

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Empowering youth | Advancing Education | Catching them young

Annual Report 2025

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Prepared For:
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About Lead Child Africa

Lead Child Africa (LCA), also known as the Lead Child Foundation, is a youth-led, purpose-driven nonprofit organization headquartered in Buea, Cameroon. Founded under the visionary leadership of Aleatanu Noela, whose lived experience as a survivor of sexual violence inspired a movement for change, the organization is dedicated to protecting, educating, and empowering vulnerable children and young people across Africa.

Existing since 2023 but formally recognized on **13 September 2024 with registration number 00001550/ARDA/JO6/SAJPA/APPB**, Lead Child Africa works through community-driven programs and strategic collaborations to create lasting impact. Our initiatives focus on providing access to education and vocational training that equip young people with essential life and job skills.



We empower women and girls mentally, emotionally, and economically through mentorship, mental health support, and entrepreneurship opportunities. We also deliver psychosocial support and mental health care to youths in distress, creating safe spaces for healing and growth.

Our work extends to facilitating access to healthcare services for underserved communities, promoting health equity, and championing environmental protection, leadership, and creativity through community campaigns, talent development, and civic engagement.

Our vision is rooted in the belief that when children are protected, inspired, and empowered, they can become the driving force for transformational change across Africa.

Foreword

It is with sincere appreciation that I present the 2025 Annual Report of Lead Child Africa. This report captures not only the close of another impactful year but also reflects the continued growth of a movement rooted in resilience, hope, and the belief that when children are protected, inspired, and empowered, they can transform their communities and the world.

Formally registered on 13 September 2024, Lead Child Africa continues to grow from a deeply personal story into a structured response to the challenges faced by children, adolescents, and vulnerable communities in Cameroon. What began as a vision has steadily evolved into tangible action, driven by commitment, collaboration, and an unwavering belief in the potential of every child.

In 2025, we strengthened our interventions across key areas including access to education and vocational training, mental health and psychosocial support, empowerment of women and girls, and community-based advocacy for environmental stewardship and leadership. These achievements were made possible through dedicated teamwork, strategic partnerships, and the trust placed in us by the communities we serve.

The milestones captured in this report are more than numbers; they represent real lives touched, dignity restored, and futures reimaged. They remind us that even in the most challenging contexts, meaningful change is possible when people come together with purpose and compassion.

As you engage with this report, I invite you to see beyond the accomplishments of today and into the possibilities of tomorrow. Our journey has only just begun. With continued support and collaboration, we will expand our reach, deepen our impact, and continue building a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Aleatanu Noela
Founder & Executive Director
Lead Child Africa

" What began as a vision has steadily evolved into tangible action, driven by commitment, collaboration, and an unwavering belief in the potential of every child."



Vision

To build a future where every child, youth, and woman is equipped with knowledge, skills, and resources to become a powerful agent of positive change.

Mission

To establish and nurture a dynamic platform that promotes active youth participation, using inclusive approaches to address pressing issues affecting children, youth, and women. Through collaboration, we empower individuals, amplify their voices, and support sustainable solutions for a better future.

GOAL AREAS

Lead Child Africa focuses on six interconnected areas: Education Access & Quality, Child Protection & Safeguarding, Gender Equality & Empowerment, Health & Well-being, Advocacy & Systems Strengthening, and Community Engagement & Resilience. These goals aim to prevent abuse, keep children safe, ensure inclusive education, challenge harmful gender norms, improve mental and physical health, influence child-friendly policies, and mobilize communities to protect and support children especially in crisis-affected areas. These areas operate as a network where each strengthens the other. Protection is reinforced by education, which keeps children safe and learning. Education becomes more impactful when it promotes gender equality, and equality thrives when health and well-being are prioritized. Strong health outcomes are supported by effective advocacy, which is rooted in engaged, resilient communities. By linking these areas, Lead Child Africa creates a holistic approach that safeguards children's rights, unlocks their potential, and sustains positive change even in the face of crises.

Goal Area 1

Education Access and Quality

Access to quality education continues to be a major challenge for children in conflict-affected and displaced communities across Cameroon. As highlighted in the UNICEF Cameroon Education Brief (2023), over 2 million children in the North-West and South-West regions remain out of school due to insecurity, displacement, and economic hardship. This reality reinforces the urgent need for sustained, community-driven interventions that ensure no child is left behind.

In 2025, Lead Child Africa strengthened its commitment to education access and continuity. Through our annual Back-to-School Campaign, we provided school kits including uniforms, stationery, and essential learning materials to over 90 children from vulnerable and displaced households, easing the burden on families and supporting school enrollment and retention.

We further collaborated with local schools and community actors to organize remedial learning sessions for out-of-school and displaced children. These sessions were intentionally designed to go beyond academics, incorporating life skills and psychosocial support to help children cope with trauma, rebuild confidence, and reintegrate into learning environments.

In addition, through the generous support of our partners, Street Child and Book Aid, we distributed over 100 textbooks and storybooks to children, helping to improve access to learning resources and encourage a culture of reading among young learners.

Through these efforts, Lead Child Africa continues to bridge educational gaps, promote inclusion, and support children in staying on track toward a more hopeful and empowered future.



Goal Area 2

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Lead Child Africa places the safety and well-being of children at the heart of its work by actively preventing and responding to all forms of abuse, exploitation, neglect, and violence. Among the most urgent concerns is sexual violence, including rape, which disproportionately affects children in conflict-affected and vulnerable communities (WHO, 2022).

To combat this, Lead Child Africa conducts extensive rape sensitization programs aimed at raising awareness about sexual violence, its consequences, and prevention strategies. These programs equip children, caregivers, teachers, and community members with the knowledge and tools to recognize, prevent, and report incidents of sexual abuse (UNICEF, 2023).

In addition, the organization runs school sensitization sessions that educate students and school staff about child rights, safeguarding policies, and how to create safe learning environments free from abuse and exploitation. These sessions empower children to understand their rights and encourage a culture of protection and respect within schools (Cameroon Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family, 2024).

For survivors of sexual violence and other forms of abuse, Lead Child Africa provides access to psychosocial support, medical care, and legal assistance, helping them heal and reclaim their dignity.

By strengthening community awareness, school-based protection mechanisms, and survivor support systems, Lead Child Africa fosters safe spaces where children can thrive free from harm.





CP Response in Yaounde



CP Response in Yaounde

CP Response in Limbe



Gender Equality & Empowerment

In 2025, Lead Child Africa remained committed to promoting gender equality by challenging harmful stereotypes and advocating for equal opportunities for both girls and boys. In many conflict-affected and displaced communities, girls continue to face significant barriers to education, leadership, and personal development, often driven by deeply rooted cultural norms and stigma (UN Women, 2023).

“When girls and boys are given equal opportunities to learn, lead, and grow, entire communities are transformed.”

Throughout the year, the organization strengthened its focus on empowering young people to overcome these barriers by fostering attitudes of respect, inclusion, and equality. Through community dialogues, mentorship, and targeted educational activities, we encouraged positive gender norms, promoted bodily autonomy, and reinforced the rights of all children to live free from discrimination and violence (Plan International, 2022).

By intentionally nurturing confidence, voice, and agency among both girls and boys, Lead Child Africa continues to support the emergence of a generation of young leaders who champion dignity, equality, and resilience within their communities.

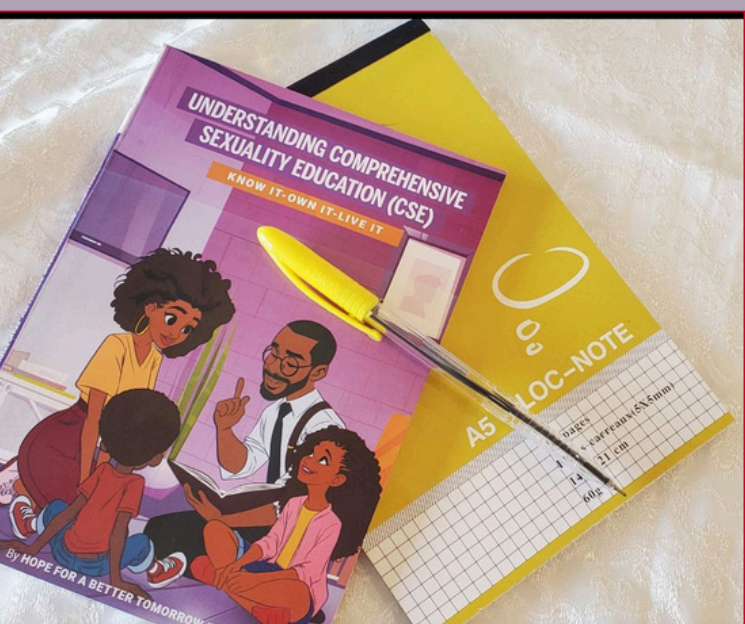




Skills acquisition training



Skills acquisition



SRHR Training

Goal Area 4

Health & Welbeing

Lead Child Africa recognizes that children's ability to learn, grow, and thrive is closely linked to their physical, mental, and emotional health. In conflict-affected and vulnerable communities, children often face heightened risks of malnutrition, poor menstrual health, limited access to healthcare, and untreated psychological trauma (WHO, 2023).

The organization works to advance child health by promoting nutrition, hygiene, psychosocial support, and access to basic healthcare services. This includes creating awareness on mental health, supporting safe water and sanitation practices, and encouraging open discussions on sensitive health topics such as sexual and reproductive health (UNICEF, 2023). Special emphasis is placed on equipping children and caregivers with accurate information and life skills to make informed health decisions and build resilience.

By addressing both the physical and psychosocial needs of children, Lead Child Africa contributes to nurturing healthier, more confident, and well-supported young people capable of reaching their full potential.



Talk on SRHR and personal hygiene



cholera/flood response



Promoting Mental health through sports



Promoting Mental health through sports



Promoting Mental health through sports



Promoting Mental health through sports

SCHOOL SENSITISATION
 BENEDECTION BILINGUAL PRIMARY SCHOOL - TAM TAM YAOUNDE
 MANNA GROUP COLLEGE, BIYEH-ASSI, YAOUNDE
12PM - 7AM

THURSDAY 27TH SCHOOL SENSITISATION
 ABISCOM PRIMARY SCHOOL SIMBOCK - YAOUNDE
 ABHS SECONDARY SCHOOL SIMBOCK - YAOUNDE
7AM - 12PM

SATURDAY 29TH EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP
 AMIES DES JEUNES ETOUG-EBE, YAOUNDE
7AM

GOING NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025 SOCIAL MEDIA



Promoting Mental health through sports

Community Engagements and Resilience

In 2025, Lead Child Africa strengthened its commitment to community-driven child protection, recognizing that lasting impact depends on the active involvement of families and local actors (UNICEF, 2022).

We engaged parents, traditional and religious leaders, youth groups, and local institutions to promote child rights, strengthen community structures, and improve local response to risks. A key highlight was our Peace Education Initiative, which equipped children and community members with skills in conflict resolution, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence.

We also expanded our reach through a stakeholder webinar and participation in the Connected Cameroon Conference in Yaoundé, fostering collaboration and shared learning. Our partnership with Street Child Cameroon further enhanced our efforts, particularly in advancing education and building community resilience.

Through these efforts, Lead Child Africa continues to support communities to become safer, more inclusive, and better prepared to protect and nurture children (UNDRR, 2023).





Community engagement



Community engagement



LEAD CHILD AFRICA EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 SUMMARY

During the reporting period, Lead Child Africa allocated its financial resources in accordance with its strategic priorities across five core programmatic areas. Expenditure was directed to ensure optimal impact, efficiency, and alignment with organizational objectives.

The largest share of expenditure, 40%, was allocated to Education Access and Quality. These funds supported interventions aimed at improving access to learning materials, strengthening learning environments, and enhancing educational continuity for children in target communities.

A further 30% of total expenditure was directed toward Child Protection & Safeguarding. This allocation supported emergency response activities, child protection programming, and community-based sensitization initiatives designed to strengthen safeguarding mechanisms and protect vulnerable children.

The remaining 30% of expenditure was distributed equally across three programmatic areas, with each receiving 10%: Gender Equality & Empowerment, Health & Well-being and Advocacy, and Community Engagement & Resilience. These allocations supported interventions focused on promoting inclusion, strengthening community systems, advancing child and adolescent well-being, and enhancing local resilience capacities.

Funding for the reporting period was primarily obtained through contributions from individuals (family and friends), partner donations, and small-scale grants from supporting institutions. These funding sources were critical to the continuity of operations in the absence of large-scale institutional financing.

Lead Child Africa acknowledges with appreciation the financial support received from its partners and contributors, which enabled the implementation of planned activities and the achievement of intended programmatic outcomes within target communities.

LEAD CHILD EXPENDITURE FOR 2025	
GOAL AREA	
EDUCATION ACCESS AND QUALITY	40%
Child Protection & Safeguarding,	30%
Gender Equality & Empowerment	10%
Health & Well-being, Advocacy	10%
Community Engagement & Resilience.	10%
TOTAL	100%





CATCHING THEM YOUNG

We believe that real change begins early. When you reach a child at the right time with the right support, guidance, and opportunities you don't just impact a moment, you shape a lifetime.

Catching them young means planting seeds of confidence, curiosity, and courage before doubt and limitation take root. It means showing a child that their voice matters, their dreams are valid, and their future is worth investing in no matter where they come from.

Every lesson taught, every hand held, every safe space created is a step toward raising a generation that thinks differently, leads boldly, and uplifts others. Because when children are empowered early, they don't just survive their circumstances they rise above them and become the change their communities need.

At Lead Child Africa, we are not just supporting children for today we are shaping leaders for tomorrow.

"Catching them young means planting seeds of confidence, curiosity, and courage before doubt and limitation take root"

OUR RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION PARTNERS

