

Humaniforest

Strategy and policy plan 2020-2024

Context

Humaniforest is a joint initiative of community developers and social entrepreneurs aiming to improve sustainable development in Africa. This is the combined strategy of Humaniforest Cameroon and Humaniforest the Netherlands.

In pursuing our vision and mission, we aim to scale-up our work in Cameroon in particular and in other African countries based on local initiative, empowering more communities to develop in balance with their natural environment.

Vision

A rich and diverse natural environment and wildlife with strong communities that live in balance with their vulnerable ecosystems.

Mission

Decreasing our impact on environment and wildlife significantly while enabling rural communities to advance in business, income generation and health.

Strategy

Local initiators and communities are powerful and each of them can make a difference. We work side by side with them, and link their goals to a holistic common interest.

Goals and activities

Important notice on Cameroon

Since 2016 there is a lot of civil, military and political unrest in Cameroon. A large part of the population in Southwest and Northwest regions of the country want restoration of the federal state of Cameroon and/or independence of Southern Cameroons. The republic of Cameroon has sent its military into the region, resulting in a guerilla style war that ends up with a local population being the big loser. Of course, this highly affects our work and projects. Subsequently, it is difficult to set goals and activities.

Short term 2020

Holistic community projects

Our projects in 10 communities in Southwest and Northwest region are since 2018 on hold. Our partner LiveBuild has provided some goods and medicines to the internally displaced people in these communities. At the moment we are not sure what the status is of our projects. There is a high probability that parts of the tree nurseries, water systems and other equipment are demolished. Even more important: the organizational foundation and human capital we have been building up in recent years have been hit hard. Our project managers try to stay in touch with the local communities as often as possible. Network is low, and people do not always stay in the communities due to the tense and unsafe situation. At the moment we cannot set any goals, but to monitor the situation closely.

Community water projects

Still under the short term we also hope to facilitate the construction, rehabilitation and management of small community water systems within the safe environs in Southwest Region of Cameroon (Fako and Meme divisions).

Our goal is to support at least three communities in 2020 and 2021.

Social enterprises

In the short term we try to support some entrepreneurial initiatives that contribute both to sustainable land use and income generation in harsh times. If possible these businesses become either demonstration farms or vocational training centres for youth in the region.

With local farmers, we aim to set up sustainable farming activities:

- Organic cocoa production
- Organic coffee production
- Bee farming
- Organic pig farming
- Cane rat domestication
- Snail farming
- Mushroom farming
- Harvesting, processing, packaging and marketing of organic Mount Cameroon Mint Tea
- Integrated organic fish farming

Our goal is to support at least 6 social agribusinesses in 2020 and 2021.

Moreover, we aim to conduct 2 training sessions yearly in relation to sustainable farming techniques (the possibility depends on the crisis).

Long term

As soon as the crisis is resolved - at this point we don't know when - we step up our activities again. First we will start assessing the communities and projects we put on hold:

- What is the situation in the community?
- Who are still there? Who are returning?
- How are the houses, farms, amenities?
- How are the project sites (water system, protection area, tree nursery, etc.)?

Then with the communities we set up a plan, how to move forward from there. How to implement a sustainable growth strategy with the communities.

Because of high insecurities, we will update our policy plan with more specific activities and goals as soon as the crisis seems to get to an end.

Finance

Income

Fund raising strategy

At the moment we have a small network of funding partners in the Netherlands that are willing to support our projects. We collaborate with LiveBuild Foundation to keep this network strong, to provide funding partners with adequate images and results and to enlarge our network of potential funding partners.

In the long term we aim to raise larger funds (international) in order to scale up our work in Cameroon, and perhaps outside of Cameroon. However, due to the crisis, this is on hold.

Private donations strategy

We aim to raise funds from private people. These funds can support us to set up a revolving fund around social enterprises. We first aim at people in our network, from there on we try to expand our network. For example by providing small gifts from products from social enterprises in Cameroon (tea, mint, coffee, etc.). Or by organizing network events.

Expenditure

Projects in 2020 and 2021

To support the small community water projects we aim to raise a combined total of € 45.000,- in 2020 and 2021.

To support the initiation of small scale sustainable agribusinesses we aim to make available € 25.000,- in 2020 and € 35.000,- in 2021. This amount includes training, project management and monitoring.

Reservations

As our current projects are on hold we are reserving the funds available for these projects in our savings account. These add up to € 40.000,- in the Netherlands and € 30.000,- in Cameroon.

Fund raising

To maintain local fund raising we have limited expenses, mainly travel expenses to go to funding partners. We do not foresee any consultancy costs or other expenses.

However, when we start with international fund raising these expenses will grow: flights, hotels, etc. Before we initiate such a campaign, we will draft a business case and decide on our maximum investment and effort.

Board Expenses

The board members in Cameroon and the Netherlands do not receive any compensation for their work and contribution to the foundation. If they make specific expenses related to their function as board member of Humaniforest these expenses are compensated for. These might include travel expenses, accommodation, meeting costs, etc. These expenses are accounted for in our annual report.

Communications

Target groups and goals

Our target groups and respective communication goals are:

- Communities and initiators in Cameroon and other African countries: practical information and inspiration.
- NGO's and implementing organisations in Cameroon and other African countries: inspiration and motivation.
- Funding partners, like individual donors, other foundations, companies, institutional donors: accountability and inspiration.
- The general public interested in a balanced and sustainable future: inspiration.

Channels

Website

Through our website www.humaniforest.org we inform visitors of our running projects.

- On our website we host a blog with our experiences and lessons learnt, mainly directed to other NGO's and implementing partners.
- A specific category on our blog is news, with up to date information about our projects.

Linkedin and Facebook

LinkedIn and Facebook are used to inform a wider public of our blog posts and news about our projects.

Organisation

Humaniforest International

In the future we aim to establish an association of several Humaniforest foundation in different countries. A strong international network to learn from each other and make more impact collectively.

Humaniforest Cameroon

Board

Jaba Wose - secretary

Eyole Lambe - chairperson

Jabea Lambe - Treasurer

Eposi Mwambo - Adviser

Postal address

P.O. Box 330

Buea, Southwest Region

Cameroon

ADD LEGAL STATUS / NUMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION

Humaniforest the Netherlands

Board

Tim van Groenewoud - treasurer and secretary

Koen van Bremen - chairperson

Postal address

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Contact

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