

**REPORT ON THE "SHARE A SMILE" PROJECT CARRIED OUT BY THE
ASSOCIATION FOR EQUALITY AND WELL-BEING (ASEBE) IN THE LOCALITY
OF TARO IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MBAM AND INOUBOU**

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Summary of the project

"**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" is a water solidarity program implemented by the Association for Equality and Well-Being (ASEBE) in the locality of **TARO**, a village in the commune of **BAFIA**, located in the Central Cameroon Region, Department of **MBAM AND INOUBOU**.

In order to guarantee access to water and sanitation for all and to ensure sustainable management of water resources, which is the 6th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of the United Nations, the Association for Equality and Well-Being (ASEBE) has taken advantage of the precarious state of drinking water in the locality of TARO.

The overall objective of the **SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)** project was to "**equip learners with the necessary knowledge and skills to apply sustainable agricultural techniques and practices in their areas of intervention in order to improve the quality and quantity of yields to combat food insecurity**".

The aim was to provide the locality with a drinking water point, which will have the following specific effects:

- Reduce the epidemiological frequency by avoiding the propagation of diseases;
- Lighten the daily burden, especially for young girls who are responsible for the water supply in households as opposed to boys;
- Conducting community activities among the local population;
- Raise awareness of good hygiene and sanitation practices among the population;

- Raise awareness of the population on the theme of environmental pollution and its consequences on its consequences on agriculture and health;
- Strengthen the capacities of farmers on the aspects of environmental sustainability;
- Improve school performance because poor hygiene and water conditions outside of school can cause many children to miss school due to waterborne diseases;
- Create, train and equip a local environmental committee;
- Conduct a large-scale digital campaign on environmental awareness and education;
- Revitalize local elites.

All these activities have been successfully carried out.

The project "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" was thus articulated around 03 main activities namely: a vast awareness campaign on environmental problems in the locality of **TARO**, the construction of a water point and a digital awareness campaign on environmental protection.

I- THE VAST AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN TARO

A vast awareness campaign was organized by the Association for Equality and Welfare (ASEBE). It was held in the locality of TARO with the aim of sensitizing the pupils of the public school of TARO as well as the populations of this locality on environmental issues. The animations and trainings were based on the protection of water, air and soil resources. It was held from December 09 to 10, 2022

The 1st day was dedicated to the sensitization of the pupils of the public school of **TARO** on the numerous environmental problems. Thus, from class to class (from class one to six), the school director and his staff allowed the project team (composed of 20 people including the President of the ASEBE, its members and the technical team) to deploy within the school campus. The deployment was aimed at sensitizing the students on environmental issues and the importance of taking personal care of these practices both at school and at home. The students were very

receptive although they had no notion of respecting the environment. The sensitization was done in the school yard and then continued in the different classrooms. It took place from 10 am to 2 pm. A meal was offered to the students and the administration to close the activities. The atmosphere was good. It was attended by the representative of the mayor of the town of BAFIA who honored us with his presence. It was held in three languages: French, English and Bafia local language. Flyers were pasted all over the village on the walls of classrooms, houses, trees. A banner was deployed in the place of the chieftaincy. Volunteers carried advertising gadgets with the logos of BMZ, TEFAev and ASEBE. The slogan used was "**Save the environment, save lives!**"

On the second day, the awareness campaign took place in the central square of the village courtyard, which is located in front of the TARO 3rd degree chieftaincy. During a whole day, the ASEBE volunteers sensitized the populations of the village on the importance of the respect of the environment. They were recommended to:

- Practice land fallowing;
- Avoid the use of synthetic agrochemical inputs in an abusive way in order to avoid risks to the health of human populations consuming this resource and its derivatives and its by-products;
- To eat differently;
- Avoid intensive agriculture because it has a devastating effect on the soil;
- Avoid monoculture and deep sloughing because they impoverish the soil.

The entire chain of agricultural supervision has been trained in climate-smart agriculture techniques. In addition, a local committee on water and environment was created and trained on European aspects of environmental sustainability including analysis and development of guidelines for the agricultural sector. The climate was favorable to work. A closing meal was shared with the people who graciously gave us a whole day of their time to follow our message of a more nature-friendly world.



SHARE A SMILE WIE 22

Vaste campagne de sensibilisation sur les problèmes environnementaux organisée par l'Association pour l'Égalité et le Bien être (ASEBE)

Du 09 au 10 Décembre 2022

Localité de TARO

www.asebe.cm 698569199



Some pictures of the vast sensitization campaign on the environmental projects at the public school of **TARO** and at the 3rd degree chiefdom of **TARO**





II- CONSTRUCTION OF THE BOREHOLE

The construction of the borehole was carried out by the company ROJJ SARL: Its location corresponds to the GPS data provided in the project application.

- It includes physical and geotechnical studies of the site to house the infrastructure.
- The construction of the drilling itself
- Construction of the borehole fence walls for the security of the infrastructure

Details of the geophysical studies are available in the appendix.

Some pictures of the handover and inauguration ceremony that took place on January 16

2023 in **TARO** in the presence of the village chief of **TARO** and the local population.





III-DIGITAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

This is phase 3 of the project "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**". This one consisted and consists in promoting on all the digital platforms the message conveyed by the project team, concerning the environmental problems.

Because it is important to reach a larger audience, digital is a universal tool that beyond the borders can convey a message. The project team has understood this and has implemented a strong digital communication through its official pages (Facebook, Twister, LinkedIn, YouTube) as well as those of its volunteer members and any sympathizers adhering to the promotion of good environmental practices. We estimate that 80,000 people were reached by this digital campaign. Scientific articles have also been published in regional and international webzines specialized in environmental issues. The Word document containing all the links to the publications is available in the annex.

1.2. REFERENCE PERIOD

This report covers a period of 5 months from **mid-October 2022 to the end of March 2023**.

2. CHANGES IN PROJECT CONDITIONS AND ORGANISATION

2.1 Have there been any significant changes in the project environment?

The project as initially planned has not undergone any major changes since, as announced in the terms of reference, it has been well prepared in substance. Apart from the pending health situation due to the worldwide coronavirus pandemic, the project had to adapt to the new health conditions, including the respect of barrier measures, the wearing of face masks, and social distancing.

2.2. Were there any changes in the project design and/or objectives/impacts of the project?

It is clear that the main objective of the "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project, which was "**to improve the health and living conditions of the people of TARO**", was so important that it could not have been detached from this life-saving objective for the people of **TARO**.

3. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

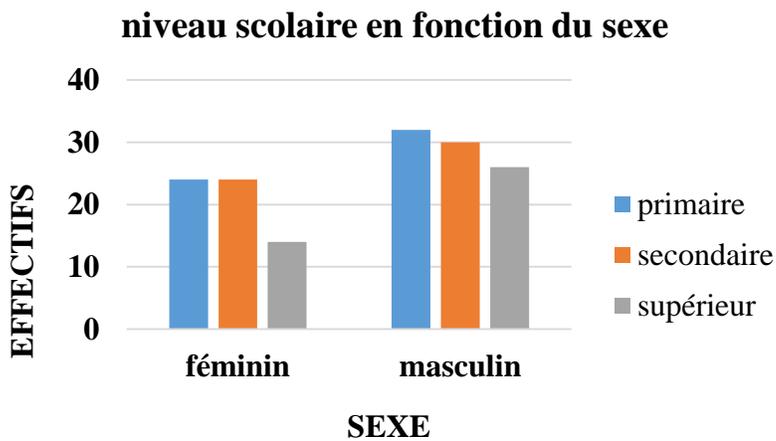
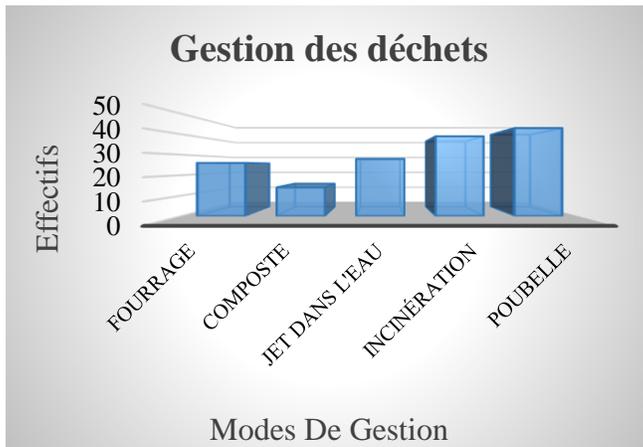
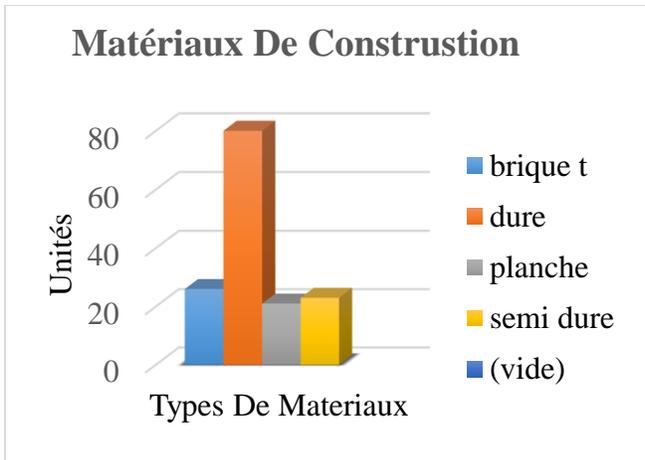
3.1 Objective-performance comparison of project measures or activities

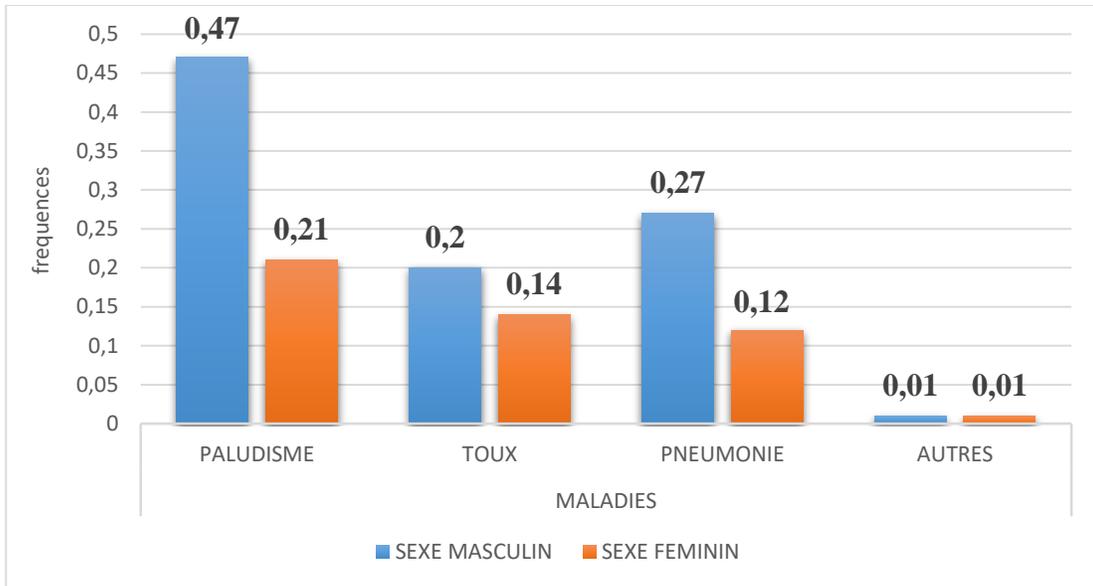
The planned activities as mentioned above were the extensive awareness campaign in **TARO**, the construction of the borehole and the digital campaign on good environmental practices.

THE LARGE-SCALE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

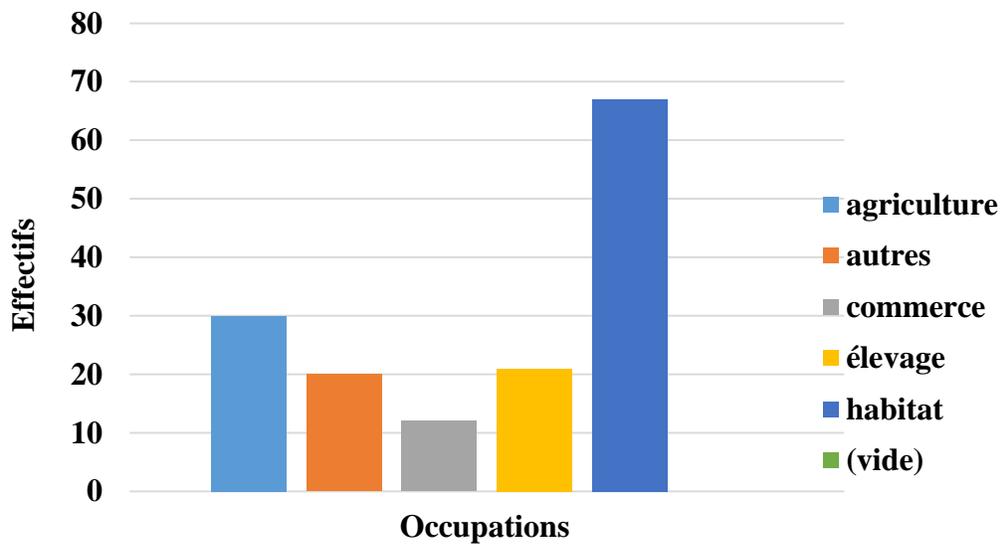
From 09 to 10 December 2022, in terms of actual objective, we were present. Day 1 of the program was related to the sensitization of the students of the public school of **TARO** on good environmental practices. The campaign reached all the students of this school and in terms of number of students nearly 100 benefited from this sensitization and materials on hygiene and sanitation were offered.

Day 2 directly involved the populations of **TARO** who benefited from this vast campaign on the protection of water, air and soil resources. **Anti-Covid** kits were given at the disposal of the Chief of the locality in order to benefit his populations. Here are the results of the statistical data collected. Two soccer balls were donated respectively to the school and the chiefdom of **TARO** to promote sport which is itself a vector of health and sustainable development.





Répartition de la maladie dans la population



Formes d'occupations des populations

. THE VAST DIGITAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN DEPLOYED

As planned, it was carried out through the various digital platforms of ASEBE and its members for a greater impact. Thus in terms of evaluation, the account is seen.

All in all, compared to all the activities planned in the specifications, with the main objective of "**improving the living and health conditions of the TARO populations**", the objectives have been achieved and well realized. The volunteers have in turn sensitized the population of TARO on environmental problems in order to stay healthy and have a healthy living environment. The sensitization campaign has been done and continues to be done in order to promote good practices respectful of the environment.

4. ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND DIRECT IMPACTS

The target group of the project was:

- The owners of the home gardens (farmers);
- The school community;
- The population of TARO and its surroundings.

4.1. GROUP ACHIEVEMENT

The ultimate goal of the "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project is the construction of a drinking water point in the locality of **TARO** in order to improve the living conditions and health of the local population. Thus, the target group that is the population as well as the young girls as the boys, the men, the women, the elderly and the less elderly will benefit from this project.

When we know that the locality of **TARO** has nearly 3000 inhabitants in 2020, providing a drinking water point has helped reduce the inequalities that weigh on young girls who often have the heavy burden of bringing water in the households, which is a hindrance to their school performance relative to boys of their group.

Thus, the various awareness-raising activities carried out have made it possible to teach and inform the **TARO** population about the risks they face on a daily basis due to poor hygiene practices and diseases linked to the use of non-drinking water.

4.2. COMPARISON OF OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A project such as "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**", whose objective is to improve the living and health conditions of the people of TARO through a vast awareness campaign, both on the ground and digitally, and in anticipation of the construction of a borehole necessary for the well-being of the people of **TARO**, cannot have negative aspects in the long run.

Thus, we note that the construction of a drinking water point in the locality of **TARO** and the sensitization of its populations on the good practices in environment by the Association for Equality and Well-being (ASEBE), could be nothing but saving for the living conditions and health of these populations.

So the project brings a concrete solution to a concrete problem that until then could create many tensions between populations and inequality between girls and boys. At the same time, the project reduces the risks of environmental damage by raising awareness among the **TARO** population on how to respect their environment through good environmental practices.

EVALUATION AND CONCLUSION

5.1. Overall evaluation of the project

The "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project is globally satisfactory both technically and financially. Despite a particularly complex national context and an unprecedented health crisis, the planned activities could be carried out. The project team was able to adapt to the habits and customs of the locality by ensuring that communication with the host populations was done in French as well as in the local language "BAFIA" in order to install a climate of trust between the team and the local populations.

The actions that could not be carried out will be re-articulated in the next projects. This project has improved the living conditions of the populations as well as their health. The link with **TARO** has continued and a strong dynamic around the theme of youth has begun to be built with interesting perspectives between the different social groups.

The "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project is strong insofar as it directly touches the consciences and modifies the life habits of its target people, as awareness raising allows to re-educate the masses for a healthier and better life. The populations of TARO being then able themselves to control their behaviors for a healthier environment. A healthier environment is necessary for a better life and for future generations.

The "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project has therefore encouraged the people of TARO and the various people reached through digital platforms to adopt new behaviors in terms of respect for the environment so that they are now better equipped and informed about the management of their environment and treatment of their wastewater. In this sense, the objectives of the project have been achieved.

To this extent, the project was a success from the point of view of the responsible NGOs, the cooperation partners involved and the target groups. The cooperation partners involved were the staff of the **TARO** public school through its Director, the people of **TARO** through its Village Chief, His Majesty Mr. BINYA BETCAEM. These resource persons were sufficiently satisfied with the contribution of the project in their area. They warmly thanked us and invited us to continue our efforts in favor of the most vulnerable.

Thus, the project has indeed responded to the real needs of the target group, who have been sensitized on good environmental practices, which will enable them to protect their health, their environment and their well-being.

5.2 Evaluation of sustainability and financing of follow-up costs

The purpose of the project "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" being the construction of a drinking water point necessary for the populations of the locality of TARO and thanks to the vast campaign of sensitization on the environmental problems to which they benefited, the project is on the way to a long term sustainability. This is due to the fact that a good maintenance of the water point was planned and indicated to them during the awareness campaign. Thus, a "**Water Management Committee**" was established and formed in the locality of **TARO**, bringing together all the stakeholders in the project to ensure the sanitation of local water points (rivers,

springs, etc.) and the maintenance and preservation of this borehole that has emerged. It bears the colors blue which represents water and orange which symbolizes a better future for all this locality of **TARO**.

So when everything will be implemented for the last point of the project, the project team will be supported by this "**Water Management Committee**", which will ensure a longevity of this water solidarity project so that even future generations of this locality and neighboring villages can use it.

The "Local Committee on Water and the Environment" is thus constituted:

- Mrs. BON JULIENNE
- Her Majesty BINYA BETCAEM
- MR. PERFECT ISSERE
- Mr. MBASSA Herve
- Miss NDAN Virginie
- Mr. MASSA Hervé
- Mr. MOUTHE Robert
- Miss FOUGERE Yimen Stephanie
- Miss FOUUDA Marie Ghislaine

5.3. CONCLUSIONS

Water and sanitation are essential elements of life and their acquisition is still problematic in African societies in general and in Cameroon in particular. The issue of water poses a double challenge, both for the sustainable management of resources and for access by poor populations. The lack of water supply and sanitation systems and other infrastructure services significantly hinders economic growth, trade and poverty alleviation in Africa in general and Cameroon in

particular. Environmental protection is an imperative condition for ensuring sustained growth and a better quality of life for all the peoples of the world.

As detailed in this report and in the other activity reports attached, the "**SHARE A SMILE (WIE22)**" project has been implemented in compliance with several parameters established during the design phase. Thus, it is important to note the coherence that exists between the financial, social, environmental and cultural plans of the project. The project team has scrupulously respected the dates and the pre-established timing in the realization of the achievements. This allowed a fusion between efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability that could be useful and necessary for the realization of similar projects.

The implementation of this project has allowed us to have an experience in humanitarian projects in a rural area, which includes different modalities and adaptations (adapting the activities, language and language of expression according to the hosts) that must be seriously taken into account in order to gain the trust of the host populations, for an effective collaboration.

The project team itself also benefits from the experience and way of life that might be different from its own in order to come out of it more grown up and open-minded. At the same time, the project team could make good use of all the advice distilled for the benefit of its respective community in order to perpetuate good environmental practices.

6. EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The budget is balanced in terms of revenue and expenditure. This is clearly demonstrated by the attached invoices. Expenditures have been made with the utmost rigor and professionalism.

7. TRANSPARENCY OF FINANCING

TechEnergy for Africa e.V. (TEFA e.V.) has been in contact with African associations since the beginning of the year 2020 within the framework of the campaign (WIE22) "Water is Energy

2022" in order to try to find efficient solutions to facilitate access to drinking water and electricity to as many localities as possible.

It is in this logic that the Association for Equality and Well-Being (**ASEBE**) was chosen in view of their dynamism in the humanitarian landscape in Cameroon (fruit of previous collaborations between our two organizations) and after several joint work sessions during which we studied in depth the vision and mission of the said organization, as well as the impact of a future collaboration on the well-being of the populations concerned.

After a year of investigation, we decided by mutual agreement to focus on the implementation of the "**SHARE A SMILE**" project, which is a water solidarity project led by **ASEBE**. From then on, several online working sessions via the Zoom meeting application were organized between the two leaders and then with the members of the respective offices of the two organizations. "**SHARE A SMILE**" is therefore the concrete materialization of a common will to act together to contribute to the development of rural areas in Cameroon through access to drinking water and renewable energy.

This collaboration is therefore part of the development and strengthening of relations between the German diaspora and Cameroon. **ASEBE** has been informed orally by **TEFA** during our multiple Zoom meetings of the possibility of financing projects by German federal funds.