Providing Training to Cameroon Women and Youth so that They can Earn a Living Growing Breadfruit while Battling Climate Change

**The proposed Cameroon Breadfruit Nursery Project in rural Dibamba Cameroon is using technology developed by Northwestern University in Evanston Illinois., the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation in Pittsburgh, PA., and the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) in Cameroon, as well as suggestions made by Voice of America and news reports from CNN.  The Cameroon Breadfruit Nursery Project will demonstrate how American technology and good will can be used to:**

* **Promote economic prosperity and food security in rural areas of Cameroon,**
* ***Use of job training to promote peace and security, rule of law, and alternatives to Boko Haram violence,***
* ***Use of job training to prevent radicalization to violence,***
* ***Use of job training to improve mutual understanding between groups,***
* ***Promote environmental sustainability, and***
* ***Address climate change*in Cameroon.**

CNN has reported how the militant terrorist organization Boko Haram is recruiting Cameroon youth to join their organization. <https://www.cnn.com/2015/03/03/africa/boko-haram-recruiting-cameroon/index.html>. The Voice of America has reported how job training can help fight Boko Haram. <https://www.voanews.com/a/episode_charities-cameroon-fight-boko-haram-job-training-4155026/6107057.html>. Unfortunately, the present youth job training efforts have been too small to be effective in limiting the appeal in the growth of Boko Haram. The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) can help the US Embassy fight this situation by providing job training to a wide range of youth so that they can earn a good living while battling climate change.

# The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) addresses local challenges and opportunities while providing solutions to global problems for forests, landscapes, people, and the planet. The availability of high-quality tree planting material within proximity of farmers at affordable prices is one of the prerequisites for larger uptake of tree cultivation. CIFOR-ICRAF has shown that rural small-scale nurseries can produce a diversity of tree planting material and provided that resource-poor farmers have access to it. CIFOR-ICRAF supported twelve nurseries with a tree domestication program in the West and North-west regions of Cameroon. We are seeking help from the US Embassy in Cameroon to expand and improve our program to other area in Cameroon.

The Cameroon Bureau d'Etudes pour le development local et rural (BEDELOR) organization would like to work with CIFOR-ICRAF, USAID, and CARE to expand our work to the Central District of Cameroon. In particular, we would like the US Embassy to consider funding the following plan. We are offering a plan for the US Embassy in Cameroon, USAID in Cameroon, and the Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural (MINADER) to work together with BEDELOR to help Cameroon women and Cameroon secondary students obtain supplies and review technology that has proven effective in improving food security and increase the profits of extremely poor farmers in other parts of Cameroon.

# Cameroon is one of the best locations to plant breadfruit. A single breadfruit tree can feed **a family of 4** for over 50 years. It can be used as animal feed as well as for human consumption. The scientific community has recognized the importance of breadfruit as a cash crop. See:

# Breadfruit Has All The Makings Of A Global Future Food Trend

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daphneewingchow/2023/09/30/breadfruit-is-a-climate-smart-superfood-with-global-appeal/?sh=3fe9f6b627e6>

Breadfruit Research and opportunities for Future Commercial Development

<https://dx.doi.org/10.22161/ijhaf.3.4.2>

Breadfruit (*Artocarpus altilis*): Processing, nutritional quality, and food applications

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.1156155/full>

6 Questions: How Breadfruit Will Change the World

<https://batesmeron.com/6-questions-how-breadfruit-will-change-the-world/>

Fruit Tree farming (orchard), Make millions in Cameroon and Africa. What are you waiting for?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67h0TgWdOp4>

In particular, see Breadfruit Agroforestry Guide Figure 2.2 at

<https://ntbg.org/breadfruit/resources/>

Breadfruit begins bearing in 3–5 years after planting depending upon the cultivar, local environmental conditions, and type and quality of propagation material. Trees can produce fruit for many decades. Breadfruit is believed to be one of the most productive crops in the world, with yield estimates under orchard conditions ranging from 16 to 50 metric tons (t) per hectare (ha) (6.5–20.2 t/ac25) of fruit (fresh weight [FW]) based on a planting density of 100 trees/ha. Where vigorous growth is expected a spacing of *12 x 8 m (about* 100 trees/ha) is recommended.

These yields compare favorably with the average global yields of rice wheat, or corn at 4.1, 2.6, and 4.0 t/ha (1.7, 1.1, and 1.6 t/ac), respectively.

Breadfruit is typically vegetatively propagated using adventitious root shoots or root cuttings. Trees
grown using this method tend to take 3 or more years to begin fruiting. Vegetative propagation is required. Under good conditions, grafted trees can begin bearing in 2 years.

A wide variety of annual and perennial crops can be grown together with breadfruit. (including Cassava)

BEDELOR would like to work with CIFOR-ICRAF in Yaoundé Cameroon to start a breadfruit nursery and breadfruit orchard on the same site that BEDELOR uses to grow cassava and potatoes. CIFOR will be able to identify the variety of breadfruit that small farmers should grow and where they can obtain a small quantity of breadfruit root cuttings.

See

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) office in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

<https://www.cifor.org/knowledge/photo/35849931836/> and

<https://www.cifor-icraf.org/locations/africa/cameroon/>

Getting Trees Into Farmers’ Fields: Success of Rural Nurseries in Distributing High Quality Planting Material in Cameroon

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255738335_Getting_Trees_Into_Farmers%27_Fields_Success_of_Rural_Nurseries_in_Distributing_High_Quality_Planting_Material_in_Cameroon>

Feasibility of farmer-managed vegetative propagation nurseries in Cameroon

<https://www.academia.edu/12294701/Feasibility_of_farmer_managed_vegetative_propagation_nurseries_in_Cameroon>

Small farmers will need about two meters of a root cuttings to start 25 trees as shown in the video below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2r_X7MDxp8>

They will need to prune the breadfruit trees so that they do not become too tall.

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwTrlzjAAAM**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwTrlzjAAAM)

A single fully grown breadfruit tree is extremely valuable to small farmers because of the amount of fruit that it produces and due to the difficulty of propagating breadfruit trees.

<https://www.cifor.org/knowledge/photo/35082518883>

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