The University of Bamenda in Cameroon Announces First Cohort of TAGDev 2.0 Program Scholars for the 2025/2026 Academic Year



<u>The University of Bamenda (UBa) is</u> proud to announce the selection of its first cohort of scholars under the TAGDev 2.0 program – a transformative initiative in partnership with the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and <u>Mastercard Foundation</u>.

The University of Bamenda as a public university is a leading national institution of higher learning geared towards meeting present and future development challenges through efficient teaching, research and sterling innovation. This is captured in its motto: *Knowledge-Probity-Entrepreneurship*. To this end, the University seeks:

- i. To provide quality and need-based teaching and research in various fields of learning and human endeavour.
- ii. To instil in our student's lifelong probity and hands-on intellectual insurance.

iii. To address dynamic development needs in the backdrop of national, international, socio-economic and environmental challenges.

In these strategies the University remains apolitical, inclusive in every sense, (disability, gender, race, religion, age, nationality, marginalized) transparent and accountable in its training, management and financial processes. While providing training in the liberal arts and sciences, priority areas for development comprise agriculture in the grassland savanna setting, agribusiness and e-commerce/digital innovation, health, environmental studies, engineering and technology. Community engagement through outreach programs and cooperation with other HEIs worldwide and the private sector are rigorously pursued.

Selection process

The call for application for the TAGDev 2.0 scholarship was launched on 04th of March and ran till 1st of April 2025. The TAGDev 2.0 attracted a total of 695 applications, of which 308 were male and 387 females. Of these 56 are refugees/internally displaced persons and 26 differently abled youth. After an extensive selection process coordinated by RUFORUM, 51 outstanding candidates were awarded scholarships. Interested candidates applied directly to The University of Bamenda for admission into the various degree programs advertised and at the same time applied for the scholarship through the RUFORUM online platform. Candidates deemed qualified for admission by the university were then further scrutinized by an independent consultant using the socio-economic analysis tools based on the declarations of the applicants. Shortlisted candidates were then informed and home validation exercise carried out during which an applicant completed the psychometric test online and responded to the set of questions aimed at evaluating the leadership skills of each individual. The ranking through a well-developed methodology was then presented to various teams including the Technical Committee of the TAGDev 2.0 program for final validation of selected candidates.

Below is a table listing the selected scholars for the Bachelors program

Nr	Applicant	Gender	Course
1.	Felix Mudra Mbisah	Male	BSc. Agri-business Technology
2.	Njie Grace Egbe Nzouabet	Female	BSc. Agri-business Technology
3.	Tung Ghang Clarise	Female	BSc. Agri-business Technology

4. Anwi Njinwe Philomena	Female	BSc. Agri-business Technology
5. Valeri Tanguong Mbah	Male	BSc. Agri-business Technology
6. Melvise Wulnikong Ayeah	Female	BSc. Agriculture and Environmental Engineering
7. Quintus Nyuysenimo Rannyuy	Female	BSc. Agriculture and Environmental Engineering
8. Biloh Tubuoh Lovette	Female	BSc. Agriculture and Environmental Engineering
9. Kaine Mbarou Ba	Female	BSc. Agriculture and Environmental Engineering
10. Kelly_Diean Kigha_Adzemo	Female	BSc. Agriculture and Environmental Engineering
11. Elvira Mafor Lekunze	Female	BSc. Animal Production Technology
12. Precious Mallah Nfoh	Female	BSc. Animal Production Technology
13. Frankline Techwi Manjoh	Male	BSc. Animal Production Technology
14. Blessing Fonneba Dorine	Female	BSc. Animal Production Technology
15. Precious Djou Amah	Female	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
16. Faith Fru Chefor	Female	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
17. Victory Tita	Female	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
18. Nuella Cheah Wam	Female	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
19. Bonzum Rinwi	Male	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
20. Louis Akeh Junior Egebe	Male	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
21. Ndimanjeh Pekiantung Erastus	Male	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
22. Nerville Nwati	Male	BSc. Computer networks and systems maintenance
23. Amandine Ngoinsam Chia	Female	BSc. Crop Production Technology
24. Nkengfack Nisa Momo	Female	BSc. Crop Production Technology
25. Derick Mingo Tandietii	Male	BSc. Crop Production Technology
26. Akinimbom Joy Chah	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology
27. Cheahlo Diom Hycentha	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology
28. Larissa Mbenoweh	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology

29. Shansline Jie Duh	Female	
		BSc. Food Science and Technology
30. Blessing Ndong	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology
31. Jeccentha Ndi Itangi	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology
32. Queentesia Tangwe	Female	BSc. Food Science and Technology
33. Joshua Unji Wajuku	Male	BSc. Forestry and Wild Life Technology
34. Ezikiel Asana Chimayin	Male	BSc. Forestry and Wild Life Technology
35. Brandon Njeba Bawe	Male	BSc. Forestry and Wild Life Technology
36. Nubitgha Nyonglema Beccine Edith	Female	BSc. Forestry and Wild Life Technology
37. Treasure Wara Ndingsa	Male	BSc. Renewable Energy Technology
38. Elvis Tamighang	Male	BSc. Renewable Energy Technology
39 Larisa Shalanyuy Njodzenso	Female	BSc. Renewable Energy Technology
40 Lody Samsimbom Ngong	Female	BSc. Renewable Energy Technology
41 Meringi Ako Hilda	Female	BSc. Renewable Energy Technology

Below is a table listing the selected scholars for the Master's program

Nr	Applicant	Gender	Course
1.	Lycongah Bobga Blessing	Female	MSc. Nutrition, Food and Bioresource Technology
2.	Cathleen Nyongvella	Female	MSc. Crop Production Technology
3.	Nadesh Ginyui Nsobo	Female	MSc. Crop Production Technology
4.	Sidoine Ngwa Soh	Female	Msc. In Food and Bioresource Technology (FBT)
5.	Awah-Mengwi Solange	Female	Msc. In Food and Bioresource Technology (FBT)
6.	Sirri Cindy Akumengwa	Female	Msc. In Food and Bioresource Technology (FBT)
7.	Tata Marinette Ning Tata	Female	Msc. In Food and Bioresource Technology (FBT)
8.	Ransome Chianaih Chia	Male	Msc. In Food and Bioresource Technology (FBT)
9.	Anita Ringnyu Jamba	Female	Msc. In Nutritional Sciences (NS)

About RUFORUM and TAGDev

Adeline Tangoh Frinde

RUFORUM, established in 2004, is a network of 175 universities across 40 African countries which collaborates globally with other university networks, development partners, policymakers, and leaders to leverage synergies and work towards shared objectives in delivering science solutions for development, human capital development, and institutional reform in the African Higher Agricultural Education (HAE) system. RUFORUM recognises youths as the driving force behind change and are leading the change for a better Africa. Launched in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, the TAGDev 2.0 (Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's Growth and Development), a scale-up to TAGDev 1.0 is a 10 year (2023–2033) program being implemented in 12 African universities, namely;

- 1. African University (Zimbabwe
- 2. Egerton University (Kenya)
- 3. Gulu University (Uganda)
- 4. Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi)
- 5. Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (Morocco)
- 6. National University of Agriculture Benin
- 7. Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda)
- 8. The University of Bamenda (Cameroon)
- 9. University of Eldoret (Kenya)
- 10. University of Cape Coast (Ghana)
- 11. University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria)
- 12. University of Free State (South Africa)

TAGDev 2.0 is designed to;

- Expand equal work opportunities for young women and men in the agricultural sector
- ➤ Improve climate adaptive agricultural production and productivity with a focus on value chains
- > Strengthening the quality of higher agricultural education outcomes in training, research and innovation.

Why it matters

The University of Bamenda as an implementing partner in the TAGDev 2.0 program is drawing several benefits from collaborations that are enabling it to continue to progress on its transformative education trajectory. The TAGDev 2.0 program is enabling the university to develop innovative and adaptive pedagogies with emphasis on student workplace immersion programs and intensely monitored internship programs for which students earn credits and work experience. Also, the problem-based learning (PBL) approach has been adopted and its scope constantly expanding under the TAGDev 2.0 program allowing students working in teams on the PBL to solve specific community problems and create social enterprises notably allied to agribusiness. Hybrid (e-learning and in-person) has also been adopted as a policy and other policies in the domains of research and innovation including intellectual property are being revamped. Through the TAGDev 2.0 program the community development/engagement strategies of the university are being fine-tuned especially in the agriculture and horticulture value chain. This aligns with the mission statement of the University that institutionalizes outreach and community engagement. Within the context of the TAGDev 2.0 program, The University of Bamenda instills in its students 21st century skills including leadership and civic responsibility for sustainable development. These skills combined with entrepreneurship training enable our students to transition into work upon graduation and create employment for themselves. The University of Bamenda is cultivating a culture of inclusion allowing students with various challenges to study at UBa. Through TAGDev 2.0, UBa is sharing these inclusion, gender and safeguarding practices with various universities and other stakeholders across the continent creating impact in the lives of young people and empowering them to create jobs. This first cohort of scholarship students are coming into this milieu and shall be accompanied by the institution to become the change makers they strive to be. The TAGDev 2.0 program will support young students: females, males, refugees,

internally displaced persons, and differently abled persons from economically disadvantaged background but academically competent to access university education. This will contribute towards ensuring equitable and inclusive access to quality education for wealth and job creation among Cameroonian youths.

To learn more about the TAGDev program at UBa, follow the social media handles below;

- TAGDev 2.0 Website: https://tagdev.uniba.cm/
- TAGDev 2.0 Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/p/TAGDev-20-UBa-61573316524588/