



ACTION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

ACT AT YOUR LEVEL

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2023

ACT AT YOUR LEVEL





# SUMMARY

1 **A word from the President**



2 **About us**



4 **Our achievements**



5 **Biodiversity**



7 **Circular economy**



9 **Agroecology**



11 **Empowerment funds**



14 **Socio-professional integration of young people**



15 **Conclusion**



# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Geneviève Ndjiki Wéladji**  
President of ASD

**Dear members, partners, benefactors, and friends of ASD,**

The year 2023 has been one of concrete actions, renewed commitments, and tangible results for our association in our fight for sustainable development in Cameroon.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the **World Resources Institute (WRI)**, the **International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF)**, and the **GEF SGP UNDP Cameroon**, whose constant support has enabled us to achieve significant progress in our missions. Your technical and financial assistance has been the catalyst for our successes on the ground..

**Our work for biodiversity in the Mengamé Gorilla Sanctuary** has seen remarkable progress, thanks to the decisive support of **the World Resources Institute (WRI) through Global Forest Watch**. Together, we trained **35 local stakeholders (including 7 women)** in forest monitoring technologies; equipped local communities with forest monitoring tools; and produced vital data for the preservation of this natural heritage

**The circular economy** has also made significant strides, driven by our awareness campaigns and support for households. The collection and reuse of over 3,000 plastic bottles and bags, along with the training of 75 households in sorting and composting, perfectly illustrate our philosophy of action: simple, local, and sustainable solutions to complex problems.

**In agroecology**, the results speak for themselves: more than 80 women trained, 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> of experimental crops enriched with compost, and abundant harvests that confirm the relevance of our methods. The school gardens in Yaoundé and the fields in Batchenga are living proof that sustainable agriculture is not only possible but also profitable and beneficial to both health and the environment.

**Women's and youth empowerment** remains our greatest pride. Through our revolving fund, around twenty women have been able to develop income-generating activities, while our processing unit offers concrete job opportunities and added value for local products. The mentoring of seven university students rounds out this holistic approach to socio-professional integration.

These achievements are the result of exemplary collaboration between our team, local communities, and you—our committed partners. They are powerful evidence that the most effective solutions are born from well-orchestrated synergies

As we enter this new year, we count on your continued trust to amplify our impact. Let's keep building together a model of development where economic progress, environmental preservation, and social justice go hand in hand.

Together, let's continue shaping a future where development means sustainability, where growth aligns with conservation, and where every local action contributes to global change.

With all my gratitude.  
**Geneviève Ndjiki Wéladji**



# ABOUT US



## OUR VISION



We help to maintain a stable balance between economic profitability, nature conservation and social equity in the management of natural resources.



## OUR MISSION



We support sustainable development through a participatory approach, to promote and enhance natural resources while helping to improve living conditions for communities and helping different social strata to solve their environmental problems.



## OUR PHILOSOPHY



Our actions are based on the participation of each and every one of us. This collaboration enables each of us, at our own level, to participate in sustainable development, hence our motto “**Act at your level**”!

# ABOUT US

## OUR APPROACH



We use a participatory approach involving all levels of society. In other words, improving livelihoods involves everyone! Involving beneficiaries in this way ensures that our actions are long-lasting and sustainable. What's more, our approach emphasizes the gender aspect. We take minorities (women, young people, indigenous peoples, the disabled, etc.) into account in our actions.

## OUR AREAS OF INTERVENTION



We have four priority areas of intervention:

- Agroecology
- Forest governance
- Sustainable management of natural resources
- Water Hygiene and Sanitation





# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

It's a pleasure to present the results achieved in 2023 and their impact.

# BIODIVERSITY

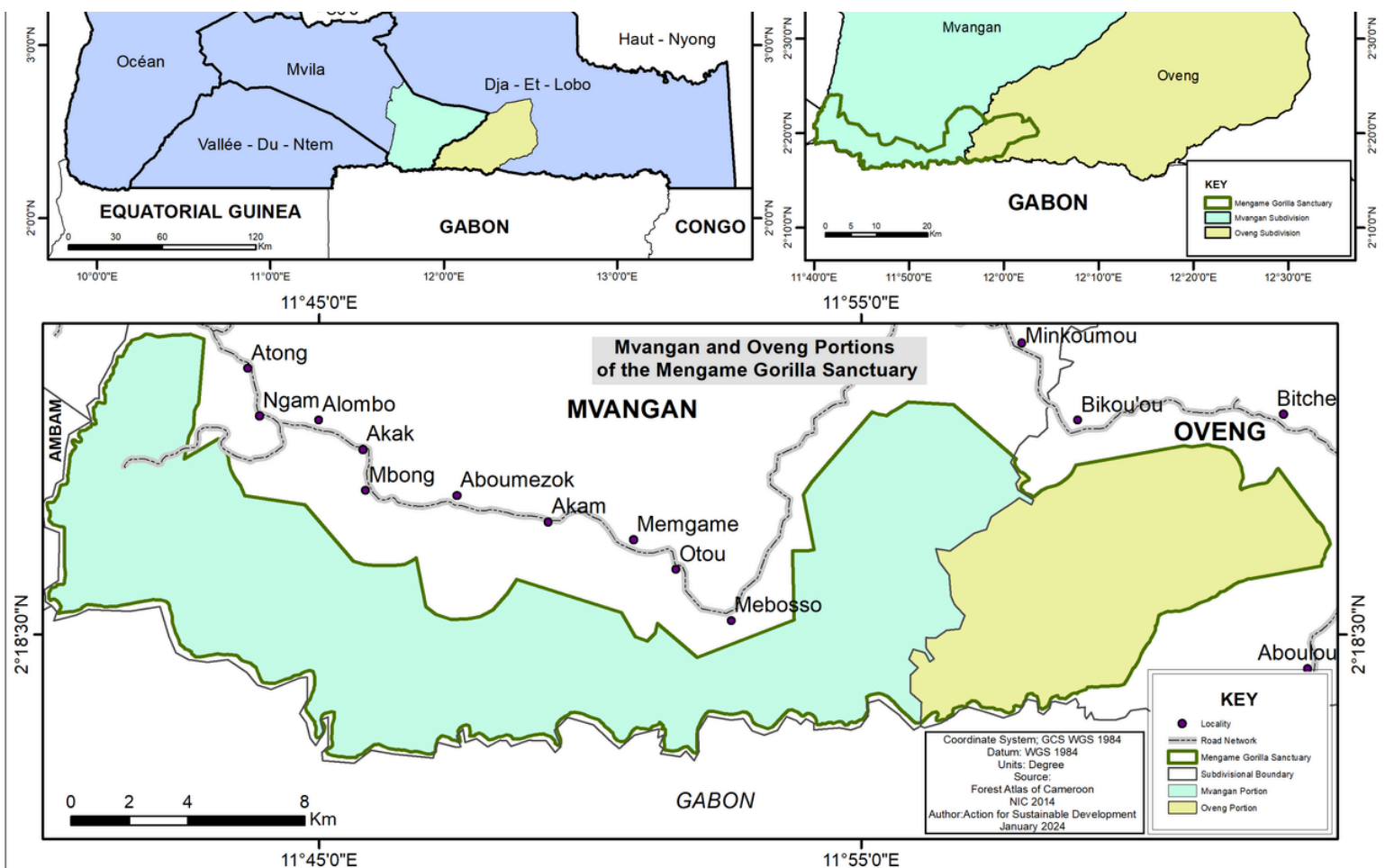
ASD has been committed to biodiversity preservation for several years now. This year, our efforts have been significantly intensified in the Mengamé Gorilla Sanctuary thanks to the support of Global Forest Watch.

**IMPACT**  
**300** people have understood the importance of preserving biodiversity for its benefits to our health, our food and our common well-being.



The Mengamé Gorilla Sanctuary (MGS) is part of the Dja-Odzala-Minkébé Tri-National (TRIDOM) complex. It is located in the equatorial forest zone in southern Cameroon, bordering Gabon. The sanctuary covers an area of 26,780 hectares and spans across the Mvangan district in the Mvila division and the Oveng district in the Dja and Lobo division. The map below provides an overview of the sanctuary.

The MGS faces increasing anthropogenic pressure, which brings numerous challenges to biodiversity, climate, and the well-being of local communities. We have raised awareness and helped communities understand that they play a crucial role in preserving the MGS ecosystem.





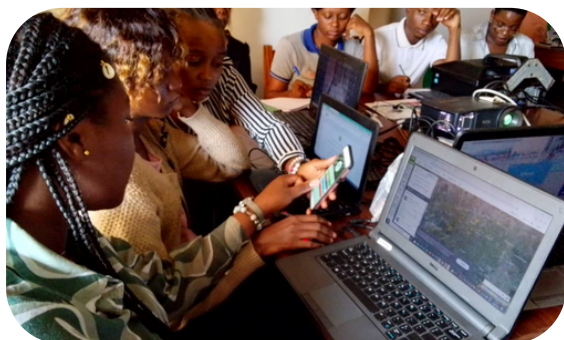
# BIODIVERSITY



## FOREST COVER MONITORING



To better involve the various stakeholders in GMS monitoring, we trained community leaders, ecoguards and local CSOs in the use of Global Forest Watch monitoring tools.



At the same time, students (Master's trainees) also benefited from the training. A dissertation was defended using the data collected thanks to Forest Watcher.

All stakeholders were able to discuss the future of the sanctuary thanks to our project.



## IMPACT



- **35 people (including 7 women) are able to monitor forest cover**
- **1 monitoring committee set up**
- **Updated data (25 ha of forest lost in 3 years (2021-2023))**
- **An observation report sent to MINFOF**



# CIRCULAR ECONOMY



The theory of circular economy states that waste should primarily be reduced at the source, and any waste produced should serve as raw material for other economically profitable and environmentally viable products.

Household waste, made up of 80% biodegradable materials, is a source of natural fertilizer that is beneficial to the soil, microorganisms, and human health. If sorted at the source and collected separately, organic waste would no longer end up in street corners or gutters, and therefore would not clog waterways, which often leads to flooding, waterborne diseases, and widespread damage.

ASD raises awareness and supports households in first understanding the root problem, and then applying simple solutions such as waste separation at the source and composting of organic waste. **COMPOST** is a natural soil amendment that enhances agricultural yield without harming soil microorganisms or human health.

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY



ASD has helped more than **75 households** to separate their waste at source. Biodegradable waste was recycled as organic fertilizer (**COMPOST**).

Used plastic bottles, used cement bags, used buckets and many other objects see their life cycle extended through **their reuse in urban agriculture.**

Thanks to various waste collection campaigns, more than **3,000 plastic bottles and bags** have been collected and reused as containers in urban agriculture.





# AGROECOLOGY



Humanity is facing numerous challenges related to food security, climate change, rapid population growth, and recurring epidemics. Agroecology offers a reliable response to these issues by integrating the principles of ecology and circular economy.

It is therefore essential to promote these practices at the local level, so that the sum of actions in favor of agroecology can generate a global impact. ASD has made it a priority to engage women and young people in this noble cause.



# AGROECOCLOGY



## FIELD COMPOSTING



ASD promotes the use of compost in agriculture as an organic fertilizer in place of chemical fertilizer, which not only kills soil microorganisms, is harmful to health and ends up in watercourses through the action of rain.



Women and young people are encouraged and supported to use compost in field crops, gardens and vegetable plots. This year, the women of the Batchenga district produced compost and used it to fertilize their fields of cassava, groundnuts, yams, etc.

Young students in the city of Yaoundé used the compost to enrich their school vegetable garden.



## IMPACT



- **80 women use compost to amend agricultural soils**
- **5000 m2 of peppers and okra enriched with compost (experimental)**
- **Abundant harvests**





# EMPOWERMENT FUNDS

We're delighted to see that our awareness-raising and training activities are helping communities to change their perceptions and take action. The challenge is often access to financing to launch or expand income-generating activities, in order to improve families' living conditions.

ASD, with the support of its partners, provides vulnerable women and girls with a revolving support fund at very low interest rates. This fund has already helped more than twenty vulnerable women and girls to develop their income-generating activities.



# EMPOWERMENT FUNDS



The empowerment fund granted to beneficiaries ranges from 10,000 FCFA to 100,000 FCFA, repayable after 3 months at a reduced interest rate.

Following their training in the use of local tubers (manioc, plantain, potatoes, etc.), a dozen vulnerable girls and young women started baking with local flours. This was made possible thanks to the empowerment funds.



# EMPOWERMENT FUNDS



Products such as chillies, ginger, vegetables, herbs, etc. are processed and sold on the local market. Thanks to the profits made by the girls and women, the living conditions of their various families have improved.

Adding value to post-harvest products in order to limit losses and wastage of natural resources remains at the heart of ASD's concerns. That's why we've set up a post-harvest processing unit that not only provides employment for vulnerable women and girls, but also processes and preserves agricultural produce.





# SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION

With a view to contributing to **the research and training of young students** in Cameroon, ASD has mentored **7 young** people in their research, with a view to supporting their professional Master's degree for some and their socio-professional integration for others.





# CONCLUSION

The year 2023 marked a decisive milestone for ASD in the realization of its vision for integrated sustainable development.

The results achieved across our four areas of intervention — biodiversity conservation, circular economy, agroecology, and the empowerment of women and youth — highlight the relevance of our approach. Every hectare of forest preserved, every household trained in composting, and every supported woman entrepreneur represents a collective victory — one that goes far beyond statistics to reflect lives that have been truly transformed.

This report is more than a summary of achievements; it is an invitation to continue this human and ecological journey together. To all the partners, communities, and members who embody ASD's values every day, we say thank you. Your commitment is the fertile ground in which the hope for a greener and fairer future grows.

**Together, let's keep writing this powerful story of change!**







# CONTACT US

**ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

P/ **+237 695 25 81 26**



E/ [asdcameroon@gmail.com](mailto:asdcameroon@gmail.com) /  
[info@asd.contact](mailto:info@asd.contact)



W/ <https://www.asd.contact/>



A/ **BP 6358, Yaounde, Cameroun**

