



COLLECTIVE ARTS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION(CADA)

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Mission: Transforming the mindsets of disadvantaged youths through life skill education, arts and social entrepreneurship skill development.



ANNUAL REPORT -2024

1.0 - CONTEXT

Collective Arts Development Association(CADA), is a non governmental, humanitarian and non profit organization, founded and registered with the Cameroon government in 2016, with head office in Nkwen Bamenda, Northwest region of Cameroon. Between the years 2016-2022, as a consequence to the Anglophone crisis, in a 1 meter square box being our head office, art workshop and art school, and with very limited material, human and financial resources, we trained 31 disadvantaged youths caused by the crisis in various artistic disciplines. These youths included: school drop outs, internally displaced, homeless, drug addicts and the vulnerable. They received training in visual arts, performing arts, graphic arts, craft and entrepreneurship skill development.

In 2023, with financial assistance through grant funding from Kanthari Foundation Switzerland, we relocated to a more spacious apartment, improve on the human resource department and acquired basic material resources for training for the school. On the 08/09/2023, we launched and began a flagship project title 'Peace of Art' (Empowering marginalized youths through life skill education, art and social entrepreneurship skill development). Through income made from our income generative activities that is, commercial graphic design, printing of t-shirts, stamps, banners, signpost among others and sales of art works produced by members and participants, we were able to acquire a piece of land where we train participants in organic crop cultivation and also produce organic crops like maize, beans and tomatoes for commercial motives.

"Peace of Art" (Empowering marginalized youths through life skill education, art and social entrepreneurship skill development), is a flagship program that has as aim to offer a two six months intensive training program in various artistic disciplines, visual arts, graphic arts and design, performing art, craft and entrepreneurship skill development to 30 disadvantaged youths caused by the Anglophone crisis in the Northwest region of Cameroon. With the goal to enable these youths acquire skills for effective social inclusion, become self employ, increase their chances for a ready job market and for a prospective future. The school has developed a strong reputation in the Nkwen community as artistic, vocational and craft training center focused on quality training and experiential learning. It has made partnerships with the regional delegation of Art and Culture, Small and Medium Size Industries and Public Health in the Northwest region of Cameroon. And registered with the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, Cameroon.

1.1 - INTRODUCTION

In 2024, Collective Arts Development Association(CADA) experience a year of significant progress as the school and community worked together in training and building the capacities of 10 out of 15 disadvantaged youths in the Nkwen community at Bamenda III Sub division Northwest region of Cameroon. The data we collected recorded an improvement in a number of aspects of experiential

learning areas as well as capacity building and career development. Notwithstanding, this far, we are aware of our challenges and opportunities for further development, and are committed to make a difference in the lives of these youths affected by the Anglophone crisis in Bamenda, the Northwest region of Cameroon.

We started the first 06 months intensive training program with 15 participants on the 08/09/2023 and graduated 10 out of the 15 on the 08/03/2024. They went through a 6 months intensive training program in various artistic disciplines and entrepreneurship skill development which includes a two week internship program to other social enterprises in Bamenda Town to gain practical knowledge on how to operate and manage a social venture, and a 03 months mentorship program which included an orientation on how to design individual business plans.

In all, each training cycle runs for 09 months. A 06 months intensive training program and a 03 months mentorship and business coaching program. Following the completion of the course, with income raise from our income generative activities, that is commercial graphic design and printing, sales of art works, and with the sales of produce made from our farm, we have been able to set up small local social ventures for 04 talented and most successful participants. Through an application process, they received basic material and financial resources (seed funding) to enable them set up small social business ventures.

Among them a school drop out whose school and village was burned as a result of the Anglophone crisis was provided a sewing machine, rent for 6 months for an average room for her workshop and small cash to enable her obtain basic materials to effectively start up a tailoring workshop.



For two other participants trained as graphic art designers (internally displaced youths and drug addicts), likewise, we rented an average room, bought a desktop computer, and printer to assist them startup up a small graphic and arts designing shop.



We also provided them with small cash to acquire other basic materials like rim of papers, printing inks, among others. We bought needles, threads and some basic materials to 02 female participants, trained as craft artists. Three of the participants became employed as graphic designers at BOBO Leenox, Daddy Raph and Sir Roland arts and graphic design social enterprises in Bamenda Town Northwest region of Cameroon respectively. Two other participants have indulged in farming and organic crop cultivation and are presently working as organic farmers on the piece of land we acquired. Cultivating organic crops like beans, maize and tomatoes.

The second six months intensive training program with 15 disadvantaged youths started effectively on the 08/04/2024 and ended on the 08/10/2024. During this time 14 participants which includes school drop outs, drug addicts, internally displaced and homeless youths, went through the second 06 months intensive training cycle of our flagship program. They received training in visual arts, graphic arts, performing arts, craft production and entrepreneurship skill development. We commemorated the

June 2024 World Anti Drug Day with a visit to the Bamenda Central Prison with 14 participants as direct beneficiaries and inmates of the juvenile section as indirect beneficiaries. We offered a plate of food to 141 inmates and distributed toiletries to them. Due to high levels of insecurity, suspicion and fear of kidnappings for ransom, we suspended a regular official graduation ceremony process at the end of the second 06months intensive training program slated on the 12/10/2024. However, on the 15/10/2024, they began a 02 week internship program which will last to the 30/10/2024 .Thereafter, they will begin a 03months mentorship program on the 05/11/2024 to last until 05/02/2025.

Its important to let you all understand that,we realized the two 06months intensive training program for 30 disadvantaged youths,judging with the time frame has been so financially and materially costly for the organization,so for the coming training cycle which is program to begin on the 20/02/2025 after the end of the 03 months mentorship program for the batch of 14 participants for the second 06months intensive training cycle everything being equal,we have adjusted the curriculum for a 09months intensive training program for 15 participants for a year.

A 09months one cycle intensive training program which includes 06 months of intensive theoretical and practical training comprise of a 02weeks internship program and a 03 months mentorship program for 15 participants. These off course will reduce our expenses and workload.

I would like to thank the staffs,participants,collaborators, friends and supporters who have worked and assisted relentlessly through out 2024 in making our art school a quality learning center for disadvantaged youths. CADA art school is a wonderful place for disadvantaged youths to transform their lives,add meaning to their lives and increase prospects for the future. I have been privilege to lead the school for the last 09 years and look forward to 2025 with optimism and enthusiasm. We have significant plans in place to make our school a residential and rehabilitative art and social entrepreneurship training center,more connected, responsive and committed to our improvement agenda.

Partner, volunteer, collaborate, and join us spread the word.

