



Revealing the Heroes

Sustainably Strengthening Education in Rural Areas

ACTIVITY REPORT 2025



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Revealing the Heroes

Behind every pupil,
lies a Future Hero.



Pierre
Thierry
Noah Fondation

**Keeping
a legacy
alive,
Building
a future.**

Patricia NOAH

President, PTN Foundation



Pierre Thierry Noah Foundation was born from hardship and conviction.

The passing of Dr. Pierre Thierry Noah marked the beginning of a journey we had not planned, but chose to honour: carrying forward his commitment to serving the most vulnerable, and in particular children in rural areas.

Since its official founding in August 2022, our Foundation has moved forward with humility and determination. The very first Back-to-School Heroes event in Omvan was a defining act: going where access to knowledge remains fragile, and taking concrete action there. Our programmes quickly expanded across the Centre and South-West regions, all driven by the same imperative — making education more accessible, more nurturing, and more lasting.

These first years were years of learning and of putting down roots.

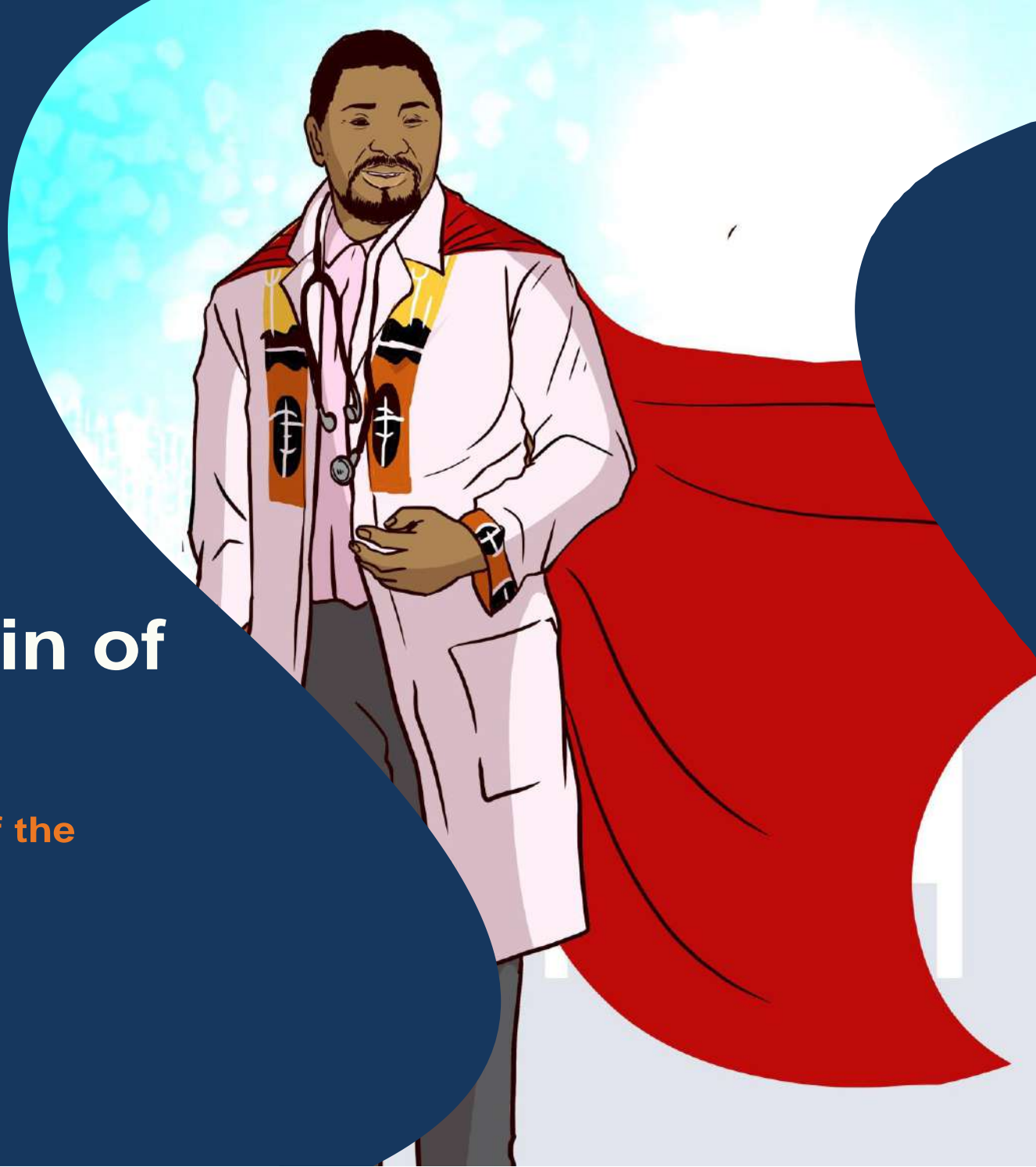
We structured our tools — La Rentrée des Héros, Le Noël des Héros, and Betta Place — to be both sustainable and replicable. The results achieved, particularly in reducing absenteeism and improving academic performance, have confirmed the relevance of our approach.

2025 marks a turning point.

For the first time, our work has truly changed in scale. The second edition of the Back-to-School Heroes was deployed across 35 rural schools in Ebolowa and reached more than 300 internally displaced children. This scaling up is not merely a quantitative step forward — it reflects the maturation of our organisation, the growing robustness of our model, and the trust of partners committed to walking alongside us.

This first activity report is an important milestone. It bears witness to the journey travelled since 2022 and to the gradual transformation of an initiative born from the heart into a structured organisation capable of acting with method and ambition. The educational challenges facing rural communities remain immense. But so does our commitment. The years ahead will be devoted to building on our achievements, deepening our partnerships, and continuing the gradual scaling of our programmes — always guided by the same conviction: behind every student, there is a Hero in the making.

I warmly thank our teams, volunteers, partners, and communities for their trust. Together, we will continue to honour this legacy and to build, step by step, a more equitable future for our territories.



The Origin of the Epic

A Brief History of the Foundation

Pierre Thierry Noah Foundation is a non-profit organisation whose founding story is deeply human.

It was born of the pain of a loss, but also of the strength of a shared conviction: to honour the memory of a man of principle by continuing his fight for the most vulnerable.

In 2021, the passing of Dr. Pierre Thierry Noah shook his family and those close to him. A committed physician and a man of deep values, he had devoted a significant part of his life to serving others. Rather than allowing this legacy to fade with him, his wife Patricia Noah and those around him chose to carry it forward in the form of a foundation bearing his name.

Pierre Thierry Noah Foundation was officially established on 18 August 2022, with Patricia Noah as President. Its mission: to make a concrete, qualitative and measurable contribution to basic education in Cameroon, acting where the need is greatest — in underserved rural areas.

Mission and Areas of Action

PTN Foundation has structured itself around a clear mission: to facilitate access to healthy, nurturing, and quality education for children in rural Cameroon. This mission is delivered through three main lines of action:

- **Schooling support:** covering school fees and providing school supplies to the most disadvantaged children;
- **School equipment:** providing desks and benches, blackboards, storage units, books and other essential teaching materials;
- **Improving learning conditions:** supporting teachers, introducing innovative teaching methods, and creating school environments conducive to children's wellbeing and development.

The First Quests

Summary of the Early Years
(2022–2024)

2022

Back-to-School Omvan

Launched at the Saint-Coeur de Marie primary school in Omvan, in the Mefou-et-Afamba department (Centre Region), this initiative provided mini-libraries for each classroom and school supplies to the most vulnerable pupils, helping to combat school dropout.

2023

Christmas in Buea

Following the success of the Omvan edition the previous year, this initiative — which celebrates academic excellence in rural areas through prize-giving ceremonies and community events — encouraged young people in Buea to continue their schooling despite the socio-political crisis that has been ongoing since 2016.

2024

Betta Place : Phase 0

This programme of scholarships, sustainable development workshops, and mentoring for disadvantaged children in rural areas offers strategic support toward fulfilment and self-reliance. The pilot project was launched in 2023 in the Mefou-et-Afamba department (Centre Region).

FIRST RESULTS

1400

school textbooks distributed to pupils

-68%

reduction in pupil absenteeism

100%

pass rate at BEPC and CEPE exams in 2023

+70

special awards to outstanding pupils



The New Momentum

2025, the year of deployment

While the years 2022 to 2024 were a time of taking root, 2025 is the year of scaling up. The Foundation is consolidating its achievements, diversifying its areas of action, strengthening its partnerships, and deepening its programmes.

It is a pivotal year, marking the transformation of a promising young organisation into a key player in rural education in Cameroon.

Heroes' Back-to-School 2025

In its second edition, the Back-to-School Heroes project reaches a decisive milestone in its development. Initially deployed in 2022 in a single school in Omvan, it is now operating at scale, with simultaneous implementation across several regions. This expansion was made possible thanks to the structural support of the **Orange Foundation Cameroon**, which enabled PTN Foundation to strengthen its model and significantly broaden its impact.

A Targeted Territorial Rollout in Southern Cameroon

In the South Region, the project was deployed across the Ebolowa I and Ebolowa II sub-divisions, in close collaboration with the Departmental Delegation of MINEDUB and local education authorities.

A total of 35 public primary schools were carefully selected:

- **16 schools in the Ebolowa I municipality**
- **19 schools in the Ebolowa II municipality**

These schools are among the most underserved in the region, characterised by limited access to teaching resources, a shortage of school materials, and poor learning conditions.

Support to IDPs From the NWSW in Douala

In parallel with its efforts in the South, the Foundation carried out an emergency humanitarian response to assist internally displaced children (IDPs) from the Northwest and Southwest regions, who have been victims of the Anglophone crisis that has been raging for nearly 10 years. These families, forced to flee, now find themselves in the disadvantaged neighborhoods of Douala—notably Bonassama and Mabanda.

400 internally displaced children received complete school kits: backpacks, notebooks, pens, pencils, chalk, slates, and various supplies.

An official ceremony to distribute the school kits was held at Mount Zion Primary School in Bonassama, attended by administrative representatives from the city of Douala, the Secretary General of the Orange Cameroon Foundation, a representative from the PTN Foundation, and the President of the partner association.

Pillar 1

Strengthening access to teaching resources

Classroom mini-libraries were installed in all 35 schools, stocked with textbooks covering key subjects (Science and Technology, History-Geography, ICT). These resources enable collective access to learning materials and foster independent study.

Pillar 2

Removing material barriers to schooling

Complete school kits were distributed to 210 vulnerable pupils (6 per school), including bags, exercise books, and essential supplies. This directly helps reduce the economic obstacles to school attendance.

Pillar 3

Transforming teaching practices

45 teachers were trained in active learning methods through the Learning by Doing programme. This programme aims to make pupils active participants in their own learning through hands-on, collaborative activities — with the goal of improving comprehension, stimulating classroom engagement, and durably consolidating knowledge.

A Structured Approach Built on Three Complementary Pillars

In order to bring about lasting improvements in learning conditions, the initiative was designed around three complementary strategic pillars:

4000

pupils reached indirectly

45

teachers with strengthened capacities

210

pupils directly supported

400

IDPs supported

A measurable, structurable impact

Beyond the numbers, this edition marks a significant qualitative shift: an improvement in the learning environment, greater pupil engagement, and the progressive introduction of more active and inclusive teaching practices.

“This project came as a response to a deep and long-standing need within our school. In a context where many families cannot afford essential learning materials, and where English-language education lacks adequate resources, access to proper textbooks represents a real turning point.

The materials provided, particularly in science subjects, have helped fill a critical gap. But beyond the resources, what stood out most was the students’ enthusiasm—their engagement in class and their reaction after the ‘Learning by Doing’ workshop clearly reflect the impact of this initiative.”

Ngong Gideon

Headmaster, EP Angono Owo

« La formation “Apprendre en faisant” a marqué un véritable tournant dans ma pratique d’enseignante. Après cinq années d’expérience, elle m’a amenée à repenser la manière dont j’implique mes élèves dans leur apprentissage et à identifier des axes d’amélioration.

Depuis, je constate une participation beaucoup plus active en classe. L’accès aux manuels et l’introduction de méthodes plus interactives permettent aux élèves de devenir acteurs de leur apprentissage. Ce projet a véritablement apporté une nouvelle manière d’enseigner et d’apprendre dans notre école. »

Djuitchou Raissa Diana

CM1 Teacher, EP Bipkwae Yemisse

Heroes' Christmas 2025

Celebrating excellence, strengthening bonds

Christmas Heroes holds a special place among PTN Foundation's programmes. Conceived as a moment of recognition, it is built on a strong conviction: excellence deserves to be celebrated — especially in the most fragile contexts.

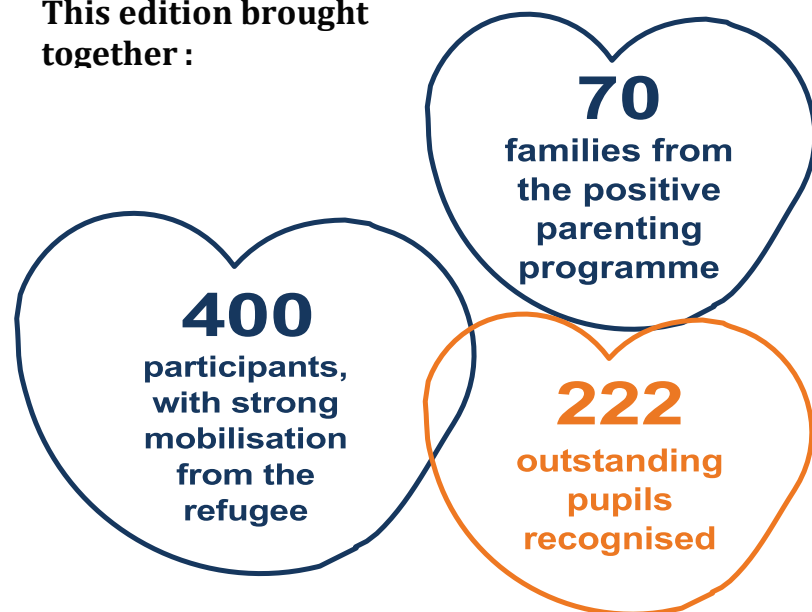
An Edition Centred on Solidarity

The 2025 edition, held on 22 December 2024 at the Centre de Promotion de la Femme et de la Famille (CPF) in Bertoua, was implemented in partnership with the FAJEFIM association, under the theme:

«**Bonds of Hope: Standing with Vulnerable Families**».

The event also featured a Parents as Inspirers: Education and Autonomy workshop aimed at strengthening families' involvement in educational follow-up, as well as a "Sharing Hope" community meal fostering dialogue and social cohesion.

This edition brought together :



An Initiative in the Service of Educational Success

Beyond the event itself, Christmas Heroes contributes to durably strengthening the commitment of pupils and families to educational pathways. By valuing effort and creating moments of collective recognition, it helps to:

- encourage perseverance at school;
- build pupils' confidence in their own abilities;
- foster greater family involvement in educational follow-up;
- generate positive momentum within communities.

Cette initiative s'inscrit ainsi comme un complément essentiel aux actions éducatives de la Fondation, en apportant une dimension humaine et motivationnelle indispensable à la réussite des bénéficiaires.

«I am deeply grateful for this initiative and for the foundation's decision to carry it out in the Eastern region. With the funds made available to the Shelter for Young Mothers (FAJEFIM), we were able to provide meals for all the participants, who left feeling satisfied. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the partners who, in one way or another, contributed to the success of this initiative. On behalf of all the participants—the children who left with gifts and care packages—we say thank you and hope that this type of initiative will be repeated every year, why not, so that we can continue to bring smiles to the faces of children and families. »

Joupadem Epse Bayek Awawou
Coordinator of FAJEFIM Association

Betta Place Pilot Phase

A transformative program to break the cycle of inequality

Betta Place is PTN Foundation's flagship programme. It was designed to address a major challenge: **reducing inequalities in access to education in rural areas while preparing young people to face the environmental and social challenges of their communities.**

The programme is built on a holistic approach structured around three pillars:

1. **Ensuring access to education**, through coverage of school fees and provision of educational materials ;
2. **Building awareness of sustainable development challenges**, through practical workshops tailored to the local context and aligned with young people's aspirations;
3. **Strengthening beneficiaries' self-reliance**, through mentoring and structured educational follow-up

Phase 0

The launch phase began with the review of 79 applications, identifying high-potential profiles despite challenging socio-economic circumstances. This process resulted in:

- 15 "Rising Stars" laureates, recognised for their academic potential;
- 15 special prizes, honouring merit and commitment;
- 10 pupils selected for intensive support.

At the end of this phase, 7 beneficiaries were retained for the 2025–2026 school year, distributed across three schools in the Mefou-et-Afamba department.

« Since the age of 9, the Pierre Thierry Noah Foundation has been supporting my schooling through the Betta Place programme. Thanks to the scholarship and the support I receive, I can go to school just like the other children. Before, it was hard to think about school and my future. But thanks to the Foundation, I understood that my dreams matter and that I can work to make them come true. Today I am in Year 7 and I love learning. I work hard, knowing that people believe in me and are helping me to continue my studies. Thanks to Betta Place, I can hope to fulfil my dream of becoming a mathematics professor at university. One day, I too will help others. »

Marie Rose ELONG MBEZELE
Betta Place programme beneficiary



Educational support underway

At the end of this phase, 7 recipients were selected for the 2025–2026 school year, distributed across three schools in the Mefou-et-Afamba region.

The Foundation provided:

- coverage of 75% of school fees;
- school kit provision;
- regular educational follow-up, in liaison with families and schools.

Meetings were organised with beneficiaries and their parents to formalise commitments, strengthen family involvement, and encourage a culture of excellence.

Following two workshops on **sustainable development and leadership** in 2023, a third workshop focused on **hygiene and health** was held in 2025, bringing together 19 children. Structured around three modules (personal hygiene, disease prevention, and environmental hygiene), this workshop equipped participants with essential practical knowledge through a participatory approach.

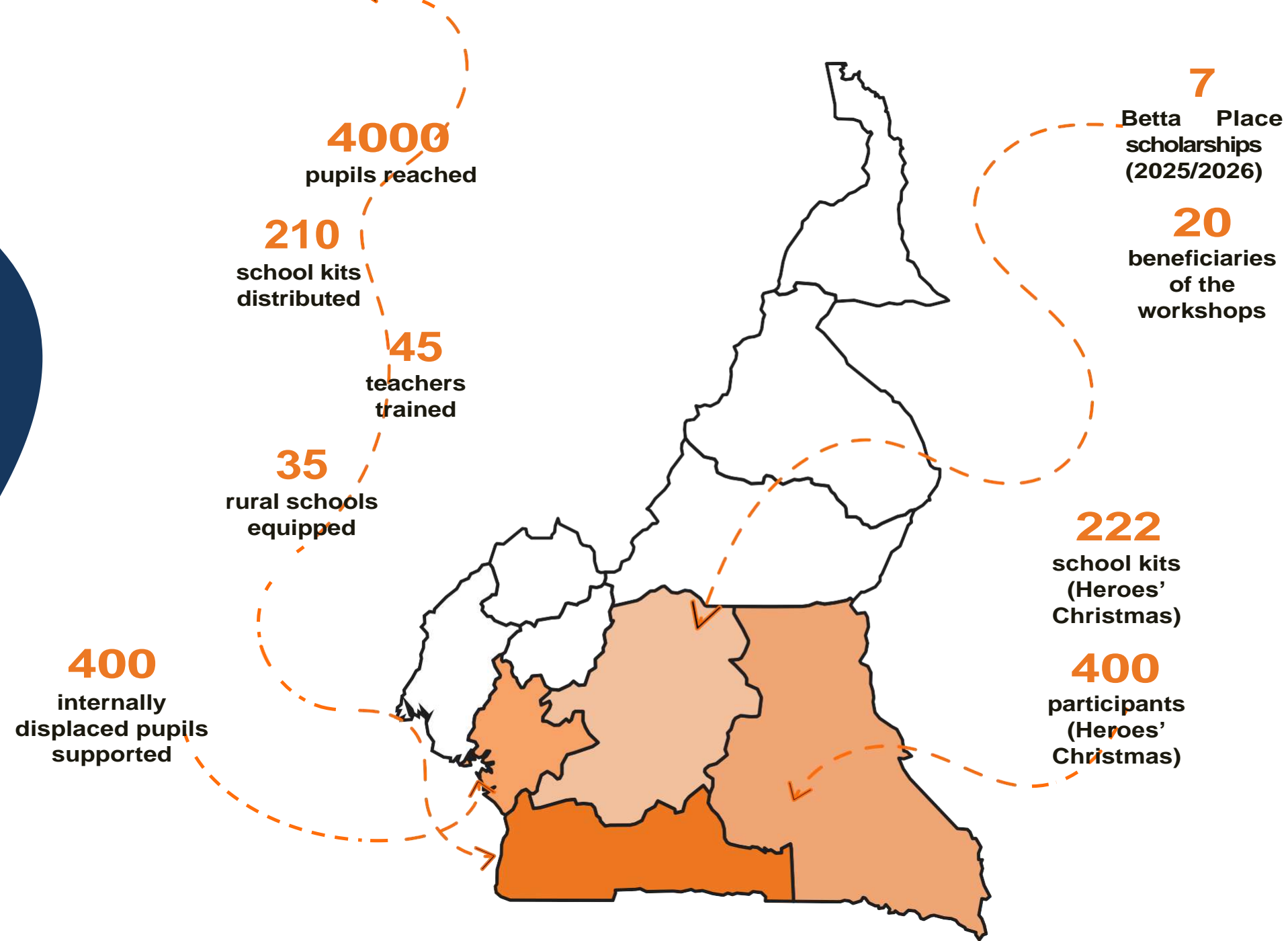
The Heroes' Work

Impact and results

Celebrating excellence, strengthening ties

In 2025, PTN Foundation continued and strengthened its work in support of access to education in rural areas, relying on concrete, targeted interventions.

Through its various programmes, the Foundation has helped improve learning conditions, remove material barriers to schooling, and reinforce the engagement of pupils, teachers, and families.



Beyond the quantitative results, the actions carried out have led to significant observable changes on the ground:

- improved access to teaching resources, leading to better understanding of lessons;
- increased pupil participation in class, driven by the introduction of more interactive materials and methods;
- strengthened motivation to learn, encouraged by recognition and reward mechanisms;
- greater family involvement, particularly through community activities;
- a gradual shift in teaching practices, with growing openness to more active and participatory approaches.

A Growing Impact Dynamic

These results reflect a positive trend, driven by an approach that is both structured and gradual.

Towards New Horizons

Strategic Outlook for 2026

2026 builds on the advances made in 2025. PTN Foundation intends to consolidate the mechanisms put in place, strengthening the quality of its interventions and the structure of its programmes.

The goal is not simply to do more, but **to do better** — building on the lessons learned from the first phases of deployment.



Scaling Up the Programmes

The **Heroes' Back-to-School** will be deployed in the North Region of Cameroon, with particular attention to improving learning conditions, supporting teachers, and assisting the most vulnerable pupils — particularly girls, who are often more exposed to inequalities in school access and retention.

Christmas Heroes will evolve into the **Hero Squad Festival**. Beyond recognition and gift-giving, the initiative will be reimagined to offer vulnerable children a genuine platform for expression — allowing them to make their voices heard and to share something of themselves with others. Through artistic creations showcased during the ceremony, children will no longer be merely recipients, but participants in a dynamic of contribution, creativity, and dignity.

The **Betta Place** programme will enter a new phase of development, with the rollout of thematic workshops on sustainable agricultural sectors. The aim will be to show children in rural areas that their community's main economic activity is not merely a means of subsistence, but also a source of professional opportunities, innovation, and wealth creation. Through this focus, the Foundation hopes to help shift perceptions of rural life and open up new horizons for young beneficiaries.

Strengthening Partnerships and Operational Capacity

The growth of PTN Foundation's activities will also rely on the strengthening of its institutional, technical, and financial partnerships.

The Foundation will continue its resource mobilisation efforts, while consolidating existing collaborations and building new synergies with actors committed to education and sustainable development.

Building for Lasting Impact

With sustainability in mind, PTN Foundation will continue to strengthen its management, monitoring, and evaluation tools, in order to ensure efficient and transparent delivery of its activities.

This approach is designed to guarantee the durability of the work undertaken and to anchor the Foundation's impact for the long term.

The Hero Squad

Governance and Partnerships

A Team Committed to the Heroes

Behind every action taken by PTN Foundation is a dedicated team, united by a shared conviction: revealing the potential of children in rural areas.

Alongside the association's members, the Foundation relies on an executive team of young volunteers with complementary and multi-sector profiles, mobilised around the delivery of the programmes.

This team ensures rigorous management of activities, from project design through to field deployment, guaranteeing that objectives are met and follow-up is of a high standard.



A Structured and Complementary Organisation

The Foundation's governance operates at three complementary levels:

- The strategic level, led by the presidency, sets the direction, ensures institutional representation, and steers partnership relations and resource mobilisation;
- The operational level, embodied by the coordination and management team, oversees programme implementation, beneficiary follow-up, and activity reporting;
- The community level, made up of relay teachers, partner associations, and volunteers, works directly in the field and forms the first link in the impact chain

Cette structuration permet à PTN Fondation de concilier vision stratégique et proximité avec les bénéficiaires.

The executive team operates based on a clear division of roles, ensuring the effectiveness of its actions:

- Program Coordination, which oversees all projects and ensures that objectives and deadlines are met;
- Program Officers, responsible for the operational monitoring of activities;
- Project Support, responsible for administrative, logistical, and reporting tasks;
- Communication, which plays a central role in promoting initiatives, mobilizing communities, and engaging partners.

Partnerships Poised to Grow

Since 2022, PTN Foundation has developed its work by drawing on a network of complementary partners, mobilised according to context and programme needs. These collaborations make it possible to combine financial resources, technical expertise, and local community roots.

Key structural partnerships include:

- The Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB), through its regional and departmental delegations, which have been closely involved in school selection, beneficiary validation, and project monitoring;
- Local authorities (municipal councils, village chiefs), who facilitate community embedding and the mobilisation of beneficiaries;
- Partner schools and teaching staff, who host the Foundation's actions and actively contribute to their implementation;
- Orange Cameroon Foundation, whose financial support made the large-scale deployment of the Back-to-School Heroes in Ebolowa possible;
- LODGE AN IDP association, mobilised for the identification and support of internally displaced children in Douala;
- FAJEFIM association (Shelter for Young Mothers) and Royalties association, implementing partners for the Christmas Heroes events in Bertoua and Buea



Acknowledgements

The Makers of The Epic

PTN Foundation does not act alone. It is part of an ecosystem of committed actors — partners, volunteers, institutions, and communities — who, through their trust and involvement, make its work possible.

This report would be incomplete without paying tribute to all those who contribute, day after day, to keeping this collective journey alive.

Thank You

Those who support the Epic

Orange Foundation Cameroon, whose support made it possible to take a decisive step in the deployment of our work. Our **donors, contributors, and committed partners** who, since 2022, have helped to sustain our initiatives by offering their support, their trust, and their engagement.

Thank You

Those who accompany our Heroes

LODGE AN IDP association, for its decisive role in identifying and supporting internally displaced children in Douala. **FAJEFIM** association and **Royalty World** association for their commitment to delivering Christmas Heroes, in Bertoua and Buea respectively.

Thank You

Those who guide our Quest

The Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB), through its decentralised services, for their involvement in the delivery of our projects. **Local authorities (municipal councils, village chiefs) and partner schools**, whose engagement facilitates the implementation of the association's actions.

Thank You

Those who bring the Hero Squad to life

The active members of the association, the dynamic executive team, and the invaluable volunteers whose work — often behind the scenes — forms the backbone of PTN Foundation. **The relay teachers**, who provide day-to-day follow-up for beneficiaries and ensure the continuity of actions on the ground.

Thank You

Those who give meaning to our work

The local communities that welcome and take ownership of our actions, and **the families** whose involvement is essential to the educational success of the children. **The pupils — the Heroes of this story** — who, through their courage and perseverance, give this collective journey its full meaning.

Annexes

Additional Data and Reference Information

Annex A — List of schools (Heroes' Back-To-School 2025)

Ebolowa I (16 schools)

Afanegon
Akak Essatolo
Adja Biyeng
Azem
Engom
Mefack
Meka 1
Avam Yevol
Mvieng
Nyangong
Alam 1
Meyos Essakoe
Mebae
Angono Owo
Medjap 2

Ebolowa II (19 schools)

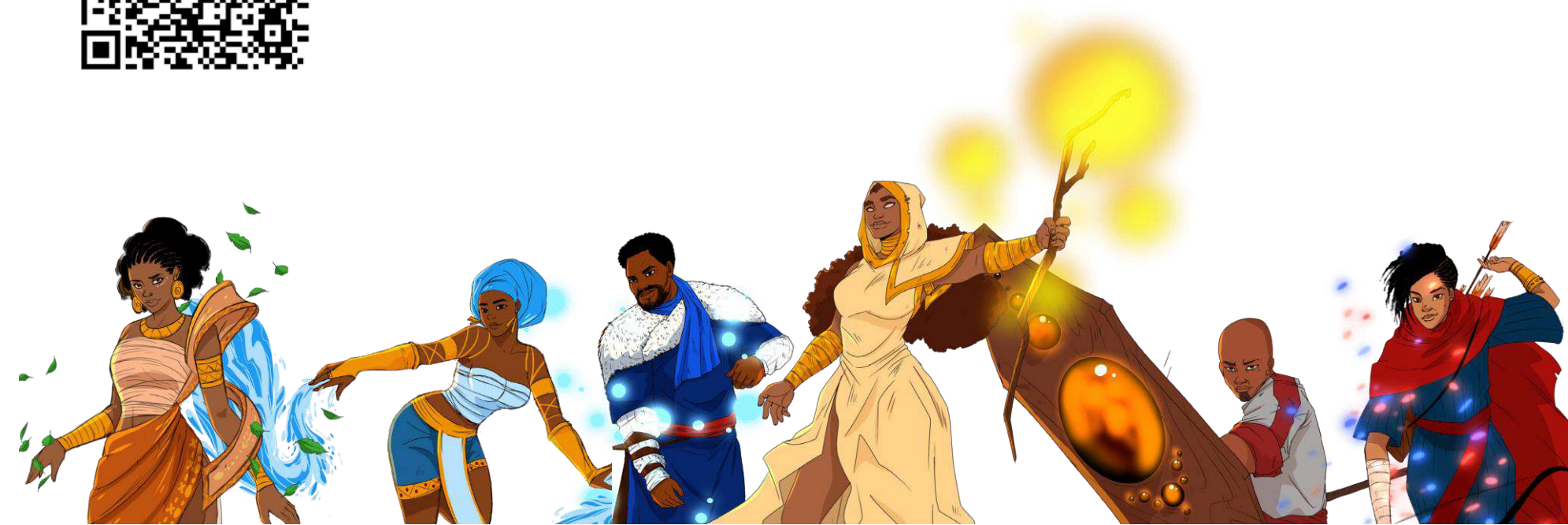
Nloupessa
Evindi-Si
Bipkwae Essakoe
Vema
Mvam-Yetom
Ndengue
Bipkwae
Yemesseng
Meyos
Aloum 1
Mefo
About
Mekomo
Mekalat Viyeng
Bissam
Mvoutedoum
Nkoemve
Mekok
Biba 1
Biyeyem / Biton

Annex B — Financial Summary 2025

Programme	Source	Montant (FCFA)
Rentrée des Héros	Orange Cameroon Foundation	19 450 000
Rentrée des Héros	PTN Fondation	5 550 000
Heroes' Christmas	PTN Fondation	505 000
Betta Place	PTN Fondation	447 000
TOTAL		25 952 000

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CONTACT

Rue Melen, Yaounde
+237 658 810 230
nptfondation@gmail.com

ptnfondation.com