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| Name of Organization that implemented the Assemblies/Action | ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES  ACES | |
| Name & contact information of the implementing officer | ANGWA GWENDOLINE  Founder and Coordinator of ACES  [angwa.gwendoline@acescm.org](mailto:angwa.gwendoline@acescm.org)  Whatsapp: +237 679300067 | |
| Estimated number of persons reached:  48 | Male:  10  Female:13  Youth: 25 | **How many communities did you engage?**  Indigenous community: 1  Media: 3  Government: 1  CSOs: 3  Other stakeholders: 0 |



**REPORT OF THE PEOPLE ASSEMBLY/ACTION**

1. **Give a brief description of how your People’s Assembly/action was implemented**

ACES people’s assembly took place on the 24th of September 2023 in Lompar Village in the East Region of Cameroon. We selected the Lom-Pangar village because it is one of the villages experiencing the greatest impact of the Lompangar dam construction in the area. The assembly title “**Voices of the Earth: Empowering Communities Against Climate Injustices”** was focus on raising awareness on the effect of the Lom Pangar dam to climate change and community resilience and to advocate for their rights, and demand environmental justice. We informed the community about the event one week before the day of the assembly. We arrive the village on the 23rd of September 2023 and mobilise the community most especially the women and youth. We shared papers for communities to caption their demands and we aided some of them in writing and in the use of key words based on their interest. The Non-resident participants of our people assembly were 2 ACES team, 3 media personnels to report our event on their press, a representative of IFI synergy group and ECO Recycling Association Cameroon (ECORACAM).

The people assembly started at 10:15 am with a welcome by the chief of the village. The attendance list went round as the meeting was ongoing. We started by explaining further on the purpose of the project and what we hope to achieve with the outcome from the meeting. The assembly was more of a coordinated open discussion. The communities express their grievances with regards to the Dam creation in all domain of their livelihood and wellbeing. The youth president gave us a brief about the community where it was originally located and how they were displaced to the present area, how the displacement has affected their social structure and link to their ancestral land. He went further to compare life before and after the dam and Park establishment. They also talk about the loss of their agricultural land due to submersion causing food decay and hence food scarcity. They also mention, changes in their planting season as a result of climate change, fish scarcity and changes in water quality as some of the key challenges they are facing in the area.

In all the points raised were also ask about their coping strategies so as to understand how best we can intervene to help them ameliorate some of the challenges raised.

At the end of the in-person assembly, we drafted a final communique including the key problems, coping strategies and recommendations. The final communique was read in the people assembly to ensure that all the points raised were captured in the communique. Only those who accepted that their faces could appear on the media were further interviewed and the rest of the opinions were considered in the [finale communique.](https://newsupfront.com/resolutions-to-the-africa-peoples-counter-cop-apcc-2023/)

ACES also organised an online zoom meeting which took 26th September at 4 pm. The meeting had 16 participants made up of CSOs, Government, students and environmental lovers. The title of our zoom session was “**Extractivism and resource management: examining the impact of dams to climate change and community resilience strategies”.**

We discuss about effect of the dam to climate change and emphasise were placed on communities around the Nachtigal and Lompangar Dam. We also share the recommendations of our in-person people assembly with the participants. we also had other CSOs share their experiences on climate change and also propose other aspect were could add up to our people assembly recommendation.

1. **What are the most important lessons from your People Assembly/action?**

It is of prime importance to seek community consent and engage them in project that concern their wellbeing and livelihoods. Considering community interest and priorities in the development of realistic strategies and recommendations for climate justice.

1. **Please tell us about some important changes or outcomes you hope the People’s Assembly will add on to the work you are already doing.**

* Our assembly has brought to light the challenges faced by the people of Lompangar village as a result of the construction of the Lompangar dam
* The action has help ACES to understand community challenges and will guide us in developing projects that will help communities adapt the climate change and also build community resilience while improving household income.
* The action has given communities most especially women and youth the opportunity to contributes to the development of Counter COP declaration on climate change.

1. **What are the challenges you encountered during the implementation of the People’s Assembly/action?**

On the day of the assembly, the corps of one fisherman who drown in the iodination areas of the dam was recovered and the village was mourning. This affected the village participation as most people went to condole with the bereave family

1. **To what extent did the funding promote the work of your organization? please explain in detail**

This funding gave us the opportunity to organise our first advocacy campaign exclusively for climate change.

The funding enabled us to understand community challenges that will help us further in developing strategies and action projects to build community resilience and help mitigate climate change in Lompangar village. This has also raised awareness among the general public, policymakers, and organizations about the need for urgent action

By spearheading these initiatives, ACES positions itself as a leader in the fight against climate change. This can enhance our reputation and influence, attracting more support and funding for our work

The funding helped us to build new partnership. The physical and online sessions brought together other civil society organizations (CSOs) and stakeholders allowing ACES to forge new partnerships and has strengthened existing ones. this can further lead to more resources, shared knowledge, and a stronger collective impact.

The funds also gave the people of Lompangar the opportunities to express themselves and contributes to the development of the African People Counter Cop declaration.

The discussions and strategies that emerge from the assembly may help the Lom Pangar community and others become more resilient to climate impacts. This can lead to concrete improvements in people's lives, further demonstrating the value of ACES' work.

The funds also gave us and other CSOs who might not be able to travel to Dubai for COP28 the opportunity to contributes in the development of APCC declaration and also to share the declaration with other stakeholders for effective actions.

The funds

1. **Communication and IEC materials (Pictures, videos/documentary, fliers, news reports**, newsletter, activity report etc): *Please list the IEC and Coms products from your activities and provide the links to the materials. Kindly upload all your coms and IEC materials in a drive, draw box, your organization website etc and share the link with us.*

Online media articles

<https://newsupfront.com/at-counter-cop-2023-aces-partners-lead-local-communities-to-climate-resilience/>

<https://newsupfront.com/resolutions-to-the-africa-peoples-counter-cop-apcc-2023/>

<https://cameroonnewsagency.com/communities-empowered-to-fight-against-climate-injustice-caused-by-dam-projects/?fbclid=IwAR2cccuMkdcg4tUyC4rCszXYAzX6iESFS4L7yF45VxKcjzul2zLyyt9UQ4I>

<https://www.ovichnews.fr/Ecologie/following-apcc-concertations:-communities-want-sustainable-practices-attached-to-large-infrastructure-projects-operationalisation>

facebook page:

<https://web.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072150114672>

1. **From the People’s Assembly/Action, what are the key areas that you think you would want to partner with ACJC in future Counter COPs?**

The key areas we would like partner with ACJC in future are

1. Engagement of students especially girls in public campaigns on climate change.
2. Joint advocacy actions to hold companies accountable for social and environmental impacts caused before, during and after project implementation
3. Sharing of experiences between communities surrounding infrastructure projects in and outside Cameroon on the impacts of these projects