



CVP Tree Planting.

The Conservation Values Programme encourages and facilitates tree planting initiatives with community, council and school groups as well as individual land owners. We focus on native, socio-economic species that have become scarce or localised, tend to be harvested from the wild, for fruit, spice, medicinal, timber or other uses, but which are rarely cultivated. We want to demonstrate to people how they and the environment can benefit from cultivating these, and to encourage and help more people to do so.

We are active in the field, visiting sites, meeting local stakeholders, we give talks and hold seminars. We inform on suitable species to grow, provide on-going technical and organisational support, and connect, to other resource people and support agencies. We write, print and distribute simple technical guides. We provide seedlings when there is interest, and community rather than individual benefit, also seed, and 'nursery starter packs' when it's clear that there is means and interest to make good use of these.

Support to community tree planting includes the beautiful Menchum Valley (right)¹ and Njikwa area (below) – both are isolated, and suffering environmental degradation, from timber extraction and over-grazing respectively.



Two teachers and a pastor, who brought the tree planting to Njikwa and Oshie – Momo Division (July 2007).

After visiting the CVP nursery, they arranged a field visit, & have begun work with a 'start up pack' of seeds, bare-rooted seedlings, plant pots and training materials.



¹ CVP articles 'Tree planting in Menchum Valley' and 'Putting some trees back, in Cameroon,'
[http://www.unafas.org.uk/files/Tree planting in Menchum Valley.pdf](http://www.unafas.org.uk/files/Tree%20planting%20in%20Menchum%20Valley.pdf) and
[http://www.unafas.org.uk/files/Putting some trees back.pdf](http://www.unafas.org.uk/files/Putting%20some%20trees%20back.pdf)



Distributing and planting trees at
Abebung, near Andek (March 2007).

In Essu (below) there are raffia palms and mango trees in the village, but the hills which extend beyond, are open, now mostly used for cattle grazing. Youths are maintaining the trees we gave them in 2006 (below right). They asked for more, or to learn how to grow their own. They say that they have little to do, and “the village has so much land that tree planting can really help us”. Others reiterated this. Esu people harvest, process and sell Njangsang, the seeds are sold as a spice. It is profitable, but they trek far into the bush to collect from wild trees, previously unaware that it can be cultivated.



In 2005 we provided seeds, technical advice and information that encouraged Kumbo urban council to establish its tree nursery (right),



and Jakiri council to diversify it's own – introducing species (left) destined to protect their hillside water catchments.

A three year involvement with a traditional council evolved from supply of ornamental and shade trees to work with the tree committee set up to manage this, training farmers how to propagate fruit species, and supporting subsequent home and field experiments, below (i. marcotting, ii. rooting, iii. grafting and iv. a propagator below).



They led us to a source of seed for a tree we have struggled to find – a widely used spice, currently imported from the south. We already have seedlings growing.



We have helped schools plant shade and ornamental trees. As well as improving learning environments we use this as a vehicle to build wider environmental and conservation values education .



Planting trees at M'va College, Centre Province.

The head mistress (right) arranging a drum to protect the tree from goats.



In a few years time the trees planted in these school grounds will make break periods and watching sport pleasanter, and perhaps inspire students to appreciate the value of trees.

Teachers and advisors from the Baptist & Presbyterian schools visited our nursery in May. The outcomes to date are a tree nursery area at their teacher training centre, teacher training forums and very soon classroom activity, enriched with CVP topics and materials.

To encourage them we provided >150 seedlings (right) that will be distributed amongst 28 secondary schools.

ISTP* coordinator
Njobati Fred with CVP
seedlings

*In Service Training Programme



We support individuals and landowners when they are leaders, formally or informally, in their communities.



Mr Tamafor, a ‘nobleman’ in his 80’s has been inspired to start planting a ‘Botanical Forest’ on family land at the heart of his village. We provided seedlings of 14 species of native timber, medicinal, spice and fruit trees. “This is for you people, your generation” he told the village boys who planted the trees.

We have encouraged landowners to diversify their woodland management, planting native hard wood timbers (right), and to trial production of the cashew nut tree (*Anacardium occidentale*).



(Cashew nut tree 9 months after planting, rain boot included for scale)

This is just a sample of our work, if you would like to contribute, or seek more information then please contact us at - cvpcameroon@unafas.org