



EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT:

«SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS DEVELOPMENT
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE EQUATORIAL
RAINFOREST AND HUMID RAINFOREST ZONES
IN CAMEROON»

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project dubbed “*Sustainable Livelihoods Development in Rural Communities in the Equatorial Rainforest and the Humid Rainforest Zones of Cameroon*” has been under implementation since 2006. Covering a period of five years it will come to an end in 2010. In accordance with the project document, a mid-term review was decided to measure the level of execution of its activities and see whether project objectives have been attained. The review equally had to establish whether such activities had any effects on the living conditions of the beneficiaries particularly as concerns nutrition, income, environment, health, solidarity ties and self-confidence among them. The review had to state whether any negative aspects or shortfalls were observed in the project execution and to propose means that will help solve them or limit their effects.

In order to conduct this review, HEIFER International Cameroon resorted to two independent reviewers, specialists in project management and follow up. Messrs **Didier AMOUGOU** and **Emmanuel NJANDEU** worked hard during 22 days, including 12 days of field work (6th – 22th June, 2009). The experts used facilitated self-evaluation method based on full participation of project actors, actresses and stakeholders. They used a questionnaire to collect data from the 21 common initiative groups involved in the project. These data were complemented by focus group discussions with each CIG member. Site visits included goat enclosures and cane rat hutches. From the analysis made on the secondary data culled from the reports and other documents available, the evaluators arrived at the following major findings:

- Project activities are achieved by 65%.
- Three out of four project objectives are attained namely: nutrition and family income, internalisation of eco-friendly and sustainable agro-pastoral practices and the adoption of human values such as moral integrity and solidarity.
- The weaknesses observed in the project implementation are high mortality rate among animals (especially the cane rat), poor time management, poor communication and the risk of discouragement among some farmers.

The evaluators propose that SACHIC organises a meeting with farmers/actresses, resource persons and stakeholders in each agro-ecological zone to identify the causes of the mortality. SACHIC should work to plan its activities in consultation with the groups. It should involve them in running their budgets and choosing their supplies. Resorting to the 12 cornerstones may be of help in always being focussed and self-confident.