



## **SAVE THE BASSA'S MOTHER TONGUE**

### **Project Summary Sheet**

#### **Interest of the project**

**This project falls under the initiative of a local association in Cameroon : Viewers in association with Mbog Invest Foundation to save the Bassa's Mother Tongue. Because studies show that children that speak their mother tongue tend to do better than those who don't, and that learning in mother tongue is very important for kids as it gives them a root in their culture that will help them grow and flourish.**

**We came to realize that about 3 Millions kids living in Cameroon and abroad aged from 1 to 15 years old, not to mention teens and young adult don't speak the bassa language. It's vital and crucial to provide them with an alternative that will help them learn by watching videos (tv, cable, smartphone, ipad...) translated cartoons, films and documentaries.**

#### **Rights Ownership of the produced Materials**

**The rights of the produced materials will be owned by Viewers Association, however the materials is free of use for educational purposes.**

**The produced videos will be posted for free downloads on our website.**



## Use of Proceeds

We are estimating cost based on a production of videos of about 60 min of duration. (costs are estimated as minimal based on Cameroon market)

<b>Estimated costs for the production of 1 video</b>	<b>Estimated costs for the production of 1 video</b>
<b>Translation Costs</b>	<b>\$10.00/min</b>
<b>Rentals</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Logistics</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Post production</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Consultancy expenses</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

## Equal Voice and decision Making over the Project

The project will be supervised by a committee formed by Viewer Association, Mbog Invest Foundation and ARCA Association ( ARCA is the association of the traditional rulers of the bassa tribe that master the Bassa language)

All major decisions around the project will be voted on the general assembly of the organizing committee.

## Safeguards to avoid that charitable efforts accidentally creates financial and property benefits for Mbog Invest, Inc

The project is overseen by Mbog Invest Foundation as the collector of charitable efforts of donors, for that reason we have to make sure that the project will be managed efficiently. We provide managing tools, due diligence and benchmark techniques to the organizing committee, but Mbog Invest Foundation activities are separated from Mbog Invest Inc,

We leave technical decisions to the Viewer Association and ARCA association.

We make sure that we have something to show at the end to our donors as promised.



## Partnership Opportunity

We encourage any non for profits organization that is working in the fields of education, culture and mother tongues to join us in this exciting project. We can arrange credits and rights ownership with non for profits that will like to sponsor the project at a certain level.

## Award Program for Donors

We will list the names and amount of all donors on the credits of the videos.

We will send an African keychain to any contribution from \$100.00 (please make sure to add your full address, we will be shipping in U.S only)

## To learn more about the bassa tribe

The Bassa are a native Bantu people of Cameroon, extending right into West Africa, where they constitute numerous families. Their scattered location derives not only from the migratory movements which led to the fanning out of certain large tribes, but also from the effects of colonisation.

To date, the following families have been identified:

- **The Bassa of Ouessou** and the Bassa la Mpasu, who live in Congo-Brazzaville (currently the Republic of the Congo) and Congo-Kinshasa (currently the Democratic Republic of the Congo).
- **The Bassa-Ngê** found in the area surrounding the confluence of the rivers Bénoué and Niger. Other groups are also present here, such as the BASSA-NKOMU and the BASSA-KADUNA.
- The branch which has its ramifications in Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo, known by the name of **Bassa-Ri**.
- The Cameroonian branch, which is found throughout the South of Cameroon, without doubt the most numerous, with around a million people out of a total population of fifteen million for the country as a whole. In Cameroon, the Bassa are found between 3°45 and 11°45 east of Greenwich. They can also be found between 3°05 and 5° latitude north.

The Bassa people of the Cameroon consist of three sub-groups: the **BABIMBI**, the **LIKOL** e the **BIKOK**.

The Babimbi did not take part in the crossing of the River Sanaga. Their natural territory lies not far from the mythical cave known as NGOG LITUBA (the Open Stone), the spiritual relic and natural shrine of the Bassa people.

The Likol, also known as the No-nlon (meaning: Those who are upstream) are located in the Nyong-Et-Kellé division, the rear stronghold in the struggle for the independence of Cameroon.

The Bikok are found on this side of the River Sanaga, between the Babimbi and the Likol.

### The genealogy of the Bassa

The Bassa are unanimous in tracing their descent from a single ancestor. They are all the children of MBAN. The word "Bassa" derives its singular form from "Nsa", meaning retribution, sharing. A quarrel between Mban's sons over the sharing out of a snake brought back from hunting is said to have led to the people being given the name "Bassa", meaning "the kidnapers". Other tribal ancestors are also identified, together comprising the members of the Bassa pantheon, the SOGOL, meaning the ancestors of the subsequent generations.

The word "babimbi" is nothing more than the name given by certain members of the clan to those who no longer wanted to carry on walking after crossing the River Sanaga by dugout canoe. The story relates that the clan divided into two parts, with those remaining being considered idle, whence the term "Bimbi" which literally means lying down, being stretched out.





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