



# ITAKA CAMEROON

We are a development, peace building, and humanitarian non-profit organization, committed to the education and socio-economic empowerment of disadvantaged people. Itaka – Cameroon is an extension of Itaka – Escolapios, an international network created and supported by the Order and Fraternity of the Pious Schools (Piarist Fathers).

# Vision & Mission



## Vision

A peaceful and just Cameroon in which all social classes, particularly vulnerable and underprivileged individuals, including women, children and youths, are protected and have equal access to education, capacity building, food, and healthcare services.

## Mission

- Provide access to education to vulnerable populations
- Advocate for peace
- Invest in human capital and socio-economic development

## Our Objectives

- **Expand Educational Opportunities:** Establish and support schools and colleges dedicated to providing quality education for underprivileged and needy children, ensuring inclusive and equitable learning opportunities for all.
- **Train Educators:** Provide specialized training programs for educators to equip them with skills in socio-cultural animation and community engagement.
- **Facilitate Social Integration:** Support the holistic integration of marginalized individuals and groups into society through targeted interventions and support services.
- **Address Social Exclusion:** Develop and implement social service programs aimed at the prevention, rehabilitation, and integration of marginalized individuals and groups, with a particular focus on children and youth.
- **Contribute to body of knowledge in development:** Document and disseminate findings and successful interventions to inform and enhance development best practices.

# **Our Strategic Areas of Intervention**

**1 Education**

**2 Peace Building**

**3 Agriculture and food security**

**4 Socioeconomic Empowerment**

**5 Shelter**

**6 Protection**

**7 Health & WASH**

**8 Energy**

# Our Works

## Education

- 14 Constructed and functional schools both Primary and secondary at Bafia, Bamendjou, Bandjoun, Bamenda, Kumbo, and Yaounde.
- Saint Joseph CALASANZ College, Bandjoun

## Peace Building

- We foster a culture of peace and understanding through comprehensive conflict resolution and mediation programs.
- We implement these programs within schools, teaching children essential skills to manage and resolve conflicts constructively.
- We extend these efforts to the broader community, organizing mediation exercises and workshops that promote harmony and collaborative problem-solving.

## Socioeconomic empowerment

- Bamendjou Disability Centre.
- 3 Socio educative centers (Bamendjou, Bafia, Bamenda)

## Agriculture & Livestock

- We have trained, via the AFOP Program, over 40 students between the ages of 18-35 in Agricultural techniques and approach.
- We have accords/partnerships with government and some universities for the above trainings.
- The Nazareth Agro-Pastoral Centre BAMENDA: an accredited by the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training as well as the Ministry of Small and Medium enterprises.

## Health & WASH

- HEALTH: Free health screening campaigns for street kids
- WASH: Clean water in our different schools & Construction of Boreholes

## Shelter

- Kumbo Shelter Home
- Street Kids Centre (YAOUNDE)



# Our Works in Photos

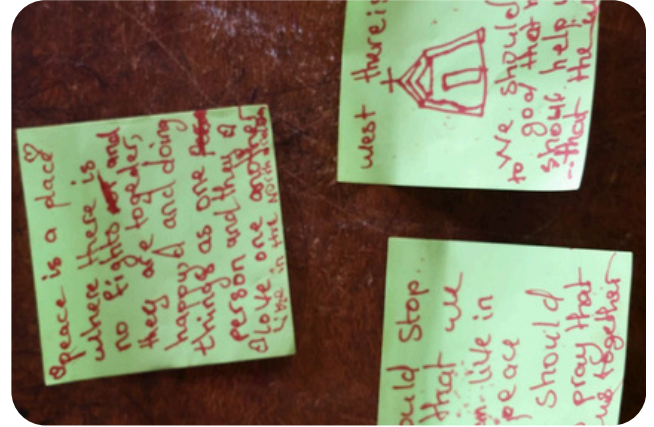
## Education





# Our Works in Photos

## Peace Building





# Our Works in Photos

## Socioeconomic Empowerment





# Our Works in Photos

## Agriculture & Livestock





# Our Works in Photos

## Health & WASH







# About The Piarist Fathers

The Piarists, officially known as the Order of Poor Clerics Regular of the Mother of God of the Pious Schools (Latin: *Ordo Clericorum Regularium pauperum Matris Dei Scholarum Piarum*), were founded in 1617 by Saint Joseph Calasanz, a Spanish priest. They are one of the oldest religious orders dedicated to education. Their educational ministry in Cameroon has impacted and shaped the lives of about 120,000 people in Cameroon over a period of 35 years.

More than 400 years ago, precisely in 1617, the destiny and life of a young Spanish Priest, Joseph Calasanz, the founder of the Order of the Pious schools, took a more decisive direction and meaning, when he met in the poor neighbourhood of Trastevere in Rome, a group of stranded youths who had no access to education. He offered his life from this moment henceforth, for the education of all children and youth especially the poor and those who live in precarious conditions. He would never give it up for anything else in the world. He was convinced that "the reform and transformation of society depends on the diligent practice of the education ministry". Because according to him, "If children, from their earliest years are instructed diligently in Values and letters, it must undoubtedly be expected that their whole life will be a happy one". This officially became our specific ministry when the apostolic Brief of Pope Paul V *Ad ea per quae* legally and publicly recognized our institute in the ecclesial community. We are of the schools; we are for the ministry of education.



# Our Contact



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