:

- weather.
- Climate
- Climate change,
- Global warming
- Greenhouse gases/effect and

#### Module 2: Gender

The gender expert defined the two terms (Sex and Gender) and gave the differences between them to the understanding of the participants. She further explained to the participants the rule of gender in community and sustainable development

#### Module 3: International conferences against Climate Change.

The facilitator brought highlights on some international conferences on climate change and their role to the general awareness of the changing climate. Some of these international bodies includes: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Conference of the Parties(COP), WHO support for global action on climate change & health,

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC), International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC).











Group work exercise: Strategies from participants on how to mitigate climate change and adaptation measures.

## Module 4: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

Letting the participants know how human health is relevant for a healthy environmental.

### Module 5: Entrepreneurship and its importance on youths.

Youths are highly encouraged to develop innovative business ideas that are especially friendly to the environment, the economic and environmental benefits should exceed the risks involved.







#### **Environmental Games**

Environment Word Scrabble game was being introduced to make the participants get familiar with environmental terms.

## Practice session on environnemental pollution.(Air pollution)

This practical was done by some of the participants, using paper and Vaseline. The Vaseline was rubbed on a piece of white paper and hung in the air and after a few minutes they could find particles trapped on the Vaseline that would otherwise not being noticed.



#### Module 7: Introducing the concept of the 3Rs.

The concept of the 3Rs was elaborated to the participants to enable them to understand the importance of resource management and circular economy.





## Module 8: Digital Branding and the effects of social media on Youths.

This module was facilitated by a Team of experts from "Mon Univers Digital". This group of experts explained to the youths how social media such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube. could be used to market themselves. Other advantages being; job, business chats, e-commerce and education. Also, that youths should stop giving a negative impression about themselves through their postings on these platforms.



#### Module 9: cervical cancer

An expert in cervical cancer was called up to sensitize and educate female participants on the need for vaccination, regular checkup and immediate treatment.



#### Module 10: Career coaching and development

- Participants received coaching from two coaches, on career development and growth. They were asked to consider their passions and hobbies and how to turn this into a career.
- A career that is centered around a passion grows and is fulfilling.





#### Module 11: Menstrual and personal hygiene

- Participants were briefed on the importance of personal hygiene for good health.
- Hygiene kits were distributed to all participants with demonstration on how to use and dispose of them appropriately.



#### Environnemental surveillance tour at Mefou River

To end the workshop, participants visited a nearby river chocked with plastic wastes affecting the marine ecosystem.

This exercise was aimed at bringing reality to all what the participants learned during the workshop. This will prompt more conscious behavior among them regarding waste disposal and they can better educate others.





#### Awards of certificates to participants and volunteers

All participants for the six days' workshop were awarded certificates. They have become climate change ambassadors.



#### Conclusion of the youth capacity empowerment workshop

The partners of the workshop called on every participant to be ambassadors for a sustainable future in their various communities. They should join environmental campaign groups and youth forums that make impact through research, policy and action for a sustainable future. The participants on the other hand shared their satisfaction as they were equipped with adequate knowledge and tools from the workshop modules for personal, economic and professional growth.





ANNUAL IMPACTS REPORT 2022

#### **OUR GRATITUDE**

Den Planet's progress and impact was well advanced due to the commitment of the board of trustees, our working team especially our volunteers, our members, partners and donors. We appreciate your financial and technical support in achieving our objectives for the year.

We shall continue to ensure all stakeholder's satisfaction in the execution of our projects and in providing real time and quality reports. This will enable us to raise more funds to deliver more quality projects and programs for the sustainability of the environment and sustainable economic growth of communities.



#### LOOKING FORWARD

We are looking forward to a real working atmosphere with all stakeholders especially the local community. We would be able to have access to real and concrete data for projects development and implementation.

We plan to expand on our biodiversity conservation and protection projects especially the Den Trees Project which goes up to 2030 in line with the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration.

Our vision for clean energy especially clean cooking energy; biogas is getting clearer and we are aiming at reaching hundreds of households and Cameroonians with clean and affordable cooking energy that is healthy to man and preserve our trees. This is the same with the provision of portable water to communities in need. We have carried out baseline studies in two IDP communities. We would carry out more frequent campaigns to prompt green action and to curbing individual, household and community carbon footprint.

Our objectives are to reach out to thousands of people; adult and youths.

In general, we see this FY22 as a greater achievement year with new partnerships, collaborators, volunteers and donors, in our mission to protect and preserve the environment and to providing practical sustainable solutions to environmentally related communities problems. Our motivation is heightened by the recent 2022 IPCC Report on Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability, that indicates yet a continually changing climate and a degrading environment and its negative impact on humanity.

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