



Manyu Community Radio

INTERIM REPORT



Bush Mango (*Irvingia Gabonensis*) nursery at Nchang village in Manyu Division, Cameroon

ON

Production of Radio Programmes on the improvement of Income and the Livelihood of Farmers of Non-Timber Forest Products; Protecting the Environment through the Sustainable Management of Non-Timber Forest Products

DECEMBER 2013 – APRIL, 2014

With Financial Support of:

Stem van Africa

Manyu Community Radio (MCR): communication for grass root development

PROJECT DETAILS

DATE OF SUBMISSION: **April 28, 2014**

REPORTING PERIOD: **DEC 2013 - April 28, 2014**

GRANT NUMBER: **SvA/CAMECO: 113.023-13/084:32(3)**

NAME OF ORGANISATION: **Manyu Community Radio (MCR)**

COUNTRY OF IMPLIMENTATION: **CAMEROON**

TYPE OF ORGANISATION: **Community Radio**

PURPOSE OF PROJECT: **To produce programs for the Community Radio**

TOTAL PROJECT FUND: **EUR 39,600**

START DATE & END DATE REPORTING PERIOD: **DECEMBER 2013 – APRIL 2014**

CONTACT DETAILS OF IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATION: **P.O. Box 168, GRA Mamfe, Manyu Division**

NAME AND TITLE OF CONTACT PERSON: **AYUK ESTHER, Managing Director, MCR**

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CYJULERC: CAMEROON YOUNG JURISTS LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER

SvA: STEM VAN AFRIKA

MCR: MANYU COMMUNITY RADIO

ICRAF: INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEACH IN AGROFORESTRY

PROJECT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 2013 – APRIL, 2014

- (1) NAME OF ORGANIZATION:** Many Community Radio (MCR), Cameroon
- (2) Title of Project:** Production of Radio Programmes on the improvement of Income and the Livelihood of Farmers of Non-Timber Forest Products; Protecting the Environment through the Sustainable Management of Non-Timber Forest Products
- (3) PROJECT TIMEFRAME:** December 1, 2013 to November 31, 2015 (24 months)
- (4) DETAILED OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED FROM DECEMBER 2013 – APRIL 2014**

- **Sensitization meetings & campaigns**

Sensitization meetings and campaigns are the first activities meant to mobilize, raise awareness and inform the entire communities about the project. The project targeted 12 meetings in 8 communities of 10,000 people, but the interest the communities exhibited as we started the project was so strong and the calls the radio got as the project was introduced during the first broadcast made us to extend the meetings to 17 communities with over 20,000 people. These activities ran from the 6 – 13th of December 2013 with a maximum of three (3) meetings organized per day. There was an overwhelming interest in the project from the community and each meeting ended with a call for the NTFPs farmers only to attend the next activity, which is the organization of NTFPs sector. Details on the outcome of these meetings can be seen in the follow-up activities organizing the NTFPs sector and creation of groups and focal points as shown in the table below.

- **Organization of NTFPs Sector - Community Meetings**

These activities focused on the NTFPs farmers in each of the target village community and were organized in 17 villages from January 3 – 12, 2014 with the presence of a consultant from ICRAF. Discussions centered on identification of NTFPs farmers in each village community, sharing of experiences on present methods of processing, preservation methods, storage and present marketing conditions. Details of the project were explained to the farmers and the various roles required of them were discussed. The results were that, NTFPs farmers of 17 village communities were identified, list of NTFPs farmers were constituted in each community; information on the present situation of NTFPs in each community recorded, experiences – difficulties in processing, storage and marketing recorded. The meetings ended with appointments for next meetings to create groups, focal points and synergy.

- **Creation of groups, focal points & synergy of NTFP farmers**

Twenty meetings held to create 20 groups in 17 communities. Two communities with many NTFPs farmers, Nchang and Mfuni had three (3) and two (2) groups respectively. The management committee of each of the groups was selected based on their interest, literacy level, and dynamism. The committee members have a role of focal persons of each group. They are currently supervised the bush mango fruit collection exercise, ensure members participate in meetings, trainings; work with the resource team to set-up nurseries at the four pilot nursery sites of the project. They are in charge of the pilot nurseries. They will also be in charge of the synergy which will be put in place during the training. Details of the groups and focal persons of the 20 groups can be seen below. Three main focal points have been identified and set-up in Nchang, Mfuni, Oghomoko and Eyumojock.

- **Research**

Research in the project is done in preparation for MCR staff training. The consultant travelled and carried out staff and needs assessment. Collection and preparation of training materials; preparation of modules, production of hand-outs and other materials has also been done.

- **Establishing 4 nurseries & planting 8000 NTFP trees**

- **Collection of bush mango fruits for nursery**

Due to the fact that, the bush mango fruits were dropping already and are necessary for the nursery, we purchased 20 trees with healthy fruits, best for nursery. The groups collected over 10,000 seed, washed and placed them in germinators in the 4 pilot centers in Nchang, Mfuni, Oghomoko and Eyumojock.

- **Establishing 4 nurseries**

4 training workshops to train farmers in the domestication (planting / growing) of non-timber forest products – practical training of farmers has been done;

501 NTFPs farmers in 4 pilot centers were trained in the practical aspect of bush mango domestication. They were trained in good fruit collection and storage methods to ensure fruits germinate, washing of fruits to accelerate germination within 2 weeks instead of months, construction of germinators, placing of fruits into germinators for germination, maintenance and supervision of germination process; selection and preparation of nursery sites, filling of nursery bags, transferring of germinated seeds into the nursery bags, construction of nurseries, maintenance of seedlings and nurseries.

- **Production of Radio Programs / Staff Training/Capacity Building**

- Production of radio programs: MCR staff started implementing the project by broadcasting an introductory program on the project by the project team, announcements to communities of MCR staff covered all the activities in the field and some were broadcasted live from the communities.
- Conduct of interviews, gov't & ngo;

4.1) Have all activities been executed as they have been planned?

Most of the activities of this reporting period (December 2013 – April 2014) and additional activities planned for June 2014 have been executed. A summary of the activities executed and results of achieved during this reporting period is as follows:

- *Sensitization meetings & campaigns:*
 - Community campaigns in 14 villages of about 20,000 people to organize NTFPs sector;
 - Create a synergy of non-timber forest farmer
- *Creation of groups, focal points & synergy of NTFP farmers:*
 - Hold education/awareness raising meetings & campaigns on the need for farmers be organized;
 - 20 groups of non-timber forest products farmers created;
- *Organization of NTFPs sector - Community Meetings:*
 - 501 NTFP farmers trained in group dynamics; and small business skills;
 - 4 focal points were created to assist farmers;
- *Establishing 4 nurseries & planting 8000 NTFP trees:*
 - 4 training workshops to train farmers in domestication (planting / growing) of non-timber forest products – Practical training of farmers has been done;
 - Construction of germinators in 4 pilot centers with 23,559 seeds washed, placed in the germinators and monitored;
 - Establish 4 nurseries of over 11,177 non-timber forest products (bush mango) seedlings planted in polythene bags;
 - Train farmers on seed selection, germination of seeds, construction of care of germinators and nurseries; care of seedlings and nursery.
- *Build capacity of MCR's young journalist / Production of Radio Programs / Staff Training*
 - MCR staff and needs assessment for training carried out.
 - Conduct of interviews, Gov't & NGO – 4 interviews, mini programs and documentaries with CYJULERC and ICRAF staffs.
 - Production and broadcast of radio programs as per grid: NTFP spot has been produced, live coverage of all 4 focal points, interviews of participants in English, Pigin-English (local common language) and three native languages.

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4.2 If not, please explain difficulties overcome and how we were forced to adjust project.

Training Workshops for Farmers: The theoretical part of training workshops to train farmers in domestication (planting / growing) of non-timber forest products had to be done before the practical workshops. But they were not organized because they were planned in June 2014 and the funds which were transfer in March were insufficient to cover theoretical training; and priority of the available funds had to be given to the practical training of farmers which could not be postponed due to the season.

Training of MCR Staff: MCR staffs training planned for the first week of February was not done due to a change in the preparation and establishment of the nursery. The nursery was scheduled to be established in June but in January 2014, we realized that the technical partners ICRAF wanted us to buy seedlings from them so they can teach the farmers to do grafting and follow-up of the nursery in June, which is just part of the process of domestication of bush mango. In agreement with SvA, we modified the implementation schedule and started the establishment of the nurseries in January 2014. So MCR staff training has been carried forward to the next phase.

4.3 How and to what extent have project's beneficiaries actively participated in implementing the activities/measures?

Participation of the beneficiary target population is a vital aspect of the project. The members of the groups in each pilot center participated in all the stages of the project so far; selection of good fruit trees, collection of fruits, preparation of fruits for washing, washing of fruits for seeds; selection of germinator and nursery sites, preparation of germinator to receive seedlings, placing of seedlings in germinator, care of seeds during germination process, planting in feeling of preparation of substrate for planting of seeds, construction of nursery shades, setting up and care of nursery.

5 DESCRIBE THE INTENDED AIMS, OBJECTIVES, RESULTS AND/OR EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT.

- The **aims/objectives** of the project for the reporting period are:

- To organize the non-timber forest sector in Manyu so as to ensure sustainable management;
- To replace destroyed non-timber forest products trees, promote re-forestation of destroyed forest in Manyu thus protecting the environment, preventing and protecting more water sources from drying up and reducing exposure to heat epidemic in an already extremely hot region;
- To build the capacity of MCR's young journalist and technicians on various programmes production and broadcasting.

- The **results and /or effects** of the project for the reporting period are:

- Inhabitants of 14 communities (20,000) educated on the need (advantages) to organize the non-timber forest sector;
- 20 organized groups non-timber forest products farmers have been created;
- 4 focal points for non-timber forest products created in 2 Sub-Manyu Division;
- 4 nurseries of **11,177** seedlings have been established;
- 4 documentaries (1 hour each) produced and broadcasted;
- 6 interviews with ICFAF and CYJULERC project staff has been produced and broadcasted;
- 2 live talks programs (40 mins) have been broadcasted;
- 4 mini live programmes with NGOs on NTFPs (30 min);
- 1 spots on NTFPs (2min) produced and broadcasted;
- Process of obtaining license to market their products within and out of Cameroon commenced.

5.1 To what extent have the intended aims and results been achieved?

The expected results of the reporting period (December 2013 – April 2014) targeted:

- 10, 000 inhabitants of 8 communities to be educated but 14 communities and 20,000 people were educated;
- 16 organized groups but 20 groups of non-timber forest products farmers have been created;
- 4 focal points for non-timber forest products created in 2 Sub-Manyu Division has been reached;
- 4 nurseries of 8000 seedlings but 4 nurseries of **11,177** seedlings have been established;
- 4 documentaries (1 hour each) produced and broadcasted;
- 6 interviews with ICFAF and CYJULERC project staff has been produced and broadcasted;

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- 2 live talks programs (40 mins) have been broadcasted;
- 4 mini live programmes with NGOs on NTFPs (30 min);
- 1 spots on NTFPs (2min) produced and broadcasted;
- Process of obtaining license to market their products within and out of Cameroon commenced;
- Training of MCR staff was targeted but unfortunately the training has not been done because of the change in activity schedule, which change affected the implementation schedule and the available finances for the reporting period. Funds could not cover the nursery and training of staff during this period as already explained above.

5.2 How are the achievements of the aims, objectives, results and/or effects measured? – How have the project beneficiaries shared their feedback/responses? – How are the feedback data of the project beneficiaries collected and analyzed? – How were the responses of the target groups to activities undertaken so far?

The aims, objectives, results and effects of the activities implemented so far are measured by the indicators found in the log frame. Summarily, there are quantitative and qualitative indicators and the results obtained so far are beyond those expected.

The project beneficiaries have been sharing their feedback through live interviews broadcasted over MCR and recorded programs, produced and broadcasted over MCR during the regular slots for the project.

The response of the target communities have been overwhelming and this can be seen through their commitment to the project and their massive participation. The project has also attracted lots of interest from listeners of MCR in the entire Manyu Division and beyond. Listeners and farmers inundate the interactive programs with calls, requesting that they are made part of the project or the project is extended to their communities. Unfortunately, we cannot satisfy all the communities eager to be involved.

5.3 What are your lessons learned regarding the project?

So far, it is early to discuss lessoned learned for the project is just in its 5th month of the 24 months total execution period.

5.4 Are there any follow-up activities and/or a continuation of the project planned? If yes, please explain the further steps and how the project will be continued.

YES, the project continues with the crucial phase of workshops with farmers on grafting of the 11,177 seedlings in June, organizing NTFP farmers' synergy, acquiring and preparing farm land and planting of 11,177 seedlings, training of MCR staff and production and broadcast of programs.

5.5 Has the project created any un-expected (negative) effects?

NO negative effect so far.

Applicant: Ayuk Esther, Managing Director, MCR

Date and Signature: 28/4/2014

PHOTOGRAPHS

SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGNS:



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Bush mango fruit selection, Seed washing, drying and placing in Germinator



Construction of Germinator and placing of seeds in germinator



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NURSERIES



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Radio Coverage and Interviews



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