

YOUTH EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

YED
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ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year 2025 marked a pivotal step in the development of Youth Education and Development. In a global and national context marked by the climate emergency, persistent social inequalities, and the structural challenges of the education system, our organization has strengthened its commitment to young people and local communities, while expanding the scope of its actions.

Driven by a dedicated team, trusted partners, and a determined youth, YED has consolidated its position as a credible grassroots organization, capable of transforming complex challenges into opportunities for concrete action. In 2025, our initiatives not only addressed immediate needs but also laid the groundwork for sustainable solutions, centered on empowerment, resilience, and the active participation of young people.

This momentum also enabled us to amplify the voice of Cameroonian youth beyond national borders, within regional and international dialogue and advocacy spaces, thus affirming the essential role of young people in building a just, inclusive, and sustainable future.

The progress made in 2025 reinforces our conviction that investing in youth and local communities is a strategic and impactful choice. On the eve of new challenges, Youth Education and Development remains fully committed to working alongside its technical and financial partners to scale up its actions and co-construct sustainable responses to the social, educational, and climate challenges facing Cameroon.

Romida NGNIAWO

President - YOUTH EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (YED)



ABOUT YED

Youth Education and Development (YED) is a Cameroonian non-profit association, founded in 2022 and led by young people committed to sustainable development, social justice, and environmental protection.

Convinced that youth are an essential lever for social transformation, YED works alongside young people and local communities, in both urban and rural areas, to strengthen their capacities, autonomy, and active participation in sustainable development processes. Through inclusive and innovative initiatives, the organization supports young people “particularly the most vulnerable” in developing skills, leadership, and economic opportunities, while assisting local communities in building sustainable solutions to environmental, social, and climate challenges.

YED operates around three complementary axes: environmental protection, education and training, and the promotion of social justice. Its action is part of a long-term approach, based on community participation, responsible governance, and the pursuit of sustainable impact.

MISSION

To contribute to the full participation of young people and local communities in the sustainable development process while fostering their economic and social empowerment.

VISION

An inclusive and sustainable world where young people and local communities fully participate in building their future.

VALUES

- ◆ Civic Engagement
- ◆ Inclusion
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Solidarity
- ◆ Sustainability

INTERVENTION AREAS

- ◆ Education, training, and youth engagement
- ◆ Environmental Protection and climate action
- ◆ Social justice and inclusion

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE SDGS

Youth Education and Development (YED) is an association committed to promoting sustainable, inclusive, and equitable development in Cameroon. Through its grassroots actions, YED contributes to environmental protection, strengthening the capacities of young people, and promoting social justice within local communities.

The organization works specifically towards raising awareness on environmental and climate issues, developing digital and professional skills for youth, and promoting sustainable practices such as responsible waste management, organic farming, and biodiversity protection.

By mobilizing young people and local communities around innovative solutions adapted to local realities, YED actively contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and building a more just, resilient, and sustainable future for all.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2025

Active participation of YED in national and international climate events



More than 500 young people trained in digital tools



Co-organization of LCOY Cameroon 2025



Beginning of community integration efforts around Deng Deng National Park



More than 1200 children sensitized on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



- 1 +500 trees planted
- 5 New volunteers
- 1 General meeting held
- 1 New Partner: European Union (through its Global Youth Mobilization Program)



Implementation of the Resilient Schools project in the Far North



YED'S MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025 BY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

AXIS 1: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

a. Building youth capacity in office tools: YOUTHTECH

Since its creation, Youth Education and Development (YED) has supported +500 young people in acquiring essential digital skills, through practical training on tools such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, LinkedIn, Canva, the Google Suite, and the basics of artificial intelligence.

This program addresses a crucial and urgent need, particularly for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds, who are often excluded from the opportunities offered by the digital transition. Today, mastering digital tools is an essential prerequisite for access to employment, training, and professional autonomy.

The training implemented by YED, with a focus on sustainable youth empowerment, is designed to be concrete, inclusive, and adapted to local realities. Beneficiaries learn to write reports, design professional presentations, manage spreadsheets, and use digital tools to support their academic and professional projects.

However, despite remarkable motivation and commitment, the majority of these young people do not have a personal computer. Faced with limited material resources, the association is sometimes forced to train two to three young people on the same computer. Difficulties increase during practical work at home, forcing some to go to internet cafes or borrow equipment from relatives, precarious solutions that are inaccessible for many.

Despite these constraints, the program's results are significant: many young people have received their training certificates and now possess functional digital skills. These acquired skills are a determining lever for strengthening their employability, restoring their confidence, and offering them real prospects for socio-professional integration.





b. Youth Engage in SDGs - Awareness on SDGs

In 2025, YED continued its Youth Engage in SDGs program, through awareness and follow-up workshops on the Sustainable Development Goals at the Atemengue public school in Yaoundé. In May 2025, YED organized an introductory workshop on the SDGs at the Atemengue public school in Yaoundé. This activity aimed not only to **strengthen students' understanding of the 17 SDGs and encourage their civic engagement from an early age**, but also to follow up on workshops previously organized in the same school.

The activities combined:

- An interactive presentation of the SDGs using digital tools;
- Open discussions with students and teachers;
- Fun games and educational quizzes promoting participatory learning.

The follow-up showed that nearly 80% of students remember the good ecological practices they were taught.

This action is part of YED's commitment to sustainably embedding a culture of sustainable development in the school environment.



AXIS 2 : ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE ACTION

a. “Resilient Schools” Project - Far North Cameroon



In 2025, for the very first time since its creation, Youth Education and Development (YED) received international funding awarded by Global Youth Mobilization, marking a decisive step in the structuring and recognition of its work. This support enabled the launch of the Resilient Schools project in the Far North region of Cameroon, one of the area’s most severely affected by drought, extreme heat waves, and accelerated ecosystem degradation.

In this particularly critical climate context, schools are among the most vulnerable infrastructures. High temperatures, lack of green spaces, and water scarcity directly affect learning conditions, student concentration, and their well-being. The Resilient Schools project aims to address these challenges by transforming schools into more resilient, sustainable spaces conducive to education.

Concretely, the project helped reduce heat islands in 4 schools (Tchabel, Zassinri, Mazang, Tibiri public schools), raised awareness and trained over 200 children on environmental and climate issues, planted 500 trees in schoolyards, and set up eco-citizen nurseries managed by the students. Through environmental education workshops, school greening actions, and strong community mobilization, Resilient Schools strengthens climate resilience, eco-citizenship, and the sense of belonging within educational communities.

Beyond its environmental impact improved air quality, lower local temperatures, biodiversity protection the project also generates positive social and economic effects by developing practical skills in children, creating local opportunities, and fostering a community dynamic around the school.

This first funding constitutes a strategic lever for YED, demonstrating that targeted investment in education and youth, even on a local scale, can produce concrete and sustainable results in areas highly exposed to the effects of climate change. It paves the way for scaling up and future partnerships to expand the project's impact to other vulnerable regions of Cameroon.



b. Co-organization of the Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change - Cameroon 2025

In September 2025, Youth Education and Development (YED) played a key role in co-organizing the Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change (LCOY Cameroon 2025), alongside five other national youth organizations engaged in climate issues. This structuring process, conducted under the auspices of YOUNGO, was organized around three complementary phases: a national preparatory webinar, a regional pre-LCOY



held in Maroua, and the final national conference held in Yaoundé.

This initiative mobilized nearly 500 young Cameroonians, consolidating their climate leadership and gathering their recommendations.

These were integrated into the **National Youth Statement 2025**, a strategic advocacy document aimed at voicing youth concerns to political decision-makers.

Through capacity-building sessions, participatory workshops, and dialogue spaces with institutional and technical actors, young people were equipped to contribute constructively to national climate policies.

One of the major outcomes of this process was the collective development, consolidation, and validation of the **National Youth Statement Cameroon 2025**, a strategic advocacy document championed by Cameroonian youth. This declaration, the result of national co-construction, reflects the priorities, recommendations, and solutions proposed by young people for more inclusive, equitable climate action rooted in local realities.

At the end of this dynamic process, **YED** was selected by **YOUNGO** to officially represent Cameroonian youth at **COY20**, thus confirming its credibility, leadership, and ability to voice the concerns of young Cameroonians in international climate negotiation spaces. This recognition constitutes a strategic lever to strengthen youth advocacy and illustrates the added value of investing in local organizations capable of translating youth mobilization into concrete political impact.



c. Participation in climate activities organized by UNICEF Cameroon

On February 6th and 7th, 2025, YED took part in two days of activities organized by UNICEF Cameroon on climate change and youth engagement.

The first day was dedicated to debriefing on COP29, with strategic exchanges on global climate issues and the role of young people. YED's Secretary General was among the young ambassadors who shared their experience of this international conference.



The second day was marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNICEF Cameroon and the National Observatory on Climate Change (ONACC). YED held a booth presenting its initiatives, notably its ecological bags made from biodegradable materials.





d. Participation in the Youth Climate Adaptation Action Day

On October 14th, 2025, YED, represented by two project managers, participated in the Youth Climate Adaptation Action Day, organized by SUHUCAM. This workshop aimed to **strengthen the involvement of young people in the implementation of Cameroon's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**. Discussions focused on climate governance, community adaptation strategies, and youth advocacy. The recommendations resulting from this meeting emphasized the need to strengthen youth access to decision-making bodies and support community-based climate initiatives.



AXIS 3: SOCIAL JUSTICE, INCLUSION AND ADVOCACY

In June 2025, Youth Education and Development (YED) took part in the Youth Empowerment Summit (YES Africa), held from June 19th to 20th in Marrakech, Morocco, a high-level Pan-African framework bringing together youth organizations, technical and financial partners, social innovation actors, and policymakers committed to youth empowerment.

On this occasion, YED presented an innovative project for the socio-economic empowerment of internally displaced young women in a NEET situation (**Not in Education, Employment, or Training**), based on transforming banana tree trunks into high-value-added ecological bags

a. Participation in the Youth Empowerment Summit (YES Africa)



This approach combines social inclusion, income generation, the promotion of local resources, and a contribution to the transition towards a circular and sustainable economy. The initiative particularly caught the attention of the partners present due to its integrated nature: it simultaneously addresses the challenges of precarious living conditions faced by displaced women, youth unemployment, and the sustainable management of natural resources. It illustrates YED's ability to **design and implement innovative solutions, tailored to crisis contexts and aligned with donors' priorities regarding gender, the environment and social entrepreneurship.**

YED's participation in YES Africa has helped to boost its international visibility, strengthen its network of partners and open up concrete opportunities for collaboration and funding. It confirms the organisation's position as an emerging player, capable of transforming local ideas into projects with high potential for impact and scaling up.



b. Back to School 2025 - Tchabel Public School

In 2025, Youth Education and Development (YED) renewed its commitment to access to education by conducting a new Back to School action at the Tchabel public primary school, a locality facing significant geographical and social constraints.

In this context marked by isolation, lack of resources, and family precariousness, YED distributed essential school supplies to allow students to start the school year in more dignified conditions. **Notebooks, pens, and other educational materials were given to 60 children, providing concrete support to students often facing learning disruptions due to lack of basic equipment.**

This action is part of YED's ongoing commitment to reducing inequalities in access to education, particularly in **rural and remote areas of Cameroon**. Beyond the distributed materials, this initiative restored hope to students, teachers, and families, reminding them that even the most distant communities are not forgotten.

Through this intervention, YED reaffirms its conviction that **education remains a fundamental lever for social transformation and that targeted support, even modest, can have a significant impact on the educational journey of the most vulnerable children.**

YED extends its sincere thanks to its members, volunteers, and supporters who contributed to the realization of this action. The association remains open to partnerships, donations, and technical support to strengthen and sustain its educational interventions and continue to bring school to where needs are most urgent.





c. Community integration efforts around Deng Deng National Park

In May 2025, Youth Education and Development (YED) conducted an exploratory mission in the communities bordering Deng Deng National Park, as part of a participatory diagnostic approach aimed at better understanding local realities, identifying priority needs, and co-constructing sustainable intervention pathways with the concerned populations.

These communities live in a context of high socio-economic vulnerability. Subject to restrictions related to biodiversity conservation imperatives, notably the ban on poaching, they have few viable economic alternatives. Added to this is limited access to basic social services and extremely restricted income opportunities, accentuating household precariousness, particularly for youth and women.

Faced with these challenges, YED aims, with the support of technical and financial partners, to develop sustainable Income-Generating Activities (IGAs), compatible with the park's conservation objectives.

The envisaged approach aims to reconcile biodiversity protection and improvement of living conditions, by proposing economic solutions that are environmentally friendly and adapted to local capacities.

This identification phase constitutes a strategic step for designing high-impact projects, based on the real needs of communities and their active involvement. By investing in this type of initiative, donors contribute not only to strengthening the economic autonomy of riparian populations but also to reducing human pressures on protected ecosystems, thus creating a virtuous circle between local development and conservation.



OUR PARTNERS

YED, wishes to extend its warmest thanks to all its partners listed below for the collaboration and support provided during the year 2023.

Your support greatly contributed to the realization and success of the various activities implemented during the year, and we express our full gratitude to you.

While renewing our gratitude for your generous support, we hope to continue this form of collaboration.

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS



Funded by
the European Union



LOCAL COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP



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