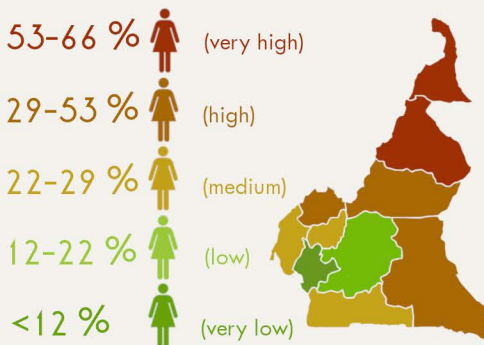
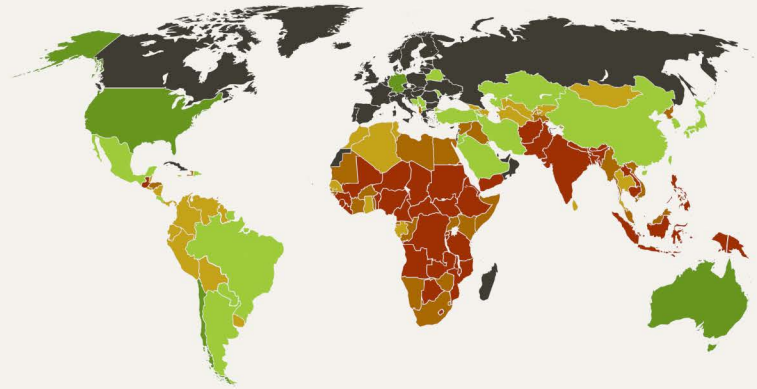


McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program 2015-2018

Worldwide, undernutrition during pregnancy, and in the first 1,000 days of life is a leading cause of stunted physical and mental development. Undernutrition in school-age children is a significant obstacle to education in Cameroon.

Poverty, poor agricultural practices and lack of nutrition education contribute to poor learning outcomes in Cameroon.



Percentage of children under 5 who are stunted, 2017
Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition dataset, May 2018

Percentage of Cameroonians living below the poverty level. 2017 data.



Before the MGD program came to my community, I was a small scale farmer living with my children in my grandmother's house. My two children were constantly in and out of school because I could not afford to pay PTA fees or afford their school needs.

-Ernestine Ngwang, a single mother of 4 and owner of a diner in Gaggi- Upper Noni

ERNESTINE'S STORY: ESCAPING POVERTY



“

... with the coming of the MGD project, I offered to volunteer as a cook in GS Gaggi. After I volunteered, we had several trainings on food preparation (cooking in bulk, good kitchen hygiene and sanitation). I must admit I was very scared because I did not go to school- and I was very uncomfortable about the idea of trainings. But the trainings were done in a language I could understand and made very easy and practical. After six months of volunteering, I thought I could run my own very restaurant in the village. I acquired some utensils and though it was slow in the beginning, things are much better now. I try to practice the things I learnt during the trainings, my place is always neat and the food is good; business is better.

“

My life and that of my children has changed. I now afford a modest 2 room house for me and my 4 children. I can sometimes save as much as US\$36 in a month. It's a lot of money in my poor community.

