



**TOGETHER
WE EMPOWER
COMMUNITIES**



LIST OF ABBREVIATION

- ✓ **ADE** Actions for Development and Empowerment
- ✓ **CODE** Connected Development
- ✓ **COVID19** Corona Virus 2019
- ✓ **CTAP COVID19** Transparency and Accountability Project
- ✓ **FTM** Follow The Money
- ✓ **GBV** Gender Based Violence
- ✓ **HIV** Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- ✓ **NCDC** National Centers for Disease Control
- ✓ **SDGs** Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ **UN** United Nations
- ✓ **UNICEF** United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

CONTENTS

TABLE OF

ABOUT ADE	01
a. Our Vision	
b. Our Mission	
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	02
OUR WORK IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC	03
a. Follow COVID Money	
b. My voice, our equal Future	
c. Front line against Gender Based Violence In Schools.	

About ADE



**Actions For
Development And
Empowerment**

Actions for Development and Empowerment (**ADE**), a non-profit, grassroots, and youth-driven organization founded in **2019** with the aim of empowering young people to act around issues that affect their lives and play an active role in the development process thereby creating positive change in their communities and Africa at large. **ADE's** work also focuses on redressing the absence of avenue citizens, especially youth, to hold the government accountable to its service-delivery obligations through informed demands. To achieve its vision and missions, **ADE** undertakes action-oriented research, administrative and legal assistance, and advocacy for the effective implementation of regulations and law and policy reforms.

“ **ADE** believes that it can grow to provide a platform and civic space where young people set the agenda and brainstorm on the issues that affect education, employment and job creation in Africa and propose young people tailored solutions with capacity building, partnership and advocacy as key drivers. ”

ADE focuses on three thematic areas:

- Democracy and Good Governance
- Sustainable Development Goals Education
- Girl Child Education



a.OUR VISION

We envision a world where all people even in the most remote areas of Africa are equipped and inspired to improve their livelihood and realize the future they want.



b.OUR MISSION

To build democracy through activism, education, empowerment and collaboration in Africa.

ADE About



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Mrs Ndi Nancy Saiboh, CEO
and Co-founder of ADE,
FTM Cameroon Lead



In line with ADE's mission to empower marginalized communities through our Follow The Money movement, Empower Her Africa and SDG School Tour we recorded remarkable achievements in the year 2020.

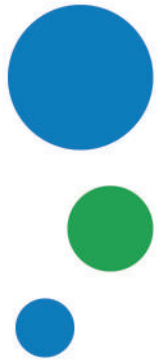
Each year at ADE, we take a moment to reflect on our work, and review insights from engaging with marginalized communities, our learnings and accomplishments. 2020, was a landmark year where we saw the impact of our work being tested in many ways.

Since our founding in 2019, we have relied on our ability to challenge the status quo and demand accountability from the government to drive social change in the communities where we work. Many of which have accelerated timely intervention in healthcare, water and hygiene services, education, environment and structural development in hundreds of low-income communities in Cameroon. With rising levels of poverty, inequality and despair, orchestrated by the impact of the COVID pandemic, our work addressing systemic corruption in government and poor transparency and accountability, becomes increasingly crucial.

Today, ADE has tracked USD 391.7 million of COVID funds in Cameroon, advocated for the national emergency procurement guidelines to be updated, pushed for the prioritization of the country's failing healthcare infrastructure, tracked COVID palliative distribution in 18 communities and increased its socio-digital community of over 15 activists who are driving solutions and holding government to transparency standards across Africa. ADE also works to improve girls and women's menstrual health and Hygiene, through our campaign.

Empower Her Africa, to keep girls in school, we have distributed 600 sanitary pads to 300 underprivileged young girls in two regions of Cameroon (North west region and Far North region) In addition to providing girls and young women in rural Cameroon with access to sanitary pads, ADE also hosts menstrual health education and Gender-based violence (Rape) workshops at local schools and women's groups. through this model ADE has been able to impact over 2,000 women in three regions.

Voices around the world are demanding leadership on poverty, inequality and climate change. To turn these demands into actions, world leaders gathered on 25 September, 2015, at the United Nations in New York to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hence the SDG Schools Tour campaign. The concept of leaving no one behind entails doing all we can to have more involved and holistic approach to promoting awareness and understanding of the Global Goals, and at encouraging schools to take measurable action towards achieving them, by empowering and enabling schools through knowledge resources, incentive programs, community engagements and establishing SDGs clubs in each of the schools, which will would grow the young ones to become thinkers and problem solvers thereby , accelerate progress towards SDGs 4.7 and 12.8 (education for sustainable development).



To truly achieve ADE's mission of empowering communities, requires the courage, determination and resilience of millions of activists who desire to see an Africa that is free of injustices, inequality and greed; a continent where people can achieve their full potential. With support from donor-partners that believe in our vision of a more just and inclusive world, Skoll foundation and Hilton Foundation. As challenging as the year was, we achieved measurable, relatable and gigantic landmarks through numerous expansion strategies of the Follow The Money Initiative, EmpowerHerAfrica and SDG School Tour and we will not stop in our quest to ensure that citizens can hold their government to account.



We could not have achieved these feats without the immense work put in by the ADE team. They expressed unwavering commitment to the goal, led campaigns in fragile communities and were resilient even in the face of opposition. With each effort, we get closer to our goal of empowering communities.

Thank you to all the ADE family, unrelenting supporters and donors. We remain relentless in responding to the needs of our society, achieving the SDGs and catalyzing a positive change in the world.

Thank you

NDI NANCY SAIBOH

**Chief Executive
FollowTheMoney Cameroon Lead**



**Actions For
Development And
Empowerment**



Milestone



Mobilised young people in 5 regions to use digital tools for social accountability and to track COVID Funds (check how CODE presented this area)

Tracked USD 391.7 million COVID Funds in Cameroon

 **15** Active Champions  **18** Communities

 **1,000,000** Lives impacted



III Our work in times of the Pandemic



In 2020, with the global pandemic binding the world together, we saw our work come together in new ways, creating the springboard we need to unleash unprecedented impact in the years ahead. We witnessed a great level of interdependence that our collective success does not only depend on how we care for ourselves but also how we are looking out for other people around us.

In light of what we do at ADE, constantly advocating for public funds to be used for public good, especially in the areas of education and more importantly healthcare, we most certainly believe that the state of a nation's healthcare is tantamount to its wellbeing. Our call for accountability and transparency in public services was to prepare our society, our country and the world to tackle challenges that a pandemic of this kind presents.

Today, as the globe continues to deal with COVID-19 and navigate its health, economic and social implications, we at ADE have continued to make proactive decisions to provide communities with access to information and also ensure the personal health and safety of our team.

a. Follow COVID Money



As nations of the world tackle the plague of Coronavirus, with funding for Cameroon amassing in millions of dollars, it became expedient to demand accountable spending of the money to block financial leakages, ensure funds do not end up in personal pockets and ultimately advocate for an improved healthcare system in the country. #FollowCOVID19Money campaign was launched to galvanise citizens to hold the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Health, the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and government agencies directly involved in the spending of COVID19 donations to transparency standards in the disbursements of COVID-19 intervention funds. During the mandatory lockdown, Follow The Money leveraged the use of virtual platforms like Zoom, Facebook Live, Instagram live, Tweet chats and Google hangouts to facilitate Webinars that increase citizens knowledge of COVID donations and empowered them with digital tools to track government spending of COVID funds. When the ban on lockdown was lifted, FTM champions visited communities to observe the distribution of palliatives to vulnerable groups.



WINS :

- FTM tracked a total amount of USD 391.7 million
- Mobilized citizens to promote accountability and transparency in government's spending
- Incited the investigation of covid funds
- Increased response of the local Government to citizens' questions on funds

From the left to the right Hamzat Lawal FTM Representative, Ndi Nancy Saiboh CEO of ADE, FTM Cameroon Lead and Bosayo Morakinyo during the launching of CTAP in Yaounde

On a mission to track COVID response, Follow the Money is driving conversations, facilitating dialogues, and empowering civic actors across 7 African countries with a technology application to map and track the COVID-19 donations and responses. ADE in partnership with CODE and BudgIT, a fiscal transparency organisation, are leveraging their social accountability tools, Tracka and Follow The Money, to activate a pan-african tracking system for all COVID-19 funds received and donated in Liberia, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria. The project is addressing the threat of lack of accountability and the effects of COVID-19 on socio-economic development in these countries. It will strengthen civic inclusion, and provide tools that citizens' need in demanding open data and also drive accountability on the importance of optimising public resources in an emergency situation. CTAP seeks to advocate for proper accountability and transparency of funding, interventions and finances targeted at combating COVID-19.

Through Follow The Money's COVID nationwide campaign, over 5 Region Champions across Cameroon sought information in their Regions on how the government was responding to the pandemic. As Palliatives distribution continued to be effected across Local Governments in Cameroon, tracked to ensure food items and relief materials got to the most poorest and vulnerable across the country. Although the governments channeled distribution through the governors, not all individuals and households benefited. In some cases, we observed that officials were diverting the items or allowing unfair distribution patterns to favour their friends or relatives and we reported the mishap to the authorities.

b. My Voice Our Equal Future : ADE Celebrates the Girl Child

ADE in Bamenda in October 2020 organized activities to mark this year's edition of the International Day of the Girl Child. Organized under the theme "MY VOICE OUR EQUAL FUTURE", at the Bayelle Full Gospel Mission premises on October 11, 2020, the Yaounde Based Civil society organization said the objective was to give hope to the girl child even in the midst of a political crisis rocking the North West and South West regions and the global health pandemic that has also affected schools in the two regions.

ADE's Community in the Northwest region and beneficiaries of the the EmpowerHerAfrica Campaign



Meanwhile a similar event was organized in Yaoundé, center region of the country where ADE visited 3 schools notably Mario Academic Complex, Harvard Complex School and Mevick Secondary School. The visit ADE's CEO Nancy Saiboh said, impacted the lives of over 375 young girls through talks on sexuality and reproductive health and rights, the End Rape Campaign etc.

Intensifying Public Awareness Campaign To End Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is a serious public health and human rights problem and it's an extremely traumatic experience that affects women and girls disproportionately. Such forms of violence include child marriage, intimate partner violence (rape within marriage or dating relationship), rape by strangers, systematic rape during armed conflict, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, forced abortion among others. It is often associated with psychological, physical, social

Distress and sometimes results in fatality from either shock, severe injury or murder of honor by the perpetrator, in an attempt to shield his identity.

It has both short and long-term consequences for women's physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health and individuals may be stigmatized and ostracized by their families.

Violence, ranging from sexual, emotional or psychological violence, is often experienced at home by young women and girls and the fact that violence has been accepted as a 'private affair' often stop other people from intervening and disallows girls and young women from reporting cases of violence.



Ndi Nancy Saiboh with students of Mevick Bilingual Grammar School



Girls can experience violence in schools ranging from bullying, sexual harassment and intimidation and this can affect girls' ability to continue and complete their education especially when the violence is committed by those in positions of care or authority. Violence against women and girls is also common in cities, even rural areas, during emergency situations and even in online spaces, it is a rising issue as girls and young women report harassment and abuse and as such girls are pressured to leave online platforms or self-censor in order to avoid abuse. The fear and threat of harassment and violence confine the capacity of girls to lead a free and full life.

Distress and sometimes results in fatality from either shock, severe injury or murder of honor by the perpetrator, in an attempt to shield his identity.

It has both short and long-term consequences for women's physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health and individuals may be stigmatized and ostracized by their families.

Violence, ranging from sexual, emotional or psychological violence, is often experienced at home by young women and girls and the fact that violence has been accepted as a 'private affair' often stop other people from intervening and disallows girls and young women from reporting cases of violence.

Girls can experience violence in schools ranging from bullying, sexual harassment and intimidation and this can affect girls' ability to continue and complete their education especially when the violence is committed by those in positions of care or authority. Violence against women and girls is also common in cities, even rural areas, during emergency situations and even in online spaces, it is a rising issue as girls and young women report harassment and abuse and as such girls are pressured to leave online platforms or self-censor in order to avoid abuse. The fear and threat of harassment and violence confine the capacity of girls to lead a free and full life.

Rita Franko and Ndi Nancy Saiboh with students from Franky Secondary School in Yaounde



Globally, a non-partner at some point in their lives has estimated 35% of women to experience either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or sexual violence. Studies have shown that women who experience physical or sexual intimate partner violence report higher rates of depression, having an abortion and acquiring HIV, compared to women who have not been violated in their lives. Evidence has also shown that men who experienced their fathers using violence against their mothers and those who experienced some forms of violence in their homes as children are more likely to be perpetrators of intimate partner violence in their adult relationships (UN WOMEN, 2018).

Globally, about 15 million adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 have experienced forced sex in their lifetime (UNICEF 2017).

Sexual violence occurs in every part of the world, but the prevalence and risk are higher in places where violence is normalized and places where rigid concepts of gender exist. Some cultures accept violence against women and girls as a social norm, this must be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Girls must never be held accountable for the violence that happens to them as it is the exclusive responsibility of the perpetrator who must be apprehended according to national or international legislation. The fear or threat of violence must be addressed and should not restrict girls from living free and full lives or from realizing their full potential.

ADE, used the occasion to exhibit her vision of empowering young people to act around issues affecting their life and play active roles in developing and creating positive changes in their communities. Discussions focused around menstrual hygiene, rape management and teenage pregnancy.

Crowning the day, ADE handed the gifts to the 80 participants who showed up in spite of their busy schedule. The various packs comprised of reusable pads/hygienic pads and other encouraging materials was meant to boost up the girl child sanitary lifestyle



ADE's Volunteers
with form 3 students

+

Mr. Tenjoh Arm-
strong, ADE's Com-
munity Champion



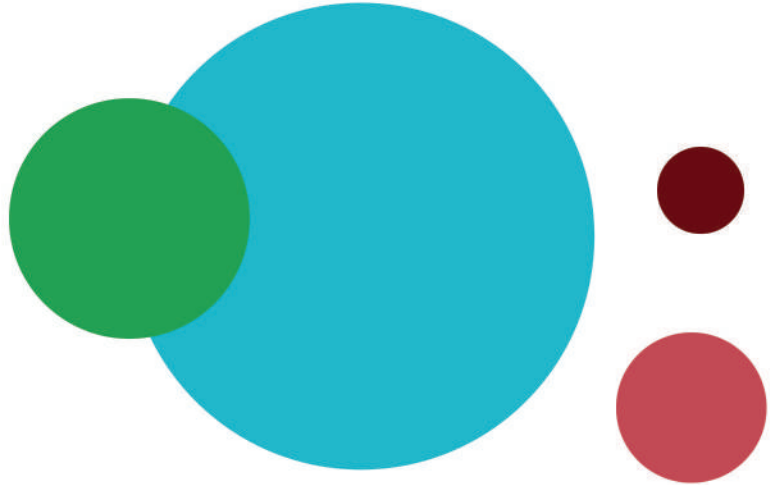
C. Front-line Against GBV in Schools

ADE this year joined the rest of the world and civil society organizations in commemorating the 2020 16 days of activism to end Gender Based Violence (GBV). The Yaounde based civil society group took action in the North West Center and Far North regions of the country in a sensitization tour against GBV with the main message #EndRapeNow had as objective to engage students in the campaign to end rape within the school environment.



Abdourahman Alhadji and some students

This year, celebrations over the world are taking place under the theme "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!" As the world retreated inside homes due to the lock-down measures introduced to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, reports showed an alarming increase in the already existing pandemic of violence against women. "Accompanying the crisis has been a spike in domestic violence reporting, at exactly the time that services, including rule of law, health and shelters, are being diverted to address the pandemic," stated the UN Secretary-General's report, "Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19".



Ndi Nancy Saiboh, CEO with ADE volunteer



The sensitization tour began on the 24th of November 2020 reached out to 8 schools which according to Dr Beyinda Manuella health expert and member of ADE recorded a great satisfaction as it saw the breaking of norms and silence on issues of GBV and sexual conversation. Dr Manuella said the school children whom she considers as the future of the country pledged to continue the discussions in their various homes and schools, which contributes towards achieving the objectives of the campaign tour and guarantees a sustainable conversation on issues of GBV and rape in particular

d-SDGs action week





Impromptu shutdown of work due to Covid-19 outbreak stalled our plans to commence citizen's led campaigns across the 5 regions, however, we were able to improvise on innovative ways to impact communities and continue our work of empowering people.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic peculiarities, which led to lockdown and travel restrictions, ADE team could not physically monitor and track the spending of the COVID-19 funds as effectively as we planned. This hampered adequate reportage of how funds were spent and the level of accountability by government officials.

Poor access to information on funds received from government institutions using the Freedom of Information request limited our engagements and monitoring processes.

Most project activities had to be reworked to fit into the current situation, hence a contingency work-plan was developed for all projects.

FTM Cameroon champions are constantly threatened for exposing corruption and misappropriation of funds. Security challenges across the North West and South west region, have made us more security conscious.



