

June 5, 2018

## Organisational Profile

### Name and Legal status.

HOFNA Cameroon is a registered not -for- profit, non-governmental organization with a mission to strengthen the leadership, power, and voices of susceptible women and girls from disadvantaged communities and develop them into self-reliant and socially conscious leaders.

Hope for the Needy Association, Cameroon; abbreviated HOFNA. 'Needy' referring to susceptible girls (12-19) & and women (20 years of age and above), respectively.

Founded in 2007, HOFNA is registered as a Common Initiative Group (CIG) registration **No NW/GP/041/10/13376** of 22nd December 2010 in compliance with Cameroon Law No: 92/006 of 14th August 1992 relating to Cooperative Societies and Common Initiative Groups and as an Association **REF No 315/E.27/750/BAPP** on the 4th of June 2012.

The organization is a body with its own legal identity which is separate from its individual members.

### Vision

HOFNA's vision is to develop more confident female leaders who are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills and passionate about leading positive social change in their communities. HOFNA works to contribute to a society where women leaders will no longer be viewed as the exception to the rule but as relevant assets and necessary additions to the world.

### Mission

Our mission to strengthen the leadership, power, and voices of susceptible women and girls from disadvantaged communities and develop them into self-reliant and socially conscious leaders.

### Aims

- To improve, assist and empower women and girls of their rights and opportunities to live better, safer and fuller lives. HOFNA recognizes women as the backbone of our society and aims at promoting income generating activities, trainings and skills acquisition, and advocacy

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of basic human rights and privileges;

- To achieve gender equality by educating our society through seminars, conferences, workshops and public education campaigns involving civil society, health professionals and other likeminded organizations whose aim is the empowerment of women and girls and peace building in communities, with women at the forefronts;
- To create awareness of shortcoming in agencies mandated to enforce the rights of women and girls;

## Objectives

- Educate women, girls and communities on issues of the rights of women and girls in an effort to reduce domestic violence, rape, and child abuse, child trafficking and child, early and forced marriages and any form of maltreatment among women and girls through public advocacy, human rights awareness campaigns, economic empowerment, and capacity building.
- Advocate against violation of the rights of women and girls through education, public educations campaigns, lobbying of policy makers, legislators and parliamentarians;
- Empowerment of women and girls in leadership through training, mentoring, leadership development programs, education promotion and study tours to other like-minded NGOs;
- Raise funds and receive contributions where appropriate to finance the work program of HOFNA Cameroon.
- Raise awareness and inspire understanding of problems related to gender based violence, the impact of domestic violence on children's emotional and psychological wellbeing and to empower women in actively participating in peace building and development and social change that would enable a more stable home environment for children;

## Our Values

1. We believe in empowering women and girls for a just and fair society;
2. We believe that the active participation of women and girls is critical for sustainability;

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3. We believe Partnerships with local and international organizations ensure greater impact;
4. We believe capacity building for women and girls will multiply small efforts in many ways;
5. We believe dedicated teamwork requires openness, integrity, commitment and hard work;
6. We believe our team and volunteers and all key actors should actualize these principles in all they do.

### Sources of Finance:

HOFNA's main sources of financing over the years have been:

- Membership dues
- Donations from individuals
- Grants from the United States Department of State through the U.S Embassy in Yaoundé
- The European Union/Cameroon Government partnership to revamp the coffee sector in Cameroon (PAPA Project)
- The MINEPAT/CAMCCUL partnership to support sustainable Agric business initiatives of Groups
- Global Network for Rights and Development

### Organizational Structure

The Annual General Assembly (AGM) of HOFNA's members is its supreme decision making body. Membership is open to all young people who believe in her mission and vision and support her ideas and are willing to foster the mission and vision of the organization. The General Assembly is currently made up of 19 members.

HOFNA is governed by a Board of Directors headed by a President. HOFNA's Board of Directors is responsible for the implementation of all decisions reached at by the AGM. The Board meets once every 2 months to provide strategic orientation to the management team and evaluate outputs. Positions in the BOD are reserved for young people aged between 18

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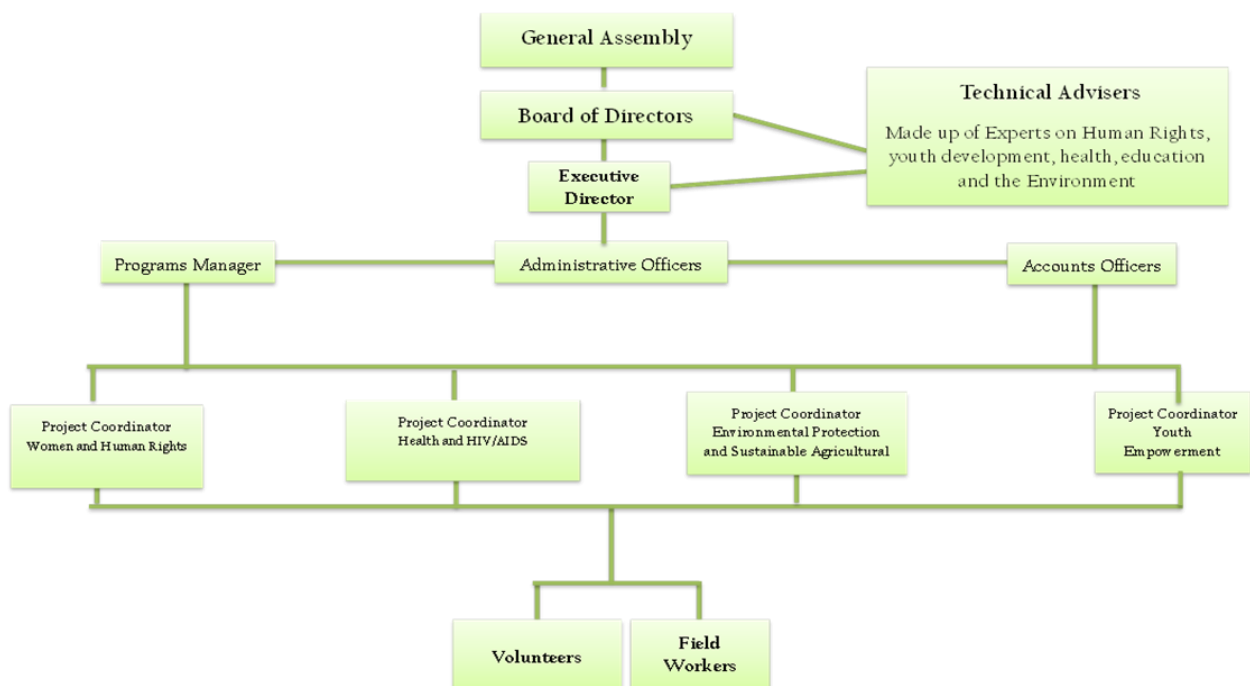
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and 35 years old. Board Members are elected by the General Assembly. Three out of the five positions on the BOD is reserved specifically for young women.

HOFNA has a Technical Advisory BOD (of 5 members) that provides technical assistance and expertise to the BOD and Management. The advisers are made up of experienced leaders with indepth knowledge and expereince in human rights and related issues, gender, youth empowerment, health and environmental initiatives. There is no age limit to being a member of the Technical Advisory Board.

HOFNA is run on a daily basis by a team made up of an Executive Director, a Programs Manager, an Administrative Officer and an Accounts Officer. All four members of the Management team are aged 18 and 35 years and two are women. There are also four program coordinators for the four main programs run by the organisation.



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## Past Projects:

Our past projects include:

- i) **‘Creative Arts for Girls Empowerment- CAGE’**, funded by the U.S Embassy Yaounde.

Major Project Achievements:

Through this project, HOFNA has

- Developed three training manuals for peer educators, teacher counselors and community counselors on ‘understanding and preventing School related Gender based Violence)
- Facilitated the training of 300 students, teachers and community leaders as peer educators, teacher counselors and community counselors to address school related gender based violence.
- facilitated the development and production of a theater performance – *Of girls abused*, ( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-sUetExFVQ> ) which has projected in schools/community halls in rural communities aand over national and other TV in Cameroon reaching over 7000 people.
- Carried out caravans around communities with motor bike riders, raising awareness on and engaging them in the prevention of school related gender based violence



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ii. 'Making Education Realistic - MER' promotes education/empowerment for disadvantaged children in rural communities through provision of benches, text books, didactic materials and materials for extra curricular activities. The MER also enhances the stay of disadvantaged girls in schools through provision of scholarships.



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ii) 'Right to Play!' - an innovative girls' right education campaign that uses sports to promote team building amongst boys/girls and build self esteem of girls in rural communities while educating communities about gender issues.

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**iii) Preventing and countering radicalisation and violent extremism**

- a. 'The One Cameroon Initiative, promotes Religious Tolerance in Cameroon through peaceful messages, plays, poetry, spoken word and the unifying power of music (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwK9vRIKWA0> ). This facilitated the training of 100 journalist and civil society leaders as interfaith peace builders

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- iv) **Enhancing multicultural Dialogue for Peace** (Funded by the DOS through the U,S Embassy yaounde) brought together over 150 youth and civil society leaders and Government representatives in 2015 in the first ever National Forum on Youth, women, Peace and security in Cameroon that ended with the development of a Youth Declaration on Peace in Cameroon. Engages youth and women in prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism.
- v) We have also collaborated with UNDP and 18 civil society organisations in sub saharan Africa to develop a mobile application to guide civil society organisations in planning and running effective campaigns to counter radicalisation and violent extremism.

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**Building Lasting Peace in Cameroon**

live simply so that all can simply live  
 Consider Others  
 write to your leaders  
 aid the starving  
 educate others  
 help those in need  
 mediate a conflict  
 exercise tolerance

**Be Tolerant**  
 create a world for grandchildren  
 stand up against bullying  
 Be open minded  
 Think Positive

**Good Citizenship**  
 don't make others wrong  
 Participate in the development of your community  
 speak up for Peace  
 cultivate inner peace  
 Care for your environment

**Be Patriotic**  
 Campaign for peace  
 learn new ways  
 Be friendly  
 exchange ideas  
 Do Voluntary service  
 don't fight, forgive  
 teach your children about peace  
 share what you have

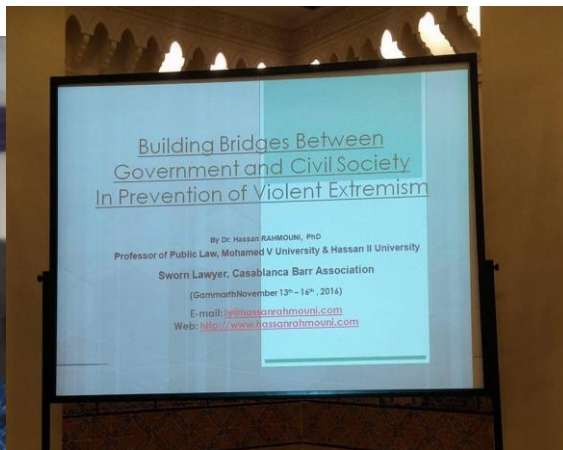
**#Integrity**  
 Be humble  
 mutual understanding  
 Avoid Prejudice  
 Actively support peace initiatives  
 Be the change you seek

**Promote mutual understanding**  
 Have a loving attitude  
 support hunger charities  
 know that your actions matter

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**action/2015**  
 CREED  
 Building Hope via Empowerment  
 You're In... torching a brighter

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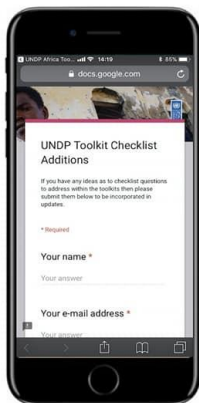
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## Tackling Extremist Narratives



A living product with users contributing to future development



- vi) HOFNA Youth Empowerment Program (HYEP). That provides entrepreneurship/vocational training, training on sustainable agriculture best practices to disadvantaged youth/women who successfully set-up and run small businesses of their own.

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## Girls Leadership Boot Camp

Every year, HOFNA organizes a girl's leadership boot camp – a week long residential leadership program for young girls aged 13-19 and aims to equip these girls with unique skills, not offered through most school systems, by preparing them for leadership roles through practical learning and mentorships. They girls are trained on preventing gender-based violence, leadership, self-esteem, entrepreneurship and civic participation.

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## What Next?

HOFNA Looks forward to establishing and running a Leadership and empowerment center in the North West region of Cameroon. Through this, young people especially teenage girls and out of school youths will gain skills in hair dressing, computer, sewing and embroidery that are in demand in the Cameroonian job market. The center will engage youths in leadership development programs, educating them out of drug abuse and engaging them in preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism.

We are currently working on generating the required resources – computers, chairs, tables, sewing machines, hair dryers and products, materials and space to host the center.

For further details, please do not hesitate to contact

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