



# 3 E'S 4 AFRICA E.V. 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# FOREWORD OF THE CHAIRPERSON



*„We believe in African innovation for global impact.“*

The year 2021 was especially significant for us at 3 E's 4 Africa. We officially turned one year old, and that was an important milestone for us. As a young organization, it gave us an opportunity to look back on the work we have done so far. This allowed us, as an association, to come together again and focus on how we present ourselves externally. After long deliberations and discussions, we were able to develop a new "Corporate Identity": a new association logo and matching colors that truly represent our values.

With this new identity, we step out into the world with courage and self-confidence. With your support, we were able to fully finance our first two projects. This year we were invited to two events, and we also have very exciting projects in our pipeline. It is particularly important to mention that we are planning our very first project in Ghana. In doing so, we are expanding our activities to a third African country—using a somewhat new concept. More on this can be found in the report.

As a team, we are growing closer and closer together. After one year, we have all learned a great deal and are excited to see what lies ahead. For me personally, this path is a journey full of passion and growth. Working together and growing as a team is simply priceless. For this reason, it is my great pleasure to present to you the activities and the hard work of the wonderful 3 E's 4 Africa team in 2021.

Warm regards, yours sincerely,

Contimi Kenfack Mouafou



# DISCLAIMER



We are a non-political association. Our instruments for creating change are promoting education, sustainability, self-determination, and progress in Africa. We are not an association whose focus is anti-racism education in general or in Germany in particular.

**However, as an association of the African diaspora—though not only, but especially because of our strong African identity—we are always anti-racist. That is absolutely beyond question.**

We are an association of diversity and inclusion, and for that reason our members do not turn a blind eye to the issue of racism. On the contrary, several of us have already had many—often painful—experiences with this structural evil. We therefore engage with it actively, both the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) members and the white members of our association.

In addition, we have an anti-racism officer in the association, Wilfriede Ayodele, who is also a co-founder of the Autonomous BIPOC Department at the University of Cologne.

As soon as we notice that we are confronted with clearly recognizable post-colonial ways of thinking or strong racist prejudices, we reserve the right to end communication and any potential cooperation.

We are confident that this will not happen and we look forward to getting to know you.

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# OUR APPROACH



EDUCATION

EMPOWERMENT



ECOFRIENDLINESS



## VISION

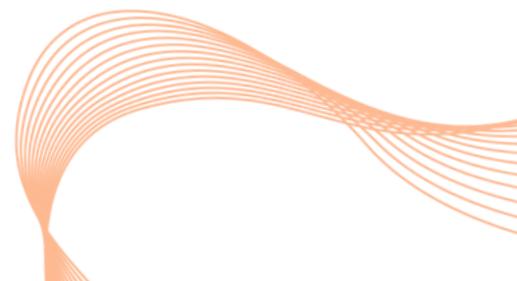
African innovation for global impact. We believe in a world in which the innovative ideas of young Africans are visible, valued, and strategically supported. In this way, their solutions can effectively address both local and global challenges of the climate crisis. Our vision is brought to life in our image film: *Perspectives – African Changemakers*.

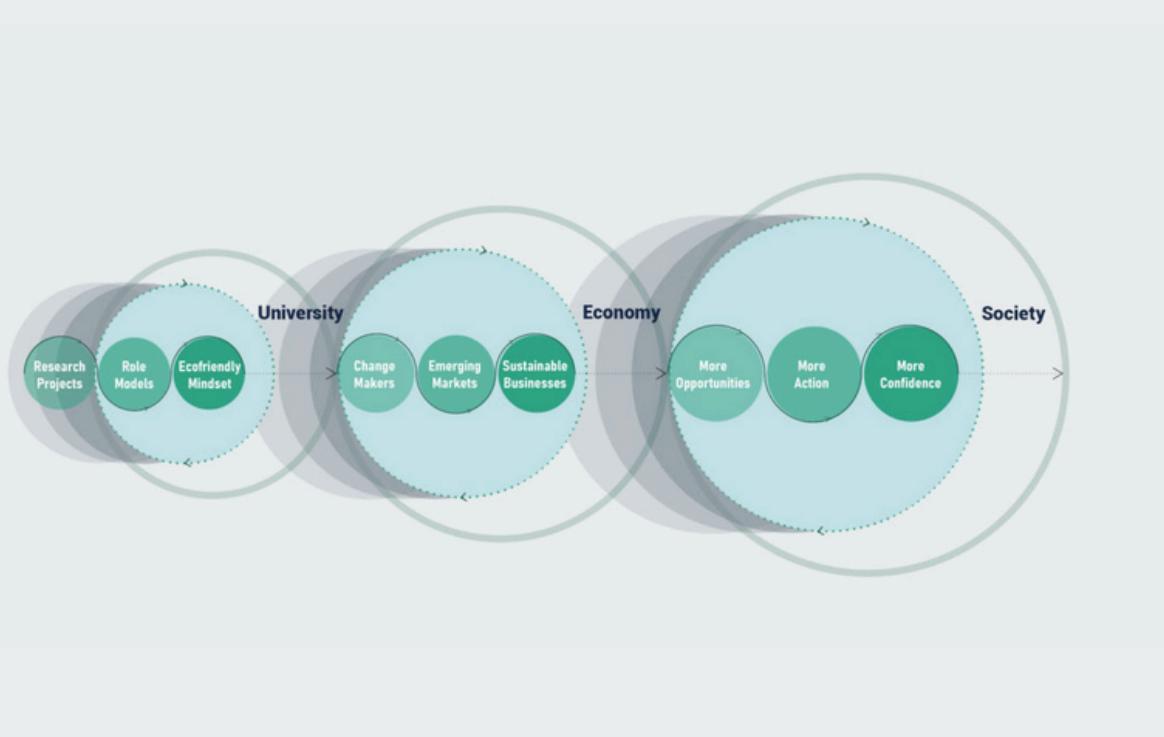
[https://youtu.be/1C5OC0w\\_NF0](https://youtu.be/1C5OC0w_NF0)

## IMPACT

To communicate the impact of our initiative more clearly, we developed the 3E4A Impact Cycles. The overall system of these three cycles—each oriented toward higher education, business, and society—serves both as a manifestation of our vision and as a source of motivation and guidance.

It is a self-reinforcing system. The initial impetus must come from the African students and doctoral candidates themselves. Our role is to make their work tangibly easier.





## UNIVERSITY LEVEL

The impact begins with African students and doctoral candidates at universities in Africa. Through our support, they are able to translate their ideas into practice. As all projects have a clear focus on climate change adaptation or mitigation, this simultaneously strengthens an eco-friendly mindset. Through their projects, we place the students and doctoral candidates in the spotlight.

## ECONOMIC LEVEL

As role models who bring innovative ideas to life, students and doctoral candidates in Africa become changemakers. They move from the academic sphere into the economic sector—either as employees or as social entrepreneurs with their own solutions. In doing so, they carry the ecological focus of their research directly into the economy.

## SOCIETAL LEVEL

At this level, new perspectives emerge. Students and doctoral candidates in Africa inspire the African youth to take action. By founding start-ups with sustainable business models, they create new jobs and opportunities for development. Young people come to realize that economics and ecology can be considered together. The result is engaged and empowered societies that address challenges proactively, implement innovative ideas, and protect nature as a central foundation of life.

# THE 3 E'S EXPLANATION



## EDUCATION:

# E



*Problem:*

Only **3.8%** of global funding for climate change research is allocated to topics that specifically or substantially concern Africa. Given the scale and intensity of climate-related impacts on the continent, as well as the associated risks, Africa would deserve a central place in global climate research.



*Solution:*

With our approach, we aim to ensure that **innovation in the African context** is deliberately promoted through education and research. For this reason, we work primarily with students and doctoral candidates at African universities.





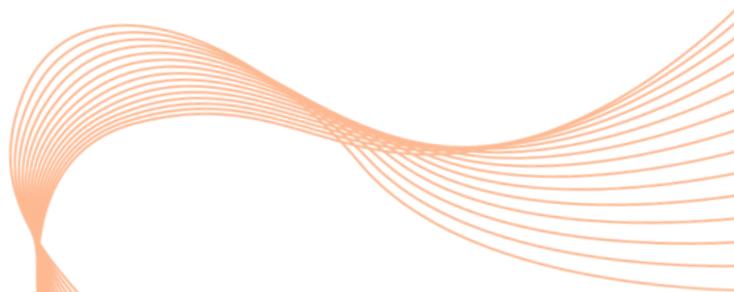
## EMPOWERMENT:



To this day, a **predominantly negative image and narrative** of the African continent remains widespread. This narrative reinforces feelings of hopelessness and a lack of future prospects among young people on the ground.



We seek to counter this by conveying to African youth that they can—and should—develop the solutions to their own challenges. They understand local problems best and should therefore be the ones to design appropriate solutions. We provide them with the means to implement their ideas while presenting them as changemakers. By making their work visible, we promote an **authentic and innovative image of the continent**.





# E

## ECOFRIENDLINESS:



### Problem:

Africa is the continent most vulnerable to climate change. An estimated **43 million people** in Africa will be pushed further below the poverty line by 2030 if climate change is not effectively addressed. This places considerable strain on the continent's development.

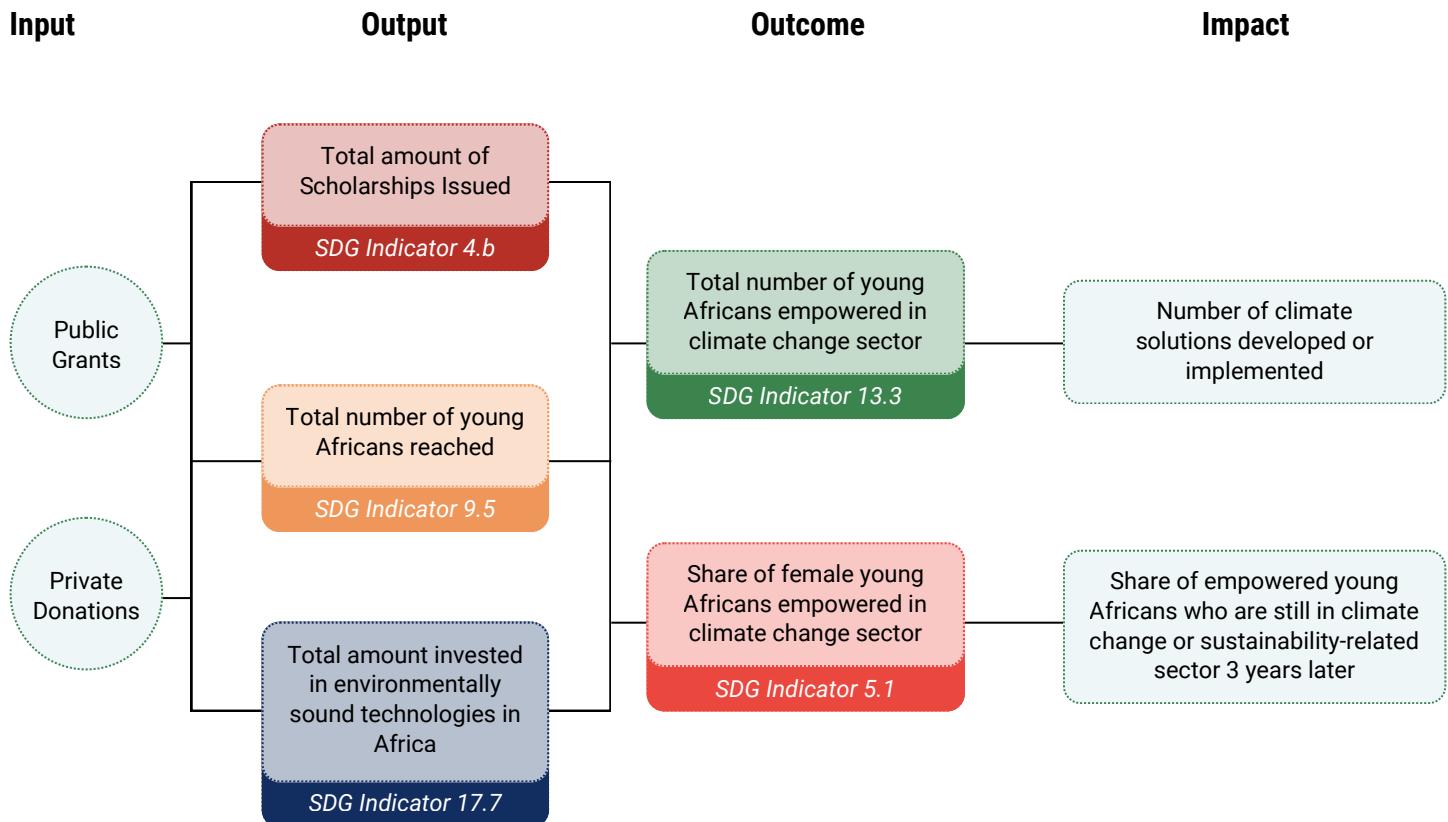


### Solution:

To actively counter climate change and its consequences, the projects we support focus on developing **new concepts and solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation**.



# OBJECTIVES AND IMPACT MEASUREMENT



Our impact measurement is based on a selection of the United Nations' 17 global Sustainable Development Goals and the indicators derived from them.



SDG	Indicator	Value
	Total number of Africans empowered through projects*1 (SDG Target 13.3)	30
	Share of women reached through our projects (SDG Target 5.1)	6.7 %
	Total value of transactions for scholarships (SDG Target 4b)	€3,912
	Total value of transactions for research expenditures (SDG Target 9.5)	€5,558
	Total value of transactions of all projects in Africa (SDG Target 17.7)[5]	€12,180

1 Number of Africans directly positively affected by our work. This includes project participants in a research project, attendees at an educational event, or individuals who received mentoring or financial support as part of an innovation competition. The number of participants is counted for the indicator after the completion of each project.



## FULL TEXT FROM THE 17 GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS:

Link SDG Metadata Directory: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



- [1] 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- [2] 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- [3] 4.b [S]ubstantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries
- [4] 9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending
- [5] 17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed

# OUR PROJECTS



## HOW DO OUR RESEARCH PROJECTS WORK?

**01**

Students and/or doctoral candidates from African universities contact us with their project ideas.

**02**

We review the concept in the context of sustainability and assess the team with regard to its motivation. Then we seek funding from foundations, companies, and private individuals.

**03**

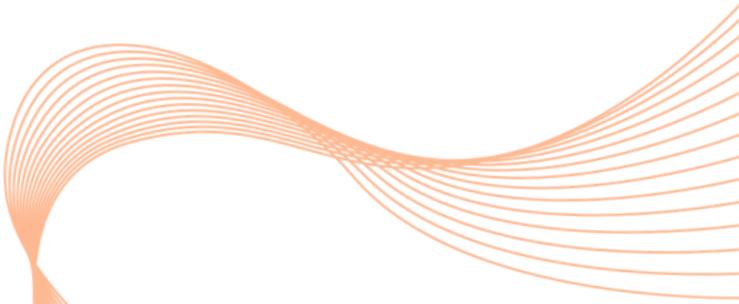
Once we have provided the necessary financial resources, the project begins. The participants and their supervisor conduct their research project independently.

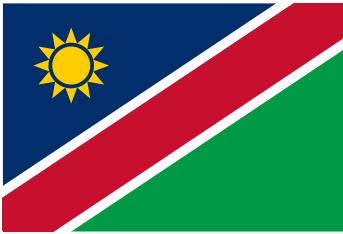
**04**

After each quarter, we evaluate the project progress together with all those involved, discuss possible problems, and decide on the release of the next quarterly payment.

**05**

After completion of the project period (twelve months are targeted), the students submit a scientific documentation of the project to us, which may be published. The project as a whole is evaluated by us. If the project results reveal further promising research opportunities or potential business start-ups, we enter into a new cooperation with the students.





## COMPLETED PROJECTS

None until now.

## ONGOING PROJECTS

### NAM-001

Tackling Climate Change in Rural Namibia  
,The Namibian Drip Issue'

This project examines the impacts of climate change in rural regions of Namibia, specifically the Oshana Region. The aim is to derive possible solutions based on the impacts identified in this region.

<b>Funding</b>	€10,000	(100 %)
<b>Disbursements</b>	€9,698	(97 %)
<b>Progress</b>	Q3/Q4	(75 %)

## FACTS

<b>Country</b>	Namibia
<b>Duration</b>	May 2021 – April 2022
<b>University</b>	Nambia University of Science and Technology (NUST)
<b>Partner</b>	Namibia National Students Organization (NANSO)
<b>Students</b>	6 (including 2 women)
<b>Supervisor</b>	Dr. Jain Arpit
<b>Mentors</b>	Bharti Teotia, Delasi de Souza



## WATER SCARCITY IN RURAL REGIONS OF NAMIBIA

Namibia is a country in southern Africa, more than twice the size of Germany, with a population of around three million people. The country's climatic conditions are largely shaped by the Namib Desert in the west and the Kalahari Desert in the east. In the rural regions influenced by these deserts—often sparsely populated—water supply is an essential issue that is becoming increasingly urgent in the context of global climate change. Agriculture and food security, which form the basis of life for large parts of the local population, are directly affected as well. In the students' words, the project's goal is as follows: "We will identify and report on potential problems and challenges that selected communities in the Oshana Region may face with regard to water security. We will research solutions to these problems and implement them together with the communities. Our goal is also to raise awareness among the local population by establishing educational workshops and to strengthen the community."





CMR-001

*Adding Value to Plastic Waste in Cameroon*

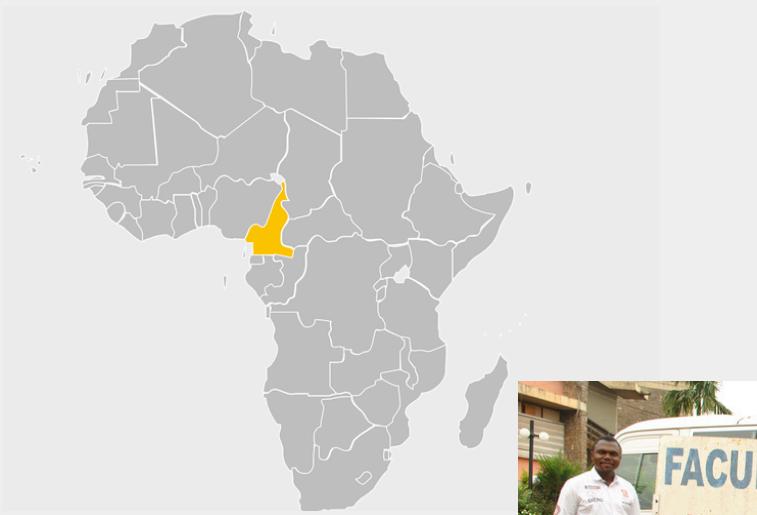
*Analysis of the impacts of plastic waste in Yaoundé to explore potential recycling solutions*

This project aims to assess the current situation of plastic waste in the capital city of Yaoundé. It then examines the environmental impacts of plastic waste and proposes solutions that are applicable to the local context.

<b>Funding</b>	€10,000	(100 %)
<b>Disbursements</b>	€2,483	(25 %)
<b>Progress</b>	Q1/Q4	(25 %)

## FACTS

<b>Country</b>	Cameroon
<b>Duration</b>	November 2021 – October 2022
<b>University</b>	Université de Yaoundé
<b>Partner</b>	FOOTPRINT
<b>Students</b>	5 (incl. 1 PhD student, no women)
<b>Supervisor</b>	Dr. Djumyom Wafo Guy Valerie
<b>Mentor</b>	Charlotte Dorville



## VALUE CREATION FROM PLASTIC WASTE IN YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON

Plastic waste is generated in Cameroon in large quantities. According to the Ministry of the Environment, it amounts to an average of 60,000 tonnes per year. However, there is no coordinated system for sorting, collection, and rational waste management. As a result, the waste ends up uncontrolled in the sewer system, in rivers, and at informal dumpsites, causing serious problems for the environment and human health.

The project's target group is the entire population of the city of Yaoundé, currently estimated at around 3 million people. The focus is on those affected by health damage caused by plastic-waste pollution in the city. About 10% of the total population—i.e., 300,000 people—are directly affected, as they live in the immediate vicinity of dumpsites. The project aims to document the current state of plastic-waste management in Yaoundé. In doing so, the different types of plastics will be characterized, and the impacts of the waste on water bodies, air, and agricultural soils will be analyzed. The final objective is to develop proposals for recycling and recovery options for the waste based on the data collected. A special feature of this project is that four participants are writing their master's theses and one participant is writing a doctoral dissertation on the topic.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2021



<b>Income</b> (grants, donations, membership fees)	40,708 €
<b>Expenses</b> (overhead)	– 573 €
<b>Expenses</b> (project-related)	– 15,037 €
<b>Annual delta</b>	25,098 €
<b>Starting account balance (as of 01/01/2021)</b>	5,544 €
<b>Ending account balance (as of 31/12/2021)</b>	<b>30,544 €</b>

Because sustainability in finance is also important to us, we chose an account with GLS Gemeinschaftsbank eG, 44774 Bochum. Among other things, projects in the field of renewable energies are financed there using account deposits. This is explicitly not advertising, but information for you as a potential donor for the sake of maximum transparency.

As a registered non-profit association, 3 E's 4 Africa e. V. is exempt from corporate income tax pursuant to § 5 para. 1 no. 9 KStG and from trade tax pursuant to § 3 no. 6 GewStG under tax number 201/5908/4540.

# NEW PARTNERSHIPS



## FOOTPRINT

FOOTPRINT is a Cameroonian non-profit organization whose aim is to educate Africans about the impacts of climate change and to carry out environmental protection activities and training. They achieve this by organizing initiatives such as school discussion forums on environmental topics, environmental conferences in various formats, and workplace competitions on environmental themes. FOOTPRINT's main goal is for young people to grow up with an awareness of the value of our environment.

Together with FOOTPRINT, we would like to implement educational and awareness-raising measures on environmental protection and climate change. In addition, with FOOTPRINT as our local partner organization, we will conduct our research projects in Cameroon, thereby giving Cameroonian students the opportunity to contribute to building a modern, sustainable, and environmentally friendly society.



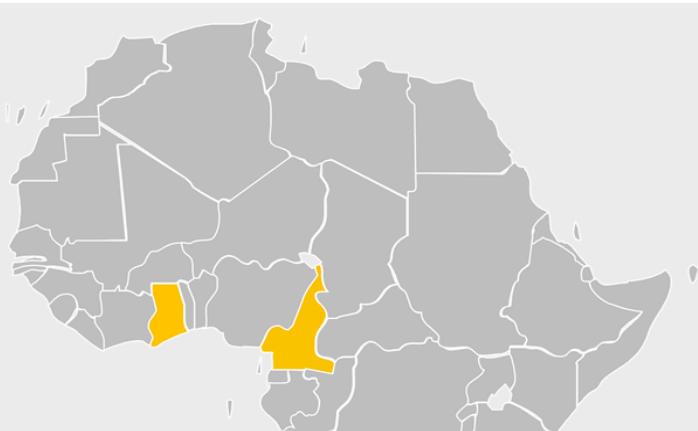
## NANSO

The Namibian National Students' Organization (NANSO) is currently the only legitimate and recognized national representative body of students in Namibia. The organization has long been committed to advocating for the rights and interests of learners in the country, with a particular focus on ensuring free access to quality education. NANSO's areas of activity include student representation and networking, as well as the implementation of capacity-building programs.

Our shared goal is to promote the education and empowerment of Namibian students, thereby creating new opportunities for the country's future changemakers. As our local partner organization, NANSO supports us in carrying out research projects in Namibia. Furthermore, they enable us to connect and engage with students across the country.

**Website:** <https://www.nanso.org/>

# OUTLOOK



## GHA-001 - AFRICAN CLIMATE ADAPTATION INNOVATION CHALLENGE #ACAIIC

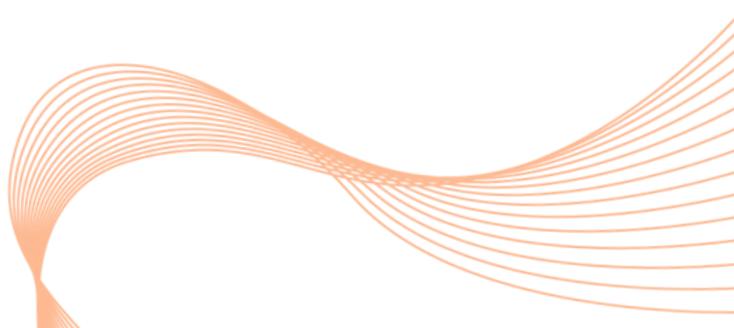
The “African Climate Adaptation Innovation Challenge” is an idea competition that we would like to run in Ghana next year. Participants will have the opportunity to further develop their innovative, sustainable, and economically viable ideas for local climate change adaptation and turn them into real solutions. A selected group of young changemakers will receive intensive support over several weeks as they refine their ideas. At a pitch event, all teams will come together to present their concepts. The best project ideas will receive prize money in the form of direct financial support, as well as the opportunity for further mentoring.



## CMR-002 - NEW STREETS FROM OLD TIRES

### *Recycling of Tires for Road Construction*

In our second project in Cameroon, five students would like to research options for recycling car tires. They are pursuing the idea of shredding and further processing tires and plastic waste and using the resulting composite material for road construction. By substituting concrete, they hope to reduce emissions in the road-building sector. This could make the expansion of infrastructure in Cameroon more affordable and more resource-efficient. In addition, the concept is intended to create an economic incentive to recycle tires and plastic.



# ASSOCIATION AND EVENTS



We are pleased to see how the association is growing and how we are able to inspire more and more people with our vision. Alongside new research inquiries and projects, there has also been a lot of internal progress at 3 E's 4 Africa. We were able to welcome new members and mentors, and we now have a new association logo and a more polished public presence. Below are some of the events and highlights of the year.

## 3 E'S 4 AFRICA ON THE GROUND

In April, our Chair Contimi held a seminar in Cameroon at the Polytechnic University of Yaoundé together with our new local partner Footprint. In addition to a brief presentation of the association, the focus was on discussing various aspects of climate change and sustainable solutions in Africa. We also invited local companies from the plastic recycling sector and from the production of sustainable charcoal to inspire the students. Thanks to the interactive design of the seminar, a lively exchange with the students developed, which inspired several participants to apply to us with their innovative and sustainable project ideas. In fact, all of our currently planned projects in Cameroon originate from student participants in this seminar.





## FILMFESTIVAL COLOGNE

As part of the Film Festival Cologne (FFC), the media presence of development-oriented organizations is supported and recognized. We were given the opportunity to work together with experienced experts from the media industry on various concepts for high-reach online campaigns. The result was presented live on the Global Day of the Film Festival Cologne: our mission, our vision, and our added value—sharpened and clearly articulated with the help of the experts. The final campaign is currently in the detailed planning phase. Filming, editing, and broadcasting are scheduled for next year.

## “TIME FOR AFRICA” – OPENING EVENT OF THE EURAFRICA INSTITUTE IN OSNABRÜCK

In addition to insightful keynote speeches by many different organizations, 3 E's 4 Africa also had the opportunity to present itself at the EurAfrica Institute's event in Osnabrück. It was a very successful event that, by creating an open platform, enabled many stimulating discussions and inspiring exchanges among the participants. For example, we had the great opportunity to connect with representatives of GreenTec Capital Partners and the German Africa Foundation, as well as many others.



# THANK YOU!



Without all of you – our past and future supporters, and without you, our past and future members and 3E4A ambassadors – Contimi's original idea would still be just an idea, and our changemakers, the students in Namibia and Cameroon, would have one less opportunity to put their knowledge into practice through sustainable and application-oriented research projects and to lead the way as role models.

For this, we would like to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts! It has been, and continues to be, a very exciting and inspiring journey for us, and we sincerely hope that we can count on having you by our side for a long time to come!

The 3E4A Team



# IMPRINT



**3 E's 4 Africa e.V. is a registered non-profit association based in Aachen.**

- The purpose of the association is to increase the level of autonomy of African students and doctoral candidates at universities in Africa. This statutory purpose is primarily fulfilled by promoting the education of students and doctoral candidates in the form of local research projects with a sustainable and environmentally friendly focus.
- Local research projects with a sustainable and environmentally friendly focus are understood as projects at African universities that aim to explore local and sustainable solutions related to the energy transition, climate-change mitigation, and climate-change adaptation in Africa. These are hereinafter referred to as projects.

As a registered non-profit association, 3 E's 4 Africa e. V. is exempt from corporate income tax pursuant to § 5 para. 1 no. 9 KStG and provisionally exempt from trade tax pursuant to § 3 no. 6 GewStG under tax number 201/5908/4540, as determined by the Aachen tax office.

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*More than a donation, an investment in the future*

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# AFRICAN INNOVATION FOR A GLOBAL IMPACT



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