

# BIHDUMLEM HUMANITARIAN ASSOCIATION OF PEACE AND HOPE (BIHAPH)

*Non-profit, Non-Governmental, apolitical and non- denominational organization*

## PRESENTATION OF BIHDUMLEM HUMANITARIAN ASSOCIATION OF PEACE AND HOPE AND PAST ACHIEVEMENTGS (BIHAPH)

### ADDRESS

**Wum Central Subdivision  
Menchum Division  
North West  
Cameroon**



### INTERVENTION ARESAS

- **Conflict transformation**
- **Peacebuilding**
- **Gender Equality**
- **Women empowerment**
- **Human rights**



## **A. ORGANISATIONAL BACKGROUND**

### **1. DESCRIPTION OF BIHAPH**

BIHAPH is a non-profit grass root humanitarian Organization registered in the United States as 501-C and in Cameroon. BIHAPH works towards conflict prevention, Humanitarian Assistance, Livelihood, and peacebuilding. The Organization supports vulnerable women, girls and children, people with disabilities, and youths especially those affected by wars, conflict, and disasters in healthcare, education, capacity building, and entrepreneurship to ensure long-term economic development within impoverished rural communities in Cameroon. BIHAPH has touched and transformed the lives of more than 12.000 persons living in poor rural communities in the North West Region through sponsorship programs, education, health provision, and vocational training.

### **2. BACKGROUND/OPERATIONAL CONTEXT**

The Anglophone crisis which started in 2016 escalated into a full-blown armed conflict with devastating consequences on the rural and grassroots population. Armed separatist fighters rose against the state security forces creating a security vacuum. This disturbing situation has led to widespread fear, havoc, untold misery and suffering. The already poverty-stricken population is caught in this web.

Many people lost their lives, businesses, jobs, and property, with over 500.000 people displaced internally. The insecurity, unprecedented killings, and kidnappings led to a slump in economic activities in the Region. The poverty level of the people increased resulting in a high dependency rate forcing young girls into prostitution. Crime wave also surged and all forms of violence against women became commonplace. Poor rural women and children were the most affected.

### **3. LEGAL STATUS**

Bihndumlem Humanitarian Association for Peace and Hope (BIHAPH) was created in 2014. It is an organization dedicated to tackling the Cameroonian population's development issues. It is registered as a 501-C3 humanitarian organization in the US and as an association in Cameroon

### **4. OUR VISION**

An empowered community: free from war, conflict, poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive. A world where no woman, girl or man lives in poverty, fear or oppression, where all have access to a decent standard of living and the opportunities and choices essential to a long healthy and creative life.

## 5. OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To uplift the living standards of the poor and disadvantaged communities affected by war and conflicts in Cameroon and beyond through partnership, capacity building, and development programs by empowering communities to respond more effectively to their needs.

## 6. OUR CORE VALUES

- Honesty
- Gender-sensitive
- Non-Partisan
- Participative
- Cooperation
- Integrity

### **Our passion:**

Transformation, respect, empowerment, diversity, excellence and equality serve as the foundation for all that we do

## 7. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1) Empowerment of communities through capacity building development for effective resource mobilization and utilization through neighborhood assemblies group, dynamics and other focus programmes.
- 2) Assist communities improve production through adaptation of appropriate technologies.
  - Zero grazing
  - Organic farming.
  - Information technology.
- 3) Expand health and nutrition support programs to include HIV/AIDS, and covid19 as cross-cutting challenges in all BIHAPH activities.
- 4) To enhance partnership and collaboration with relevant government departments for improved sustainable development.
- 5) Strengthen neighbourhood assemblies to build the community's capacity to demand resources and services from the government and other actors.
- 6) To continuously empower communities to advocate and lobby for positive changes through:
  - i. Mainstreaming and promotion of gender equity at all levels.
  - ii. Lobbying and advocating for affirmative actions at all levels.

- iii. Advocating and supporting women's property inheritance rights.
  - iv. Empowering women with relevant skills to demand decision-making positions in Cameroon.
  - v. Promoting, encouraging and support of girl child education.
- 7) BIHAPH to continuously strengthen accountability standards, improve its resource base, and inspire mutual trust and partnership with donors and other stakeholders.
- 8) To work toward improving networking and coordination with regional, national and international collaborators.
- 9) To set up a resources Centre at the community level to ease information flow from stakeholders and vice versa.

## **8. PRIORITY AREAS**

- Conflict Transformation and Peace Building
- Sexual and Reproduction Health Rights
- Women's Development Programs
- Gender-Based Violence
- Sustainable Livelihood/Income Generating Activities
- Humanitarian Assistance in Emergencies
- Child Protection and Education Through Child-friendly spaces
- Water, Hygiene, and Sanitation
- Environmental Sustainability and Biodiversity Promotion

## **9. INTERVENTION STRATEGIES**

### **Community mobilization**

We engage and empower individuals and communities to take collective action to address their challenges.

### **Participation**

Our participatory approach involves encouraging individuals and communities to actively engage in decision-making processes, activities, or initiatives that affect them, fostering their inclusivity and empowerment.

### **Innovation and technology**

We adopt and apply novel ideas, methods, tools, and advancements to enhance and transform various aspects of human endeavours, driving progress and efficiency.

### **Capacity building**

BIHAPH is developing and strengthening the knowledge, skills, resources, and abilities of individuals, and communities, enabling them to effectively address challenges, achieve their goals, and sustain positive change.

**Advocacy:**

We actively support, promote, and defend human rights through various strategies and actions to influence decision-makers, and public opinion, and bring about desired changes.

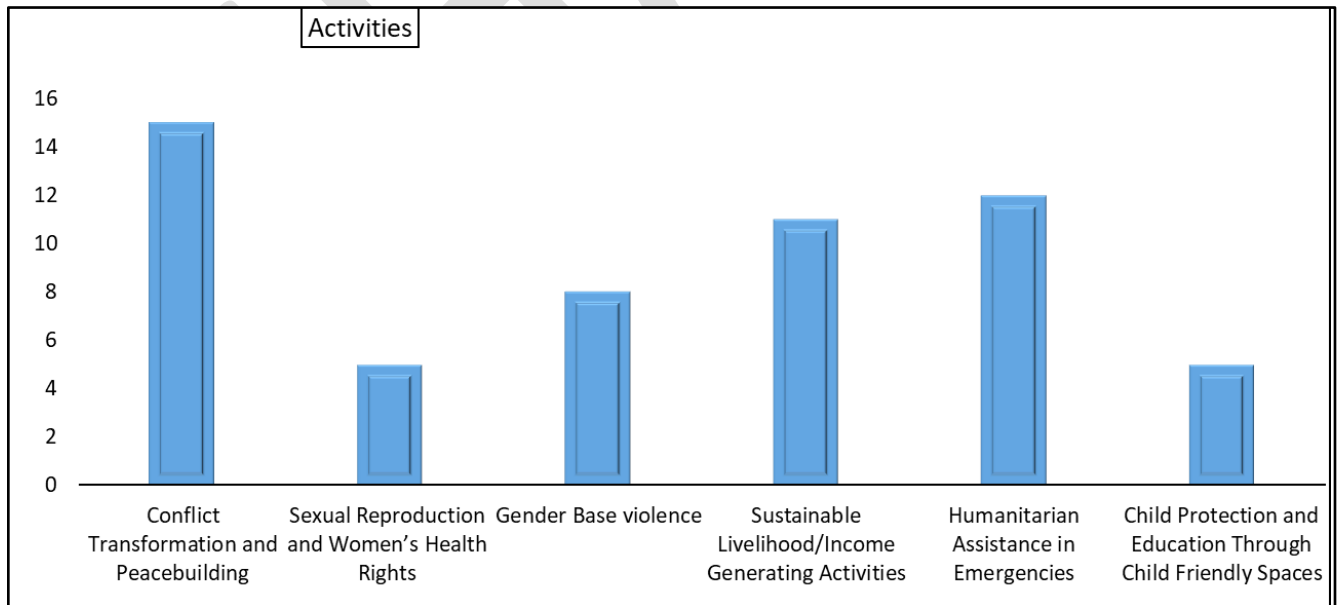
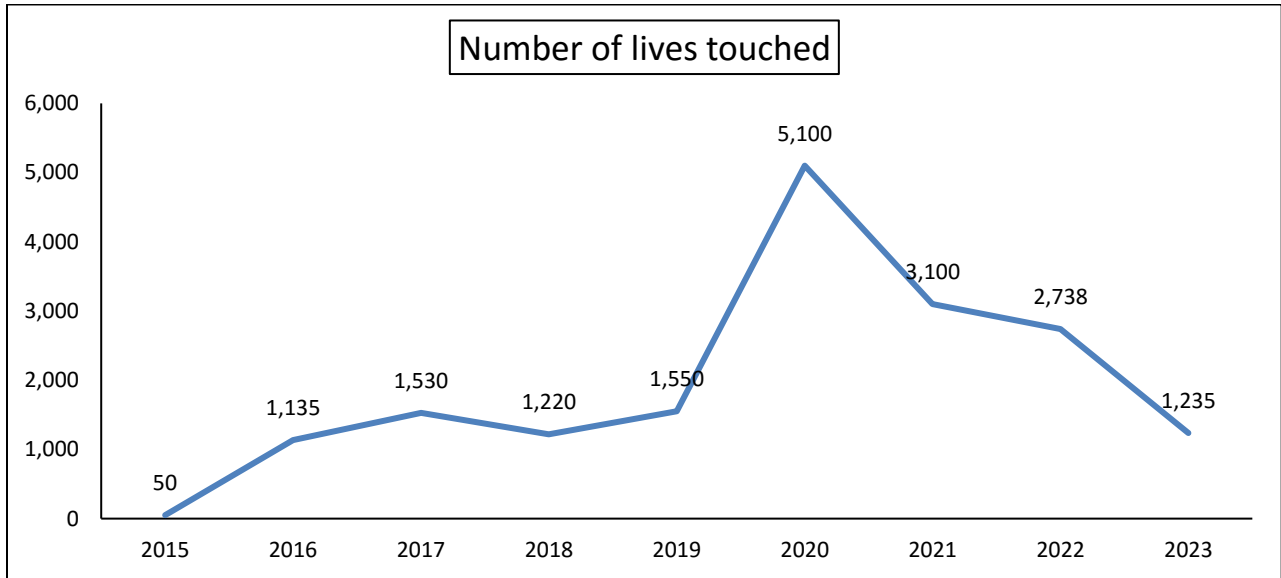
**Awareness Creation:** We disseminate deliberate and targeted information and messaging to increase understanding, knowledge, and consciousness about development and human rights issues, among individuals, communities, and the general public.

**Networking and collaboration:** Our work involves the establishment of connections, relationships, and partnerships between individuals, organizations, and communities to share resources, expertise, and efforts in order to achieve common goals, foster synergy, and enhance collective impact.

BIHAPH

## B. OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2014, Bihndumlem Humanitarian Association of Peace and Hope (BIHAPH) has completed 15 major projects and changed over 1,500 lives in 20 communities across the North West Region. BIHAPH has been championing activities against gender-based violence, providing emergency relief, advocating for the rights of indigenous people, and empowering youths via skills such as farming, pastry, tailoring, and ICT, and providing them with start-up kits. Below are highlights of our achievements.



## 1. Conflict Transformation and Peace Building

### 1.1 *Community sensitization and empowerment of volunteers in Wum to foster social cohesion.*

- ❖ Mobilization and sensitization of 100 persons/volunteers on humanitarian action.



B1. 2015

BIHNDUMLEM

## 1.2 Community mobilization towards peacebuilding and fostering unity

- ❖ 250 military men and 160 civilians were sensitized on peacebuilding and non-violence.



## 1.3 Training on the humanitarian response to conflict and disasters



- ❖ 35 people of different age groups, tribes, and cultures received training.



#### 1.4 Human rights awareness campaign

- ❖ 500 people sensitized and trained.



#### 1.5 Promoting National Unity

- ❖ 100 Youths participated in the Youth day celebration.



**1.6 Training on Civic Responsibility and Behavior Change for a Sustainable Community**



**1.7 Talk on Human Rights and Peacebuilding**



### 1.8 Empowering Youth for Sustainable Peace 2018



### 1.9 Responding to Humanitarian Crisis 2019



**1.10 Promoting Peace and Social Cohesion in Menchum Divison**

- ❖ 20 peace ambassadors were trained and they pledged to work in the various communities



**1.11 Building Peace and Conflict Transformation through Community Mobilization**

- ❖ 16 Municipal Councilors trained as Community Peace Ambassadors.
- ❖ Achieved peace between the Aghem and the Muslim communities



**1.12 Effective Civic Engagement and Participation as a Major Tool for Conflict Transformation and Peace Building Using a Strategic Community-Based Approach**

- ❖ 6 leaders were elected, two from each community to coordinate peace activities as well as economic empowerment activities.



**1.13 Conflict Transformation and Peace Building in Wum 2022**

- ❖ 20-member peace and dialogue committee was set up.
- ❖ 5 zones of peace were established at Ketcha village.
- ❖ 25 leaders training on counseling and healing.



**1.14 Respond to the Crises in the North West and South West Regions of Cameroon in Bamenda and the Farmer/Grazer Conflict in Wum**

❖ 190 persons received trauma healing in Bamenda I, II and III.





**1.15 Strengthening participatory strategic Community peacebuilding, through in-depth capacity development and education in Bamenda I, II, and III**

Funded by CANADA FUND FOR LOCAL INITIATIVE (CFLI)2023.

- ❖ 25 Community leaders healed from trauma.
- ❖ Restitution of trauma healing to 1000 people.



**B7. 2023**

- ❖ 10 CIGs equipped with farm tools and seeds.
- ❖ 4000 persons sensitized on the use of cultural values to preserve peace.



## 2. Sexual Reproduction and Women's Health Rights

### 2.1 Donation of sanitary napkins to teenage mothers to support them in keep personal hygiene as young mothers

- ❖ 30 teenage mothers received sanitary packs.



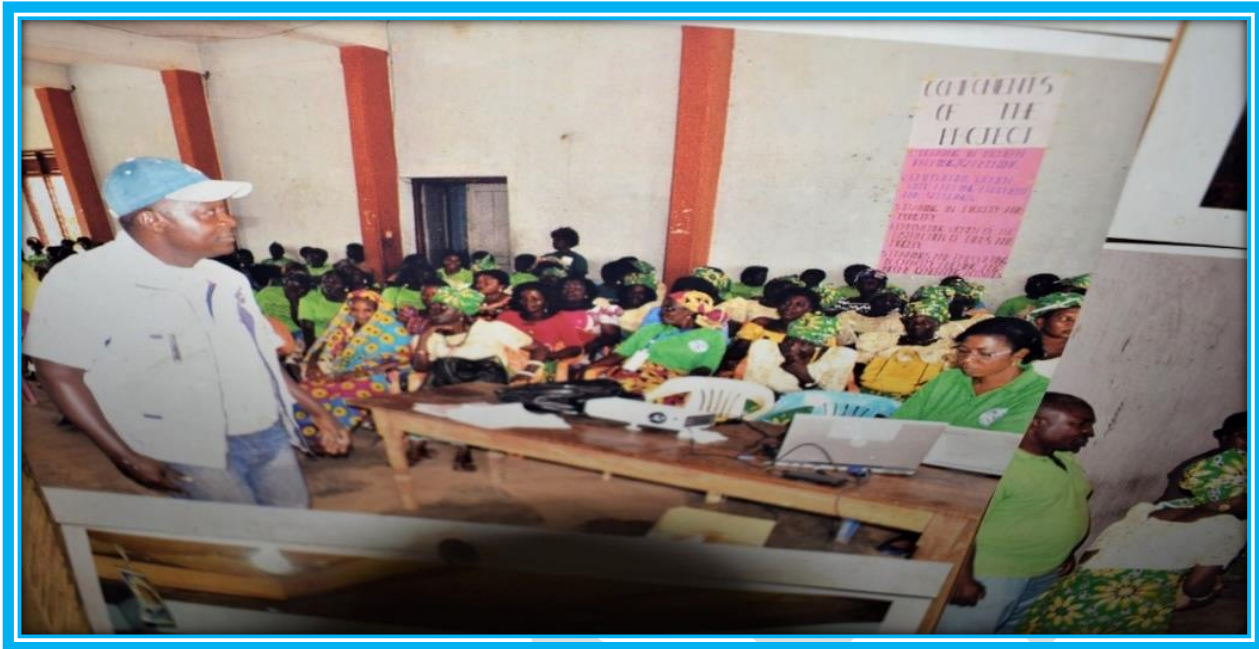
**B3. 2017**

### 2.2 The One Girl One Pad Campaign in collaboration with the UNHCR

- ❖ 1500 dignity kits were distributed.



### 2.3 Training of Women on effective humanitarian work for sustainable development



### 2.4 Empowering rural women in economic and social life in partnership with the ROTARY CLUB LANSING USA

- ❖ 150 women benefited from the inputs.



**2.5 Women's empowerment for sustainable rural transformation in Wum Subdivision in collaboration with the UNDP**

- ❖ Over 50 women received training with farmer's tools like bee hives, boots, and smokers



BIFA

### 3. Gender-Based Violence

#### 3.1 Promoting social justice and human dignity

- ❖ 11 vulnerable persons benefited from medical and nutritional assistance.
- ❖ 1 case of rape assisted with medical and legal aid.



### 3.2 Promotion of Gender Equality and Girl Child Education



### 3.3 Commemoration of the 16 days of activism against GBV



### 3.4 Strengthening community response in the fight against Sexual Exploitation and Gender-Based Violence in Benakuma, Wum, and Bafmeng 2021

- ❖ 100 Girls and Women effectively trained in Agriculture, Beads Making and Pastry Production.
- ❖ More than 5000 persons are sensitized about GBV.



**B6. 2021**

### 3.5 Empowering Vulnerable individuals at risk of GBV in collaboration with the UNHCR

- ❖ 10 success stories emerged, with individuals starting small businesses.



### 3.6 Strengthening community response in the fight against Sexual Exploitation and Gender Based Violence in Benakuma, Wum And Bafmeng 2022

#### ***3.7 Strengthening Community Response Against Gender-Based Violence in some Communities in Menchum Division in partnership with the UNHCR***

- ❖ 152 groups were reached out to in Wum Central, Benakuma, and Bafmeng.
- ❖ 1000 persons of concern were reached.
- ❖ 100 vulnerable persons received life skill training.





### 3.8 Strengthening community response in the fight against Sexual Exploitation and Gender-Based Violence in Benakuma, Wum, and Bafmeng

2022

- ❖ 100 girls and women effectively trained in Agriculture, Beads Making, Décor and Pastry Production.
- ❖ More than 5000 persons were sensitized about GBV.



2023

- ❖ 100 girls and women effectively trained in Market Gardening, Pastry Production and Décor and given start-up kits.
- ❖ More than 4000 persons were sensitized about GBV.



#### 4. Sustainable Livelihood/Income Generating Activities

##### 4.1 Sustainable Agricultural Development

- ❖ 50 women receive training on sustainable farming techniques.
- ❖ 110 women were sensitized.



#### 4.2 ICT for Life Transformation

- ❖ 25 youths acquired computer skills.



#### **4.3 Economic empowerment through modern agricultural practices 2017**

- ❖ 30 participants acquired skills in modern farming techniques.



#### **4.4 Training of youth in ICTs in Investment Budget(PIB)**

- ❖ 40 youth acquired ICT skills.

*partnership with the Public*



#### ***4.5 Eradicating Poverty through Sustainable Livelihoods for a Holistic and Sustainable Rural Transformation.***

- ❖ 500 Rural Women acquired skills in soap production.



#### 4.6 Rolling Back Hunger through the Encouragement of Agriculture



#### 4.7 Education, Capacity Building and Economic Empowerment Program

- ❖ 250 individuals received training in ICT.



#### 4.8 Promotion of gender equality and girl child education

- ❖ 35 women trained in sustainable beekeeping.
- ❖ 30 young girls trained in ICTs.
- ❖ 400 women trained in modern agricultural techniques in Wum and Bafmeng and 30 IDPs in Bamenda.



#### 4.9 Economic Empowerment and Sustainable Livelihoods Project 2022

- 100 women and girls received vocational training .
- 3 individuals were employed in the organization's restaurant, bar and documentation.



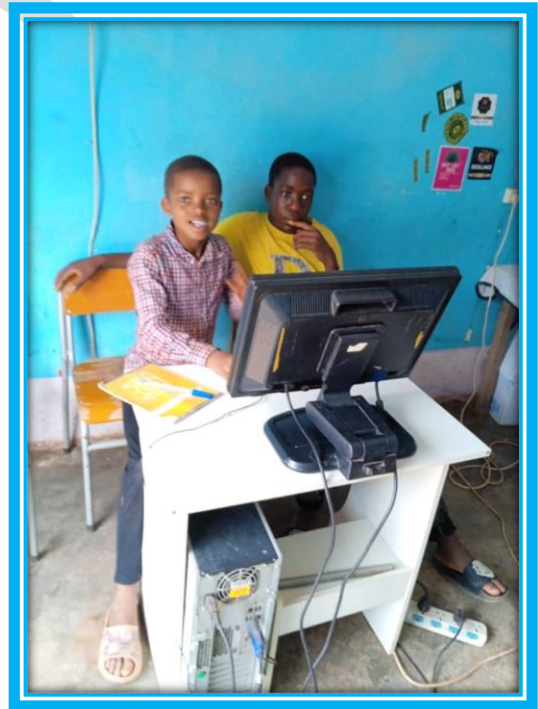


**4.10 Sustainable Bee Farming as a Major Direct Action Tool to fight Rural Semi Urban poverty towards early recovery and social cohesion in the North West in Wum Central Subdivision funded by UNDP 2022**



**4.11 Youth Empowerment Program**

- ❖ 50 youths receive training in ICT and entrepreneurship and startup kits.



## 5. Humanitarian Assistance in Emergencies

### 5.1 Emergency relief and assistance to the needy persons

- ❖ 100 persons receive cash, shelter and food supply.



### 5.2 Provision of humanitarian relief to vulnerable people in Hospital 2017

- ❖ BIHAPH reached out to 70 patients, 30 children, 25 women and 15 men.



### 5.3 Provision of free surgical operations to patients at the Wum district hospital 2017

In partnership with **ASCOVIME** Yaounde

- ❖ 15 major operations were carried out.
- ❖ 20 minor operations conducted.



#### 5.4 Rehabilitation of Fire Disaster Victims in Wum



Before

**B4. 2018**



After

#### 5.5 Humanitarian assistance to the needy

- ❖ 500 IDPs received food items.



2018

### ***5.6 Bringing health assistance to the needy***

- ❖ 1 boy with elephantiasis received support.
- ❖ 25 patients were assisted with bills, food and NFIs.
- ❖ Malnourished children received help. Humanitarian services to the needy 2018



### ***5.7 Bringing health assistance to the needy***



### 5.8 Reaching out to the vulnerable

- ❖ 100 IDPs received humanitarian support.

**B5. 2020**



### 5.9 Giving Hope and Dignity to the Hopeless

- ❖ Over 400 vulnerable persons and IDPs received food and non-food items in Bamenda, Wum, Bu and Bafmeng.



### 5.10 Donations of shelter, protection and office equipment to Wum community from crossroads foundation Hong Kong 2020

- ❖ Over 5000 vulnerable persons benefited from household equipment donated by crossroads shingling through BIHAPH.



### B5. 2020

#### 5.11 Humanitarian Assistance and Persons

#### Outreach to Vulnerable

- ❖ 750 educational, medical and household items were distributed to vulnerable persons in Wum.



#### 5.12 Humanitarian Assistance to Different Groups of People 2022

- ❖ 800 needy persons received food items.
- ❖ 600 IDPs received food as well as NFIs.

- ❖ 10 victims of inter-tribal conflicts in Wum received financial assistance .



## 6 Child Protection and Education Through Child Friendly Spaces

### 6.1 Improving and Promoting the Educational Standard of The Community

- ❖ 750 vulnerable children received school kits.
- ❖ 40 teachers received didactic materials.
- ❖ 750 students were sensitized on good moral discipline and self-employment on second generational agriculture.
- ❖ 1500 pupils received writing material.



B2. 2016



**6.2 Academic tour of some secondary schools in Wum on theme: academic excellence and sustainable character as a tool for a bright future**



**6.3 Donation of school kits and didactic material to primary schools in Wum Central Subdivision**

- ❖ 250 pupils benefited from the donations.



**6.4 Promotion of Education Program**

- ❖ 4 schools were visited with words of encouragement and didactic materials
- ❖ Didactic materials were distributed to the schools.



### 6.5 Education Assistance Program 2022

- ❖ 1000 pupils from 13 schools in Wum, Bafmeng and Benakum received donations of school kids and didactic materials worth 500,000 FCFA.



### C. BIHAPH'S PARTNERS



### D. BIHAPH'S CHALLENGES

In the exercise of her activities, the organization and team came across numerous loopholes amongst which are the following:

- The late disbursement of project funds by partners and the need for the organization to pre-finance project activities;
- Poor network connectivity that hindered BIHAPH Staff to connect to partners as well as community mobilizers on a timely basis, especially in times of urgency;
- Poor roads and difficult access to project sites with heavy rains that caused semi-landslides especially along the Wum-Benakuma stretch;
- High financial demands from trainers in vocational training for their different modules;
- Lockdown days especially between the months of September and October with the intent to halt school resumption in the region played negatively on the timely intervention and execution of project activities, as well as the timely delivery of services

- Constant roadblocks to and from areas where BIHAPH carry out outreach activities by Separatist fighters came as a big blow to BIHAPH. This is equally characterized by long periods of shutdowns and imposed ghost town days thereby slowing BIHAPH's activities;
- Growing insecurity and threats from Non-State Armed Groups on BIHAPH Team members who are accused of working with the Government.
- Another major challenge faced in the course of the year was lack and slow internet service. It was challenging to have data and access the internet.
- Non-collaboration from other NGOs operating in the region with which she hoped for a stronger coalition. BIHAPH equally receives very little collaboration from Councils organizing the training of Municipal Councillors in Peace Building.
- Lack of funding which is fundamental challenge BIHAPH has had since its existence. About 70% of programs carried out by BIHAPH are entirely funded by BIHAPH which had a negative impact on her financial records because she indulged in loans in order to foot the bills since she had no funding from any donor.