



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



“Sharing Lives, Enhancing Wellbeing”



PREPARED BY:

HADASSAH FOUNDATION NGO

Dec 2024

Table of Contents

FOREWORD.....	- 2 -
ABOUT THE REPORT	- 3 -
ACRONYMS	- 4 -
1. WHO WE ARE:	- 5 -
2. HASCON Organizational chart	- 7 -
3. Description/Summary of Projects Realized in Line with HASCON'S Work	- 9 -
4. Gender-Based Violence	- 10 -
5. Psychosocial Support and Counselling	- 14 -
Aim of the Project	- 14 -
Place of Implementation and How it was Implemented (including Activities)	- 14 -
6. Education	- 19 -
Aim of Activity	- 19 -
Aim of Project	- 20 -
Implementation Activities.....	- 21 -
7. Humanitarian Support	- 22 -
8. OTHER ACTIVITIES.....	- 23 -
9. WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY HADASSAH STAFF	- 24 -
10. Hadassah Foundation Christmas with orphans (14 December 2024)	- 28 -
11. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD	- 29 -
12. APPENDIX	- 30 -
12. 1 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2024	- 30 -

FOREWORD

The Humanitarian situation in Cameroon continues to be a call for concern in the Northwest and Southwest regions. Kidnapping, destruction of properties, and violence perpetuated against civilians are prevalent issues. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in 2024, an estimated 3.4 million people in Cameroon required urgent assistance and protection due to the humanitarian impact of conflict and violence, climate shocks, and/or disease outbreaks (OCHA, 2024¹). Considering these effects on individuals in our communities, we need to build resilience, educate communities on ways to cope and foster social cohesion. This is where our work at the Hadassah Foundation is most valuable.

With a focus on the above concerning problems affecting the populations, in 2024, the Hadassah Foundation contributed immensely to providing support to internally displaced people and host populations. Our work addressed crucial issues of gender-based violence sensitization/education, human rights education, social and emotional learning in school, and offering psychosocial support and counseling.

In 2024, one of our staff benefited from Mental Health and Psychosocial Support training in partnership with the UNFPA. Our participation in the GBV AoR cluster (MHPSS) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) conducted by the International Organization of Migration in Southwest under the UNFPA also contributed to building the capacity of our staff as it provided platforms for online training and certification opportunities in GBV case management and MHPSS. Thanks to our partners, GBV AoR cluster SW/NW UNFPA, Cameroon, for capacity-building training opportunities.



Ayuk Etongo (Executive Director/Founder)

¹ OCHA., (2024). *Cameroon Humanitarian Response Dashboard*

ABOUT THE REPORT

This report provides an overview of the Hadassah Foundation's work in 2024. It shows the activities, projects, accomplishments, collaborations, challenges encountered, way forward, and expenses for the year.

The report was written by

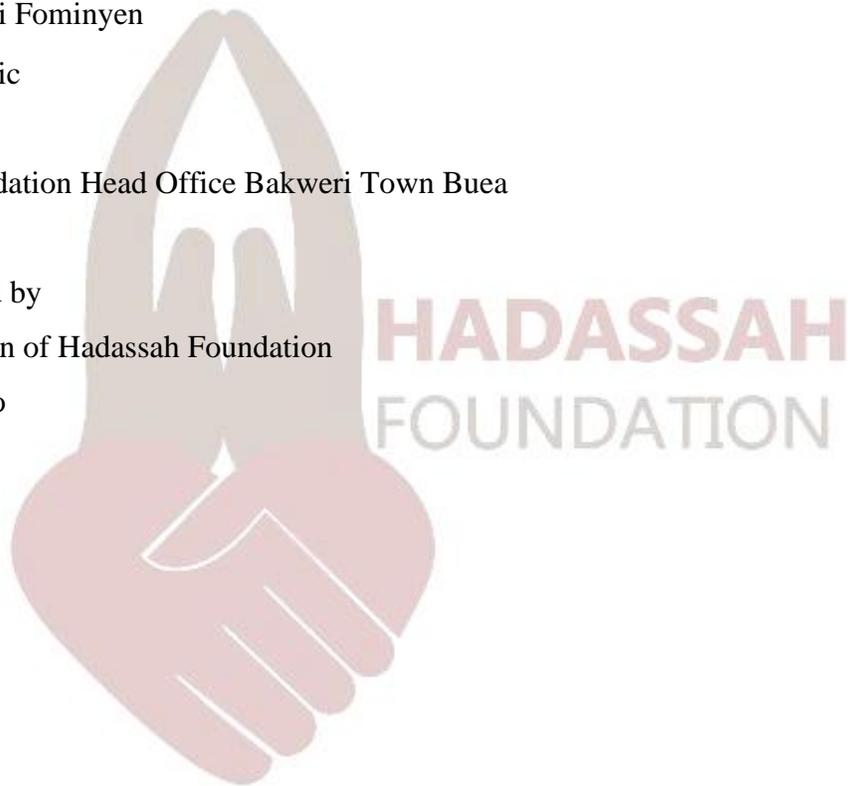
- ❖ Tabi Bissong (May he RIP)
- ❖ Cecilia Monjoa
- ❖ Rhonda Nformi
- ❖ Kinyam Nji Fominyen
- ❖ Mayah Beric

@ Hadassah Foundation Head Office Bakweri Town Buea

Read and endorsed by

Executive Direction of Hadassah Foundation

Mme Ayuk Etongo



ACRONYMS

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

Mental Health (Mental Health)

Psychosocial Support (PSS)

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

International Organization of Migration (IOM)

Area of Responsibility (AoR)

South West / North West (SW/NW)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Rest In Peace (RIP)

Hadassah Foundation (HASCON)

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

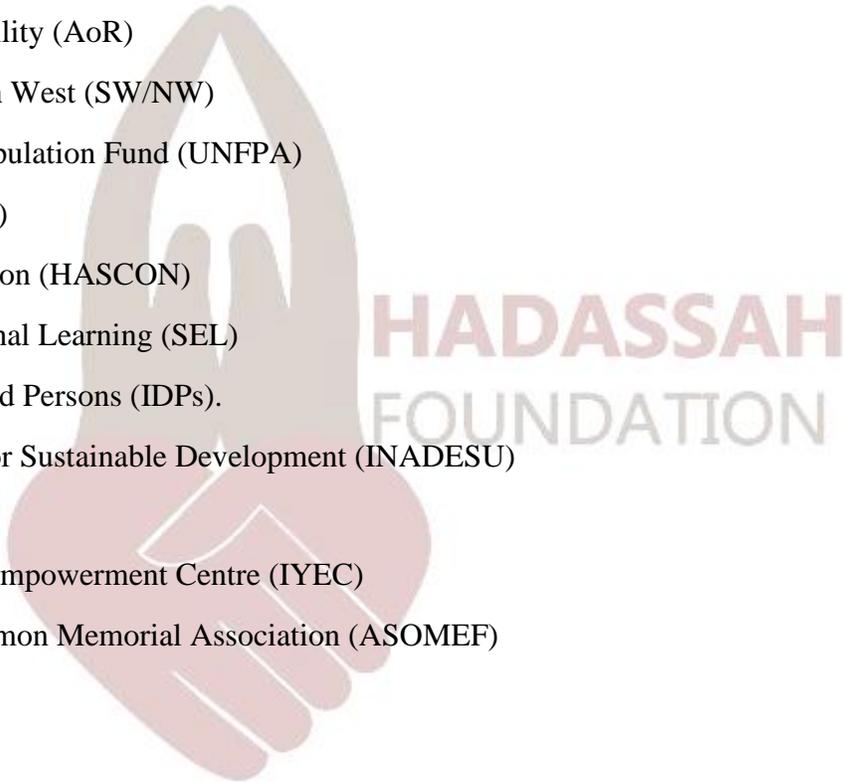
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Inclusive Action for Sustainable Development (INADESU)

(FOMCAM)

Integrated Youth Empowerment Centre (IYEC)

Ayuk-Takem Solomon Memorial Association (ASOMEF)



1. WHO WE ARE:

History of HASCON

Hadassah Foundation (HASCON) is a legally registered NGO (*Registration number 109/G.37/C84/VOLI/SASC*) operating in Buea, Cameroon, founded in 2018, inspired by the ongoing Anglophone crisis and the traumatic situations surrounding the lives of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Other than IDPs, the host communities also face an alarming rate of undesirable circumstances that surround many individuals (particularly orphans, teenage mothers, and youths) due to the increase in violence, poverty, drug abuse, and economic hardship as people are unable to achieve sustainable livelihood because of the ongoing crisis in Northwest and Southwest regions. NGO's head office is in Buea's southwest region. The NGO has experience in offering psychosocial support and counseling, humanitarian response/reach out, Health care (raising awareness on sexual and reproductive health/mental health issues), Human rights education/advocacy, Education (Social and Emotional Learning-SEL in schools), and work in promoting Gender equality including GBV and Women empowerment.

HASCON VISION

Our vision is to enhance the well-being of individuals in our communities (especially teenagers, youths, orphans, vulnerable children, women, and Internally Displaced Persons) to improve the resilience of these individuals to maximize their potential. In pursuit of our vision, we offer Psychosocial support and counseling, Mental health support/education/advocacy, Social and emotional learning education in schools, education on youth sexual and reproductive health, Human Rights promotion, work to enhance Gender equality/women empowerment, and Humanitarian response.

NGO MISION

To enhance people's well-being, build resilience to better deal with challenging situations, and strengthen community social cohesion.

OUR VALUES

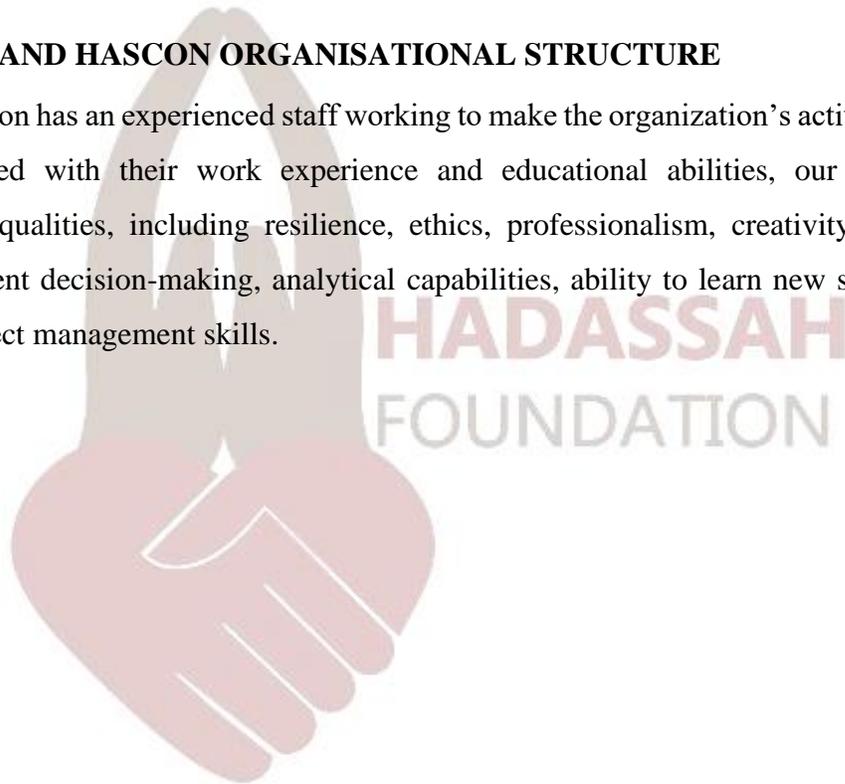
Transparency, Accountability, Integrity, and Impartiality

HASCON WORKS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

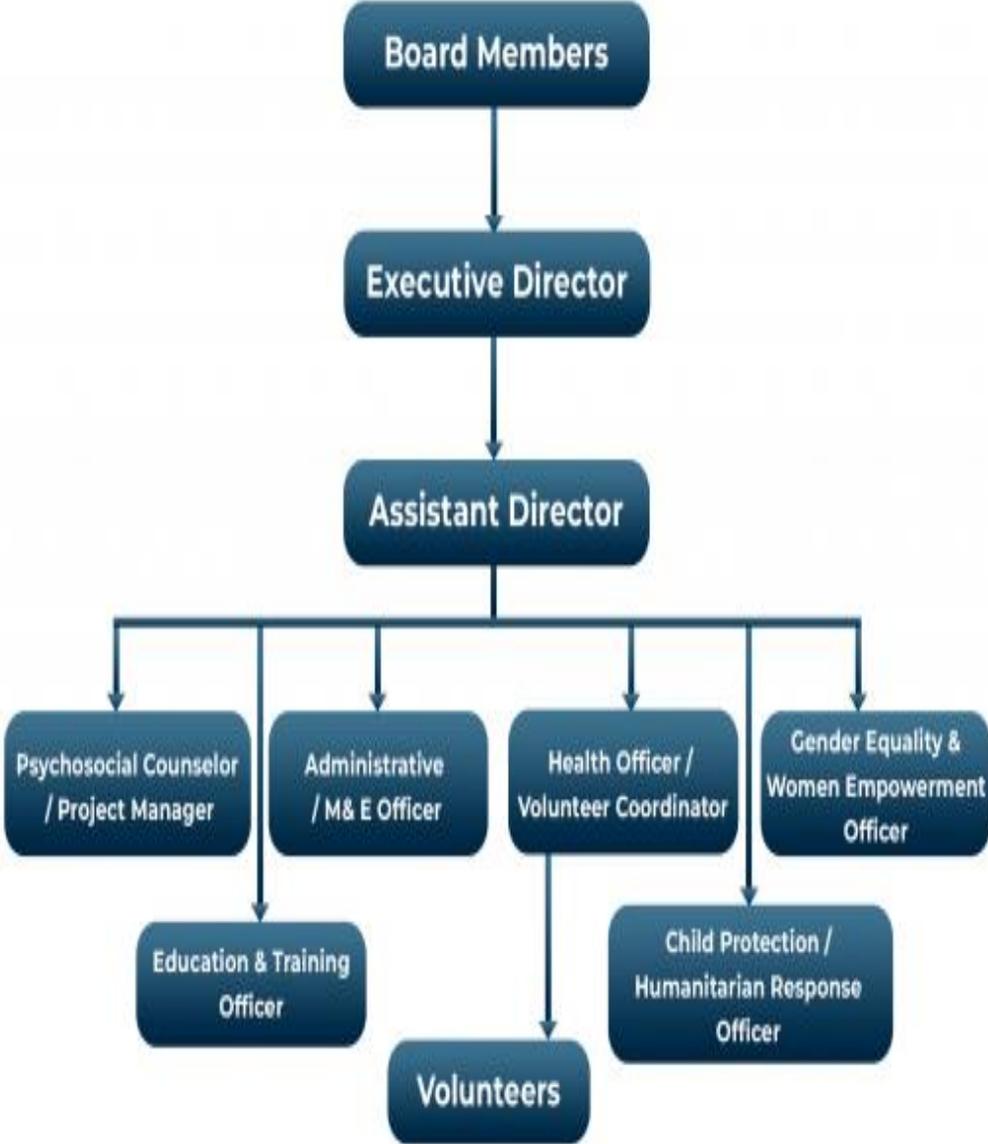
- 1.1.1 Psychosocial Support (PSS)
- 1.1.2 Mental health support/education/advocacy
- 1.1.3 Social and Emotional Learning-SEL Education in Schools
- 1.1.4 Provide education on youth sexual and reproductive health
- 1.1.5 Human Rights Promotion
- 1.1.6 Gender Equality, GBV and Women Empowerment
- 1.1.7 Humanitarian Response

GOVERNANCE AND HASCON ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

HASCON Cameroon has an experienced staff working to make the organization's activities successful. Coupled with their work experience and educational abilities, our staff possesses unique qualities, including resilience, ethics, professionalism, creativity and innovation, excellent decision-making, analytical capabilities, ability to learn new skills, and excellent project management skills.



2. HASCON Organizational chart



OUR STAFFS



Ayuk Etongo
Founder
Executive Director
(Psychosocial Counselor)



Kim Akwo
Assistant Director
(Human Rights / Gender-based
Violence)



Patience Ashumbi
Education
and
Training Officer



Martha Ako
Gender Equality
and Women
Empowerment Officer



Kinyam Nji Fominyen
Country Manager (GBV expert and
Psychosocial Counselor)



Eyong Rawlings
Administrative Officer



Cecilia Monjowa
School (SEL Program)/ Community
Outreach Officer.



Agnes Njemo
Volunteer Coordinator



Rhonda Nformi
MHPSS/ CP Officer



Nkeng Rudy
Project Manager and M&E Officer



Mayah Beric
MHPSS/ Secretary



Collins Bissong
Technical Adviser

3. Description/Summary of Projects Realized in Line with HASCON'S Work

HASCON offered awareness-raising sessions on **Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** in schools, orphanages, and the community. A notable session was our sensitization program held with the women of Bachuo Akagbe of Manyu Division during International Women's Day 2024 celebrations.

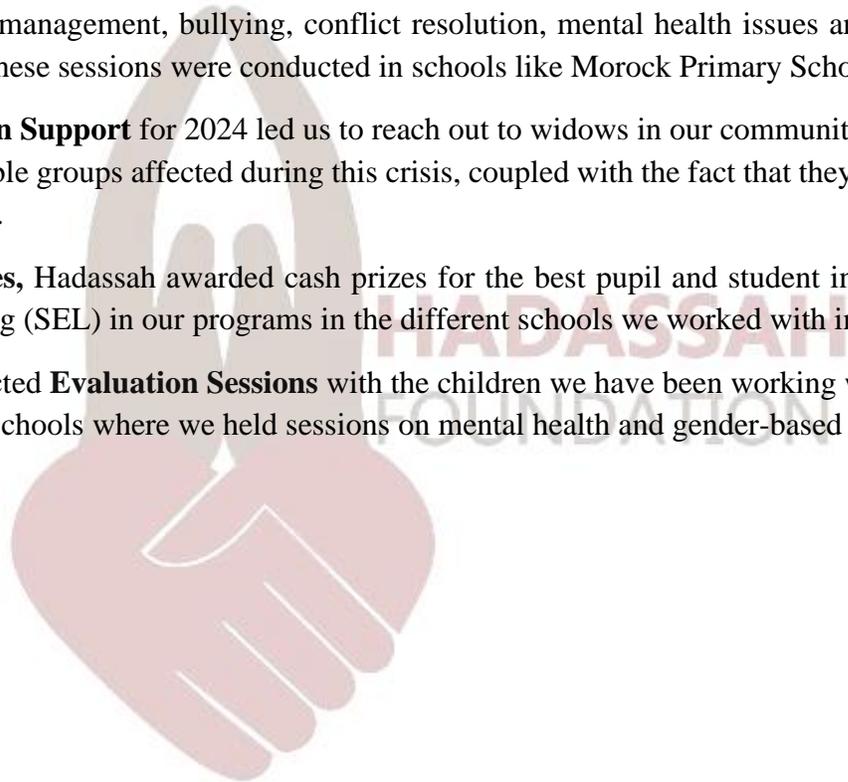
In **Psychosocial Support** 2024, the Hadassah team worked with children/youths at Inclusive Action for Sustainable Development (INADESU) Bokwoango Buea, Morock Mika Academy, and Greenfield Nursery and Primary School. It is worth mentioning that at INADESU, many of the children are internally displaced, with a significant number of them in their teenage age.

In **Education, our Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) program in schools focuses** on sessions on anger management, bullying, conflict resolution, mental health issues and illnesses, and study skills. These sessions were conducted in schools like Morock Primary School.

Our **Humanitarian Support** for 2024 led us to reach out to widows in our communities, who are one of the vulnerable groups affected during this crisis, coupled with the fact that they are dealing with loss and grief.

In **Other Activities**, Hadassah awarded cash prizes for the best pupil and student in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in our programs in the different schools we worked with in 2024.

Finally, we conducted **Evaluation Sessions** with the children we have been working with and the teachers from the schools where we held sessions on mental health and gender-based violence.



4. Gender-Based Violence

Project Duration	March 2024 to December 2024
Donor	Self-sponsored by Hadassah Foundation

From March to December 2024, the Hadassah Foundation conducted different sessions on GBV in schools (with teachers), orphanages, and the community.

Aim of the project

This project aimed at raising awareness of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to promote peace and reduce the rate of violence in schools, orphanages, and communities.

Implementation of Activity

Gender-based violence is violence directed against a person because of that person's gender or violence that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately. Gender-based violence is a significant area in which we work at HASCON, particularly with females, males, and children. We held sessions on gender-based violence, its causes, forms, types, immediate factors, and consequences of GBV.

The session in schools addressed issues on violence and its impact on children and how children can cope with issues related to GBV. This session in school was held at Mika Memorial Academy with pupils of class 4 to 6 primary. Additionally, at St Valentine Orphanage in Buea town, we addressed the same issues with children ages 9-18.

At the community level, our GBV sensitization took a mass campaign format during the week of celebrating the International Day of Women in 2024. Women in Bachuo-Akagbe Village were sensitized on GBV and its impact on their mental health. To address tensions in the form of violence between host communities and IDPs in this village, HASCON also organized football matches to promote peace and social cohesion during these women's day celebrations. Maintaining a healthy and calm living environment is our utmost priority.

Achievement

The session was highly participatory through questions and answers and icebreakers. According to the pre-test conducted at the beginning of the session, most participants had little understanding of the topic. A post-test was conducted at the end of the session, resulting in a better understanding of the topic. At the end of the sessions, flyers and referral pathways were handed to them. To keep the day memorable, we had a campfire night where the women expressed themselves and shared beautiful stories.



GBV sensitization in Bachuo Akagbe Village, Upper Bayng sub-division, Manyu



GBV education at Mika Memorial Nursery and Primary School



GBV session at St Valentine Orphanage

The Hadassah Foundation also joined other NGOs in the GBV AoR cluster under the UNFPA in launching the **16 days of activism against GBV** in the Southwest region.



Hadassah Foundation joins other NGOs to in 16 days of activism against GBV



Our work in GBV also entails promoting gender equality. On October 11th, 2024, the Hadassah Foundation team organized an engaging session with young girls to celebrate the *International Day of the Girl Child*. The event commemorated the *International Day of the Girl Child and promoted gender equality among young girls*. It was a one-day program to create awareness

about the importance of Girl Children and their rights and responsibilities in school, community, home, and society.



Session on Gender Equality at Mount Carmel School Muea on the celebration of the International Day of the Girl Child 2024



5. Psychosocial Support and Counselling

Project Duration	January 2024 to March 2024
Donor	Self-sponsored by Hadassah Foundation

Aim of the Project

- ❖ This project focused on psychosocial support through group and individual counseling and psychoeducational activities through socio-emotional learning sessions at INADESU, Bokwoango, Buea Southwest Region.
- ❖ The project aims to offer psychoeducational activities on good mental health and how to balance their emotional and psychological well-being.
- ❖ Other sessions on puberty and how it affects mental health were held; children were also taught how to manage their anger, cope with bullying, and what to do if they face such situations.
- ❖ To this end, this small project provided psychological counseling to 30 children in Bokwoango-NA'ANGA village

Place of Implementation and How it was Implemented (including Activities)

- ❖ From 25th MARCH to April 28th 2024, HASCON's staff worked with children of INADESU. Different sessions were held. The sessions specifically focus on teaching children to understand their emotions, how they can affect their well-being, and how to build healthy relationships. Group and individual counseling sessions were held with the kids after having several sessions with the kids. This activity was to identify some of their difficulties and challenges. This counseling was aimed at providing early interventions to some common issues children/teenagers face, like mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and hyperactive disorder. Also, each activity used an icebreaker to relax the atmosphere and create a good rapport between orphans and the staff.
- ❖ Also, sessions addressed how to build healthy relationships among themselves, get skills and strategies through problem-solving, and educate them on critical thinking skills, which are essential in times of stress.
- ❖ The Hadassah Foundation team also raised awareness about child protection issues, including sex education, especially for teenagers. We also held educative sessions on improving communication and supporting them with decision-making and study skills through group counseling.

Achievement

HASCON's work enhanced the well-being of the children through these Psychosocial support and psychoeducational sessions. We successfully raised awareness and added knowledge to these children's lives. HASCON, after careful observations and counseling sessions, saw an improved increase in self-esteem and the ability of these children to communicate better and express themselves to others.



Psychoeducational activities in the form of SEL sessions with INADESU children. The Hadassah team also had one-to-one counseling as well as group sessions with the children.

Concerning our work in psychosocial support, we incorporate mental health into this section, which is MHPSS. In this light, on **WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY**, on the 10th of October 2024,



Hadassah Foundation team joins other NGOs to celebrate World Mental Health Day 2024

Furthermore, based on the theme of *World Mental Health Day* (10/10/2024), which was “*mental health in the workplace,*” the Hadassah Foundation gathered professionals from different works of life at DRELA (an institution for teachers of sign language) for a session psychological wellbeing.



Mental Health session with persons from different professions at DRELA



Still under our Psychosocial Support programs, from November to December 2024, the Hadassah Foundation offered *psychosocial support, counseling, and psychoeducational activities* to visually impaired children at Bulu Blind Centre in Buea. This program aimed to promote mental well-being, address the visually impaired community's specific challenges, and provide a safe space for open discussion.



HASCON staff having a mindfulness exercise with Bulu blind kids

On 12/10/24, the Hadassah Foundation observed *International Frustration Scream Day* by hosting a mental health talk and support session in Wonya Mavio Village in Buea. The session

focused on stress management, emotional well-being, and coping mechanisms. The session provided a platform for individuals to express frustration, educate people on mental health awareness, and foster community support. The event aimed to create a safe space for participants to share personal experiences, receive support, and connect with others.



HASCON staff offers mental health sessions in Wonya Mavio Village and creates room for sharing and strengthening community bonds



Furthermore, in Psychosocial support, including Mental Health, the Hadassah Foundation organized a mental health session with teachers to celebrate the teacher's day 2024. Held on 04 October 2024 at the HOPE FOR ALL FOUNDATION NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL Muea, the event aimed to raise awareness about teachers' mental health and provide practical strategies for stress management and self-care.

Achievements

The session was very interactive as teachers participated effectively by asking their own questions and making contributions. Two teachers shared their personal experiences, while one person shared her worry about the aspect of anxiety.



TEACHERS MENTAL Health Matters. HASCON's MH awareness session with teachers in celebration of Teachers Day 2024



6. Education

Our school social and emotional learning (SEL) was active as we did some school sessions in 2024.

Project Duration	March 2024- August 2024
Donor	Self-Sponsored by Hadassah Foundation

Aim of Activity

- ❖ Enhancing the well-being of children by teaching life skills and offering socio-emotional interventions to encourage healthy growth and a happy school environment better improves academic performance and pro-social behavior

Implementing activities

HASCON conducted SEL sessions with pupils at Morock Mika Memorial Academy from March to August 2024.

The sessions, which extended into the long-term (third term) holidays, were rich with different psychoeducational activities to enhance students' behavior and promote social interaction and a safe space for children to express themselves. It's an opportunity to delve into essential topics that shape our students' lives. Our holiday sessions aimed to enhance self-awareness, build self-esteem, foster emotional intelligence, and promote overall well-being. Here's a glimpse into what makes these sessions so captivating:

The pupils engage in thought-provoking discussions about emotions. Why? Because understanding emotions is crucial for maintaining mental health. From anxiety to mood swings and depression, we explore the full spectrum of feelings. By acknowledging and discussing these emotions, our students learn to navigate their inner world effectively and better relate with others in the community.

Achievement

Children learned about anger management, bullying, conflict resolution, and sound and poor mental health, as well as how to manage emotions.



Social and Emotional Learning Session at Murock Mika Memorial Academy



HADASSAH

Additionally, still in the area of Education, in a significant effort to enhance educational resources, the Hadassah Foundation, in partnership with ANUCAM, donated primary school textbooks for classes one to five and exercise books to pupils at Murock Mika Memorial Academy. We partnered with ANUCAM Books Cameroon in a Back-to-school program where we offered books to children at the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year. This was organized in August 2024.

Project Duration	August 2024
Donor	Sponsored by Hadassah Foundation and ANUCAM Buea Branch

Aim of Project

- Provide textbooks, exercise books, and school materials (pens, pencils, rulers, sharpeners, etc.) to class 3 to 6 primary Mika Memorial Academy Buea pupils. After working with these children since March 2024, we organized a back-to-school program to support them as they return for the new academic year.
- The Hadassah Foundation team also carried out suitable and poor mental health sessions with the children on the day of the distribution of school materials. ANUCAM was

represented in the book distribution.

Implementation Activities

- ❖ On the 16th of August 2024, Hadassah Foundation and ANUCAM organized a one-day activity to distribute books to Mika Memorial Academy pupils. ANUCAM took the lead in distributing textbooks to the pupils, and Hadassah offered other school materials. The teachers and representatives of the school proprietor were delighted with the support and continuing collaboration between the Hadassah Foundation and this school.



Back-to-school: Hadassah Foundation and ANUCAM donate books and materials to Mika Memorial Academy's pupils.

7. Humanitarian Support

Project duration	13 July 2024 (One Day Reach Out to Windows)
Donor	Self-sponsored by Hadassah Foundation

Aim of the Project

It was aimed at providing humanitarian assistance for widows. In offering them bags of rice, each with buckets and cooking materials, the program was aimed at raising awareness of the challenges faced in widowhood and how to mitigate them. Thereby enhancing the mental health and well-being of 20 widows in Buea from 3 communities: Bakweri town, Bokwaongo, and Small Soppo.

Implementation

We organized the program in the morning; it was raining, so we mounted a canopy; the women came in one after the other based on directions, and the program started. We talked about mental health, the importance of taking care of our well-being, and gender-based violence awareness. This program helped the women open up about their difficulties and their kids. Some explained how tough it had been, and others encouraged the new widows and gave them ideas on coping better. After the program, we handed them little packages to support them in their homes, and they went home feeling relieved due to the coming together and sharing of experiences.



Reach out to widows from 3 communities in Buea



8. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. TRAINING:

- a) **Training on Mental Health and Psychosocial Counselling done by Hadassah Foundation in [partnership with FOMCAM Community and Mental Health Organization.**

Project duration	13 AND 14 AUGUST 2024
Donar	Hadassah Foundation, FOMCAM community, Venue: VHITS

Implementation

The Hadassah Foundation, in partnership with FOMCAM Community and Mental Health Organization, organized a training session for counselors and social workers in NGOs in Buea to enable them to better work with persons affected by trauma due to the ongoing crisis in the Northwest and Southwest Cameroon. The training occurred on the 13th and 14th of August 2024 at the Veracity Higher Institute Buea.

Achievement

- Participants could understand their temperament and gain skills to work with people with different temperaments and personalities.
- Understanding personality disorders was key in the training and is crucial in assessing different clients.
- Participants also gained hands-on skills and techniques in counseling, such as open-ended questions, reflective questioning, and probing questions, which help counselors gather information and encourage clients to explore their thoughts and feelings more deeply.
- Additionally, participants explored the interpretation of nonverbal communication signs during counseling sessions. Understanding these signs is vital for counselors, as they can provide insights into clients' feelings and attitudes that may not be expressed verbally. Certificates were distributed at the end of the training.



Certificate awarded after the training

9. WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY HADASSAH STAFF

a) Workshops on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights by IYEC Limbe

The Integrated Youth Empowerment Centre (IYEC) invited the Hadassah Foundation for a workshop on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights. Hadassah Foundations GBV focal person, Mr Nji, attended the seminar.



Workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights by IYEC Limbe at IYEC's headquarters



b) Workshop on GBV against Men by ASOMEF

Ayuk-Takem Solomon Memorial Association organized a workshop about GBV among boys and men. Hadassah Foundation's GBV focal person was opportune to attend this workshop to build his skills in addressing GBV issues related to boys and men.



Director of ASOMEF and Hadassah Foundation's Country Manager/GBV focal points

c) Staff in-House Capacity Building Session: “Effective Project Writing” Workshop

The Hadassah organization hosted a workshop titled “Capacity Building on Project Writing” to address staff’s growing need for practical project writing skills.

Aim of the project

The workshop aimed to equip attendees with essential skills in writing successful project proposals. Understand the fundamentals of project writing, identify key components of a project proposal, and set project objectives. To know about a logical framework for the implantation of a project.

Implementation

The workshop employed interactive sessions, group exercises, and lectures.

During the “Capacity Building on Project Writing” workshop, various engaging activities were conducted to enhance participants' understanding and skills acquisition, such as project definition and pre-proposal activities.

Discussion on “What do you know about project writing?” also made the session enjoyable. Other questions such as “What do you know about your donor?”, “what is the general format of project writing?” were the day's topics. This created the opportunity for discussions on project objectives and goals and hands-on exercises where participants developed project budgets and wrote compelling proposals.

Additionally, expert facilitators lectured on key components of successful project proposals while participants engaged in peer review and feedback sessions to refine their skills. Other activities comprised case studies, role-playing, and brainstorming sessions focused on overcoming common project writing challenges.



Capacity building workshop of Hadassah staff and other participants on project writing at Hadassah Office in Buea

10. Hadassah Foundation Christmas with Orphans (14 December 2024)

Every year since our existence, we organize a Christmas with orphans, reaching out to them during the festive season, putting a smile on their faces, and letting them know they are not forgotten. This year, 2024, we celebrated our Christmas with Rhema Grace orphanage, where we had once worked with them.



Hadassah Foundation Christmas for Orphans 2024: A heart for these children since 2019



11. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

Conclusion statement:

In conclusion, the Hadassah Foundation NGO has continued to make a significant impact on the lives of vulnerable populations, including widows, orphans, teachers, pupils, and those affected by the crisis in the South West Region of Cameroon. Through advocacy programs on mental health and gender-based violence, social and emotional learning sessions, as well as psychosocial and livelihood support, the foundation has worked tirelessly to provide much-needed assistance and empowerment to those in need.

Way forward:

As we look towards the future, the Hadassah Foundation NGO remains committed to expanding its reach and impact within the community.

Moving forward, the foundation plans to continue its advocacy programs on mental health and gender-based violence while also exploring new opportunities to support further and empower vulnerable populations.

Additionally, the organization will seek to strengthen its partnerships with local stakeholders and authorities to ensure sustainable and long-term impact.

By building on the past year's successes, we are confident that the Hadassah Foundation NGO will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of those we serve in the coming year and beyond.

12. APPENDIX

12. 1 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2024

Activities	Amount (CFA)
PSS at INADESU Bokwango-Buea	29,000
MH and GBV advocacy, Bachuo Akagbe Manyu Division (in commemoration of International Women's Day)	519,500
GBV/MH advocacy and livelihood support to widows	46,000
Assessment, Evaluation, and prize awards	104,500
SEL at MOROCK Academy	27,000
MH advocacy in commemoration of the International Teacher's Day	12,500
Project writing training	76,350
Bulu Blind Psychosocial support	12,000
Training on Counselling	20,000
Christmas with orphans at Rhema Grace Orphanage Ombe	175,700
Salaries and allowance	1,280,000
Office Rent	600,000
Water and electricity bills	36,000
Office expenses	250,000
Total	3,099,700