



SELF ANNUAL REPORT - 2021



ABOUT SELF



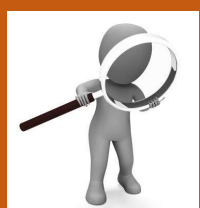
Saika Elisabeth Foundation, abridged as SELF is a non-profit making humanitarian and development association, working for the benefit of disadvantaged persons and for very poor communities in developing countries, especially Cameroon.

*SELF was founded in 2018 and legally registered on the 29th of December 2020 with registration number: **133/RDA/F35/ALPAS***

Our Mission



The mission of SELF is to assist, empower, and holistically transform the lives of disadvantaged persons so that they can live independently with dignity and self-esteem and become active and productive members in the sustainable development of their local communities...as well as be inspiration to others



Our Vision

SELF envisions a more equitable society wherein every individual or community has the opportunity and capacity to sustainably meet their basic human and community needs

Message from Programs Manager

The year 2021 has not only made SELF 4 years old; and does not only mark the 1st year of SELF's existence as a registered Association in Cameroon. but it has equally been a year of significant achievements for the Foundation. The global financial difficulties coupled with the COVID 19 pandemic whose ramifications were felt in Cameroon too, also of course, affected SELF but it did not stop the association's determination to pursue excellence with generosity and sponsorship of the Founder/CEO of SELF and the commitment and dynamism of the SELF staff.



The significant achievements of SELF in 2021 show just how serious the Foundation has been towards meeting its goals and objectives. Although the figures may not seem very enormous, it is satisfying to report that we almost hit targets established in 2021. Through its various ongoing projects, SELF significantly contributed in the lives of disadvantaged persons forcefully displaced internally by the prolonged and ongoing armed conflict in the North West and South West of Cameroon to seek refuge in the major unaffected cities of the country.

As a very young organization we cannot as yet boast of or claim any breakthroughs; we can only speak of trends. We are encouraged by the progress that we made but not blinded to enormous challenges that lie ahead. Building on a strong foundation of hard work, determination and optimism, we believe that we will solidify, enhance and reinforce our reputation for excellence.

We are thankful to the senior CEO of SELF for his guidance and support and sincerely extend deep gratitude to him for single-handedly providing the funds that made our programs successful. We would like to declare that we are very open and would very much appreciate and welcome any positive feedback/suggestions for further improvement in our earnest endeavor to serve, and to be able to serve better

It is with great excitement that we look forward to the year 2022.

Yongka Gilbert Kininver

Programs Manager – SELF Cameroon



SELF Activities in 2021 at a Glance...

Provision of relevant, reliable, and sustainable livelihood skills training to internally displaced youth

- Identifying vulnerable internally displaced out of school youths and determining their training priorities
- assessing local market skills gaps to identify trade areas that have the potential to provide the most opportunities for trained IDPs
- Identifying appropriate Apprenticeship Worksites
- Provide training and skills development for youth in identified livelihoods areas through placement of apprentices with identified workshops
- Following-up and coaching trainees in apprenticeship
- Organizing capacity building workshops on basic entrepreneurship, business management, and leadership skills for youths in skills training and for potential beneficiaries of micro credits.

Provision of safe, inclusive, and quality education to internally displaced children and youth

- Identifying and registering vulnerable internally displaced children with a passion for education
- screening and selecting eligible beneficiaries for education assistance
- Visiting homes and having meetings with selected beneficiaries and their parents or guardians, and determining their education needs
- Visiting academic institutions and gathering information on their school fees amounts; additional needs and costs; and enrolment requirements.
- Assembling and disbursing funds for school fees and other school supplies to beneficiaries according to their identified needs
- Follow-up of beneficiary students' attendance and performance

Supporting internally displaced persons to re-establish their livelihoods using a credit-approach

- Identifying and mobilizing potential beneficiaries
- Screening and selecting eligible micro businesses
- Organizing capacity building workshops in basic entrepreneurship; business management; leadership skills; and the principles and procedures of the SELF Microcredit Initiative
- Signing of micro loan contracts
- Disbursing micro loans to selected beneficiaries
- Carrying out of baseline surveys to understand the current livelihood situation of the project beneficiaries
- Monitoring, supervising, tracking loans, and providing ongoing support, mentoring, and coaching to the financed micro businesses
- Carrying out of project impact evaluation and lessons learned



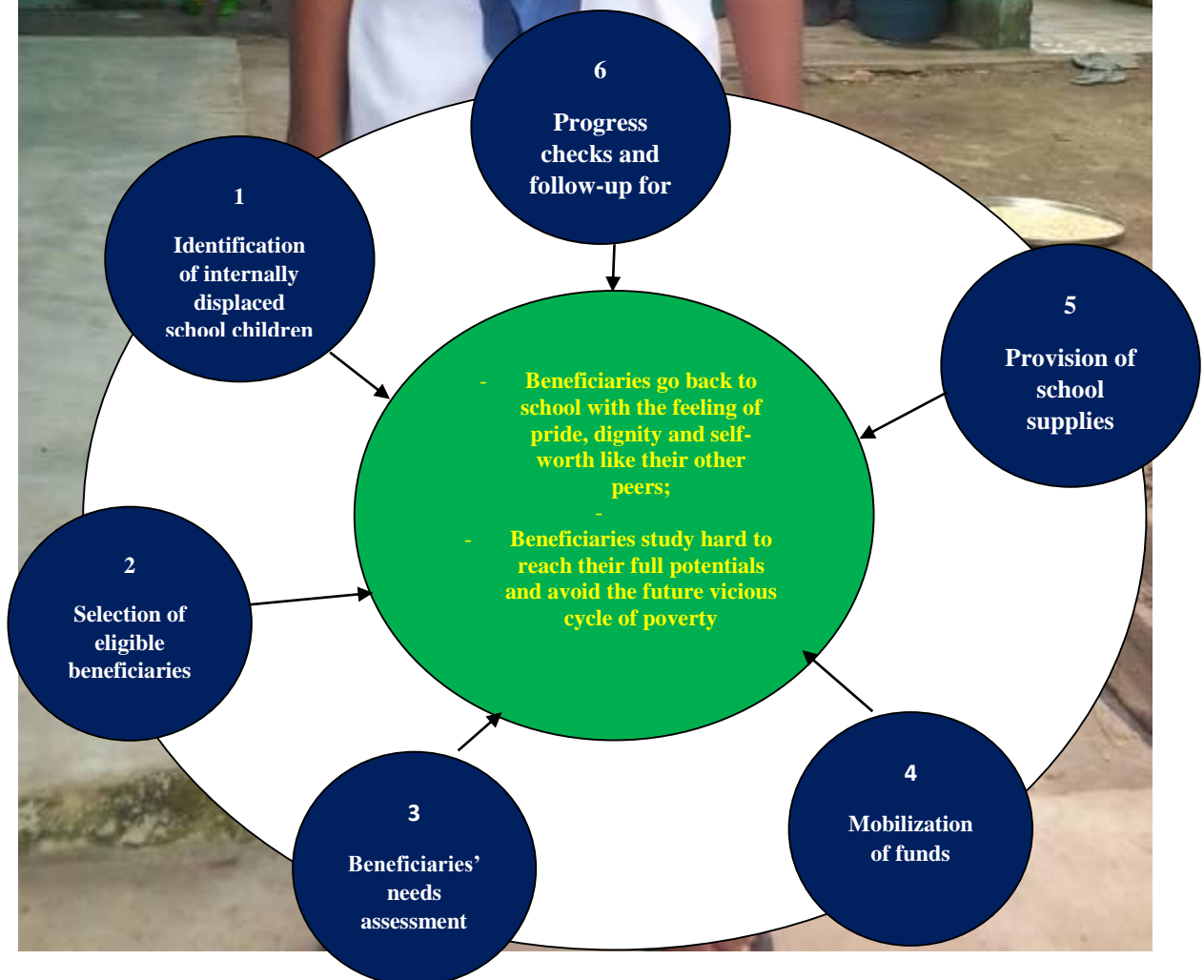
SELF Projects in 2021



In the year 2021, SELF accompanied, served, and advocated the cause of some Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the major cities of Cameroon through the implementation of education support, livelihood skills training support, and micro business support projects.

Back to School with SELF Project

...providing internally displaced children and youth with safe, inclusive and quality education...



Why this project?

Back to School with SELF is a project designed by SELF to assist disadvantaged and vulnerable children with grade-appropriate school supplies, school fees, and other relevant costs that they need to go back to school and learn with dignity and self-esteem as their privileged peers.

The 2021 Back to School with SELF project took a special interest in some out-of-school children that have been forcefully displaced internally by the ongoing armed conflict in the North West and South West Regions of Cameroon to the major non-affected cities of Cameroon. These children are deprived of a safe, inclusive and quality education and the multitude of short- and long-term advantages it affords. Their families lack the financial and material means to send them to school after losing their livelihoods, homes, possessions, and employment, etc.; some of the families are forced to choose between eating or sending their children to school; while some oblige their children to hawk in the streets or do odd jobs to help their families earn an income.

This lack of education opportunities coupled with their exposure to the streets increases some of the children and youths' vulnerability to violence, drug abuse, child marriages, child labour, juvenile delinquency, and possible return and recruitment into armed groups.

In response to the education needs of the hardest-hit internally displaced children and

youths who in spite of the difficulties still have a passion for education; SELF identified eligible beneficiaries and assisted them with grade-appropriate financial, material, and moral resources they needed to benefit from a safe, inclusive, and quality education that they need to thrive

The objectives of this special Back to School with SELF Project for internally displaced out-of-school children were to:

- Provide them with quality inclusive education they need to reach their full potential
- Enable them to go back to school with pride and dignity as their privileged peers
- Improve their ability to adapt and integrate into their new host communities

Outcome of the Project

- School fees, registration and school supplies provided for 25 internally displaced children and youth in primary, secondary and high school; and university in the cities of Douala and Yaounde
- 01 student registered for GCE Advanced Level examination
- 01 student registered for HND Examination

- Internship registration paid for two students
- A residential apartment was secured and rented for 07 Internally displaced school children in Yaounde

Testimonies

My name is Dzekashu Louisa Marie, an internally displaced girl from Jakiri in Bui Division of the North West Region of Cameroon. When I graduated from the high school with a GCE Advance Level Certificate, my parents being peasant farmers did not have the financial means to permit me further my education to the university. With limited education and lack of skills to get any job, I spent my time assisting my parents in the farm until the advent of the armed conflict in the North West Region which forcefully displaced me to Yaounde.

Travelling and living in a new place and unprepared was very difficult and I faced all the challenges an IDP could face. Thanks to full sponsorship by the Back to School with SELF Project, I enrolled at CITEC Higher Institute of Technology and Management, Yaounde where I studied Project Management for three years. This education assistance really changed my life and today, I am a proud holder of a Bachelor Degree in Project Management.

I wish to thank the Saika Elisabeth Foundation so much and hope to be able to also contribute to the education of some other disadvantaged children in the future through the Back to School with SELF Project.



“It is the smile on my children’s faces everyday they leave for school that makes me realize I have not lost a thing...”

Juliet Kila - mother to three internally displaced children; beneficiaries of the 2021 Back to School with SELF Project

SELF Microcredit initiative (SMIT)



**Supporting
Internally
Displaced Persons
to Re-establish
their Livelihoods
using a Credit-
based Approach**

Why this project?

The SELF Microcredit Initiative focuses on stable and economically active internally displaced persons, especially women from the North West and South West Regions living under harsh conditions in the major cities of Cameroon; and who have the skills, capacity, and desire to actively pursue a livelihood; but lack the financial resources to transform their micro business ideas into practical realities. This project supports livelihoods of eligible internally displaced persons using a credit-based approach as a sustainable and dignified way both to assist displaced people and to benefit their host communities.

As the armed conflict in the North West and South West Regions of Cameroon continue to drag on, many forcefully displaced people in the unaffected major cities of Cameroon now find themselves without humanitarian

assistance and increasingly without the kindness of their hosts, and resources they need to survive. With limited or no formal employment opportunities available in these major cities, creating small businesses in the informal market is the main route to an income for internally displaced persons. Some of them have very brilliant business ideas but lack the financial or material means to transform these business ideas to practical realities. They do not have access to bank loans since they are perceived by Banks and other Microfinance Institutions as “high-risk” group that may simply return to their communities without paying loans. Even where access is not denied, these internally displaced persons lack the collateral and documentation required to secure loans and some are therefore so desperate for credit that they resort to the use of exploitative moneylenders, or illicit sources, who don't

hesitate to use force or other threats to get repayment; while some turn to illegitimate and dangerous livelihood strategies; and others susceptible to exploitation.

Towards the end of the year 2021, Saika Elisabeth Foundation in response to some internally displaced persons' demand for credit services and programs supporting income generating activities and entrepreneurship, initiated the SELF Microcredit Initiative, (SMIT) with the major goal being to enable forcibly displaced people to pursue livelihoods in a sustainable and dignified way, through the provision of credit and other income generating resources.

This initiative is managing a small revolving fund and disbursing collateral-free and interest-free micro loans of up to 100,000FCFA to stable, economically active internally displaced persons who intend to expand their microenterprises and/or demonstrate their own initiative in starting a business.

Expected Results

- Acquisition of basic knowledge in leadership skills, business management, and entrepreneurship.
- Acquisition of increased incomes, enhanced standards of living, and self-reliance
- Acquisition of social and economic empowerment
- Acquisition of increased self-respect and self-esteem
- acquisition of financial discipline and learn how to save and invest.

Achievements in 2021

- The sum of 1,000,000FCFA was made available by SELF for micro loans
- 01 IDP received 100,000 FCA as micro credit to expand her provision store
- Provision has been for capacity building workshops on entrepreneurship and business management, and leadership skills for eligible beneficiaries.



IDP Livelihood and Skills Training Support Project



***Provision of relevant, reliable, and
sustainable livelihood skills
training to internally displaced
youths***



Supporting IDP employment through apprenticeships

Why this Project?

The lack of education and adequate skills; and having been disconnected from their communities and social networks for about five years now has made it harder for most out-of-school internally displaced youths living under harsh conditions in the major cities across Cameroon to find employment. Most of these youths have therefore tremendously remained poor, are highly vulnerable to exploitation and marginalization, and some are often forced to resort to inappropriate survival strategies

The IDP Livelihood Skills Training and Support Project was therefore initiated by Saika Elisabeth Foundation in mid-2021 to create economic opportunities for disadvantaged out-of-school internally displaced youths by

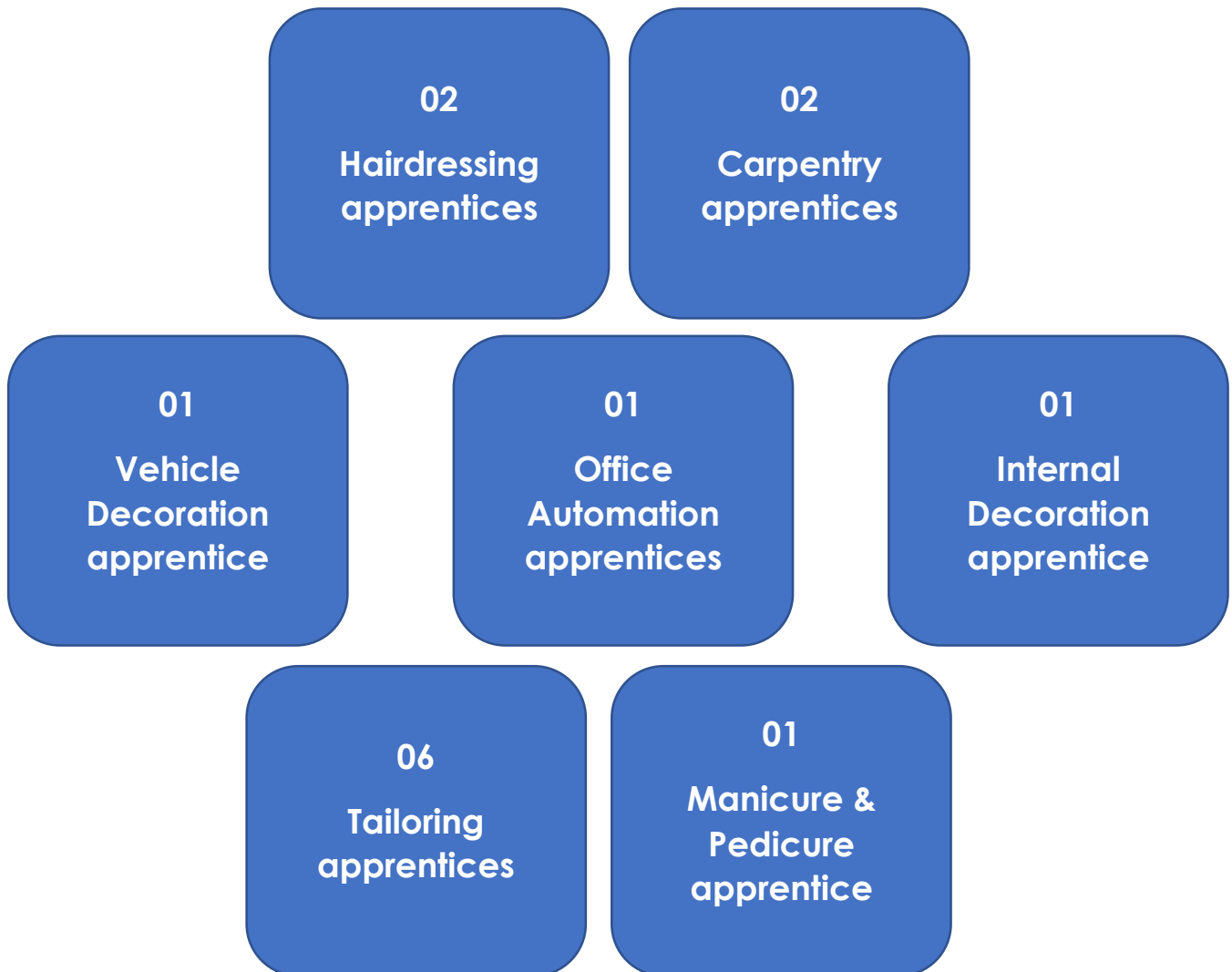
providing them with chances for quality skills training and apprenticeship that would increase employability and smoothen their transition from inactivity/unemployment to employment or self-employment.

With the conviction that traditional apprenticeship training is a low-cost skills training method that provides learning opportunities to individuals who lack the educational requirements for formal training; SELF uses the apprenticeship training approach as the tool to permit eligible out-of-school internally displaced youths to learn trades or skills through hands-on training from skilled workers at their worksites for a recognized and agreed period.

In 2021 therefore, the project placed and assigned 14 out-of-school internally displaced youths, mostly girls to skilled workers based on their interest in particular trade areas and distance from their homes. These apprenticeships will last from six months to three years depending on the trade area. In addition to skills training, periodic capacity building workshops organized to drill project beneficiaries in basic entrepreneurship; business management; leadership skills; and the principles and procedures of the SELF Microcredit Initiative

Outcome

- Apprentices are acquiring livelihood and leadership skills to increase their chances at the labour market or help them become self-employed.
- Apprentices are creating contacts during the training which can be useful for their future employment.
- Apprentices are having chances to socialize and create contacts and friendships which are resulting in better social cohesion.



Orphan Care

Every child needs food, shelter, healthcare, education, and love...



At SELF, providing assistance to orphans and vulnerable children is one of our key responsibilities and commitment. We go beyond supporting unsponsored children, widows and orphaned families to providing assistance to orphanages and similar institutions that are already established but lack the support they need to care for the orphans they house to reach their full potential. This is often done through providing these children with adequate food, health care, clothing, and education, etc.

In June 2021, SELF extended its humanitarian assistance to 55 orphans housed by **HOUSE OF HOPE ORPHANAGE** situated in **NGEN-MBO-MBENGWI**, one of the ongoing armed-conflict localities in the North West Regions of Cameroon. In response to and SOS appeal made by the management of House of Hope Orphanage, SELF instantly responded by giving its own generous contribution of items comprising of foodstuffs, medication, and toiletries; worth about 500,000FCFA.

SELF Visibility Improvement in 2021

Visibility and public awareness are very important concerns for any organization. People can only donate, volunteer and support your work if they know your organization exists. Therefore, in order to boost its visibility and reach out to a wider audience of eligible beneficiaries and potential donors, SELF carried out the following activities:

- Enhanced SELF active and presence on Social Media networks by reactivating its Facebook page and uploading information to create awareness about SELF and its activities to the over 2.8 billion monthly active users of Facebook.
- Printed and distributed SELF T-shirts in order to spread the message about SELF and increase awareness of its cause
- Approved the proposal to create a SELF Website and started drafting and organizing information to be uploaded to the website

Creation of the SELF Bank Account

In 2021, SELF opened the following current account with the **United Bank for Africa (UBA), Douala – Littoral Region of Cameroon** for the operations of its humanitarian and development activities:

Account Name: **Saika Elisabeth Foundation**

Account Number: **09031000072**

RIB: **36**

Swift Code: **UNAFMCX**

IBAN: **CM21-10033-05209-09031000072-36**



