**PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Bafut is a rural locality located about 15 minutes’ drive from Bamenda. Like any other rural zone in the country, it is comprised of many small villages or quarters some of which are very far off from health facilities. This makes access to the said facilities a tough task for members of these communities which accounts for high rates of disease and deaths which can be avoided. Some of these villages have health centres to carter for some of the immediate health needs of the population whereas some do not have at all.

Bawum is a community in Bafut and is particularly hit by the above phenomenon as there is no health centre to carter for the health needs of the population. This causes members of the communities to trek over long distances or at times wait for market days when cars are available in order to go to the hospital which is located about 4 km away.

Bawum community has population of over ten thousand. About 80% of the people resort to treatment of their illnesses with unprescribed drugs and traditional methods which at times lead to complications and even death. More than60 % of the people are transported to the hospital only as a last resort in a critical condition. About 75% of pregnant women do not attend antenatal clinic regularly. 50% start late and are unable to follow up all the necessary tests and treatments as stipulated for them like echography, lab tests and buying of prescribed drugs. More than 50% of these people live below the poverty line ($1.25) which contributes to poor medical follow-up and treatment.

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Falling within the framework of CANU, to provide health care, the Construction of a Health Centre in Bawum was earmarked to respond to these needs

**OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

* To educate the Bawum community on the importance of health practices within six months

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* To reduce the spread and prevalence of common diseases like HIV/AIDS,and other sexually transmissible diseases, diarrhea, malaria and other common diseases
* To sensitise the population on reproductive health issues and family planning especially
* To offer very low and if possible free screening and treatment to the most vulnerable population.

The provision of basic primary healthcare services to vulnerable populations like pregnant women, children and the aging among which should be vaccination, testing ….

* To provide a Centre where people can come there for daily consultation.