



Pan African Sanctuary Alliance

PASA MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Ape Action Africa (Cameroon)
Centre pour Conservation des Chimpanzees (CCC) (Guinea)
Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage (Zambia)
Chimpanzee Eden (South Africa)
Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project (Gambia)
Colobus Conservation (Kenya)
Drill Ranch (Nigeria)
Fernan-Vaz Gorilla Project (Gabon)
HELP-Congo (Congo)
Jeunes Animaux Confisques au Katanga (J.A.C.K.) (D.R. Congo)
Lilongwe Wildlife Centre (Malawi)
Limbe Wildlife Centre (Cameroon)
Lola Ya Bonobo (D.R. Congo)
Lwiro Primate Rehabilitation Centre (D.R. Congo)
Ngamba Island (Uganda)
Projet Protection des Gorilles-Congo (Congo)
Projet Protection des Gorilles-Gabon (Gabon)
Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center (IDA Africa) (Cameroon)
Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary (Kenya)
Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (Sierra Leone)
Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Centre (Congo)
Vervet Monkey Foundation (South Africa)

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To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to share this report about PASA's Cameroon Education Program, which has reached thousands of children across the nation and established a foundation for the program to be implemented nationwide.



In Cameroon, many species of wildlife are rapidly disappearing due to the cruel and illegal trades in wildlife and bushmeat. Poachers kill apes and monkeys to sell their bodies for meat in markets throughout Cameroon, where bushmeat is valued more than chicken or beef. Baby primates who are orphaned by hunters are typically sold into the illegal pet trade and are doomed to spend their lives tied to a chain or a short rope, until they grow large enough to be slaughtered. Donkeys and other animals used for labor are overworked to the point of abuse, enduring sores and other injuries that are left untreated.

Throughout Cameroon, there is a lack of empathy for animals which results in systemic suffering. Animal welfare is not a familiar concept. Widespread education is urgently needed to change behaviors and attitudes toward animals.

PASA is collaborating with our three member organizations in Cameroon – Ape Action Africa, Limbe Wildlife Centre, and Sanaga-Yong Rescue Center – to bring humane education to schoolchildren nationwide. With experts in Cameroon's education system, we integrated elements of our members' longstanding education programs to create a new five-day program which is appropriate for regions and ethnic groups throughout the country.



The program is based on a children's book created by Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue titled "Je Protège les Chimpanzés" ("I Protect the Chimpanzees"), which follows the story of a young Cameroonian boy, Daniel, who rescues a chimpanzee that has been orphaned by poachers. The story educates children about the bushmeat trade, a major threat to wildlife in Cameroon. The program also teaches the consequences of unsustainable agricultural practices such as deforestation to create farmland and slash-and-burn agriculture, illicit wildlife trafficking, and illegally owning wildlife as pets (which is a common practice in Cameroon).



Our member organizations are now implementing the program with thousands of students in cities, towns, and remote areas, with very positive results. The primary method of evaluation is students completing a pre-test at the beginning of the five-day program, an identical post-test at the end, and a delayed post-test approximately six months later. These evaluations have demonstrated:

- An increase from 57% to 98% in students who understood that chimpanzees should not be eaten as bushmeat
- An increase from 34% to 68% in students who knew to contact the police if they see a chimpanzee in a neighbor's house
- An increase from 61% to 98% in students who knew that chimpanzees should not live in houses

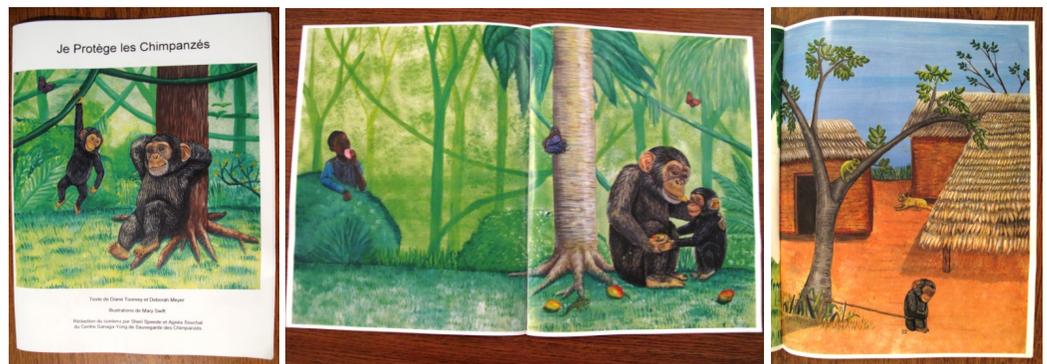
While these results indicate the program's effects on children's behaviors, its full impact will occur when the children become adults with greater empathy for animals who treat animals with more kindness, **resulting in a nationwide reduction in animal cruelty, illegal hunting of wildlife, and abuse of working animals.**



These successes strongly position PASA and our member organizations in Cameroon to convince government officials to integrate animal welfare and wildlife conservation into the national education curriculum, so that all schoolchildren in

Cameroon will learn the value of protecting animals and their habitats.

The Cameroon Education Program is extremely cost-efficient. It is conducted by experienced Cameroonian educators who are employed by the PASA member wildlife centers and earn local salaries. When possible, the staff combine the program with other education projects to reduce travel costs. Furthermore, the program is engendering widespread, sustained changes in the behaviors and attitudes of several thousand children, which will have long-term impacts on the welfare of the country's wildlife at a low cost per student.



Pages from “Je Protège les Chimpanzés,” created by Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue

Through the Cameroon Education Program, we have not only influenced thousands of youth in the last year, but also established infrastructure on which the program continues to expand.

All best wishes,

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