

**COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
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**REPORT ON THE LAUNCHING OF THE DEMOCRACY INCUBATOR PROJECT
FOR THE SOUTH WEST, LITTORAL AND CENTER REGIONS**



Student and teacher representing selected schools in the South West Region pose with the Representative of the Regional Delegate for Secondary Education (Chair of the event) at the St. Therese premises in Molyko

The second phase of the implementation of the Democracy Incubator (DI) Project kicked off in November 2014 with the launching of the project in the South West, Littoral and North West Regions respectively. Here is a report on the unfolding of events in the aforementioned regions and perspectives on what lies ahead:

SOUTH WEST REGION

The launching of the “Democracy Incubator” (DI) Project for the South West Region took place at St. Therese International Bilingual College Buea from the 27th – 29th October 2014. The launching project comprised: a coordination meeting with selected schools; a training of trainers’ seminar and an official launching ceremony. The launching program started with a coordination meeting with representatives of the selected institutions and DI Project assistants on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th October 2014. The selected schools are: St. Therese International Bilingual College Buea, Salvation Bilingual Comprehensive High School Buea, Government Technical High School Buea and Holy Child College Buea. These meetings provided an opportunity for teachers and students representative of the selected schools to get to know more about the project and to discuss the implementation plan.

A training of trainer’s seminar for the representatives of selected schools on the curriculum of the project took place on Tuesday 28th October 2014. The training was a platform for CADAC staff to acquaint the representatives of the selected schools on the Nine lessons in the project curriculum: Introduction to Democracy (DEM 101); Practice of Democracy (DEM 103); Parliamentary Democracy (DEM 105); Elections (DEM 107); Introduction to Human Rights and Freedoms (HMR 101); Rights and Duties of a Citizen (CIV 101); Rights and Duties of a Student (CIV 103); Introduction to Governance (GOV 101); Practice of Governance (GOV 103). The training took the form of lesson presentations and Q & A with participants. The training seminar was facilitated by the National Coordinator of the Project Mr. NGUH NWEI ASANGA FON.

The official launching ceremony of the project in the South West Region took place on Wednesday 29th October 2014 at St. Therese International Bilingual College Buea. A mammoth crowd of students from the various selected school joined school administrators and DI Project staff for the launching. The launching ceremony was president over by a representative of the Regional Delegate for South West Region who attended the ceremony alongside two Regional Pedagogic inspectors. During the launching ceremony all the participants (8) of the selected school who took part at the training of trainers’ seminar received their participation certificate.



Enthusiastic crowd of secondary school students from various institutions at the launching of the DI Project in the South West Region at St. Therese International Bilingual College, Buea

In his launching speech, the representative of the Regional Delegate for Secondary Education for the South West Region, Mr. Njikang lauded the initiative of CADAC and called on the selected institutions to effectively implement the project in their various institutions. He also assured CADAC of the support of the Regional Delegation of Secondary Education to the DI Project in the South West Region.



Representative of the Regional Delegate of Secondary Education for the South West Region, Mr. Njikang making his speech at the official launching ceremony of the DI Project in the South West Region



Pictorial of the launching ceremony of the DI Project in the South West Region

LITTORAL REGION

The launching program of the DI Project for the Littoral Region took place from the 30th – 31st of October 2014 at Atlanta Bilingual Comprehensive High School, Bonaberi Douala. The Coordination meeting and training of trainers' seminar with representatives of selected schools took place on Thursday 30th October 2014 with three schools out of the four selected: Atlanta Bilingual Comprehensive High School, (ABCHS) Bonaberi Douala; Presbyterian Secondary School (PSS) Douala and College Bilingue Bonchouo (CBB). Absent from the training was Institute Bilingue St Benoit who withdrew at the last minute on the ground the project would be too cumbersome for a small school with limited resources like theirs.

The coordination meeting provided an opportunity for the Project Staff (the National Coordinator, Mr. FON and the Regional Coordinator, Mr. Mathew MBWOGGE) to present the project and implementation calendar, respond to questions and listen to suggestions and observations made by participant. ABCHS was represented by its principal, a teacher and a student; PSS Douala was represented by its principal Mr. Mbaku Henry, a teacher and a student, while CBB was represented by a teacher and a student.



Participants at the launching of the DI Project for the Littoral Region at Atlanta Bilingual Comprehensive High School (ACBHS) Bonaberi, Douala

The training of trainers' seminar took place immediately after the coordination meeting on Thursday 11th October with the representatives of PSS Douala; ABCHS Douala and CBB Douala. The training was punctuated by Q&A and Discussion moments that permitted participants to ask questions, share ideas and interact with one another on the project curriculum.



A presentation on democracy by a student of PSS Douala during the launching ceremony of the DI Project for the Littoral Region at ABCHS Bonaberi Douala

The official launching ceremony of the project for the Littoral Region took place on Friday 31st October 2014 at the premises of Atlanta Bilingual Comprehensive Secondary School Bonaberi, Douala. The major highlights of the ceremony were: a welcome address by the host principal, Mr. NSOTAN Richard; a drama on the fight against corruption presented by the Democracy and Good governance club of PSS Douala; the award of participation certificates to participants of the regional training of trainers' seminar and the presentation of the project to all in attendance by the National Coordinator of the DI Project, Mr. FON.



Picture with two of the trained students representative of selected schools L-R The host Principal Mr. NSOTAN Richard of ABCHS Douala, DI Project National Coordinator Mr. Fon, students from ABCHS and PSS Douala and DI Project Regional Coordinator for the Littoral Mr. Mathew Mbwogge

NORTH WEST REGION

Bamenda was the last stop of the DI Project Caravan. The launching program of the DI Project for the North West Region took place from 3rd – 5th November 2014 at the premises of Progressive Comprehensive High School Bamenda (One of the largest schools of the North West Region). The program began with a Coordination meeting with representatives of selected schools on Monday 3rd November to get to acquaint school officials about the project and discuss its implementation among the selected schools. In attendance were teachers and students of the four selected schools of the project in the North West Region (Government Bilingual High School GBHS

Bamenda, Progressive Comprehensive High School PCHS Bamenda, The Apostolic High School TAHS Bamenda and Government High School Mambu-Bafut) and the Regional Coordinator of the DI Project for the North West Region Mr. Hilary Wamey.



Regional training of trainers' seminar for the North West Region in progress at PCHS Bamenda

The regional training of trainers' seminar for selected schools in the North West Region started on the same day (Monday 3rd November 2014) at PCHS with the representatives (teacher and student) of all the selected schools. The National Coordinator of the DI Project and Facilitator of the training, Mr. FON went through the first five lessons of the training curriculum with the participants. Room was given for questions and answers as well as observation during the presentation of each lesson. The training of trainers' seminar rounded off on Tuesday 4th November 2014 with the completion of the four remaining lessons in the curriculum.



Participants at the Regional Training of Trainers seminar in the North West Region

The launching ceremony of the DI Project for the North West Region took place Wednesday 5th November 2014 at the auditorium of PCHS Bamenda. In attendance were a crowd of students from all the selected institutions in the North West Region; school officials and DI Project staff. The ceremony was presided over by the representative of the Regional Delegate of Secondary



The Principal of Progressive Comprehensive High School Bamenda Mr. MOFOR Denis welcoming participants at the launching of the DI Project in the North West Region

Education for the North West Region. The major highlights of the launching ceremony in the North West Region included: a welcome address from the principal of the host school (PCHS, Bamenda Mr. MOFOR Denis; poetry presentation on "Democracy" from GBHS Bamenda and TAHS Bamenda; a paper presentation on "Democracy from PCHS Bamenda; impressions from trainees; handing of participation certificates to trainees; speech by the National Coordinator of the DI Project and speech by the representative of the Regional Delegate for Secondary Education for the North West Region Mr. FOMBE Daniel. In his launching address, the representative of the Regional Delegate of the North West Region, Mr. FOMBE thanked CADAC and the US Embassy in Cameroon for this initiative (the DI Project) to contribute to the civic education of secondary school students and enjoined all those who have ben train to be worthy ambassadors of the DI Project in their schools. The launching ceremony ended with a photo session.



Participants at the end of the launching of the DI Project for the North West Region at PCHS Bamenda

PERSPECTIVE

The launching of the DI Project in the South West, Littoral and North West Regions constitute a milestone in the implementation of the DI Project. It also marks the beginning of concrete action at the level of all selected schools under the supervision of the regional coordinators. We want to express our gratitude to the US Embassy in Cameroon, the various hosts and participating secondary schools in the South West, Littoral and North West Regions as well as the Cameroonian government (through the Ministry of Secondary Education) whose support was very instrumental in the success registered during the project launching. We shall continue to work with the aforementioned partners and other stakeholders to ensure that the entire project is effectively implemented in all the selected Regions and schools in Cameroon.

Mr. NGUH NWEI ASANGA FON
National Coordinator,
Democracy Incubator Project