



International Newsletter – September 2016

From the Trustees...

It's good to report more progress against corruption, and more people influenced for good in new ways, in Cameroon and Congo. What continues to limit the work is lack of finance. This is not helped by the falling value of the Pound following the Brexit vote. Please continue to pray for the Lord to provide for our friends in their vital work, and for the means to extend it to other equally needy countries of Africa.

As always, for more information, please go to www.igi-integrity.com, or join the discussion on our Facebook page:



Buea Municipal Council Presents
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE GOVERNANCE FELLOWSHIP

A BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE GOVERNANCE TRAINING

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@ Buea Council Hall

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Public servants, Entrepreneurs; Graduates and individuals who
desire to improve their competencies in business
management and local governance for the sustainable
development of Buea Municipality and the entire nation

1. Advert for the Fellowship

A new generation of public servants in Cameroon

Yet again, Buea in south-west Cameroon is breaking new ground. FITCAM has worked with the municipality to deliver a fellowship in *Business Management and Public Service Governance Training* (BMF), aimed directly at improving the performance of local civil servants and business leaders.

In this issue

- A new generation of public servants in Cameroon
- Progress, but background tension in Congo

Stephen Asek cites World Bank findings:

...the World Bank notes that despite more than a decade of economic growth, poverty in Cameroon has remained almost unchanged since 2001. The situation is even worse in rural areas where, the percentage of poor increased from 52% in 2001 to 56.8% in 2014... It is clear that Cameroon's development challenges are subject not only to weak governance and poor corruption control, but more also, to the near absence of real inclusiveness of ordinary citizens in the implementation of policies and national development goals at sub-national levels.

The Fellowship starts to address this at the level of the skills and training for mid- or early-career managers.

On the 4th of June, 2016, following more than one year of negotiations and

lobbying, FITCAM entered a MOU and launched the first edition of the Fellowship in Buea. The initial invitation for applicants brought in 320 responses from diverse disciplines and communities across south-western Cameroon. The selected applicants received six days of seminars and workshops on a range of subjects, from Financial Accounting to Human Resource management, to detecting fraud and corruption. Several modules on good governance and integrity were delivered by FITCAM team members.

The Fellowship enriched and improved participants' professional knowledge and competencies in areas that had initially limited their ability to attract investment locally and encourage sustainable development. It's now the goal to scale up this successful initiative to a national level. However, to achieve this it will be vital for FITCAM to attract significantly more financial support in a very difficult and tight funding market. The development of much promising work initiated in Cameroon over the last few years is now held back by the lack of funding for smaller organisations like IGI.



2. Delegates with their certificates at conclusion

Please pray...

- Continued progress by the 20 Kenyan Community Taxpayer's Associations, encouragement and protection in the task of holding authorities to account;
- The financial needs of the work in Cameroon to be met;
- A peaceful run-up to elections in DRC, and progress with the work both in South and North Kivu;
- Encouragement for Hilaire and team in Rwanda and a good reception in the schools where they seek to educate children in integrity;
- Wisdom for the Trustees.



3. The sprawling city of Goma, at the foot of Mt. Nyiragongo (courtesy Al Jazeera)

Progress, but background tension in Congo

As reported in the last newsletter, IGI DRC completed a comprehensive review of efforts to fight corruption, at the invitation of the Governor of North Kivu province.

The report has now been delivered. After a thorough review of the provincial government's anti-corruption mechanisms, Martin and the team drew the following conclusions:

...the struggle...against corruption in which the Executive of the Province of North Kivu is engaged ...determines the good functioning of all the institutions of public service of the province. ...It needs a working together of state and non-state actors. ...The analysis by the IGI Consultants indicates the need for reorganisation...and education.

The report then sets out a road-map for achieving these aims.

DRC faces serious political tension and potential civil unrest, especially in the east (i.e. Kivu) in the run up to presidential elections scheduled for later this year, so it remains to be seen how quickly any further progress can be made.

IGI DRC members are also preparing to assist with monitoring the elections.