

## **Project Proposal**

### **“Development of Showcase Pawpaw Nursery and Farm for Biodiversity and Agricultural Capacity Building”**

Submitted by  
**Vivantes Humanitas e.V.**

Please find attached the following Documents

Annex 1: Statute of Vivantes Humanitas e.V.
Annex 2: Proof of non-profit-status Vivantes Humanitas e.V. (Gemeinnützigkeitsbescheinigung)
Annex 3: Statute of COMIHAS

Berlin, 8 August 2019  
Place, date

Karin Beese (sent via email)  
[Name of the authorised officer]

1 Project		
1.1 Project	<p>Project title "Development of Showcase Pawpaw Nursery and Farm for Biodiversity and Agricultural Capacity Building"</p> <p>Country of implementation Cameroon</p> <p>Project duration 09/2019 – 09/2021</p> <p>Sectors Education, Youth Employment, Agriculture, Biodiversity</p>	
1.2 Implementer	<p>Name Vivantes Humanitas e.V</p> <p>Street, No. c/o Lyle Charlie Ouandji Nana</p> <p>Postal code, town/city Crellestr. 35, 10827 Berlin</p> <p>Country Germany</p> <p>Contact Person Karin Beese</p> <p>Telephone +49 163 275 3013</p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:k.beese@gmx.de">k.beese@gmx.de</a></p> <p>Website <a href="http://www.vivantes.humanitas.org">www.vivantes.humanitas.org</a> (available soon)</p> <p>Legal structure e.V. mit Gemeinnützigkeitsbescheid</p> <p>Total members 12 in Germany and 15 in Cameroon</p> <p>Staff for the project 1</p> <p>Year established 2017</p> <p>Experience in target region &gt;10</p> <p>Experience in activities &gt;10</p> <p>Relevant to the project</p> <p><u>Role/function of the implementer in the project proposed</u>  The implementer acts as voluntary / pro-bono support for the project. Vivantes Humanitas e.V. will forward the funds to the implementing partner of the project COMIHAS. Vivantes Humanita e.V. also advises COMIHAS on the project design, implementation, communication and monitoring.</p>	
1.3 Implementing partner	<p>Name CONCERNED MINDS FOR HABITATION SECURITIES - COMIHAS</p> <p>Additional address c/o P.C. Buea Station Congregation</p> <p>Street No P.o. Box 251 Buea</p> <p>Postal code, town/city Buea</p> <p>Country Cameroon</p> <p>Website <a href="http://www.comihas.org">www.comihas.org</a></p> <p>Legal structure nongovernmental and not for profit</p> <p>Total members 31</p> <p>Contact person Etandow Randolph Agbornkwai. [Executive Director]</p> <p>Telephone number +237 679 89 23 09</p> <p>Email address <a href="mailto:etandowrandolf@ymail.com">etandowrandolf@ymail.com</a></p> <p>Total staff 7</p> <p>Staff for the project 5</p> <p>Year established 2007</p> <p>Experience in the target region 12</p> <p>Experience in activities relevant to the project 7</p>	

Concerned Minds for Habitation Securities, abbreviated “COMIHAS” is a **non-governmental** and **not for profit** association existing in Cameroon since September 04<sup>th</sup>, 2007. COMIHAS exist and function within the provisions of Law N° 90/053 of December 1990 governing associations in the Republic of Cameroon. Membership of COMIHAS is thirty-one (31) at moment with a seven (07) man executive that administers and run the affairs of the association. The motto of COMIHAS is “**Save the Environment**”. COMIHAS was registered in Yaoundé the political capital of the Republic of Cameroon but has her headquarters in Buea the south west regional capital.

The goals of COMIHAS focuses to raise and increase public awareness through education on environmental principles and waste management; provide technical assistance, and in case of emergencies necessary aid upon the acceptance of the government; provide assistance aimed at improving the standards of teaching and training in environmental protection, bio-diversity conservation and urban planning related issues. The objectives of COMIHAS aimed to attain the afore mention goals is, to stimulate and advance work to eradicate filth, pollution, global warming and land degradation; to promote in collaboration with other organizations (national & international), specialized agencies and individuals where necessary in preventing both natural and manmade disaster; provide information, counsel and assistance in the domain of environmental protection aimed at standardizing urbanization with respect to re-forestation; to help build an informed public opinion among all peoples on environmental issues; to study and report on administrative and social policies affecting the environment, including humanitarian services and habitation securities. COMIHAS targets her services towards Slum dwellers, Youth Groups, The less/under privileged, Low wage earners, Local councils/communities and the general public.

COMIHAS intervene in; collection, treatment and disposal of household waste; providing assistance within her limits of competence and abilities in the event of a disaster; community clean-up exercises; projection of environmental protection ideas and ideals; and in any other area of activities deemed necessary by the board of directors in Education, Hygiene & Sanitation, etc.

COMIHAS methodologies during possible intervention includes; “Education” through seminars, workshops and symposiums; “Practical field participation” through human investment activities; “Follow-up” through field visits; “Media actions” through press releases, articles & communiqués; and “Research & documentation” through reports.

COMIHAS Human Resources depends on voluntary participation of members, hired skilled labour from the public and contribution of human efforts by partner organizations or agencies, individuals. Financial Resources come from annual contributions and registration by members and purchase of membership cards; donations from individuals, national and international organizations or agencies; and from fund raising activities.

**Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project**

Period	Project	Contributors/sponsors	Beneficiaries
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Sanitation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>National Hygiene Agency (HYSACAM)</li> </ul>	General public
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Habitat Day Project.</li> <li>Community Sanitation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>UN-Habitat</li> <li>National Hygiene Agency (HYSACAM)</li> </ul>	General public

	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Habitat Day Project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>UN-Habitat</li> <li>Ministry of urban Planning</li> </ul>	General public
	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Habitat Day Project.</li> <li>Operation Primary School.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>UN-Habitat</li> <li>Anglophone Cameroon Cultural and Development Association (ACCDA) e.V. Hamburg Germany</li> <li>Ministry of urban planning</li> </ul>	General public Under privilege children with orphans
	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Habitat Day Project.</li> <li>Operation Primary School.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>UN-Habitat</li> <li>ACCADA</li> <li>Ministry of Urban Planning</li> </ul>	General public Under privilege children with orphans
	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operation Primary School.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>ACCADA</li> </ul>	Under privilege children with orphans
	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of modern toilets for Presbyterian nursery &amp; primary school Bomaka Buea.</li> <li>Scholarship (school fees) project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>ACCADA / Ms. Karin Beese</li> <li>German Embassy Yaoundé Cameroon</li> </ul>	School Pupils and Teachers
	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of modern toilets for St. Peter's Cleaver Catholic primary school Muyuka.</li> <li>Scholarship (school fees) project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS,</li> <li>ACCADA/ Ms. Karin Beese</li> <li>German Embassy Yaoundé Cameroon</li> </ul>	School Pupils and teachers
	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scholarships (school fees) and uniforms project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>Private donations coordinated by ACCADA/ Ms. Karin Beese</li> </ul>	Under privileged children and orphans
	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Education &amp; Tree Planting in Schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>GIZ Yaoundé Cameroon</li> </ul>	Government High School Batoke and Limbe II council area
	2016 /2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research on hybrid endangered trees and fruits species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>Government Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>Government Ministry of Forestry</li> </ul>	General public
	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting up of hybrid endangered pawpaw fruit nursery and farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMIHAS</li> <li>Private donations</li> </ul>	Unemployed and low income youths
<p><b>Function / role in the project</b> COMIHAS will carry out all activities on site as describe in the project description. COMIHAS will liaise closely with the implementer Vivantes Humanitas e.V. and report back on the implementation, communication and monitoring of the project.</p>				

<b>2 Brief description</b>	
2.1 Structured brief description	The project aims to bring young skilled and unskilled women and men together and to empower them by providing education and employment related to local agriculture and biodiversity conservation. Several practical training measures will lead to the development of plant nurseries, cultivation and sales of a local pawpaw species as a means to make up for income loss due to the current political crisis and instability in the region.

<b>3 Problems analysis and previous activities</b>	
3.1 Initial situation in the target country / region	Due to the ongoing crisis in the Anglophone region of Cameroon, youth unemployment has increased and there is a strong threat of the young population joining extremist forces. Since the beginning of the peaceful protest by local lawyers and teachers at the end of 2016 and the aggressive reaction by government forces, the situation has deteriorated with increasingly violent actions from both sides. For the last three years the local population has lived with serious threats for their security with many casualties and displaced people in the region. With the public sector as well as tourism and local industry facing breakdown, people are eager to search for alternative means of income. Young people who can afford it try to migrate to other countries. At the same time, many people feel much attached to their home region and try to continue some sort of normal life despite the political circumstances. Activities connected to food security as well as to working with nature gives them hope and meaning in a difficult situation.
3.2 Initial situation regarding pawpaw cultivation	<p>Pawpaw “carica papaya” is a giant herbaceous tree that originated in central America and is now grown in tropical areas world-wide for its large, sweet, melon-like fruits. Pawpaw plant has a hollow, green or purple stem and can grow 1.8 to 3.0 meters in a year, eventually reaching heights of up to 6.0 to 9.0 meters. Leaves and stems contain large amounts of white, milky latex. Pawpaw plants are generally dioecious. The fruits which can weigh up to 9kg have a thin but tough waxy skin. Green fruits contain white latex which disappears as the fruit ripens to light or dark yellow. The flesh of the fruits varies from yellow to orange to red, with a central cavity filled with many small black seeds. Pawpaw is high in vitamins as well as in calcium, magnesium, potassium, niacin, carotene and protein and is used in many dishes as well as in juices. It is also used in medicine to treat ulcers, for bladder and kidney problems and reduce skin adhesions following surgery. Other uses are to clarify beer, prepare wool and silk for dyeing. The macerated root is employed in gonorrhoea treatment. The decoction is used externally for abdominal stricture and drunk for antidiarrheal, as an anti-malaria or as a treatment for intestinal worm infections.</p> <p>Pawpaw has been grown in Cameroon since the early 1960s and attained commercial levels in the 1980s by two agro industries. In the mid-2000s they folded up due to the economic crisis that hit the country. Since then the growing of pawpaw has been on the downward trend till this moment that most of the high breed species are disappearing.</p> <p>There are about eight different species of pawpaw with up to five rare species</p>

	<p>facing extinction. These endangered species are especially valuable due to the easy way with which they adapt to changing climate and different soil conditions. The seeds respond to seed stratification processing there-by reducing time for re-nursing, the planting distance is short making more plant to occupy a smaller area and their production (that is the trees start bearing fruits) early. The trees last 42 months with effective production.</p>
<p>3.3 Previous activities</p>	<p>With the COMIHAS membership fees and private donations, a first phase of the project has been implemented between 2018 and today. In October 2018 a first pawpaw nursery was set up producing 118 seedlings which have been planted on a farm of about 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The activities involved the first 20 young people (12 women and 8 men). The activities were carried out on rented land. The agreement on the farmland is renewable after every farming year. The funds for future rent will be generated from the sales of the pawpaw fruits harvested from the farm, keeping continuously the tenancy of the land. COMIHAS has also applied to land that is currently being allocated by the state. The process is still pending.</p>

<p><b>4 project concept</b></p>	
<p>4.1 Target groups</p>	<p>This new project phase targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Up to 40 more young people (women and men) in the region between the ages of 15 to 40 years who show interest in local agriculture and environmental conservation and who can eventually become small scale farmers as well as environmental activists. They will mainly benefit from participating in the project activities (learning on-sight as well as during additional training sessions).</li> <li>➤ Low income farmers, Horticulturists, Environmentalist, Teachers. They will mainly benefit from the access to pawpaw seedlings as well as from exchange with the young project participants.</li> </ul>
<p>4.2 Impacts (long-term results)</p>	<p>The impacts of the project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increased awareness and knowledge about the positive social and environmental effects of local agricultural production with traditional plant species.</li> <li>➤ Generated income and reduced rate of migration within Cameroon.</li> <li>➤ Improved health and livelihood of consumers in the region and beyond.</li> </ul>
<p>4.3 Outcome (over-arching project goal) including indicators</p>	<p>The outcome of the project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Promotion of the development of continuously running pawpaw nursery for multiplication and supply of more high breed seedlings.</li> <li>➤ Expanded education base on the use of pawpaw not only as a fruit but also a medicinal plant.</li> <li>➤ Preservation of the culture of pawpaw cultivation in local communities.</li> <li>➤ Restoration and promotion of agriculture through the increase of pawpaw production.</li> </ul>

**Impact** (according to 4.2)

The project will contribute to an increased awareness and knowledge about the positive social and environmental effects of local agricultural production with traditional plant species. It will generate income and therefore it will reduce the rate of migration within Cameroon. The agricultural products produced as a result of the project will contribute to an improved health and livelihood of consumers inside and outside of Cameroon. The project will also contribute to fighting climate change and preserving biodiversity.

**Outcome** (according to 4.4)

In the area around Buea in the south west region of Cameroon, seedlings of the rare pawpaw species will be available to allow the start of small-scale agricultural businesses. A good-practice example implemented by the local association COMIHAS will demonstrate the practical implementation and the efficiency of local agricultural production. The education base on the use of pawpaw as fruit as well as medicinal plant will be improved and will contribute to the reservation of the culture of pawpaw cultivation. Young people will be trained in the cultivation of pawpaw and encouraged to start local farming activities.

**Output I**

Running nursery for pawpaw seedlings which provides (new) local farmers, especially youths, with seedlings to start their own small-scale agricultural business.

**Output II**

Good-practice example for setting up a successful pawpaw farm will be implemented involving the young target group in each step of the process.

**Output III**

Young people will be sensitized on advantages of local pawpaw production and will receive training on the cultivation, harvesting and selling / promotion of pawpaw.

4.5

Outputs (specific project objectives)

*All activities that will lead to the following outputs will be planned and coordinated by the COMIHAS project coordinator and carried out by professional COMIHAS project staff. The staff members work on a semi-honorary basis, receiving only very limited payment for their activities.*

*The 40 young people (see target groups) will be involved in all of the following activities, receiving on-the-job-training and learning from practical experience. The project staff will give detailed information on each step of setting up and taking care of a pawpaw nursery/farm in order to allow the young participants to set up their own nurseries/farms in the future. The young people will be invited to participate and to benefit from the project without paying any fees.*

**Output I:** Continuously running nursery for pawpaw seedlings which provides (new) local farmers, especially youths, with seedlings to start their own small-scale agricultural business.

The nursery of the first project phase was situated about one and a half kilometers away from the farm due to the availability of water which is a major catalyst for the functioning of the nursery. Like the farm, it also holds a renewable renting contract by the same landlord. The nursery is currently not running anymore because all the seeds have matured as seedlings and have been transferred to the farm where they are receiving care. Meanwhile preparation for the envisaged expanded second nursery, which shall be run on a continuous basis, is ongoing in the same place.

**Activities.**

- **Seed bed preparation.** The area for the nursery seed bed for at least 350 seedlings has to be softened by manual tilling up of the soil and impurities have to be selected and removed in order not to retard seed germination. The area also has to be barricaded with mesh wires to protect the plants from external invaders.
- **Seed stratification.** This involves the separation of the good seeds from the bad ones manually and kept to season under natural sun light.
- **Sowing of seeds.** This involves the orderly application of the stratified seeds onto the seed bed and a twice daily watering exercise is done and maintained until the plants germinate. After this, the watering changes to once daily until the germinated seeds are ready to be transferred into degradable pullettin bags that had been filled with related soil during this same period. Here the activity of filling the pullettin bags overlaps that of sowing.
- **Care giving:** this activity involves regular daily watering, maintaining the barricade from external invaders and plucking off any developing parasites on the plants and uprooting all unwanted shrubs sprouting within the nursery until the plant grow into matured seedlings ready for transportation and transplanting onto the farm.

During this second phase of the project, one cycle of seedling production will be carried out. About 75 percent of the seedlings will be used directly within the good-practice example (see output II below). The other seedlings will be sold / made available to interested parties as mentioned above (see 4.1 target groups).

With the income that will be generated by the nursery as well as the farm, it is planned to continue seedling production in the nursery on a regular basis.

**Output II:** Good-practice example for setting up a successful pawpaw farm will be implemented involving the young target group in each step of the process.

**Activities.**

Within this second phase of the project, an additional 3,000 m<sup>2</sup> of land will be rented by COMIHAS to set up the good-practice example.

- **Land Negotiation.** Negotiations for the land will made between the land owner and the project staff of COMIHAS. It is intended to rent the land for an initial 3.5 years. This contract can later be extended and further rents can subsequently be paid with the money earned from running the nursery and the farm. The negotiations can last 2 to 3 days.
- **Land takeover.** Upon negotiations completed, document signed and land handed over, preparation for planting commences with clearing and raking and pegging out the point where the holes will be dug. The digging of holes is done in readiness for effective transplanting of the seedlings.
- **Transportation and transplanting.** Transportation of the matured seedlings from the nursery to the farm will be done and the seedlings will be transplanted into the waiting prepared holes.

	<p>➤ <b>Farm care and security.</b> This activity constitutes regular watering twice a day for the first 30 days, then once a day for another 30 days. Plucking off any developing parasites on the plants and uprooting all unwanted shrubs sprouting within the farm is regularly done at given intervals of 21 to 35 days until the crops (pawpaw) are ready for harvest. The first fruits shoot off the pawpaw stems after about a period between 60 to 90 days. The fruits evolve and get matured to harvesting stage after 180 to 210 days. From then on the reproduction continuous up to about 42 months.</p> <p>➤ <b>Harvesting / Selling.</b> The pawpaw fruits upon maturity and ready for consumption shall be harvested and sent to the local market for sale. Due to the current political crisis, there are very little fresh fruits available so that the fruits should be easily sold. The harvesting and selling will be done by COMIHAS members on a voluntary basis. The young participants will be invited to support. Volunteers will receive fresh fruits for their personal consumption. All revenue generated will go to the account of COMIHAS. The non-profit NGO will use the money to sustain and enlarge the pawpaw nursery and farm as well as to support other projects in line with COMIHAS' objectives, supporting the local population and engaging in environment action in the region.</p> <p><b>Output III:</b> Young people will be sensitized on advantages of local pawpaw production and will receive training on the cultivation, harvesting and selling / promotion of pawpaw.</p> <p><b>Activities.</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Training on the job.</b> As described above, the young target group of the project will be involved in all steps of the process of setting up and maintaining a sustainably running showcase pawpaw nursery/farm. This on-the-job training, accompanied by guidance of the COMIHAS staff members, will allow them to acquire all needed practical skills needed to maintain a small agricultural business that uses local biodiversity and is environmentally friendly.</p> <p>➤ <b>Workshops.</b> The regional delegation of the ministry of agriculture agreed to offer two workshops within the course of the project. The workshops will present knowledge and framework conditions about setting up and sustaining tree nurseries and farms. They will highlight the importance of local agriculture, of fruit production for a healthy diet and on biodiversity conservation. They will also present different means of protecting the plants against insects and other threats. All young participants will be invited to the workshop as well as the local media.</p>
<p>4.6</p> <p>Technical, political and economic risks</p>	<p><b>Risk 1:</b></p> <p><b>Name/Type:</b> Infestation attack.</p> <p><b>Extent of Risk:</b> The nursery or farm can be infested by pest and / or decomposers (e.g. snails) which if not curbed the plant will not attain the desired growth.</p> <p><b>Strategy to minimize risk:</b> Test and use of different available types of pesticides (preferably organic) to fight off the pest and decomposers.</p>

	<p><b><u>Risk 2:</u></b></p> <p><b>Name/Type:</b> External Invasion</p> <p><b>Extent of Risk:</b> Unwanted human invasion can witness the stealing of the seedlings in the nursery, or the fruits upon ready for harvest. Stray animals as well can vandalize the young seedlings planted in the farm.</p> <p><b>Strategy to minimize risk:</b> Maximum security will be made available around the nursery and the farm at all times considering that we are vested with the terrain and allied activities.</p> <p><b><u>Risk 3:</u></b></p> <p><b>Name/Type:</b> Market Demand</p> <p><b>Extent of risk:</b> Depending on the season, there could be a slump in the demand for fruits in the market and sales will drop.</p> <p><b>Strategy to minimize risk:</b> Enough publicity techniques shall be imparted to the voluntary sellers, such that they will be able to go out with the fruits and promote them as part of a healthy diet. Another option is to lease up with the local fabricators of pawpaw juice.</p>
<p>4.7</p> <p>Ensuring sustainability</p>	<p>The project will not only allow capacity building and biodiversity conservation but it will also create direct revenue for COMIHAS, allowing the NGO to sustain and broaden its activities.</p> <p>From the fruits that will be set aside, seeds shall be collected and processed for the production of more seedlings for eventual distribution and expansion to other interested persons and common initiative groups that will like to plant their gardens and small-scale farms.</p>

<p><b>6 Knowledge and public relations</b></p>	
<p>6.1</p> <p>Knowledge management</p>	<p>In order to preserve the knowledge gained over the course of the project, a documentation of the project and lessons-learned will be compiled by the end of the project. They will be made available on the COMIHAS website allowing participants, donors as well as any other interested parties to access and use the information.</p>
<p>6.2</p> <p>Dissemination and visibility of the project</p>	<p>The project will be presented on the website of COMIHAS (<a href="http://comihas.org/development-of-high-breed-pawpaw-nursery">http://comihas.org/development-of-high-breed-pawpaw-nursery</a>) with regular updates on the implementation as well as on the website of Vivantes Humanitas e.V. (<a href="http://www.vivantes.humanitas.org">www.vivantes.humanitas.org</a>, available soon). The donor of this project will be clearly mentioned on both websites. Project activities will also be promoted via social media channels (facebook &amp; twitter) allowing interested people to follow the different activities. The local media will be invited to participate in the workshops (see Output III), which is expected to lead to local news coverage on the project, its background, goals and activities.</p>

## Time Line

The project is programmed to last for 1 year, starting in September 2019 and ending in August 2020. We propose the following time line:

	09/ 19	10/ 19	11/ 19	12/ 19	01/ 20	02/ 20	03/ 20	04/ 20	05/ 20	06/ 20	07/ 20	08/ 20
Selection of young participants	X											
Land Negotiation	X											
Land takeover	X											
<b>Pawpaw Nursery</b>												
Seed bed preparation		X										
Seed stratification		X										
Sowing of seeds		X	X									
Care giving		X	X	X								
<b>Pawpaw Farm</b>												
Transportation and transplanting from seedlings to farm				X								
Farm care and security				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Harvesting of fruit from previous project cycle	X	X										
Expected Harvesting / Selling of fruits of new project cycle										X	X	X
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>												
Training on the job		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Workshops									X	X		