COMAID

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT

FROM LIGHT TO SHADOW

From the mist-covered Bamenda Highlands to the rain-rich Ebo Forest, Cameroon's communities used to live in relationship with the land. Guided by the customary laws of their earth-centred cultures, they cared for all beings - whether river, gorilla, sun, tree or seed - as kin.

Today, they stand at the crossroads of our most urgent challenges. Colonialism, industrialisation and conflict have cleared forests, grabbed land, and mined the earth, while demonising the wisdom that used to sustain balance. In the middle of the Congo Basin - our largest terrestrial carbon sink - Cameroon's rainforest faces rapid deforestation, with those communities on the frontline of accelerating climate change and ecological collapse excluded from decision-making. This is an environmental crisis. This is a human crisis. This is a crisis for all life on earth.

THE HOLISTIC SOLUTION

Community Assistance in Development (COMAID) was formed in 2007 by civil society leaders with a shared vision to do things differently: to stand with communities in restoring a diversity of nature and culture that will create resilience. This is not about imposing change, but about helping communities act on what is already theirs: a sophisticated knowledge system specific to these lands that is the key to their future survival.

OUR APPROACH

From the start, COMAID have walked alongside local people as equal partners, listening before acting, and combining ancestral wisdom with practical tools. Through participatory mapping, legal innovations and elder-centred dialogues communities are resolving disputes, defending land rights, replanting forests, saving water, using adaptive agroforestry, and conserving biodiversity.



CHRISTIAN JITAR TAKU,
CO-FOUNDER



BAMENDA HIGHLANDS

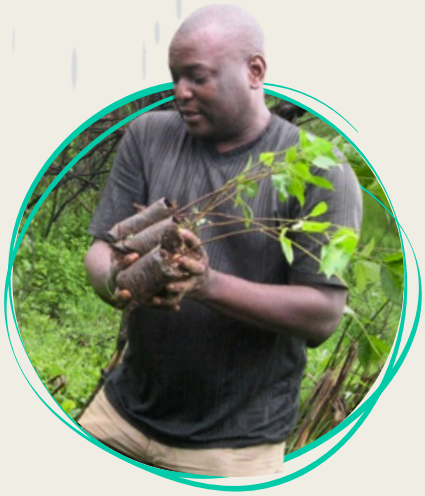
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OUR 2025-2029 PLAN

Over the next four years, COMAID seeks to:

- **Secure land rights** through legal empowerment, participatory land use planning, and geospatial tools.
- **Help wildlife recover** using community-led ecosystem regeneration.
- **Support climate-resilient agribusinesses** to tackle food insecurity.
- **Revive indigenous knowledge systems** by sharing the philosophy of Earth Jurisprudence and expanding elder-centred dialogues.
- **Strengthen institutional capacity** to widen our reach, improve our sustainability, and influence policy.



IMPACT

By 2029, this work will have helped:

- Legally empower **20+ communities** to restore, defend and manage their ancestral lands and forests.
- Protect **biodiversity hotspots** across the internationally important Ebo Forest and Bamenda Highlands regions.
- Launch **10 sustainable food and agroforestry enterprises**.
- Revive indigenous governance across **5+ communities**.
- Enhance resilience for over **10,000 rural Cameroonians**, including women and young people.



COMMUNITY FOREST TREE PLANTING

FUNDING

COMAID is currently seeking funding partners for the implementation of our 2025–2029 strategy. A detailed budget and workplan are available upon request. Your support will restore ecosystems and ensure their community stewards are thriving with dignity, resilience, and joy.



EBO FOREST