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Website: [www.shumas.org](http://www.shumas.org)

NEWSLETTER (VOL 5)

# SHUMAS



(MFORMI) NDZEREM STEPHEN NJODZEKA (1970–2025)

## MFOOME NDZEREM STEPHEN NJODZEKA THE COMPASSIONATE AND PASSIONATE LEADER

The Director General of SHUMAS of blessed memory, Mformi Stephen Njodzeka was an epitome of humility. A highly talented leader, willing to lend a helping hand to everyone he came across.

His interest in creating a positive impact everywhere he stepped his feet and his tireless dedication symbolised that his humanitarian service was more of a vocation than a profession.

The hundreds of young people and organisations that he mentored prove his selfless service to humanity.

SHUMAS will continue to blossom, thanks to his foresight in building a strong team that will carry on his legacy.

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## EDITORIAL

### HONORING A LEGACY AND ADVANCING WITH PURPOSE

This season marks a time of profound reflection for the SHUMAS family. As we honor the life and contributions of our late Founder and Director General, Mfõómé Ndzerem Stephen Njodzeka, we are deeply moved by the enduring legacy he leaves behind. It is a legacy defined by compassion, humility, visionary leadership, and an unshakeable commitment to human development.

Fondly remembered as Pa SHUMAS, he was more than a leader; he was a symbol of hope. He championed the potential within every individual and believed in the power of collective resilience. His humanitarian values continue to inspire the work we do today. This is visible in every school we construct, every water point we install, every child we reintegrate into the education system, and every farmer we empower through sustainable agriculture.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find tangible examples of SHUMAS' ongoing community impact. Whether delivering life saving WASH interventions to internally displaced families in Galim, distributing dignity kits to adolescent girls in Bamenda, or strengthening agricultural cooperatives across the North West region, our mission remains active, relevant, and transformative.

We are equally grateful for the strategic partnerships that make this work possible. Collaborations with organizations such as UNICEF, WFP, Building Schools for Africa, IRC, Manos Unidas, Spreading Health and others amplify our ability to scale impact and reach the most vulnerable populations. These alliances serve as a reminder that sustainable change is achieved through shared vision and collective action.

To our donors, partners, volunteers, and friends, thank you for believing in our mission. Your support is not only appreciated, it is essential. As we navigate this period with both sorrow and hope, we remain anchored in our purpose. The most meaningful way we can honor Pa SHUMAS is by continuing to serve, continuing to innovate, and continuing to lead with integrity.

Let us move forward together, united by compassion, driven by courage, and committed to building resilient communities for generations to come.

### 67 IDP CHILDREN TRANSITIONED INTO FORMAL SCHOOLS IN GALIM

SHUMAS Cameroon, in partnership with Building Schools for Africa (UK), has successfully transitioned 67 internally displaced children (28 boys, 39 girls) in Galim, Bamboutous Division from temporary learning spaces into formal schools after years of dropout due to the Anglophone crisis. For 3 months, these children were taught using the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) approach in Neighborhood Learning Corners helping them catch up and rekindle their love for learning.

They received:

- ✓ Full educational kits (books, bags, uniforms, and writing materials).
- ✓ Paid school fees.
- ✓ Support for vulnerable families with NFI, WASH, and shelter items.

We're also constructing 3 classrooms in École Publique de Bagam, (Public School of Bagam) , where some of these children will continue their education.

This remarkable event was attended by the DO's office, Inspector of Basic Education, the Mayor, and local leaders.



Transition ceremony in Galim

### SHUMAS BRINGS RELIEF TO IDPS IN GALIM, WEST REGION WITH WASH ITEMS AND MATTRESSES

SHUMAS recently brought much-needed relief to 10 internally displaced households in Galim, West Region, by providing essential hygiene items and mattresses. Each family received a 20-liter jerry can, a bucket, three bars of soap, and one mattress—simple but vital items that will help ease daily challenges after being uprooted by conflict.

The support was informed by a thorough needs assessment and delivered in collaboration with local leaders and authorities to ensure it reached the most vulnerable. Families expressed heartfelt thanks, saying the assistance came at just the right time.

While this gesture offered immediate comfort, SHUMAS is looking ahead and exploring ways to scale up support. The organization remains committed to helping displaced communities find stability and rebuild their lives with dignity.



Beneficiaries exhibit their donations

### SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN NKAMBE : CS MOH SCHOOL GARDEN ON COURSE

The school garden at CS Moh is a hands-on initiative that helps children learn practical farming skills like composting, preparing the land, and nursing seeds. It not only builds environmental awareness and responsibility but also supports the school by generating income—harvested produce will be sold to buy much-needed didactic materials.

Since about 90% of the children's parents are farmers, the knowledge gained at school is likely to be shared and practiced at home. This creates a ripple effect, spreading sustainable farming practices throughout the community and strengthening the link between what children learn and how their families live.



School Garden under construction



Pupils working in the garden



## ENSURING IMPACT: SHUMAS STRENGTHENS UNICEF-ECHO II HUMANITARIAN PROJECT IN NORTHWEST CAMEROON

In May, SHUMAS continued third-party monitoring of the UNICEF-ECHO II project in Cameroon's North West Region, which supports crisis-affected children through education, WASH, and child protection. The focus was on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) component. Forty-five focal persons were selected across Babessi, Bafut, Bamenda III, and Tubah. Engagements with children in formal schools, temporary learning spaces, and out-of-school settings aimed to raise awareness on reporting channels, identify preferred feedback mechanisms, and establish SEA reporting systems. The initiative reinforces accountability and child protection, in line with SHUMAS and UNICEF's commitment to safeguarding children's rights.



Focused Group Discussions in Bamenda III

## GCE PRACTICALS AT THE BUI SCIENCE LABORATORY

Kumbo Public Science Laboratory, a joint initiative by SHUMAS and Citibank, once again hosted hundreds of students for the practical sessions of the Cameroon General Certificate of Education (GCE) exams in Biology and Chemistry. Teachers and students across Bui Division have consistently expressed appreciation for this groundbreaking facility, which has transformed the landscape of science education in the region. The laboratory has not only improved access to practical science education but has also inspired more students to pursue science subjects in public examinations and as a career path.



Physics practicals on course

## BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE AT CETIC BILINGUE DE KOUPA-MENKE

EP Bagam Primary School in Galim Sub-Division, West Region, is being transformed through a partnership between SHUMAS and Building Schools for Africa. Previously operating under poor conditions with only one parent-built classroom and a partitioned community hall, the school served 404 pupils, including 139 Internally Displaced Persons. The ongoing project includes the construction of three new classrooms to accommodate 180 additional children, a head teacher's office, a store, 27 durable benches, and a gender-segregated three-compartment VIP toilet. With classrooms already at the roofing stage and toilet facilities under construction, this initiative is greatly enhancing the learning environment and bringing renewed hope to the community.



Construction of school toilet



Situation Before



Current Construction

## BUI LIVELIHOOD PROJECT: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

"My name is Tata Elizabeth, a member of the Wiratur Farming Group. Before the intervention of SHUMAS and MANOS UNIDAS, I struggled to finance my farming activities and could hardly afford to send my children to school. Through their support, we received maize and vegetable seeds, training on compost manure production and improved crop production techniques. They also provided us with sheep and goats, whose manure has significantly improved soil fertility on our farms. Today, from the sale of huckleberry, I am able to support my children's education and feeding, establish my own farm, and even save money at the credit union. I now practice organic farming and empower other women in my community to do the same. I am deeply grateful to SHUMAS and MANOS UNIDAS for transforming my life and that of my community."



Beneficiary in Kumbo



### SHUMAS SUPPORTS BAMENDA REGIONAL HOSPITAL WITH ADULT DIAPER DONATION

SHUMAS has strengthened patient care at the Bamenda Regional Hospital with a timely donation of 1,000 adult diapers. This support addresses a critical yet often-overlooked need, especially for bedridden, incontinent, and critically ill patients, including those in the ICU. These items are often beyond the financial reach of many families, making this donation a major relief for both caregivers and patients. The Hospital Director expressed heartfelt gratitude, highlighting the positive impact on patient dignity and hygiene. Though a one-time contribution, this gesture reflects SHUMAS's continued commitment to supporting essential healthcare needs and improving the well-being of the region's most vulnerable patients.



Distribution at North West Regional Hospital, Bamenda

### KUMBO BOREHOLE PROJECT COMPLETED AND HANDED OVER TO THE COMMUNITY

SHUMAS and Building Schools for Africa officially handed over a newly completed borehole to the Kumbo community, serving at least 500 households, including GBHS Kumbo students. Community members expressed gratitude, noting the project addressed their long-standing water needs, previously limited, distant, and unsafe. The borehole will also benefit students by eliminating the need to leave school to search for water, reducing accident risks. The handover ceremony featured traditional dances and songs of appreciation from students and community members, led by civil, religious, and traditional authorities.



Handing over gallery



## FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR ASSETS CREATION (FFA) : ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED BENEFICIARIES VERIFIED FOR 2025

SHUMAS, with support from WFP, verified 1,200 households for participation in the FFA Resilience project across 14 sites (Njong, Mbei, Ndzah, Menteh, Mbengwi, Bali, Bambili, Baforkum, Small and Big Babanki, Sabga, Binshua, Nkambe and Kungi). To support timely cash transfers, 1,098 mobile phones were distributed, complementing those provided in 2024.

Beneficiaries continue to actively implement the project through the creation and maintenance of community assets, including farms, fish ponds with water wells, poultry farms, warehouses, and feeder roads. These efforts are boosting food security, income, and long-term resilience in crisis-affected communities.



Physical verification sessions in Mbengwi and Nkambe



Phone distribution in Binshua



## TESTIMONIES FROM SHUMAS-WFP'S SMALL HOLDER AGRICULTURAL MARKET SUPPORT IN THE NORTH WEST REGION



Beneficiary in Santa

"My name is Mbuh Gabriel, Secretary of the Santa Dairy Cooperative. I sincerely thank SHUMAS and WFP for bringing the PULCCA project to our community. Before their intervention, we faced serious challenges at our milk collection center, including poor space management that led to milk contamination, the absence of an industrial meter which damaged some processing machines, and a lack of fencing. Thanks to the project, our offices have been properly demarcated and painted to reduce contamination risks, the center is now secured with barbed wire fencing, and a circuit breaker has been installed to ensure the smooth operation of our machines. These improvements were made possible through funds loaned from the village savings and loans association scheme introduced by the project. Thank you, SHUMAS and WFP, for your support."



Beneficiary in Bambui

"My name is Mbuh Juliana, a proud member of the Atumacha Cooperative. I extend heartfelt thanks to SHUMAS and WFP for introducing the PULCCA project to our community. Before SHUMAS arrived, we lacked knowledge on using organic products and following proper technical farming practices. Since adopting these methods, my health has improved, as I no longer consume food grown with synthetic chemicals. Our farm now serves as a model for others in the community, attracting other farmers eager to learn organic techniques and inspiring many to join our cooperative. Thank you, SHUMAS and WFP, for enlightening us on the value of organic farming and its positive impact on our health."

## WFP AND SHUMAS USING COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS AS A KEY COMPONENT TO FIGHT MALNUTRITION IN THE NORTH WEST REGION

In May, WFP and SHUMAS continued to use cooking demonstrations to fight Malnutrition in the North West Region of Cameroon.

Since early 2025, over 1,000 nutrition demonstrations have been conducted across communities such as Bali, Njong, Mbe, Mbengwi, Nkambe, Kungi, Ndzah, Menteh, Sabga, Baforkum, Binshua, Tubah, Small Babanki, and Big Babanki. These sessions equip beneficiaries with skills to prepare nutrient-rich meals using locally available ingredients, including techniques like super cereal preparation, maintaining proper water-to-food ratios, and creating 5-star meals. The initiative is designed to fight malnutrition and promote sustainable nutritional practices within vulnerable communities.



Cooking Demonstration during home visits in Bali

SHUMAS is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of humanitarian principles, as outlined by the United Nations. We adhere strictly to the policy of "DO NO HARM" in all our interventions, ensuring that our actions bring relief and support to those in need, without causing harm or perpetuating inequality. If anyone claiming to represent SHUMAS requests financial, material, or any other form of compensation in exchange for our services, please report them immediately. This behavior is contrary to our values and principles. To ensure the authenticity of any SHUMAS representative or to report suspicious activities, please contact us directly at

[strategichumanitarianservices@gmail.com](mailto:strategichumanitarianservices@gmail.com) / 672 52 33 41, 679 85 20 90, 677 775 630



### SPREADING HEALTH BOOSTS COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE

The Spreading Health Project continues to make a real difference in local healthcare by training nurses to serve directly in their communities. Recently, three Level 3 students successfully defended their theses, and two intern nurses are gaining hands-on experience under supervision. So far, about 100 nurses have been trained, with 11 more currently in school.

During field visits, it's clear how these nurses are helping to close the gap in the nurse-to-patient ratio by bringing quality care right to people's doorsteps. What once required a trip to a distant hospital is now available within the community. The project is growing steadily, with a strong focus on lasting impact and better health for everyone, especially in underserved areas.



Spreading Health Beneficiary flanked by Hospital and SHUMAS Staffs



Spreading Health Graduating Students defending their nursing certification



### IMPACT OF UNICEF – SHUMAS NUTRITION PROJECT IN LOGONE ET CHARI

SHUMAS-UNICEF Nutrition Project in the three health districts of Logone et Chari have recorded some Key Highlights as follows ,

- ✓3,162 children screened for malnutrition, with 452 cases identified, 163 Severe Acute Malnutrition(SAM) and 327 Moderate Acute Malnutrition(MAM) . The 163 Severe Acute Malnutrition cases referred for care.

- ✓300 women trained in the Mother's MUAC approach, enabling early detection and community-led monitoring.

- ✓61 cooking demonstrations held to promote healthy, nutritious meals using local ingredients.

- ✓36 home gardens established to support sustainable food production at household level.

- ✓540 community members reached with education on social and behavior change for better health practices.

- ✓161 trees planted to enhance environmental sustainability and support climate resilience.

These achievements reflect our commitment to ensuring every child has access to proper nutrition and a healthier future. We remain dedicated to scaling up these efforts and working hand in hand with communities to build lasting impact.



Tree Planting in Goulfey



Nutrition sensitization with women in Fotokol

### PARTOU BROUGHT OUT OF DESPERATION THANKS TO THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR EDUCATION PROJECT (E3)

"My name is Partou Adamou, and I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to SHUMAS and Building Schools for Africa for the incredible support they have given me and my family. When I first met them, we were in a desperate situation—my children were malnourished, out of school, and we had no proper shelter. Today, thanks to their intervention, our lives have been completely transformed. They provided me with start-up capital and essential training, teaching me how to run a sustainable business and manage profits effectively. With this support, I now fry and sell Akara beans in bush markets and resell raw foodstuffs in my community. This has enabled me to feed my children nutritious meals and send them all to school. The assistance I received has not only improved our present circumstances but has empowered me to secure a brighter future for my family. Thank you, SHUMAS and Building Schools for Africa, for everything."



E3 Project Beneficiary in Bamenda



## SHUMAS EMPOWERS WOMEN AND GIRLS IN OLD TOWN – BAMENDA ON WORLD MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY 2025

To mark World Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 29th, 2025, SHUMAS held a Focus Group Discussion with 18 women and girls in Old Town, Bamenda, addressing menstrual hygiene management, breaking taboos, and promoting dignity. The session created a safe space for open dialogue and emotional support, and participants received dignity kits with reusable sanitary pads and soap. One participant shared that the support would help them manage their periods with greater confidence and comfort. Despite the positive impact, many women and girls remain unreached due to limited access to products and education. SHUMAS is therefore seeking additional funding and partnerships to expand this vital initiative across the region.



Focused Group Discussion with Old Town Women, Bamenda

## IRC STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIP WITH SHUMAS THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING

The partnership between SHUMAS and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) reached new heights with a four-day capacity-building training focused on programming, financial management, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation among others. This training serves as a preparatory step for an early recovery humanitarian project in Bamenda, funded by IRC and implemented by SHUMAS.



Four Days Capacity Building Training with IRC

# SOME KEY ACTIVITIES FOR MAY

EDUCATION	Activity	Results
1. Neighbourhood Learning Corner Project Babessi and Galim. ( Building Schools for Africa)	Follow-up of transitioned children, collection and analysing of project feedback through established feedback mechanism.	Sustainability and Better program .
2. ECHO II Educational Project in 6 Divisions of the North West Region. (UNICEF)	Conducting of focused group discussions in all sites. SEA sensitisations.	Feedback and accountability and Increased SEA awareness and reporting.
3. School Construction Projects in CS Moh and CETIC Bilingue de Koupa - Menke ( Building Schools for Africa)	Completion of structures and finishing.	200+ pupils study in a safe and conducive environment. WASH situation of school improved.
HEALTH AND NUTRITION	Activity	Results
1. UNICEF Nutrition Project in the Far North.	Community Engagements and screening for Malnutrition.	Significantly curb malnutrition in children between 6 – 59 months in the Far North Region of Cameroon.
2. Training of Nurses in rural and poor communities of the North West Region.	Active participation of over 100 trained nurses in their various communities and meeting with spreading health students.	Improved medical assistance in poor and rural communities of the North West Region.
WASH	Activity	Results
1. WASH Distribution Project in Health Facilities in the NWR.	Follow up, analysing feedback and reporting.	Sustainability, Feedback and accountability.
FOOD SECURITY	Activity	Results
1. WFP Emergency Project to Combat Food Crisis in the NWR / Food Assistance For Asset Creation (FFA) .	Management of 45 hectares of diverse crops and rehabilitation of earthen , 5 concrete and 5 shallow fishponds. Treatment , installation of 5 solar pumps and stocking along with feeding 650 table birds.  Reception of NFI at the 5 already constructed warehouses.	1,200 households in 14 communities of the crisis stricken NWR receive sustainable agriculture assets to mitigate food insecurity and improve on their livelihoods.
2. WFP Emergency Project to Combat Food Crisis in the NWR / Small Holder Agricultural Market Support(SAMS).	Milk extraction and dairy production. Weeding of farms. Village savings and Loans Association.	Complete weeding, application of manure and moulding. Extract at least 4000l of milk.
3. WFP Emergency Project to Combat Food Crisis in the NWR / Nutrition.	Complete various tasks including home visits, IYCF support, positive deviance activities, PV for PBE, caseload submission, May distribution, and weekly, monthly, and quarterly reports.	Add an additional site for positive deviance managing a minimum of 10 boys and girls MAM cases in the community. Complete the distribution of 1.299 MT of CSB++ to 433 boys and girls in the targeted communities. Reach over 1000 men and women with nutrition sensitive messaging and cooking demonstrations.

## OUR PARTNERS





# SHUMAS' SAFE SHELTER : A SAFE HOME FOR GBV AND SEA SURVIVORS

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a pervasive and devastating issue that affects individuals, families, and communities worldwide. In Cameroon, SHUMAS' Safe Shelter is providing a beacon of hope for survivors of GBV and SEA, offering a confidential, inclusive, and supportive sanctuary for those seeking refuge.



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