



**AFRICAN UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION**  
**Advancing African University**

**Report of Mission to Tali in**  
**Upper Bayang SubDivision, Manyu Division,**  
**S. W. Province, Cameroon**

**14 and 15 March 2007**

After one or two unavoidable postponements, I left Buea, accompanied by Mrs. Mary Tanjong and Miss Elizabeth Tanyi, both members of African University Foundation Cameroon (AUF CAM). We were joined in Tali by Mr. Amah Taboko, the field coordinator, who had gone ahead to finalize arrangements for the visit, Reverend Apostle Betang, the Vice Chairman of AUF CAM and Mrs. Mary Tambe, another AUF CAM board member from Yaounde.

African University Foundation (AUF) is an international 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization located in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. It has a branch office in Cameroon. **The mission of African University Foundation is to facilitate and serve the development of African University (AU), Tali, Cameroon.**

**The purpose of the visit was threefold:**

1. To obtain some first hand information about Tali and other villages in the Upper Bayang Subdivision;
2. To discuss women's groups activities with them and highlight some of their achievements, challenges and possible solutions
3. To sensitize and mobilize them for their roles vis-a-vis African University.

**These were achieved through;**

- i. Discussions with the AUF CAM members during our almost 8 hours journey to Tali 1, the two days spent there and on our way back to Buea.
- ii. The presentation of women's groups activities by their leaders and a very brief question and answer session.
- iii. Discussions with the chief of Tali 1 and some of the elites of Tali 1, Tali 2 and Tinto;
- iv. Visit to the health center, the oldest government primary school in the subdivision, the proposed AU site and other parts of Tali 1 and 2.
- v. Reading of some official documents on the Upper Bayang Subdivision.

**i. Discussions with AUF CAM board members:**

I had attended two meetings of AUF CAM at which I informed them of my link with AUF USA, the Cameroon mission and shared some documents with them. It was agreed at the first meeting that the visit should be to the *Upper Bayang Subdivision*, in which the university will be located and that Tali 1 is the actual African University (AU) site. This would offer opportunities for me to see for myself what the subdivision has to offer and to discuss ongoing and possible activities by the women, while they await the creation and functioning of AU. The board members also discussed progress being made towards obtaining all official documents and authorizations for AU and concluded that they were on the right track. At the second meeting, the visit to Tali was further developed, tentative dates fixed and AUF USA was to be contacted.

On the way to Tali, Mrs. Tanjong and Ms. Tanyi briefed me on some of the women's activities and major challenges most of which were linked to agriculture. Among them were:

**a) Extension into forest areas to increase production:**

The upper Bayang Subdivision is an under-cultivated region and villages are surrounded by dense tropical forest with big trees. Crop cultivation is usually around homes and along roads. The women lack the required machinery and manpower to cut down and clear the forest. (Engine powered saws could be used to fell trees for a fee and the wood obtained, used for building, furniture, fuel (firewood/charcoal) and other household materials. Fast growing fuel wood could be planted and economic forest plants like "eru and gongo leaves" etc., exploited while the forest is being judiciously cleared for food and cash crop cultivation. This will generate cash to pay for the needed machinery, labour and other projects.

*The timber exploiting companies and forest reserve conservation could be approached for help*

**b) Discouragement from Post harvest losses and lack of farm to market transportation:**

The villages lack road networks and suitable vehicles to transport their crops to markets and their homes. In general their production is subsistent and they lack finances to pay for transportation. *Creation of cooperatives and women's groups network could facilitate income generation, increase awareness of these challenges to authorities, donor agencies and external elites.*

Also, the village populations are small and can't consume all the crops produced locally. During the rainy season when fruits, vegetables and other crops are plentiful, the roads to towns in other divisions and provinces are risky hence there are few vehicles plying them. The crops are highly perishable and do not survive the long traveling time. Post harvest losses are high and this discourages women from growing more crops.

At the end of the first day, we discussed the women's presentations and classified them according to the major problems cited. We prepared guidelines for group work to be held the following morning. Unfortunately the group work session was canceled because of time constraints but the question and answer session provided opportunities for AUF board members present and other elites to encourage and advise the women.

**c). Technical Support (Disease Control, Farming & Animal Breeding):**

This was a major discussion on our way back to Buea, since it featured strongly as a major deterrent to animal breeding and crop production. There should be government extension workers from the Ministries of Agriculture, Animal Breeding as well as Community Development section in these villages!! Where are they and what are their problems? We saw a retired agriculture technician, resident in Tinto but due to time constraints, we did not discuss the problems with him.

**ii. Women's Groups Activities.**

The meeting was held in Tali 1 Community Hall. In spite of the short notice of the new dates for the meeting and other important ceremonies in the villages, there were many women from 12 villages and Mamfe town. They participated actively during the presentations, singing and dancing (see movie). Each group was officially represented by the leader and one member but some groups had more. The presentations were made on the first day and they were succinct – the name of the group and village, number of members wherever possible, the major activities, achievements, problems and their priority needs. 41 projects were presented and this showed that the women are involved in a wide variety of food and cash crop production as well as animal breeding. They have even gone into the “so called” men's domain of cocoa and oil palm farming! Some women were in two or more groups. The problems and challenges were grouped under 7 major headings and presented as such the next day. As mentioned above, the small groups brainstorming on the problems, challenges and possible solutions could not be held. It was hoped that through the brainstorming on the specific questions prepared, they would understand better their problems and challenges and come up, by themselves, with some possible solutions. Also, through experience sharing in the groups and the presentation of group reports at the plenary session, some of the women would have had immediate answers to some of their problems.

Lack of funds and technical support underscored most of the groups' activities and it was interesting to note that a few groups were generating cash to lend out to other women. They needed additional cash to better serve their clientele. Certificates of participation were awarded to group leaders only while it might have been preferable to award them to each group.

**Classification of the major specific challenges and problems:**

1. Crop destruction due to:
  - wild and domestic animals
  - insects

- plant diseases
2. Decreasing production over, time due to
    - planting/replanting in the same piece of land without fertilizing nor crop rotation,
    - use of poor quality seeds and seedlings,
    - lack of knowledge on improved techniques.
  3. Lack of the equipment and machinery for food processing and transformation:
    - cassava graters to make garri and other products;
    - palm oil mills for local use and export;
  4. Post harvest losses:
    - no or inadequate farm to market roads and transportation,
    - low purchasing power of villagers,
    - ignorance and cultural barriers to consumption of newly introduced food crops, e.g. soya beans;
    - poor storage, transportation and processing.
  5. Difficulties in increasing/expanding production
    - little or no male support for cocoa, oil palm and initial bush clearing activities,
    - no funds to purchase labour and farm equipment.
    - Lack of high yielding, disease-resistant seeds and seedlings;
  6. Difficulties with small animal breeding:
    - pigs and chickens killed by animal diseases;
    - feeds not locally available;
    - lack of funds to purchase feeds, vaccinate and replace dead animals;
    - lack of knowledge on breeding;
    - straying animals.
  7. Lack of funds for:
    - agro-pastoral activities in order to produce and utilize more,
    - socio-economic activities for HIV/AIDS infected/affected persons, and support to orphans and widows.

In the Question and Answer (Q&A) session, the questions highlighted some of the above difficulties and some solutions were provided in the answers. A very pertinent question was asked and it is listed as the 8<sup>th</sup> problem. Ms. Tanyi talked very briefly on how to trap and catch the cane rats – culprits in crop destruction – and thus get rid of them. Fermented human urine in sand bags acts as a bait, which attract the cane rats into traps placed in ditches. These cane rats are edible too!

8. How do other provinces and groups receive funds, tools, training etc. from embassies and Non-governmental organization (NGOs) but not this Upper Bayang Subdivision?

It should be pointed out that it was not all challenges and problems. Some groups are doing very well. There are groups that buy and sell while others lend out money. ***Another group is waiting with their “letterhead” to bid for contracts when construction starts. They supply building and other materials and can also undertake jobs*** – AUF to take note!

It came out very clearly that the women were anxiously awaiting the arrival of AU and would like to be ready to supply food and some basic necessities to the hundreds of people expected, while at the same

time, caring for their families and educating their children. They look forward to be economically viable so that their children too, will attend AU. They thus need some financial and technical support now.

### **iii. Discussions with Dignitaries (see list):**

We informally and formally met with his royal highness, chief Orock Simon Baiyee of Tali 1 and some of the elites. Most of them were present at the two days meeting. I was pleasantly surprised to meet with former colleagues and friends, some of whom are retired. This subdivision is blest with experienced, senior administrators and professionals, who even if not resident in Tali, are well established in their villages and expressed interest in supporting African University, if and when the time arose.

The Chief of Tali 1, gave this mission top priority and postponed several important activities so the women and elites could attend the meetings. He was pleased to note that most of the women who had come on the date earlier proposed, still returned in their numbers. He personally participated at the two days meeting and on the second day came with his quarter heads. He welcomed us and expressed gratitude to AUF for making the visit possible; congratulated and encouraged the women to work harder. He thanked the women and elites for their participation at the meeting and their understanding of the decision to adjust the time for the funeral and memorial service. He urged us to help push, so that the university becomes a reality in the near future and to solicit technical and financial support for the women's activities.

Reverend Apostle, the Vice Chairman AUF CAM was in charge of the local arrangements with his team. They, including Mr. Amah Taboko, AUF CAM from Buea, ensured that the plans were well executed. The delicious lunches, prepared by his wife and other women, were served at his home and this confirmed the hospitality of the people and offered more opportunities for interactions.

### **iv. Field Visit:**

#### **a) The Government Primary School (see pictures):**

This is the first-ever primary school in Manyu Division and it has laid down the education foundation for most of the elites and highly qualified citizens from the division and neighbouring regions. It has an enrolment of about 200 pupils but attendance at any given time is low because of lack of funds for fees and other school materials as well as illness. According to the head teacher, the school is short staffed and lacks essential teaching and other didactic materials. They also expressed the need to introduce the pupils to computers. {Electricity is restricted only to homes with generators}. The pupils were smartly dressed in their bright blue and khaki uniforms and rendered the Cameroon national anthem splendidly in the local dialect. It was their wish that they too will become students of African University and were anxiously looking forward to its opening. Any support (materials, revolving fund etc.) will be very welcomed.

#### **b) The Government Health Centre (see pictures):**

It is one of the five health centers in the subdivision and it is under the supervision and support of the district hospital in Mamfe. The health post in Tinto is being upgraded to a health center and a hospital has been earmarked also. The Tali health center covers a wide area and it is in dire need of repairs, maintenance, water supply and electricity. The generator donated to the center has never worked because of lack of some essential parts. The refrigerator can be fueled by both gas and electricity. The gas is lit as needed. Water is provided from a well. It has only two staff members, who provide all the care, including outreach activities in health posts. The pro-pharmacy is said to be well stocked (not checked) with essential drugs, which they vary according to prevailing disease prevalence. They are expecting the RUMPI project to, soon, repair the center and provide potable water. The Government of Cameroon has received a loan from the African Development Fund to finance the RUMPI Area Participatory Development Project. The principal objective of this project that

shall be implemented over a period of 6 (six) years is *to reduce poverty and increase levels of income sustainably in the project area.*

*Since the women are mainly farmers in a difficult environment , analgesics, multivitamins, minerals, first aid materials for cuts, sprains, fractures and antitetanus vaccines will make their lives a little easier and improve production. These, if donated to the group can be sold at very minimal cost and generate revolving funds for development. The health ministry policy for primary care, encourages co-financing and co-management. The development of health care for AU staff will be one of the major inputs.*

**c) The African University Proposed Site:**

This very extensive area is situated near the administrative center (post office etc) and it stretches along the main road in Tali 1. It lies between two rivers that cross the road. Since it still covered by thick bush, we just walked a short distance towards it, along a footpath. Some economic plants were growing along the path and further in. These can be exploited while waiting.

During the Question & Answer session on the women's projects, it was proposed that in order to increase production, women should extend their farms further into the forest areas, while leaving the farmlands around homes to regenerate. The use of the AU site temporarily, will not only keep it clean, but also produce crops and cash. This will also facilitate the eventual survey, planning and construction of AU.

**d) Tali I, Tali II & its Environs (see pictures):**

Tali I and II are two adjacent villages that are both undergoing extensive development, amidst crops of cassava, cocoyam, plantain, pineapple and fruit trees (mangoes, African plums, palm, coconut etc) which will soon be ready for consumption and sale. The houses are arranged linearly along the road and with time will expand inwards. They are at various stages of development, ranging from traditional to ultramodern houses. There is no shortage of suitable accommodation for visiting teams – tourists, students and construction workers. There are all year round streams and water projects are ongoing.

As we drove along to Tali through Tinto, the administrative headquarters, Fotabe and other villages, the borders of Upper Bayang Subdivision were pointed out to me. It is a scenic undulating drive up and down hills and valleys. There were farmlands to which the farmers usually trekked 2 – 4 hours from their homes. During our trip, vehicles were scarce and will be fewer still when the rains set in. One can thus appreciate the repeated complaints of the women – lack of transportation and access to markets. Dust was plentiful and hazardous to both health and safety. The rainy season also has its own problems – slippery roads and mud-stock areas. It rained on our way back and the small car almost got stuck. So we wished we had an air-conditioned, all road vehicle!!

**v. Reading of some official documents on the Upper Bayang Subdivision.**

a) Mr. Taboko Bayee Emmanuel, a freelance journalist from Tali1, provided me with:

- i. A site plan of Upper Bayang Sub-division which is attached and shows its importance as a very central area, which is bordered by the other subdivision in Manyu and divisions in the S. W. and N. W. Provinces.
- ii. Extract of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Population Census of 1987. Volume 2: Manyu Division. While awaiting the official reports of the 2005 census, one can use the annual growth rate of 2.9% to calculate the present population of selected towns and villages.
- iii. Selected Portions of a document entitled: Bayang Socio-Cosmological Beliefs and Institutions in the Process of Change by Dr. Ayuk Bernard Patrick. It makes interesting reading and throws light on the cultural practices and beliefs. It will be useful for ethnographic and other studies.

- b) Ms Tanyi (AUF CAM), gave me a brief report of some of the activities of the women's groups and elites. I redesigned the report as guidelines/outline for a more detailed report (annex 4) which can be used for seeking funds.

These documents have contributed immensely to my understanding of the people, their culture and some of the conditions under which they live. The activities of the women's groups need to be reported in greater details to highlight their achievements, successes, failures and other features. The report will provide information on progress, baseline and guidelines for future development. (Annex 3) Lots can be learnt from both failures and successes.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations:**

During an AUFUSA meeting that I attended, I proposed that I could spend some of my personal time when in Cameroon, to gather some information about Tali and its environs vis-à-vis African University and women's activities. (See terms of reference, annex 1). This was agreed on in principle. I was warmly welcomed by AUF CAM at the two meetings I attended and they organized the two day visit to Tali, accompanied by two board members from Buea and joined by three others in Tali (see annex 2 ). The visit to Tali was on 14 and 15 March 2007. The programme is attached (annex 1).

Tali 1 is one of the 59 villages in Upper Bayang Subdivision (UBS), Manyu Division. UBS had a population of about 50,000. The drive is scenic, through undulating hills and valleys. The subdivision has four forest reserves, which are assets for tourism and timber exploitation. There is also a vast distribution of rivers and their tributaries. There were farmlands of cocoa, palms, mangoes, African plums, cassava etc. along the road, to which the farmers usually trekked 2 – 4 hours to and fro. Vehicles were scarce and will be fewer still when the rains set in. One can thus appreciate the repeated complaints of the women – lack of transportation and access to markets.

#### ***1. The AU site can be used temporarily for fast growing/yielding crops and selected areas for early yielding fruit trees (Tali community with support from AUF).***

The creation of a university or any other large-scale development programme brings along marked changes in the social, cultural and economic status of the area. The changes may be detrimental and or enhancing to the local population. Everyone (primary school children, women, elites) met, was excited and optimistic about the university and looked forward to its creation and function. (See pictures). Some elites felt that they have not been so far involved and know little of the university. As the authorization and administrative procedures progress, they could be sensitized and encouraged to raise funds and participate in local activities (AUF CAM)

### **Subsistent Farming to Economically Viable Agriculture:**

The women are determined to be an active part of AU, right from the beginning and they see their role as food providers to the university, workers and economically viable parents, capable of supporting their children right up to and through AU. They want to move from subsistent farming to economically viable and sustainable agriculture. Their problems and challenges have been clearly defined above, under 7 main categories (annex 3) and can be summarized as follows:

1. Lack of funds for training, supervision, purchase of essential equipment, materials and transportation;
2. Lack of basic and other essential equipment, including road infrastructure and transport;
3. Ignorance of good agricultural practices and disease control;
4. Lack of technical support for agricultural and livestock breeding.

#### ***2. These are all inter-related and can be addressed through AUF, directly and indirectly:***

- ***AUF CAM is already looking into the status of agriculture extension and community development workers, with the respective provincial administrations;***

- *If funds are available, AUFCAM could contract the services of the retired officer to study the problems, propose and cost solutions and help implement them.*
- *Equipment for farming, food processing and transformation (diggers, graters, oil presses, saws etc) are readily available locally and widely used. These can be provided as gifts to generate cash for other activities or on a refundable/revolving fund.*
- *Training the women in agricultural techniques and disease control, is a very urgent need that requires funding as soon as possible. This and supervision will later become important activities of the Association of Upper Bayang women's groups.*

Hence the women expressed the need for financial, technical and material support, to enable them increase production and processing of more food. AUFCAM and the elites should assist the groups to design project proposals for possible funding.

**3. *The business women's group would like to participate as contractors (suppliers etc.) when AU is being constructed. They have their official letter-headed papers for bidding and should be favourably considered when the time comes.***

#### **Association of Women's Groups in Upper Bayang**

The special question asked - "why do the women's groups in this subdivision, not receive visits and support from embassies, local and international agencies"? A possible reason was that the groups were not organized nor registered, so they were not officially recognized for funds and donations.

It was proposed and agreed on that an "*Association of Women's Groups in Upper Bayang*" be created to coordinate and manage the activities of the groups. A team of 5 women was appointed to mobilize women's groups in all the villages and, with support and guidance from female elites in the major towns, a general meeting will be held to officially launch the association. This will be a credible, visible association with accountability. Hopefully it will attract support from well-wishers, government and donors. Some cash was immediately raised to cover transportation of the team, which should report back to AUFCAM by end of May 2007.

This association will need funds and technical backing for its creation and functioning. These will be determined at the follow-up meetings of the organizers.

**4a. *Some funds should be raised locally and some outside assistance also solicited.***

**4b. *The timber exploiting company and other parastatal/private economic operators should be encouraged to participate in the development projects in the area.***

#### **Baseline Data:**

As mentioned earlier, the creation of the university will bring about changes in the health, cultural, social and economic status in the region. At a future date, these changes can be implied but not objectively shown, because baseline data were not obtained. From the academic point of view, opportunities exist for studies to be undertaken, both as teaching exercises for students and research of the existing situation. The data will be used as indicators for future studies in the course of the university.

**5. *Short term fieldwork can be arranged in the area, for college students and researchers from collaborating institutions.***

#### **Future Visits to Upper Bayang Subdivision:**

The desire to see African University develop from a dense tropical forest to a modern institution of higher learning, is a good enough reason for several trips to Tali and the environs. Although the roads are dusty

in the dry season and sticky when the rains fall, the physical features, fauna and flora make up for it. A suitable vehicle helps. The timber exploiting company could/should be asked to help improve the roads. I hope that more AUF members and friends will also make visits, as they plan and implement the creation and functioning of African University. This report contains some information that may help plan trips to the area and what visitors can do, in the mean time, to help the women in the community. Apart from the above specific requests for increasing food production and cash generation, teaching/learning materials and essential medicines like analgesics, multivitamins/minerals/ first aid kits would be very useful and welcome to the primary school children and women respectively.

### **Thanks**

I thank AUFUSA for giving me this opportunity to visit Tali 1 and the environs, discuss successes, problems and solutions with the people. I am particularly grateful to the Chairman and board members of AUFCAM for making the visit possible; the chief of Tali 1 and the elites in Upper Bayang Subdivision for their time and hospitality; the hard working, enthusiastic and friendly women, without whom the mission would not have been successfully accomplished. I enjoyed the frankness of their presentations, dances and songs, especially the one composed for me. The driver Mr. Mbi Dickson, expertly handled the small car on that road!

G. E. Martin.

Buea, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2007

## Annex 1

### African University Foundation

Dr. Gladys E. Martin, Short Term Consultant to African University Foundation, USA.

#### Terms of Reference

1. To provide relevant information to the Foundation on Tali 1 and its environ vis-a-vis African University;
2. To identify ongoing and proposed activities which can be strengthened and or initiated to respond to some of the challenges faced in the villages;
3. To sensitize and mobilize the population, especially women, on their role in supporting the establishment and functioning of AU;

#### Proposed Plan of Action:

- a) Briefing by AUFCAM (attend meetings)
- b) Visit to Tali 1 February 2007
- c) Prepare report and debriefing by AUFCAM
- d) Follow-up visit to Tali end March/early April 2007
- e) Discuss report with AUFCAM
- f) Finalize report and forward to AUFUSA

#### Programme of Visit to Tali 14 and 15 March, 2007

##### Day 1. Wednesday, 14 March, 2007

1. Departure from Bokoko, Buea at 6.30am with Mrs. M. Tanjong and
2. Ms. Elisabeth Tanyi, AUFCAM;
3. Arrival in Tali, at 3 pm, installation in hotel;
4. Curtsy visit to the Chief and other authorities
5. Meeting with members of women's groups on their projects;
6. Working session with visiting team in hotel.

##### Day 2. Thursday, 15 March 2007

1. Field visit
2. Discussion of presentations
3. Question and answer session
4. Conclusion and recommendations by G. Martin
5. Comments by elites
6. Closing remarks by His Royal Highness, Chief, Orock Simon Baiyee of Tali 1
7. Follow- up activities by female elites and women representatives on the association
8. Lunch and departure for Buea at 3pm
9. Arrival in Buea – 10.30pm

NB: All costs, (transportation, lodging and feeding), for the visit were borne by AUFCAM including an out of pocket allowance of 25,000 fcfa



## Annex 4

### Revised Outline Proposed for Documentation/Presentation of Activities

#### Promoting the Socio-Economic Status Women and Children in Tali and Environs Development for Women by Women

##### Introduction:

The people of Tali 1 are proud to host African University and have already shown their support by donating the land on which the university and supporting structures will be established. A functioning university in Tali means development for the village in particular, the surrounding areas and Cameroon. Thus we the women of Tali will not want to be left behind. We are determined to continue to support the establishment of African University and to benefit fully from the opportunities for development. There are many challenges which we are sure we can overcome. We have been struggling with subsistent farming and have received periodic support, though small, from our family members – elites in the provinces and out of the country. We try to put to great use whatever help is rendered to us.

##### I. Tali 1 and its environs: (maps, pictures, graphs, tables etc.)

Tali1 is one of the 59 villages in Upper Bayang Subdivision (UBS), Manyu Division. UBS has a population of about 50,000.

- location and geographic features of upper Bayang in general and Tali 1 in particular;
- Distribution of the population: physical, demographic and social
- Government and politics
- Socio-economy (resources, occupation, education, health and other facilities)
- Religion and culture
- Constraints and challenges (health and other problems)
- Assets (strong points)

Summary, with emphasis on Tali.

##### II. Projects to Promote the Socio-Economic Development of Women and Children

###### A. Ongoing Activities:

A1. Subsistent farming for mainly home consumption

A2. Other activities

###### B. Women's Groups Projects

- Group & Project Title
- When created/started
- Membership (number and modality)
- Target groups/areas
- Goals, objectives and activities
- Resources (technical, financial, material)
- Results (achievements/constraints)
- Examples:
  - i. ....(in dialect)..... (One Hand No Di Tie Bundle) 20 women  
Income generating through individual and collective farming
  - ii. Se Moh Sengoh (Let's Try and See) 1986  
Poverty alleviation through micro-credits to small income generating activities.

- iii. ... (in dialect) ..... (Struggling women) 60 women, 2002  
Income generating for micro-credits through provision of labour/ services for cash.

**C. Special Support Projects by Upper Bayang elites & Other Donors:**

- Training workshops on
  - Snail growing
  - Techniques for growing vegetables and leguminous plants
  - Etc.

**D. Proposed Projects/Future Perspectives**

**1. Objectives:**

- i. To equip the villagers, especially women with techniques for increasing/improving production of food and cash crops and animals;
- ii. To equip villagers with marketing skills to increase their income;
- iii. To educate women on appropriate nutrition, especially for children and pregnant women;
- iv. To provide villagers access to funds (loans, grants etc.)

**2. Justification:**

- 2.1. Women and women's groups have been struggling for years to:
  - i. increase household and community income and production;
  - ii. obtain access to markets for sale of products and purchase of basic necessities;
  - iii. reduce malnutrition and common diseases, especially in children;
- 2.2. If the people are empowered economically, they will:
  - i. have credit opportunities and increased purchasing power;
  - ii. be able to educate their children up to AU level – and why not!!!
  - iii. have better nutrition, especially for their children and
  - iv. the socio-economic status of the families and communities will improve.

**3. Proposed Projects:**

- ii. Name of project and Group responsible
- iii. Beneficiaries
- iv. Goals and Objectives
- v. Activities
- vi. Inputs
- vii. Expected outputs and outcomes
- viii. Monitoring and Evaluation
- ix. Resources (financial, technical, equipment and materials)
- x. Expected sources of resources .

Drafted by E. Tanyi AUFCAM and revised by G. Martin February 2007

## Annex 5

### About Dr. Gladys Ejomi Martin

Dr. Gladys Martin is the author of this report. She produced it in her capacity as a Consultant of the African University Foundation. Dr. Gladys Ejomi Martin is a public health expert and pediatrician. She holds the following professional qualifications and Certificates: Bachelor of Medicine from the University College of Ibadan; Bachelor of Surgery from the University of London; Diploma in Child Health from the Conjoint Board of England and Wales; Certificate in Family Planning from the International Planned Parenthood Federation, United Kingdom; Master in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health; and Certified Pediatrician from the American Board of Pediatrics.

As a Regional Adviser in health and nutrition, for almost 10 years in the UNICEF Eastern/Southern and West/Central Africa regions, Dr. Martin worked with different levels of health professionals, policy and decision makers from 46 countries in Sub-Sahara Africa at national, subregional and regional meetings, workshops and conferences. She had first hand exposure to the health problems in these countries, their solutions, as well as constraints in implementing strategies to promote good health, survival and to reduce death and suffering, especially in children and women. She worked with colleagues in other UN, government and non-governmental organizations in Africa and other regions. Prior to that she taught public health, nutrition and social pediatrics to medical students and allied health professionals, for 13 years, and provided health care to rural communities. Dr. Martin also engaged in basic and operations research. She is fully computer literate. Although English is Dr. Martin's first language, she can also function in French. With this wealth of training and experience, Dr. Martin's focus areas are as follows:

- i. Innovative training programs for medical and allied health professionals at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels.
- ii. International and national agencies and institutions to organize national and inter-country short term training courses, workshops and seminars for health workers in developing countries, in English and or French.
- iii. Short term consultancies in health program development, implementation and evaluation.
- iv. Translation of technical documents on health. Cameroon is a bilingual country and has an institute for translation and interpretation at the University of Buea, Cameroon.