Your gifts at work in Cameroon

 Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing and the Presbyterian Hunger Program have been at work in dozens of countries around the world this year. In Cameroon, the Community Initiative for Sustainable Environment and Gender Development (CISEGD) has provided training for women interested in participating in an integrated yam project.

This project was initiated several years ago, and in 2018 is expanding to new communities. This year women have attended workshops on:

- Yam production and propagation
- Poultry production & organic fertilizer/compost production
- Beekeeping & honey harvesting and processing
- Agroforestry, tree nursery development, tree planting

The components of the project work harmoniously to benefit families and the environment. Trees serve as stakes for growing yams and help protect the plants and soil. Bees provide honey and pollination. Chickens provide a source of protein, income, and waste that is used for organic fertilizer. Yams serve as a source of nutrition, and the surplus can be sold.

Several women involved in the project shared reflections after participating in trainings and putting into practice what they learned.

Growing many crops like yams, poultry, bees and planting trees in a sustainable manner at the same time has the advantage of stopping me from having to buy food . . . it also limits the risks related to losing a particular crop to pests or other problems . . . I am very happy about PHP’s partnership with my community and group, and I sincerely thank CISEGD staff for making this happen.” —Madam Mbah Adeline, wife and mother of six, now confident that she can sustainably raise a substantial income while protecting the earth
“Before this project poultry farming was an activity of the very educated ones, but today we are proud that with the practical lessons and support received, we found out how easy it is to raise chickens as well as market them. This initiative has enabled our women to increase household income, improve nutrition, and provide manure that will sustainably improve soil fertility for the cultivation of yams and other associated crops.” —Madam Margaret, Korokwe farming group leader.

“I use to be very afraid of bees, not knowing the benefits honey bees can bring in our farming system. With this training I have come to love bees . . . we invest in it to ensure, agricultural, economic and environmental sustainability.”

—Atud Loveline, Aket farming group leader

“Over the years we have neglected some very common native trees in farming, not knowing the benefit that these trees bring . . . We have experienced that planting some of these trees with yams and on the boundaries of farms not only act as stakes or improve fertility but prevent wind destruction and mitigate the impact of climate change.” —Mbanwei Zebora, leader of a farming group in Mbunjie village.

Together with partners and supported by One Great Hour of Sharing and gifts to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, we are helping to alleviate hunger and eliminate its underlying causes in places like Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the United States. Some ask us to stand in solidarity with them as they speak for justice related to land and livelihoods; some request support in their work to achieve healthier, more livable environments; and some ask that we reinforce their ability to provide training and resources so that families and communities can grow more and better food. PHP is grateful to be part of the compassionate work of Christ through the church around the world. Thanks to CISEGD for all photos and information from their mid-year 2018 report.