

<p>Working For Our Wellbeing WFW Douala-Sable Bonamoussadi</p>		<p>Republic of Cameroon Peace-Work-Fatherland</p>
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2022 Annual Report

Written by	Supervised by
<p>Name & Surname : TCHUENGUIA Brice</p> <p>Fonction : Programme Director</p>	<p>Name & Surname : NKWAIN Hamlet</p> <p>Fonction : Executive Director</p>

Approved by the Board

E-mail: info@ourwellbeingcameroon.org

<https://ourwellbeingcameroon.org/>

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CONTEXT AND ORGANISATION EXPLICATION

We are proud to present this annual activity report, which gives an account of the work accomplished in 2022 and illustrates our commitment to and love of sexual and gender minorities and the dynamism of our team members. This annual activity report contains information on our background, strategies and results for the 2022 financial year in a single document. Combining our reports in this format allows us to provide you with a single source of information in key areas. All financial data for the 2022 financial year is included in this report. Created in 2016 with the aim of giving a stronger voice to the issues of sexual and gender minorities in Cameroon, supporting joint advocacy on their behalf with other organisations fighting discrimination, stigma and violence based on sexual orientation, gender identity and body differences. We take action across the country and internationally through our members and partners.

Working For Our Wellbeing's mission is essentially focused on advocacy for equal rights and access to healthcare for sexual and gender minorities, while providing legal, medical, judicial and psychological support to key individuals and a safe space (refuge) for anyone in the community who is rejected because of their sexual orientation in order to promote the integration, reintegration and fulfilment of MSG in society. A guiding vision to combat exclusion and promote the right to fulfilment, WFW aims to promote a more inclusive society that accepts gender differences and sexual diversity. WFW's values are based on four principles that guide its actions, choices and development: fairness, respect, cooperation and support. A sustained commitment to achieving its mission.

Working For Our Wellbeing has been implementing activities every year since its inception that have achieved annual targets that directly or indirectly benefit the target population. Over the course of this year, we have provided our beneficiaries with a number of activities that meet both long-term and short-term sustainable development objectives, as our target population is among the most socially marginalised and we are therefore committed to providing them with the help and support they need.

The year 2022, although threatened by socio-political turbulence and on the health front with the persistence of the coronavirus pandemic, was a year in which we were able to get to the heart of the needs of the population and prepare ourselves better to respond to the divergence of this diverging pendulum. That said, it was a challenge for us, once again, to be able to respond to the needs of our beneficiaries and achieve the objectives we had set ourselves in time, because over the course of the year, and once again, we were able to put a smile back on the faces of our

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Cameroonian Association for the Defense of Human Rights and the Welfare of All

BP:3712.Douala Cameroun. **Tél:**(+237)675862615/694907628/691188465.

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beneficiaries thanks to the funds we were able to raise, participate in the creation of a favourable and inclusive environment for the LGBT population, help with their social development and be a player in civil society and participate in the reconstruction of a country of Rights.

I. BILAN MORAL

As part of the implementation of its 2022 annual plan, Working For Our Wellbeing has carried out a number of activities, including focus groups, which are associated with information and awareness-raising sessions on specific themes relating to the situation of gender-based violence in Cameroon. These take the form of debates and exchanges, practical activities, documentary screenings, documentation and monitoring of cases of gender-based violence (GBV), accompanied by legal assistance, direct assistance for people in prison, social and medical assistance and, finally, empowerment.

A. 2022 ACTIVITIES

1. **The focus groups:** which took the form of information and awareness-raising sessions and documentary screenings, informed the LGBTQ community about their situation in Cameroon, namely rejection by their families, arbitrary arrests, scams, torture, and physical and psychological violence that prevents them from flourishing in society due to Article 347 bis of the Penal Code, which punishes anyone who has sexual relations with another person of the same sex. A number of topics were discussed to raise awareness among sexual and gender minorities of the various risks and how to avoid them. Behaviour to avoid in public and attitudes to adopt when faced with situations of violence are among the risk-reduction methods used, and 90 beneficiaries took part.



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From below table, we can deduce that the themes tackled that most captivated the community were, among others: Situation of MSG in Cameroon, where we talked about family rejection, arbitrary arrests, physical violence, discrimination and stigmatisation in public services; Homosexuality and Family, where the idea was to highlight the different forces at work between homosexual people and their families; Homosexuality and Religion, where we showed that religion plays a part in the situation experienced by MSG in society; MSG and Digital Security: Social networks the general idea of this theme was to show the danger represented by dating sites that MSG could face.

FOCUS GROUP		
Date	Thème	Effectif
13/05/22	Déconstruire les mythes autour des personnes LGBTQI	14
10/06/22	Situation des MSG au Cameroun	19
17/06/22	Comment sortir de l'oppression?	14
08/07/22	Santé Sexuelle chez les MSG	13
15/07/22	Santé Sexuelle chez les MSG	05
05/08/22	Homosexualité et Société	13
12/08/22	Homosexualité et Famille	16
19/08/22	Homosexualité et Religion	15
09/09/22	MSG comme construction sociale	11
16/09/22	MSG et pilier de développement	10
07/10/22	Instruire la communauté et population générale sur les questions LGBTQI	13

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14/10/2022	Inclusion et intégration des MSG dans la société	10
11/11/2022	MSG et Sécurité Digitale: les réseaux sociaux	15
10/12/2022	Journée Mondiale des Droits de l'Homme: Dignité, Liberté et Justice pour tous	18

2. Documenting cases of violence: Hatred of LGBTQI+ people is omnipresent in Cameroonian society and manifests itself in acts of violence. It is fuelled by many factors, including the criminal environment, culture, customs, ignorance and religion. This report contains quantitative and qualitative data based on content and context analysis. This enabled us to take into account the types of violence, victims, places, sex and age. This approach was adopted with the aim of rendering intelligible the various cases of human rights violations and abuses suffered by MSG. With the participation of our observers in the North-West, South-West and Littoral regions, and the data received by our offices, 196 cases (176 men and 20 women) were recorded in 2022. Among the types of violence suffered by LGBTQI people in 2022, psychological violence was the most recurrent at 132, followed by physical violence at 43 (30 cases of torture), arbitrary arrest at 09, economic violence at 08 and sexual violence at 04. Psychological violence takes the form of defamation, hate speech, family rejection, discrimination, forced marriage, the ban on seeing one's child or partner, conversion therapy, outing, blackmail and violations of other fundamental rights. They are the cause of numerous mental illnesses that can lead to depression, post-traumatic stress, insomnia, permanent anxiety or suicide attempts.



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Régions	Arrestation arbitraire	Violence Physique	Violence Économique	Violence Psychologique	Violence Sexuelle	TOTAL
Centre	/	02	02	04	/	08
Littoral	06	07	02	19	01	35
Nord-Ouest	01	27	01	95	03	127
Ouest	01	/	/	01	/	01
Sud	01	/	/	01	/	02
Sud-Ouest	/	07	03	12	/	22
TOTAL	09	43	08	132	04	196

TORTURES

Tranche d'âge	SEXE		TOTAL
	Masculin	Féminin	
0 - 18	05	02	07
19 - 35	32	06	38
36 - 60	07	04	11
TOTAL:	44	12	56

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3. The Differences Assistances provided.

To counter these acts of violence and violations against sexual and gender minorities, Working For Our Wellbeing has set up responses or mitigations, in other words assistance to help build a safe and conducive environment.

- a. **Legal assistance:** is provided either by a lawyer working in partnership with the organisation or by one of the organisation's leaders. It regularly involves cases of arbitrary arrest, physical or verbal assault, swindling, defamation and blackmail.
- b. **Direct assistance:** this involves visiting detainees convicted of homosexuality and homosexuality-related offences (complicity, attempted promotion).
- c. **Psychological assistance:** this remains the least developed of all the responses, due to the low level of interest expressed by survivors. It should be pointed out that all cases of violence are traumatic and therefore require psychological assistance. This service is also important in cases of family mediation, professional mediation and coming out or outing.
- d. **Medical assistance:** the organisation works in partnership with an accredited specialist doctor who deals with cases of physical violence. Discrimination and stigmatisation are still very prevalent in health facilities, reducing access to services for MSG.
- e. **Social assistance (shelters):** this is both social and psychosocial, and involves listening to victims and receiving survivors in shelters. Most of these people have been rejected by their families or evicted from their homes. The organisation has a whole programme of social reintegration through socio-professional and entrepreneurial training programmes for these survivors.

Assistance Légale	09
Assistance Directe	06
Assistance Psychologique	132
Assistance Médicale	50
Assistance Sociale (Refuge)	10
Assistance Économique (Epowerment)	15
TOTAL	222

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B. PROJETS REPORTS

In addition to the activities planned and carried out by the organisation, projects financed by partners were implemented, including Youth Mobilisation, Trut Fonds and the European Union.

Implemented projects and their sponsors.

- a. **Project RAY-19 of GLOBAL YOUTH MOBILIZATION:** *Raise Youth awareness on the impact of COVID-19 on minority communities (RAY-19)* : Between february and the beginning of August 2022 in the implementation of the **RAY-19** project, we reached more than 300 people who were victims of violences and rights violations. We have assisted 10 people illegally detained. The project permit us to mobilize funds everyday beacuse we receive residents all the time ,some forjust one night others for longer stays.

- b. **PRIDES-CM OF UNION EUROPEAN:** we rounded up the PRIDES-CM project that started since March 2020 and end on the 28 February 2022, this project that permitted us to trained Human Rights Observers and collect gender based violence in the regions of North-West and South-West

- c. **Project GIJ-FREEH of TRUT FONDS: Gender Inclusion&Justice, Free from Homophobia(GIJ-FREEH)** that permitted us to organise and upen space art representation with the memeber of the community and Rights Observers in the South-West region this project permet us to response in short term trauma most MSG people are going trough and to engage in longterm advocacy discussion with MPs.

- d. **P2RITof UNITED NATIONS FONDS:** with the project name “**Promotion and Protection of the Rights of LGBTIQ persons against Torture(P2RIT)**” That permit us to give all direct service to 55 sexual and gender minorities in all regions of cameroon between january 1 to December 31 of this year.

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II. RESSOURCES

<i>HUMAN RESSOURCES</i>		
Boards of members		
Type of Personnels	Number	Observations
Boards of members	8	All members who duly paid their contribution
Total		8
Staffs		
Directors	2	All personnels, Directors and implementation staffs are all volunteers
Implementation Staffs	8	
Total		10
<i>FINANCIAL RESOURCES</i>		
Origin of funds	Bank	Funds received in XAF
Direct sources:		
Union European	UBA	2 242 000
Global Youth Mobilisation	UBA	3 279 791
United Nations Fonds	UBA	31 860 000
TRUT Fonds	UBA	3 279 791
Total donateurs		40 651 582
Indirect sources:		
Contributions	UBA	7 000 000
Donations	UBA	6 000 000
Total autres ressources		13 000 000

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III. CHALLENGES

Over the past few years, homophobia has increased across the country, with negative sentiments against the LGBTIQ+ community resulting in anti-LGBTIQ+ legislation in 2016. This trend has caused significant harm to the community.

The adverse developments and trends in anti-LGBTIQ+ legislation in country present significant challenges for WFW and the broader LGBTIQ+ community. However, with the proper support and interventions, there is an opportunity to create a safer and more inclusive environment for LGBTIQ+ people in Cameroon.

The limitations of financial and personnel resources remain a major impediment to the achievement of results, although WFW has increased its resources by 100% compared to 2021, but has not been able to deliver on its forecasts for 2022.

We work with a very reluctant target group who, for reasons of image security, don't even prefer to make themselves known, and some partners also prefer to remain anonymous. This makes the actions we take very difficult. Despite the support provided, some beneficiaries do not wish to go any further in taking progressive action for fear of reprisals.

Internationally we are members of the following networks: Pan Africa ILGA where our Programme and Financial Director is a board member, Global InterFaith Network, Black Pride Travel Network, EGIDES (Alliance internationale francophone pour l'égalité et les diversités), and TCEN (The Commonwealth Equality Network).

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IV. Annexes



Visit of the UK Deputy

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Arts Expressions representation

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Working meeting with Amnesty reporters

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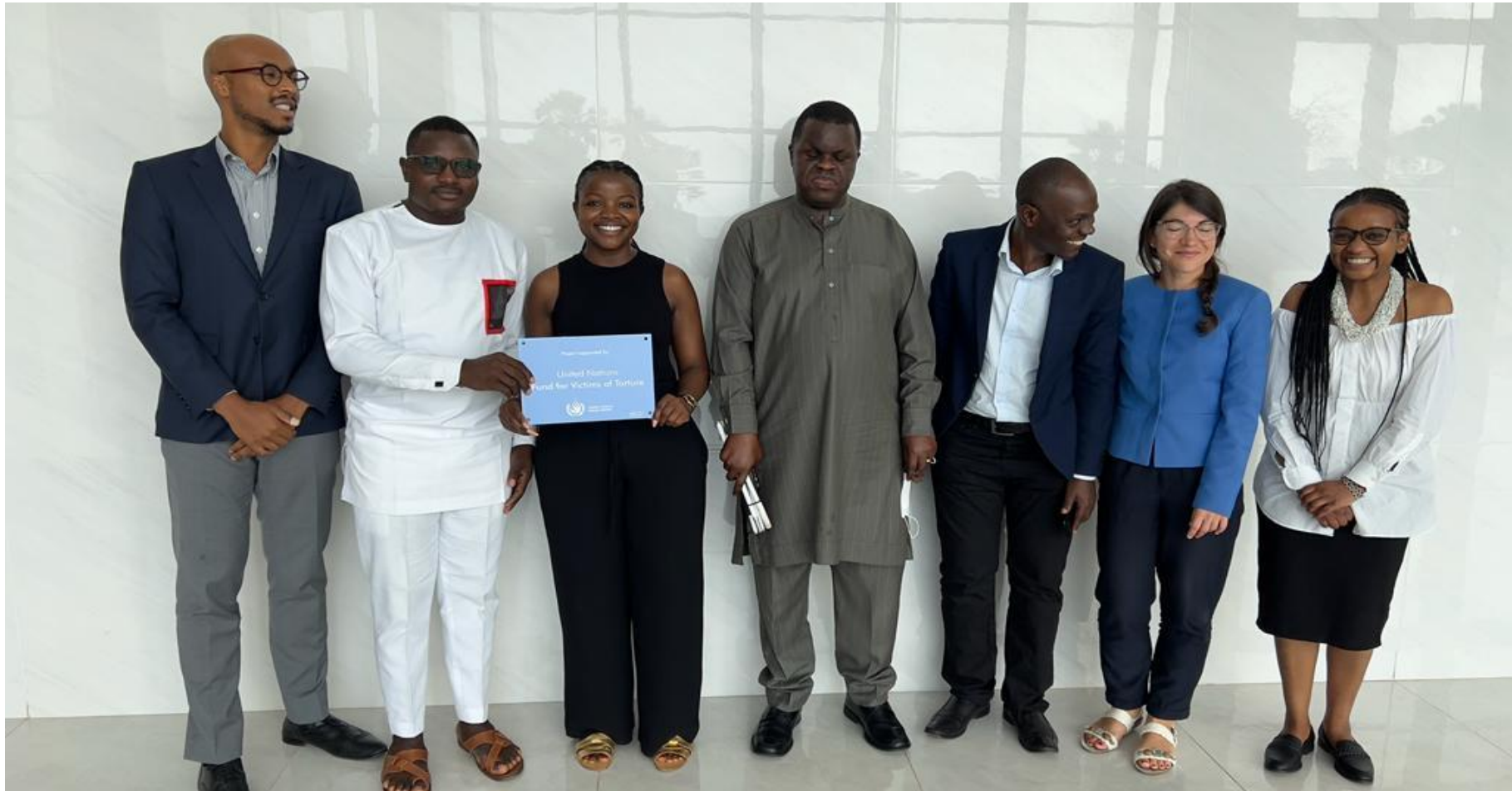
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Meeting with the UN Team in RWANDA

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We Participated actively at the peace building workshop in Buea

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Others

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