

# NDEF Drummer

A Quarterly Newsletter of the National Development Foundation (NDEF) Cameroon

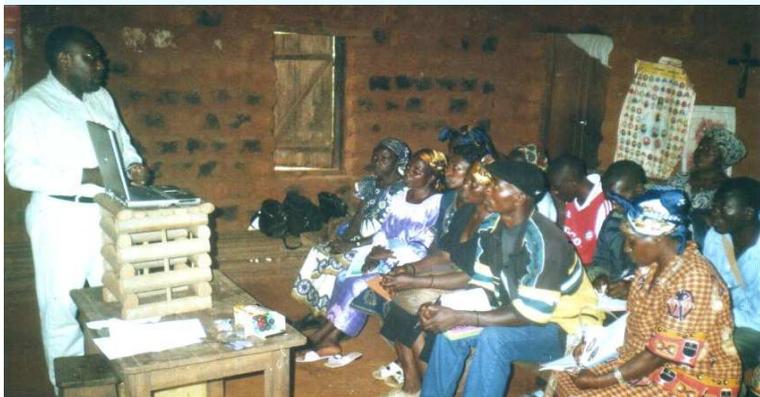
Issue 002

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## Up scaling Tree Domestication Practices in Momo Division

NDEF, in Collaboration with ICRAF-WCA-HT and the Mbengwi Area Food Crop Cooperative did organise a three-day workshop in Sang (Mbengwi) to train nine (09) Common Initiative Groups in Momo Division on the technologies of tree domestication and agroforestry. The over thirty participants came from Guzang, Bessi-Fomnkong, Njimetu, Kai, Njinezi, Njinibi, Chenam, Nkwokong, and of course, Sang where the workshop took place. The Chief of Agric Post for Sang, Madam Walinjom Christina, declared the workshop open.

Mr. Asaah Ebenezer from ICRAF-WCA-HT delivered introductory modules on Agroforestry and Tree Domestication opened up the first day. He presented



Mr Asaah Ebenazar training farmers with the aid of a laptop computer

## NDEF's Partners Converge for Evaluation and Planning

All partners of NDEF working in the agroforestry project converged at the Organisation's headquarters in Bamenda last April 21 to assess the level of their collaboration for the year 2005 and map out a plan of work for 2006. Participants included fourteen farmer representatives, two representatives from the World Agroforestry Centre for West and Central Africa-Humid Tropics (ICRAF-WCA-HT) and, of course, NDEF. During the get-together, Dr Ann De-grande and Dr Marie-Laure Mpeck of ICRAF-WCA-HT refreshed the participants on the techniques of rapidly multiplying improved tree planting materials and how to develop their plans of action



so as to meet targets while giving allowances for failure rates. The farmer representatives were then distributed tree seeds and other materials to facilitate their work in tree domestication.



Farmers learn how to build propagators or humidity chambers

a series of discussions including among others sustainable agricultural techniques with improved fallows. Mr Nkeng Pius of NDEF worked with the farmers to construct both propagators. Mr. Kuh Emmanuel of MIFACIG handled grafting. Ngam Eugene of NDEF treated marcotting. Madam Comfort Loh worked with the participants on the Non-mist propagator (use and management).

While closing the workshop, the Chief of Agric Post for the area praised the work covered by organisers and participants and exalted the groups to take the work serious and promised to maintain a close follow up of the groups' activities in tree domestication and agroforestry.

## Coordination Meeting for the Development of the North West Province

NDEF was one of the key stakeholders in the development sector of the North West Province that was selected to participate in a reflection workshop to come out with coordination strategies for the North West Province of Cameroon. The seminar workshop was at the initiative of the North West Development Authority (MIDENO), a government subsidiary charged with the coordination of development activities in the Province. The seminar took place in Bamenda on June 29th, 2006. NDEF was represented at the meeting by Mr Nkeng Pius. Thematic areas were a) Agriculture and Livestock Development, b) Rural Infrastructure and Environmental Protection, c) Good Governance and d) Credit Financing.

## Workshop on Germplasm Collection and Evaluation

A workshop on the collection and evaluation of germplasm organised by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) took place on the 29th of June 2006 in the premises of PRTC

Mfonta bringing together collaborators working with the Institute. NDEF was represented at the workshop by Mr Ngam Eugene. The representative of IITA, Mr. Emmanuel Njukwe drilled participants on the practical tips and layout of plantain plots and other food crops such as cassava and yams, using a variety of methods to display crops in the field.

The various forms of common diseases were highlighted. The participants were also trained on how to keep records and how to use them to evaluate the performance of the different species being tried out in the trial and demonstration farms.

## NDEF DONATES ACADEMIC MATERIALS TO STUDENTS OF G.H.S KWANG

Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> 2006 was a joyous day in the life of G.H.S. Kwang, Pinyin. NDEF was at work with its social programme to promote education given that it is a crucial tool for the development



of tomorrow. NDEF stormed the institution with cartons of academic prizes to encourage hard-working students. On hand to receive the prizes were the entire 2000 student body, forty teachers and parents.

While handing over the gifts to each of the brilliant students the delegation of NDEF, Madam Payne Mispa and Mr Ngam Eugene, advised the students that their future well-being depends on their actions today. Thus they must take their studies serious. The principal of the College appreciated NDEF's gesture and invited the organisation to make next year another event with his Institution. At the same time, he

challenged the students who did not win prizes to start working hard so as to be laureates next year when the caravan of NDEF comes to reward excellence.

This activity is part of the work of Motherland Academy in Cameroon in collaboration with NDEF. It would be recalled that Motherland Academy has been supporting the work of NDEF in the villages of Cameroon by sending relief materials that help beneficiaries to



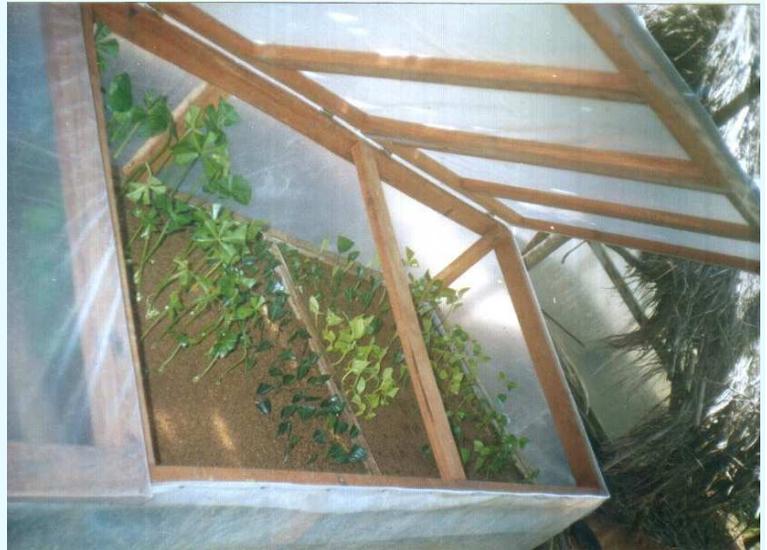
Customs at Douala Seaport inspect donated goods from Motherland Academy

2 overcome some stress in their lives. In September 2006, NDEF will be distributing more academic materials, especially textbooks to orphans so as to enable them go to school with ease.

## Rooting Propagator Built In Okomanjang Village

NDEF has been breaking new grounds in the agricultural sector aimed at increasing output through the use of modern techniques of producing improved planting materials. This is a result of research conducted by the World Agroforestry Centre for West and Central Africa that is being implemented in the North West Province of Cameroon by NDEF Cameroon.

According to the research, fruit trees that normally take about ten to fifteen years to bear fruits, are now planted and harvested in two or three years only. The techniques used here are



those of grafting, marcotting and rooting of cuttings. NDEF has successfully built one rooting propagator in Okomanjang Village to rapidly multiply improved fruit tree seedlings that will bear fruits within a considerable reduced interval of time. The following cuttings were immediately placed into it to develop roots for subsequent field planting. They are njangsang, bush mango, kola nuts, passion fruits, African plum and citrus plants. It is hoped that this piece of asset will greatly produce both qualitative and quantitative planting materials in the area for farmers to integrate in their farms. Such planted trees have multi-benefits both to the farmer and the environment. Some of them are fertiliser trees. Some have medicinal values and of course, some are for their fruits.

## Up Coming Events

» **Two Training workshops on Tree Domestication in Agroforestry.** To be organised in Bamenda and Befang in August 2006. This is in collaboration with ICRAF-WCA-HT.

» **One training workshop on the rapid multiplication of plantain/banana suckers.** Working with IITA, this workshop will take place in Bamenda in September 2006.

## Volunteer/Internship Opportunities at NDEF

Internships - [www.idealists.org/org/86514-280#internships](http://www.idealists.org/org/86514-280#internships)  
Volunteer - [www.idealists.org/org/86514-280#volunteering](http://www.idealists.org/org/86514-280#volunteering)