



## Funding Cataract Surgeries in Cameroon through **BERUDA's Mobile Eye Clinic**

### BERUDA's Mobile Eye Clinic

**1,305** patients in 2011

**510** in Belo Village

**410** in Njinikom Village

**385** in Fundong Village

**85** in Aboh Village

*Of these patients:*

**132** were diagnosed  
with cataracts

**25** were able to fund  
their own surgery  
(approximately)

Belo Rural Development Association (BERUDA), formerly BERUDEP, is a grassroots organization that works to reverse the poverty cycle in Boyo Division, North West Cameroon. One of our health-care initiatives includes providing access to basic eye care to residents in four rural villages in the mountainous highlands.

#### BERUDA's Mobile Eye Clinic

BERUDA's Mobile Eye Clinic was founded in 2005 by an American eye doctor who volunteered with BERUDA for one year to provide vital eye care to our beneficiaries. During this time, she personally trained our current Eye Nurse, Nkain Isaac (right, with patient), who travels between four villages each week to provide each with one-day access to professional eye tests and drugs. Our Mobile Eye Clinic provides free eye consultations and access to treatment in designated office/clinic space at four sites. It is self-sufficient and is funded through patient fees, as well as small fees for medicines and consultation books.



About 95 per cent of the residents in Boyo Division are subsistence farmers. A disability such as vision impairment greatly hinders a person's chance at survival, and many households struggle to care for sick or disabled family members, who become a burden.

Last year, BERUDA treated 1,305 patients, the majority of whom suffer from some form of vision damage. Last year, 132 people were diagnosed with cataracts, but widespread poverty in the region prevents them from accessing required surgeries and only 25 were able to afford it (cataract surgery costs 35,000 CFA or US \$70 per eye). We hope to support this need with an income-generating initiative that can finance surgery for high-priority patients to fight blindness and prevent disabilities.

But we cannot do this alone.

**We graciously request your support to help provide financial support to those requiring surgery.**

Our goal is to provide patients with some assistance by ranking each case on a high, medium or low priority scale, providing the following funding:

High Priority Cases      BERUDA to fund full surgery (70,000 CFA / US \$135)

Medium Priority Cases      BERUDA to fund one eye or 50% (\$70); patient to fund 50%

Low Priority Cases      BERUDA to provide no support



## Poverty in Cameroon

48% of Cameroonians live under the poverty line

51% live on just \$2 a day

17% live on only \$1 a day

30% of Cameroonians are unemployed

51% of income is spent on food, with the remaining split between health, education and social activities

80% of households care for a sick family member

59% of residents showed poor hygiene practices

- Canadian Foreign Service Institute & Belo Rural Council Monographic Studies 2009

## Poultry Farm Income-Generating Project Budget

BERUDA devised an income-generating initiative to provide financial support to the poor at risk of losing their vision due to cataracts. We plan to construct a poultry farm on an existing property in Belo to raise chickens to fund high-priority surgeries. In its first year, we estimate we can fund 60 single eye surgeries, with plans to increase until we can meet all high-priority needs.

The following budget estimates the required Seed Fund (first month one-time donation), and demonstrates monthly running costs and revenue for the first year of operation (first year = nine months to compensate for the first three months until chicks reach maturity for sale):

| ITEM  | UNIT QTY | PRICE / UNIT (CFA) | TOTAL COST (CFA / US \$)<br>1 USD = 528 CFA |
|---|----------|--------------------|---|
| <b>EXPENDITURES—Seed Fund (first month—one-time cost)</b>                         |          |                    |   |
| <b>Poultry Enclosure Construction</b>   |          |                    |   |
| 1" x 6" Timber boards   | 300      | 800                | 240,000 / \$450                             |
| 4" x 4" Timber boards   | 30       | 1,500              | 45,000 / \$90                               |
| Zinc (roofing)  | 80       | 4,100              | 328,000 / \$620                             |
| Nails   |          | 24,000             | 24,000 / \$50                               |
| Bamboo (elevated surface)   |          | 24,000             | 24,000 / \$50                               |
| Wire mesh   | 30 m     | 1,500              | 45,000 / \$90                               |
| Doors   | 3        | 25,000             | 75,000 / \$150                              |
| <b>Construction Sub-Total</b>   |          |                    | <b>781,000 / \$1,500</b>                    |
| <b>Poultry (first three months—one-time cost)</b>                                 |          |                    |   |
| Chicks—initial purchase (first 3 months, until project begins to generate income) | 300      | 600                | 180,000 / \$340                             |
| Feed (first 3 months, until project begins to generate income)                    | 3        | 216,000            | 648,000 / \$1,230                           |
| Medicine / Vaccinations (first 3 months, until project begins to generate income) | 3        | 15,000             | 45,000 / \$85                               |
| <b>Poultry One-Time Cost Sub-Total</b>  |          |                    | <b>873,000 / 1,700</b>                      |
| <b>DONATION / SEED FUND TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>                                    |          |                    | <b>1,654,000 / \$3,200</b>                  |
| ITEM  | UNIT QTY | PRICE / UNIT (CFA) | TOTAL COST (CFA / US \$)<br>1 USD = 528 CFA |
| <b>RUNNING COSTS (monthly expenditures—9 months only)</b>                         |          |                    |   |
| Chicks  | 100      | 600                | 60,000 / \$120                              |
| Feed  | 1 mo     | 216,000            | 216,000 / \$410                             |
| Medicine / Vaccines   | 1 mo     | 15,000             | 15,000 / \$30                               |
| Staff Salary  | 1        | 30,000             | 30,000 / \$60                               |
| <b>Poultry Monthly Sub-Total</b>  |          |                    | <b>321,000 / \$620</b>                      |
| <b>REVENUE</b>  |          |                    |   |
| Poultry Sales (per month)   | 100      | 5,000              | 500,000 / \$1,000                           |
| - Running Costs   |          |                    | (321,000) / \$620                           |
| <b>MONTHLY TOTAL REVENUE</b>  |          |                    | <b>179,000 / \$340</b>                      |
| Monthly Cataract Surgeries Funded (single eye)                                    | 5        | 35,000             | 175,000 / \$330                             |



## Boyo Division Consists of 4 Sub-Divisions:

1. Belo
2. Njinikom
3. Fundong
4. Bum



## About BERUDA

BERUDA is headquartered in Belo Village, with branch offices in Njinikom and Fundong Villages, but it supports projects and initiatives throughout Boyo Division.

BERUDA's main activities include:

- Health—Mobile Eye Clinic, community projects (constructing rural health clinics for access to basic care)
- Bee Farming / Honey Production—training, processing and sales
- Natural Medicine Production—training, production and sales
- Training—agricultural (vetiver technology, forest protection), widow health and small business training, orphan education, vocational training
- Eco-Tourism—guided tours (as an income-generating initiative)
- International Volunteerism—hosts specialists from across the globe for program advice and expert service delivery

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