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Title: Momo, Ngoketunja pupils benefit from IDF, Plan Cameroon sponsored birth certificates

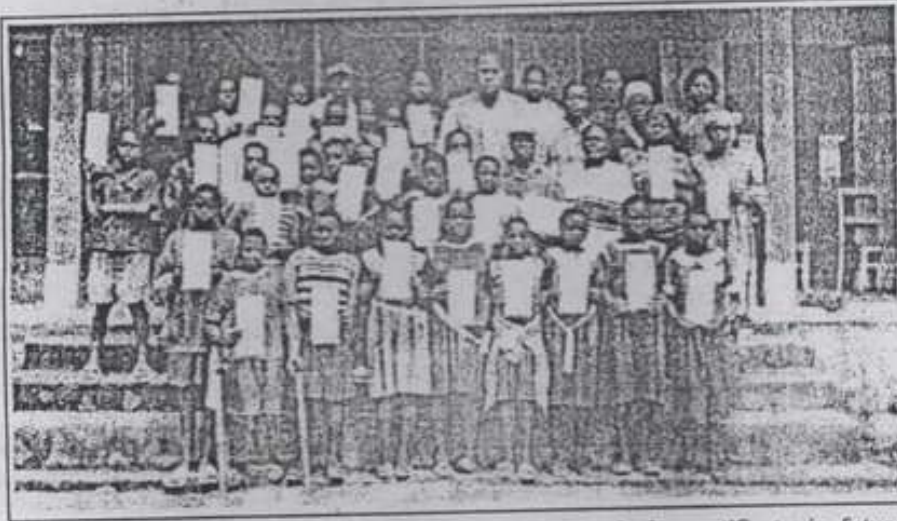
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SOCIETY

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## Momo, Ngoketunja pupils benefit from IDF, Plan Cameroon sponsored birth certificates

By Michael Ndi in Bamenda



Some of the pupils with their birth certificates now sure of other certificates in future

Some 520 pupils of primary schools in Momo and Ngoketunja divisions received birth certificates from 29 September to 1 October which were established through the help of Integrated Development Foundation-IDF and Plan Cameroon.

The IDF coordinator, Oussematou Dameni and programme area manager of Plan,

Tah Shadrack, who personally distributed the birth certificates to the pupils in the respective schools in Momo and Ngoketunja divisions pointed out that the significance of the exercise was to show to the pupils and their parents the significance of having birth certificates. They said a birth certificate was the first ever certificate one received in life and other certificates latter carried

information from it.

Calling on the school teachers to sensitize parents on the importance of birth certificates, Tah said that without a birth certificate, it was difficult for some one to be identified. "Besides, if you have no birth certificate, it means that you are the citizen of no country".

In all the schools reached, the head teachers hailed IDF and Plan

noting that most parents were yet to know the importance of birth certificates for their children. They said several class seven pupils were still without birth certificates when the registration of Common Entrance and First school leaving certificate examinations was at the corner. "This non-chalant attitude of parents towards the establishment of birth certificates for their children led to a good number of our pupils passing through class seven without writing FSLC and common entrance examinations" Jeanne Fomhang, the head teacher of GS Njinihi of Mbengwi commented, calling on the two benefactors to continue with the project.

The representative of the Fon of Guneku cum the foundation headteacher of GS Guneku who said the first national and international certificate was the birth certificate, said that IDF and Plan by giving birth certificates to the pupils were giving them the key to other certificates.

In chat with IDF coordinator, Oussematou Dameni, she told *The Herald* that IDF conceived the project and Plan sponsored it. She averred that the project was

a tedious one given that they did not only sensitize parents on the necessity of establishing birth certificates for their children, but estimate the pupils' ages, went to the court for age declaration and

to the council for the establishment of the birth certificates.

Some three months ago, Plan sponsored birth certificates for some 710 Mbororo children of Mezam Divisions.

## South West gets pioneer tourism and hotel management institute

By Kwi Bangsi in Limbe

An institution, specialising in the training of youths in hotel and tourism management, the first of its kind in the South West province will open its doors in Limbe on 15 October.

Known as the Institute for Tourism and Hotel Management Cameroon, ITHMC, the school is scheduled to offer courses in tourism and hotel management.

In the tourism department courses will be offered for the training of eco-tourism development and management experts, professional eco-tourism

tour guides and travel agency managers and experts.

The hotel management sector will specialise in the training of technical experts in hotel management and hotel managers. This training will take care of training in the area of restaurant and bar operations, front office and reception management as well as food production, kitchen and house keeping.

At a strategic development workshop for the take off of the institute which held at Costa Matina Hotel in Bobende Limbe last week, Nfor Thaddeus, senior expert in hotel and tourism management who is one of the