

2010 End-of-Year Ceremony
IHAF HQ Secretariat, Yaounde; 15 January 2011

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

By Eucharía A. Abia, Co-Founder and Director of Social & Cultural Affairs

Presentation of the Integrated Health for All Foundation (IHAF)

The Founder of IHAF,
Members of Board of Supervisory Authorities
Members of Board of Directors
Distinguished representatives of Partners of IHAF
Staff of the IHAF HQ Secretariat
Members of IHAF
Participants of the Project management and leadership internship program,
Friends and Well-wishers,
Distinguished Guest,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Age

- IHAF hereafter referred to as the Foundation was founded on February 14, 2004 in Molyko Buea in the South West Region of Cameroon.
- With few active members and need for feasibility studies to be certain the Foundations' mission statement and objectives are realistic and imperative, the following 2 to 3 years were used to clear every would have been doubts.
- In 2007, the Foundation submitted her file for authorization which was granted on January 15 2008 in Yaounde.
- Therefore, the Foundation operates on a concrete groundwork and is 6 years old in founding and 3 years old in authorization of the government of Cameroon.

Status

- IHAF is a non-profit, non-political, non-governmental, community health-based association

Branches

IHAF has a Headquarters ie where we are in Yaounde; 2 regional branches in Buea and Bamenda; and an international branch coordinated from Canada. Each branch has a minimum of 4 staff headed by a branch coordinator.

Networks

IHAF has established several networks e.g. PPPMD network, Portable Women Empowerment Network which is in progress; and belongs to several networks.

Partnerships/ Collaborations/ Governance

IHAF has both south-south and north-south partners including the World Association of NGOs etc. For accountability, transparency, easy access to information and credibility and possibilities of future collaborations, IHAF has for the last 3 years been submitting her bi-annual reports to the British High Commission in Yaounde, Embassy of the United States in Yaounde, etc.

Official institutions

There are 3 official institutions in IHAF namely: board of supervisory authority (BOSA); board of directors (BODs) and board of integrated community based programmes (BICBP).

Management

The day-to-day's activities of the Foundation is managed by the BODs lead by the Chief Executive Officer and made up of 3 directors and 3 head of programmes and deputies.

Mission statement

"Ensure Quality Health for All" amongst the Poorest and Economically Disadvantaged Communities - Depending Solely on Subsistence Agriculture- with Over-crowded Households amongst whom are Young Children, Pregnant/Breastfeeding Women, Orphans and Adolescent Girls"

Goal:

"...Ensuring good health for all by helping people help themselves through prevention and control (P&C) and projects and development (P&D)"

Main objectives

To contribute towards achieving MDGs 1 (Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger) and MDG 6 (combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases) while cutting across MDGs 3 (Promote gender equality and empower women), MDG 4 (Reducing child mortality), MDG 5 (Improving maternal health), and MDG 8 (A global partnership for development).

How to achieve objectives

IHAF achieves her objectives via 3 departments, namely,

1. Department of Education and Extension Program [With 4 Divisions (Training of trainers institute – ToTi)]
 - a. *Division of Risk Assessment Team (RAT)*
 - b. *Division of Civil society capacity building Network (CSCBNet)*
 - c. *Division of Considered Action Against fraud and social security (CAFSS)*
 - d. *Division of Civil society centre for national and international cooperations (CSCNIC)*
2. Department of Improved Nutrition Services [With 4 Divisions (Training of trainers institute – ToTi)]
3. Department of Healthcare Services [With 4 Divisions (Short term measure and long term in some cases)]

Vision

1. IHAF envisages a Cameroon where local communities have very reduced rates of illiteracy/ignorance, malnutrition; infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria...), and have capacity to harness available resources to increase income, food security; access to clean water; health facilities and target them to the most vulnerable.
2. A future where young children, pregnant/breastfeeding women, orphans and adolescent girls in local communities have improved capacities capable of understanding and addressing their nutrition and health problems, and enjoy equal access to nutrition and health education/facilities.

Funding

1. IHAF gets operational funds from members' registration, annual dues and temporal contributions as well as its revolving fund principles, e.g. temporal basic secretariat services.
2. Social support funds such as assistance to orphans and other minority groups comes via appeal letters and street begging.
3. Project funds are obtained from donor agencies and some cases from overflows from revolving funding principles.

Achievements and what next in the aspect

Distinguished guest Ladies and Gentlemen, some Land-mark Achievements of the Foundation

Include:

Service delivery domain	Main activity	Achievements	More to that ...
Training for youths /CSO Leaders	Capacity building training workshops on proper project planning and management (PPPMD), Unity Hotel, Bamenda NWR & PCCK, Kumba, SWR	Over 60 youths leading the CSOs from West Africa Region (Cameroon, Nigeria and Ghana) in 2009	PPPMD III in 2010 <i>And</i> Congress for NPO-NGOs/CBOs Civil Society in 2010
	Free of charge Internship programme	11 young Cameroonians (4 males and 7 females) trained via our free of charge Project Management and Leadership Internship Programme (PMLIP) in the year 2010 with some volunteering with us. 8 interns are currently undergoing training now...	Need to train more and need funds to do so. PMLIP will be presented later in this occasion.
Staff/ Institutional Training	Short training and refresher courses for staff and also internal staff training workshops on needy areas	Four (4) staff trained on project planning and management in Pan-African Institute for Development-West Africa in 2008 and 2009 and one (1) staff at the Entrepreneurship Development Institute, India in 2009	Need more training in the areas of governance. Branch leaders courses on management amongst others
Moral / Support services	Provide financial, material and moral assistance to orphans in local communities and those in orphanages	Several successive visits with material and human assistance to orphanages (e.g. The St. Theresa Orphanage in Obili, Yaounde) in 2009 & 2010 Visited and provided material gifts (clothes) to orphans in Menka community in 2008	Need more visits to orphanages and especially render assistance towards contributing school needs for orphans and establishing farms for those in communities
Awareness raising	Sensitize local / enclave communities with the aim of improving their Nutritional and health status and empower them via building productive capacity	Successfully work in Ekaw and Menka community since 2007 and continue to look for short-term solutions for their situations	Ceaseless fight to sponsor a long-term project in Menka. Penetrate other new communities in SW, NW, CR
Networking & Partnership / Collaborations	Establish South-South (SS) and North-South (NS) relationships or memorandums of understanding (MoU) for assistance to communities via IHAF. Organize activities in collaboration with North partners as main sponsors	SS Partners: such as ADIN; CAC; Commonwealth Department – MINREX; OBSILECAM; COMSU, GsE, TPS, ANDi and several others whom we have build their institutional capacities. NS Partners: Commonwealth Foundation, London; GIDD-Commonwealth Secretariat, London; Pan-African Institute for Development – West Africa; Entrepreneurship Development Institute, India; World Association for NGOs (WANGO); OneWorldAfrica Regional Chapter; INDEPTH Network Ghana; Youth Employment, Nigeria; Embassy of US, Cameroon; British High Commission, Cameroon; etc	Need more SS and NS partners and also liaise with International NGOs delivering services in Cameroon. Continue uncovering stakeholders for each of our activity and sign MoU
Research	Social science research in areas of nutrition, sanitation/personal hygiene, communicable and non-communicable diseases, cyber crimes and social insecurity, drug access and abuse, risk assessments etc	Several abstracts in international scientific meetings such as ANDi; AEI/NEF; International publication in the Academic Journal – International NGO Journal available online at www.academicjournal.org/ingoj/ entitled “ <i>Cameroonian youths: Their attractions to scamming and strategies to divert attention</i> ” (2010 publication) Focusing of Health products R&D, our CEO led a delegation of 3 IHAFers to Abuja in 2008, delegation of 2 in Cape Town South Africa in 2009 and delegation of 4 in Nairobi Kenya in 2010 where they presented the Foundation as a potential Centre of Excellence for sensitization, M&E and risk assessment of drug and health products in Africa.	Many more publication to make in international journals Plans towards an NPO-NGO/CBO magazines for Cameroon Anticipating our faith hopefully to be recognized by ANDi as a Centre of Excellence in Africa

Membership

The Foundation has over 54 members distributed into professional, graduate, student and youth membership categories spread over the Centre, NW and SW regions of Cameroon as well as abroad (Canada, USA, Europe, Asia and South Africa).

How to join membership

Serving communities is not a one man's work. As such membership is open to all including you.

Distinguished guest and dear friends, our CEO once said, I quote "it is not by tasting a flavorful meal that you know it has good flavor".

My presentation is synonymous to preparing one of such flavorful meals. The meal here is the Foundation. And the aroma is perceived via the nostrils.

Should you be interested in our Foundation, contact any member of the organization on the table at the entrance before you live.

Word of advice,

I quote

"An individual has not started living fully until he can rise above the narrow confines of individualistic concerns, to the broader concerns of humanity...Every person must decide, as soon as possible, whether they will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

(Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, "Conquering Self-centeredness", Speech Montgomery, Alabama Aug 11, 1957)

"When the history of our times is written, will we be remembered as the generation that turned our backs in a moment of a global crisis or will it be recorded that we did the right thing?" **(Nelson Mandela)**

"If I were asked what is the best thing one can expect in life, I would say, it's the privilege of being useful". **(Eleanor Roosevelt)**

God bless you. God bless IHAF and its partners. God bless Cameroon.

Eucharis A. Abia, For BOSA; Integrated Health for All Foundation