



Linking higher education and research to long term investments in capacity building: The experience of University of Dschang, Cameroon



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Outline

- Brief Presentation of University of Dschang (UDs)
- Ecosystem Services related teaching and research conduct at University of Dschang
- Uds' Strategic partnership for efficient capacity building at regional level (& fallouts of the “Journey” to date)

The University of Dschang (Uds) in few words

- Is the first regional Agricultural and natural resources oriented university created in 1993 from the former Schools of Agronomy starting from 1960's (with ENCA);
- Is composed of 7 Faculties/institutes among which the Faculty of Agronomy and Agricultural Sciences (FAAS/FASA);
- Nearly 35,000 students are enrolled, of which about 10% are enrolled in postgraduate studies;
- Is part of a large and dynamic partnership at national (private & public sector), regional and international level.

Ecosystem Services (ES) Teaching and research work at UD

Many **ES** related courses are taught incl *inter alia*:

- Typology of ecosystems (Instructor: **Pr Tsi**);
- Biodiversity conservation (Instructor: **Pr Tchamba**);
- Economy of natural resources (Instructor: **Dr Nkenfack**);
- Ecosystem services from agroforestry systems (Instructor: **Dr AVANA**) »;
- Agrobiodiversity (Instructor: **Dr AVANA**); and
- Ecotourism (Instructor: **Dr Tsague**)

Ecosystem Services (ES) Teaching and research work at Uds (Cont'd)

Also take shape through specialised post graduate programmes such as:

- Professional MSc Program on Climate change and REDD, Audit and Certification of Forest products and Environnemental Impact Assessment (FASA-CRESA);
- Msc in Climate Change, Green Economy and Sustainable Development (Department of Geography);

Ecosystem Services (ES) Teaching and research work at Uds (End)

- Msc and PhD in Agroforestry and Optimisation of Ecosystems Services in Natural and Cultivated Ecosystems in the Congo Basin;
- Msc and PhD in Environmental Management / Integrated Natural Resources Management
- Msc in Agribusiness Management

Uds Strategic Partnership-1 (& fallouts of the “Journey” to date)

RIFFEAC: Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of the Congo Basin Forest ... through

- Regional participatory curricula development in Forest Management and for vocational training, Bachelor and Master studies;
- Research subsidies to students and lecturers to generate knowledge;
- FASA-Uds positions as regional knowledge centre in Agroforestry training;
- Material support and infrastructure development
- Training of trainers (**TOT**) to reduce expertise gaps

Strategic Partnership-2



ANAFE: Building institutional capacity to enhance capacity for agricultural development in Africa agricultural Education ...through

- Reviewing and developing new curricula to respond to emerging agricultural job market;
- Training of lecturers in pedagogy and contextualising textbooks developement;
- FASA-Uds as **pilot regional institution** to develop and test the new curricula in agricultural risk management including Climate Change;

Strategic Partnership-2 (Cont'd)

- 13 fellowships granted for Msc students to generate knowledge on agricultural risk management and agribusiness development;
- Support for recording and traceability of FASA alumni;
- Support for the Study of the State of knowledge on agricultural risk management



Strategic Partnership-3

Platform in Partnership for Research and Training (PCP) in Agroforestry ... through

- Joint resources mobilisation to improve the performance of Agroforestry systems in Cameroon (SAFSE, AS4FOOD, Trade of Cocoa to name a few); and
- Training of **17 students** (Bachelors, Msc) and **7 PhD** candidates so as to increase the pool of expertise in agroforestry.



Nutrient Flows in Perennial Crop-Based Farming Systems in the Humid Forests of Cameroon

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Thank you!