

The newsletter of the Agriculture Training Program October 2019



## The 2018-2019 school year in brief



## More than 400 young people trained in Cameroon and Ivory Coast in 2018-2019

This year, the Agricultural Training Program supported **30 training centers** : 16 in Cameroon and 14 in Ivory Coast.

These vocational training centers have enabled students to receive a complete training (technical, general and personalized), based **on a dual pedagogy approach**. This approach combines **practical experience**, thanks to numerous internships carried out with professionals, as well as **theoretical knowledge** taught at the training center and based on what students learnt as interns.

In Cameroon, despite difficult monitoring conditions due to the political context in the North West region, **186** students were trained to get a Vocational Qualification Certificate (CQP) or the Professional Aptitude Certificate (CAP). Students who took the final examination performed very well : in Kienké and Njombé, for instance, **100%** of assessed students have graduated.

In Ivory Coast, training centres supported by IECD, enabled 222 students to acquire general knowledge and technical skills : 71% of the young assessed evaluated have completed a CQP or CAP level.

A total of **408 students, including 24% of girls**, completed the 2018-2019 school year.

#### NEW OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

The schoolyear has officially started in Cameroon and Ivory Coast. For this new year, the main priorities for IECD teams and its local partners are the following:



 Encourage the development of trainers' skills to improve the quality of training



- Ensure the right implementation of **training plans**
- Improve the quality of the infrastructures of training centers
  - Strengthen follow-up of former students in order to promote the employment of young people

An **integration survey** was launched this summer to assess the situation of former students. The results of the survey will be at the beginning of **2020!** 



Visit of a cocoa plantation in Afféry (Ivory Coast) Students in class in Njombé (Cameroon) Practical workshop in Dizangué (Cameroon)

# FOCUS ON...

#### **PROMOTING EDUCATION OF** YOUNG GIRLS IN IVORY COAST

A Girls' Club was launched at the Rural and Agricultural Entrepreneurship Training Institute (IFER) in Afféry (Ivory Coast) in November 2018, with the support of the MG Together Foundation. The Girls' Club aims to increase girls' participation in agriculture training. To this end, Juliette Bamouni, the Girls' Club animator, has developed several types of activities to foster young girls' personal development and to encourage good relations between girls and boys. Hence, conferences, sport sessions and recreational activities are organized every week.



These activities provide young girls with a safe space for expression and dialogue, allowing them to feel completely integrated into the training.

In addition to facilitating retention in training, last year the Girls' Club recruited significantly more girls (30% of the students - 10 girls) than the rest of the Family Farm School network (10% to 15%). This year, the results are still encouraging, since 12 young girls out of a class of 30 students are already enrolled in the agricultural training of Afféry.



#### **TRAINING OF TRAINERS** IN CAMEROON

The Agricultural Training Program organized in July 2019 in Mbalmayo (Cameroon) a national assessment of 17 trainers who had completed their first cycle of training in dual pedagogy.

The training of trainers is an essential component of IECD's technical support to the Agricultural Family Vocational Training Centers (CFP-FA). It is structured in a two-cycle course of two years each and is based on the pedagogical and administrative missions that the trainers manage. Therefore the first phase aims to provide the trainers with the skills in vocational training pedagogy, which is the specificity of CFP-FA.

In parallel to these trainings, an evaluation of trainers in class is organized each year in the centers in order to check the acquisition of skills and suggest areas for improvement. This year, 16 of the 17 trainers evaluated were eligible for the second cycle of training dedicated to the management of the centers, which began in August 2019.

#### Lookback on the visit of **TRECC** partners

In April 2019, students in Afféry had the honor to receive a delegation of representatives from Barry Callebaut, Carma and Bachmann, who support the training center alongside the Jacobs Foundation as part of the Transforming Education in Cocoa Communities (TRECC) initiative.

The members of the delegation had the opportunity to discuss with the trainers and students, and took part in the school's activities. On the last evening, a ceremony was held during which students performed sketches and danced traditional ballets. Both students and partners have very nice memories of this visit, which was a real success !

#### <u>Video</u>



#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

- From 11st November 2019: seminar of local coordinators in Cameroon



I like everything here because here it's practice and theory, we do internships to learn better (...) what I've never seen in general school. I will never stop saying thank you on behalf of all my comrades and myself. We will do our best to ensure that this school is recognized, and that agriculture is valued. We want to be role models for our families, our children and for future generations!"

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQe9hUB-Z8o

Doriane Ama N'Guessan, 21 years, student at the IFER Afféry (Ivory Coast)

### Many thanks to our financial and technical partners!













