

Mid Year Report 2018



Small business

under a flower tree

When ever I was asked by my friends how I like to live in Cameroon my constant reply was: “ We enjoy peace unlike most of the neighbouring countries”.

Unfortunately the situation changed in the two Anglophone Regions of Cameroon in December 2016 and the problems are escalating.

As the political unrest is dangerous for the Eye Team our regular eye consultations are disrupted in four outreach stations. One station cannot be reached at all.

In spite of many detailed enquiries made on the consultation day, the situation may change by the hour.

Consulting in Tombel in June 2018, for example, all was quiet in the morning until 11 am when shooting started.

Muyuka, a small busy market town situated on the highway between Muntengene and Kumba is completely deserted. The inhabitants have all fled to the bush.

The CDC (Cameroon Development Cooperation) owned by the Government, has closed 10 of about 20 of their plantations for security reasons.

Only six plantations work undisturbed up to now.

Therefore, the CDC gains a very reduced income and could not pay salaries of the employees in May and June 2018.

There is no insurance to take care of the workers in the meantime.

In March 2018, we started a session of Acu-Puncture Therapy of the eye.

For the treatment patients suffering from corneal ulcers were chosen which did not respond to any daily medication for many weeks up to months .

All treated patients are subsistence farmers who suffered an accident of the eye working on the farm.

The Acu-Puncture therapy is free of charge and takes one hour a day for 5 consecutive days.

From the 15. March 018 up to the 15. July 018 we have applied acupuncture on 19 patients with the following result:

with– 14 patients the corneal ulcer healed leaving a scar

03 patients the treatment was not effective

02 patients the treatment was disrupted

The 14 fortunate patients who were treated effectively retained a vision between 40% and 5% according to the location and the size of the corneal scar.

All seemed satisfied that complete blindness of the injured eye was avoided.

Dr. Elisabeth Herz

Ophthalmologist