Association des Enfants de Marie Mikeu
“ MAMIKEU”

www.mamikeu.org

Back to School – Supporting Education in Fokoué

Project Completion Report

FOKOUE – FOMOPEA



Reporting Period: March 2026
Award Amount: $10,000 USD
Grantee : Association des Enfants de Marie Mikeu “ MAMIKEU”
Beneficiaries:

- Ecole Publique de Fokoue -Centre Ville
- Ecole publique de Yantou, Fomopea

Funding: AVERY DENNISON FOUNDATION

Executive Summary

The "Back to School" initiative, implemented by the MAMIKEU Association, aimed to alleviate the financial burden on disadvantaged families in Fokoue. Thanks to the generous support of the Avery Dennison Foundation, we successfully provided school kits to 100 primary students and merit-based scholarships to 50 students across primary, secondary, and university levels. This report details the activities, financial allocation, and challenges encountered during the project's execution in March.



1- Site of the Project: Fokoué

Situated in the West Region of Cameroon, approximately 20 km from the University of Dschang, Fokoué is defined by its rolling green hills and fertile valleys. The district spans 162 km² and is home to roughly 30,000 residents across 20 villages and five groupings. The population is notably young, with 29% under the age of 15, and women representing 43% of the community. The heartbeat of Fokoué is its rural economy. Subsistence agriculture employs 90% of the active population, supplemented by livestock farming, local trade, and traditional craftsmanship. Despite the rich agricultural potential and historical academic roots, significant hurdles remain. The high cost of uniforms, books, and secondary tuition often burdens local families. Furthermore, a shortage of qualified teachers in this rural setting makes it difficult to fully prepare students for higher education at nearby institutions or for entry into the modern workforce. The District of Fokoué has 14 public primary schools, 05 public nursery schools, and 02 bilingual public primary schools. However, coverage is unsatisfactory; schools are under equipped and lack clean water, latrines, staff housing, and electricity.





Ecole Publique de Fokoué-Ville



Mont Neyan - Fomopea



Ecole publique de Yantou - Fomopea

2- About MAMIKEU Association

The association Les enfants de Marie MIKEU, named **"MAMIKEU,"** was registered on April 23, 2025, in Dschang under declaration receipt No. 00043/RDA/F.34/SAAJP. The MAMIKEU Association is a dedicated non-profit organization committed to the socio-economic transformation of marginalized communities within the Fokoué district of West Cameroon.

Our mission is to foster sustainable development for educationally and economically disadvantaged populations, with a primary focus on supporting single mothers, widows, and orphans. To achieve this objective, MAMIKEU operates through five strategic pillars:

- Health and Nutrition
- Business and Entrepreneurship
- Agriculture and Environment
- Education and Training
- Collaboration and Partnerships

Through these integrated interventions, we strive to empower vulnerable families, facilitating their transition from systemic dependency to long-term self-reliance.

3- Our Objectives

MAMIKEU objectives are as follows:

- Helping disadvantaged families become self-reliant through technical assistance, subsidies, training, and education.
- Establishing mutual aid programs for widows, orphans, and vulnerable individuals based on equity.
- Promoting entrepreneurship.
- Facilitating poverty reduction initiatives.
- Supporting climate change adaptation and biodiversity preservation.
- Building partnerships with like-minded associations internationally.





4- Mission Alignment

MAMIKEU's mission emphasizes training, education, mentoring, workshops, coaching, and entrepreneurship programs for disadvantaged groups. This project titled "supporting education in Fokoué" reflects that mission by:

• Providing educational materials to primary students, reducing barriers to learning.

• Offering scholarships to secondary, postsecondary students from economically disadvantaged families, ensuring continuity in education.
• Reducing education Gap, by supporting more females to excel in their education
• Strengthening collaboration with schools to promote academic excellence and empowerment.

5- Project Description

MAMIKEU is a non-profit association committed to the socio-economic advancement of vulnerable communities in West Cameroon, specifically within the arrondissement of Fokoué district.



The initiative, **"Back to School: Supporting Education in Fokoué,"** was made possible by a $10,000 grant from the Avery Dennison Foundation.

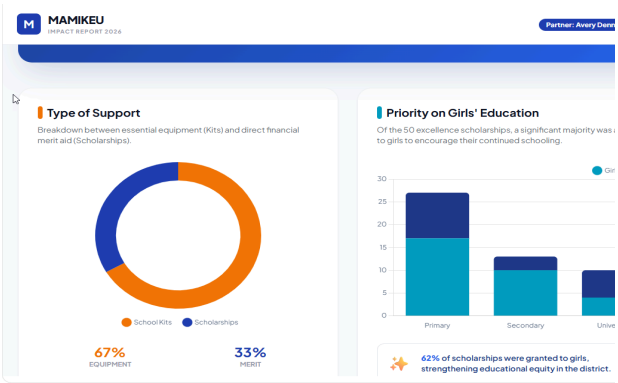
The project focuses on two core objectives for the 2025-26 academic year:

- Providing essential backpack kits (full of school supplies) to students at École Publique de Fokoué-Ville and Ecole Publique de Yantou, Fomopea,

- Awarding scholarships to high-achieving students native from Fokoué.

This initiative directly supports the Avery Dennison Foundation's mission to increase educational access and secure livelihoods, while simultaneously advancing government strategic goals to close educational gaps for vulnerable populations.

The overall goal was to improve study conditions for children in rural areas, support parents with the payment of school fees, and contribute to improving the enrollment rate.



6- Distribution of School Kits

In March, MAMIKEU distributed school kits to 100 primary school children across two key educational establishments, École Publique inclusive de Fokoué -Ville and École Publique de Yantou (Fomopea).



Each student received a durable backpack, notebooks, pens, erasers, and slates. Beneficiaries were selected based on the socio-economic vulnerability of their families.

To ensure transparency, preliminary meetings were held with school directors and parents' associations to identify those in greatest need.






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ECOLE PUBLIQUE
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FOKOUE-VILLE
INCLUSIVE GOVERMENT PRIMARY
SCHOOL
FOKOUE-VILLE




Mars 2026


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7- Scholarship Award Program

Beyond material support, MAMIKEU awarded academic scholarships of to 50 outstanding students from the Fokoué district to encourage excellence. Unlike the kits, scholarships were awarded based on academic performance across all levels of study.


Association des enfants de Marie Mikeu " MAMIKEU"

CERTIFICAT DE BOURSE D'ÉTUDES

Le présent certificat est décerné à

En reconnaissance de tes résultats académiques exceptionnels et de ton engagement envers la réussite.

Cette bourse d'études t' est attribuée pour l'année académique 2026 - 2027

Nous saluons ta détermination et sommes fiers de soutenir la poursuite de tes études.

Mars 2026
Date

Signature du Président

- Primary cycle beneficiaries (54%) represent the largest group, showing strong emphasis on early education support.
- Secondary cycle (26%) aligns directly with the scholarship program, targeting economically disadvantaged students.
- University cycle (20%) indicates that some beneficiaries are continuing into higher education, reflecting long-term impact.
- The female majority (62%) demonstrates that the project is effectively reaching vulnerable groups such as girls, who often face greater educational barriers in rural communities. This aligns with MAMIKEU's mission to

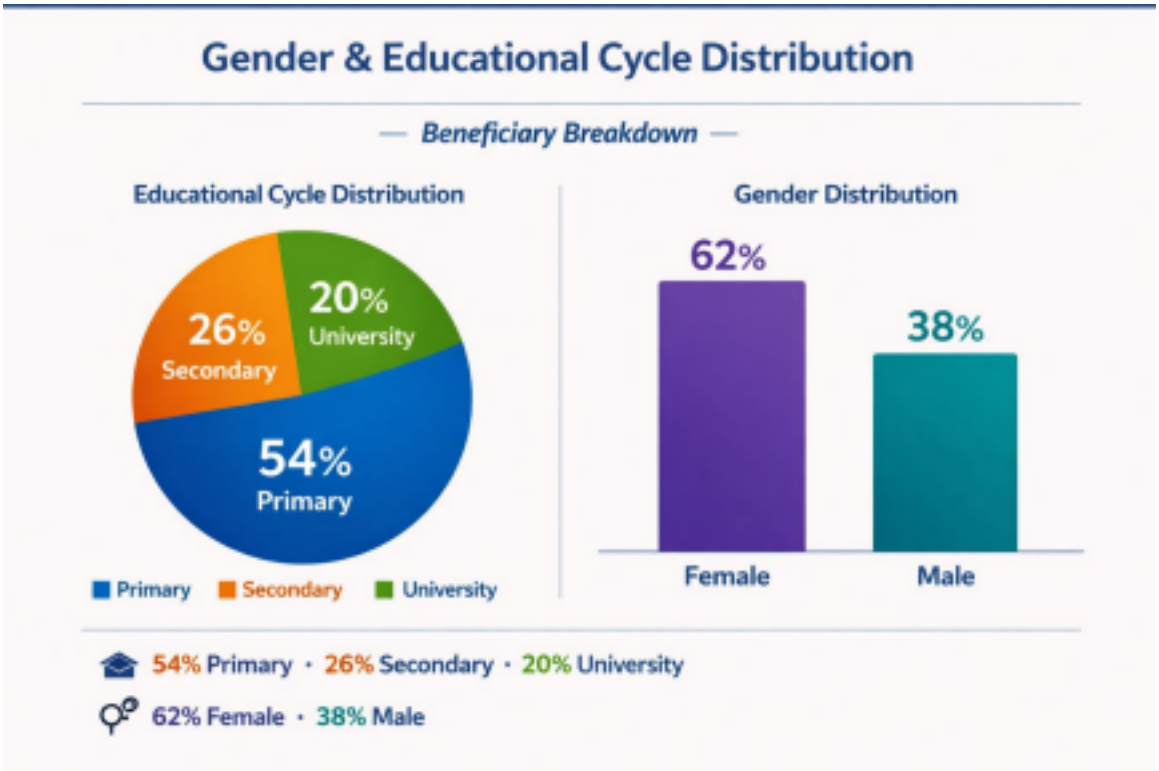
empower disadvantaged
populations, including single mothers and orphans, by prioritizing gender equity in education.

Table 2: Scholarship Breakdown

Academic Level	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**	Percentage
Primary School	17	10	27	54.00%
Secondary School	10	3	13	26.00%
University	4	6	10	20.00%
Total	**31**	**19**	**50**	**100%**
Percentage	**62.00%**	**38.00%**	**100 %**	

Table 2: below shows the repartition of the scholarship by gender and academic achievement level.

As shown in the table, out of 50 scholarships awarded, 62% of the awardees were females and 38% males.



8- Outcomes & Impact

The implementation of the Back-to-school initiative led us to the following impacts and outcomes.

- Improved access to educational materials for rural primary students.
- Reduced financial burden for disadvantaged secondary students.
- Strengthened trust between schools, communities, and supporting organizations.
- Enhanced motivation and academic performance among beneficiaries.
- Positive gender equity outcomes, with more girls supported than boys.

9- Challenges & Lessons Learned

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As with any community-driven initiative, the **Back to School-Supporting Education in Fokoué** project presented a set of unique challenges that required adaptive problem solving.

These lessons are viewed as positive outcomes, providing a strategic roadmap for MAMIKEU and our partners to enhance the design and execution of future programs.

- Strategic Collaboration: The success of the "transparent selection" process was rooted in our strong partnership with school administrators. Their on-the-ground knowledge ensured that aid reached the most vulnerable students.
- -Holistic Development: While providing supplies is vital, we identified a growing need for long-term support. Future iterations should aim to incorporate mentorship and entrepreneurship training, further aligning the project with MAMIKEU's broader mission of sustainable empowerment.

Overall, operating in a rural African context presented several significant hurdles:

- Logistics & Infrastructure: Extremely poor road conditions made the transportation of school supplies difficult and increased logistical costs.
- Stakeholder Availability: Coordinating meetings with school directors and parents was challenging due to their busy agricultural schedules and conflicting priorities.
- Documentation in the Informal Sector: Many local vendors operate in the informal economy and are unable to provide standard commercial invoices, complicating formal accounting procedures.
- Communication Gaps: A lack of mobile phone access among many local administrative and educational authorities made scheduling and follow-up time-consuming.

10- Financial Report *Total budget $10,000.00 (5,371,417.00 FCFA) $1= 537,14 FCFA*

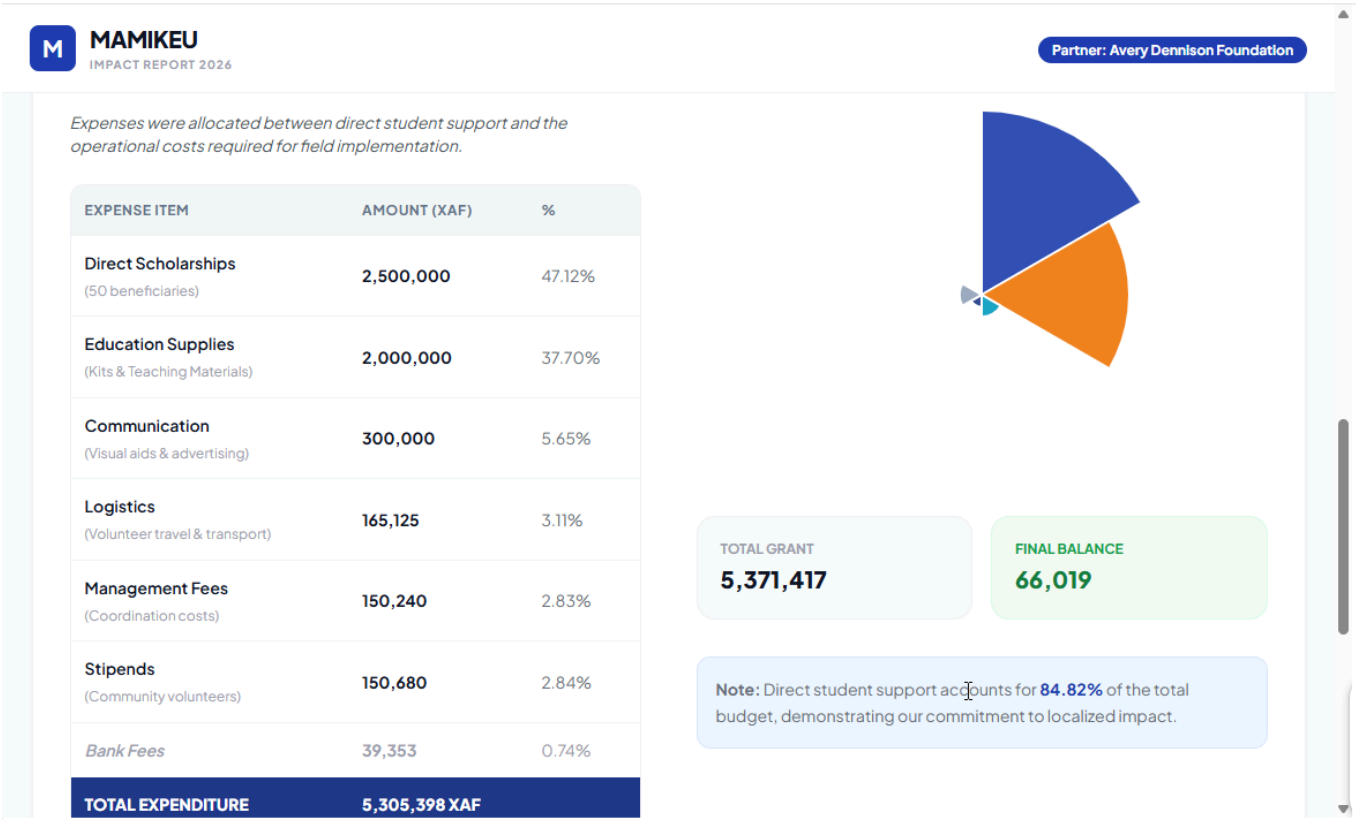
Detailed Statement of Expenditures : *Expenses were allocated between direct student support and the operational costs required for field implementation.*

Expense Item	Description	Amount (XAF)	Percentage
Direct Student Support (50000 FCA/ Student)	Scholarships (50 beneficiaries)	2,500,000	47.12%
Education Supplies	School kits and teaching materials Fokoué & Fomopea)	2,000,000	37.70%
Communication	Visual aids and advertising	300,000	5.65%
Logistics	Volunteer travel and transportation of supplies	165,125	3.11%
Management Fees	Internet connection and coordination costs	150,240	2.83%
Stipends	Community volunteers set up	150,680	2.84%
Bank Fees	Account maintenance and transaction fees	39,353	0.74%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**5,305,398**	
Budget		**5,371,417**	
Balance		**66,019**	

Overall, we spent 98.77% or 5,305,398 Fcfa of our budget to support the implementation of this initiative. The remaining 66,019 fcfa will be used to follow up on this year's beneficiaries.

As presented in the table above, 84.82% of the budget was used to provide direct educational support to students; 47.12% allocated 50 beneficiaries of scholarship and 37.70 % to school kits and teaching materials to both schools.

It is important to note that even though matches were not required for this funding, MAMIKEU's members provided more than 120 hours of time for meetings, coordination, communication and data collection and report.



MAMIKEU
IMPACT REPORT 2026

Partner: Avery Dennison Foundation

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TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**5,305,398 XAF**	

11- Conclusion and Acknowledgement

The "Back to School" project has made a tangible difference in the lives of 150 families in Fokoué. By reducing the financial barriers to education and rewarding academic merit, we have strengthened the community's commitment to schooling. We sincerely thank the Avery Dennison Foundation for their trust and vital contribution to the development of Cameroon's rural youth.

The project was a success, evidenced by the positive impact on students and the increasing social demand for the Foundation's assistance. Meeting this demand is crucial for building a more inclusive society.

A Word from the President

The success of the "Back to School 2026" project is not just a statistical achievement; it is a victory for education and equal opportunity in the Fokoué district. Seeing the smiles of these 150 children and the relief of their parents, we measure the magnitude of the impact that well-organized solidarity can have.

Gratitude Towards Our Partner

We wish to express our deep gratitude to the Avery Dennison Foundation. Your trust and your financial support of $10,000 USD were the driving force behind this initiative. Thanks to you, financial barriers that seemed insurmountable for many families have been removed.

Your commitment alongside the MAMIKEU Association reflects a shared vision for sustainable development and the empowerment of rural communities through education.

The donation of backpacks has done more than just provide a way to carry books; it has restored dignity and excitement to our primary students. Seeing the joy on their faces as they received their kits was a testament to the program's success.

Future Perspectives

The MAMIKEU Association does not intend to stop there. Building on this successful experience, we are already planning:

- Educational follow-up for scholarship recipients throughout the school year.
- Expanding the scholarship program to more villages within the district.
- Launching new pillars related to healthcare and local entrepreneurship.

Stay in Touch

We would be delighted to discuss the impact of our actions further or explore new opportunities for collaboration.

Association des Enfants de Marie Mikeu (MAMIKEU)

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Date: Dschang, 01 April 2026

