



REPORT U15 CONSERVATION FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT 8-11 AUGUST 2026

6

Teams

7

Matches Played

≈300

Spectators

1-0

Final Score

1. Background and Goals

The tournament was organized with a local promoter and sponsored by the Cameroon Biodiversity and Protected Areas Programme (CBPP). It took place in Mbakaou from 8 to 11 August 2026 and brought together young people from Mbakaou and nearby villages like two Bororo villages (Carrière and Mbissare). This was the 3rd edition.

The event had two main goals: to bring young people together through sport while raising their awareness of biodiversity conservation in the Mbam and Djerem National Park (PNMD), and to showcase the energy of local youth which is why a local committee was chosen to organize it.

Theme: "Sport in support of biodiversity conservation in the PNMD."

2. Activities

2.1 Football Tournament

Six teams took part in the competition, held at Batardo Stadium (Kingué Eboué, Mbakaou):

- Les Amis du Chimpanzé FC (Mbakaou) : center children and other village youth
- Djaouro-Kombo FC
- Naskoul FC
- Boninting FC
- Carrière FC
- Mbissaré FC

The schedule included an opening match followed by two matches per day, for seven matches in total (after Naskoul FC withdrew). In the final, Carrière FC beat Boninting FC 1-0.

The brigade commander and several village chiefs attended, along with about 300 spectators, mostly young people. During the matches, commentators and children from the wildlife center shared awareness messages at half-time. Since the final fell on World Elephant Day, these messages focused on why elephants matter for the forest and for people, the danger their disappearance would pose, their slow reproduction, and their social behavior, seen as similar to that of humans.



Awareness time and population during competition



Teams before the match



Awards ceremony

2.2 Conservation Evening

Organized by the center's children on the third day, at the Mbakaou chiefdom, this evening combined entertainment (singing, dancing, games) with awareness activities:

- A contest for the best awareness messages, focused on the species most threatened or traded in the area the Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee, water chevrotain, Bosman's potto, and elephant with reminders of the penalties for illegal wildlife trade
- A poetry contest on nature, the importance of forest trees for food, and the importance of the PNMD
- A quiz game on the park's biodiversity
- The election of Miss Conservation and her two runners-up, each speaking about the park's importance to the local community and acting as an ambassador for the wildlife center



Pictures during cultural event

3. Overall Assessment

The tournament took place in a spirit of fair play and a friendly atmosphere. The invited authorities took an active part in the matches, and the young players were proud to play in front of such a large crowd of local authorities, youth, and parents. The brigade commander expressed his appreciation for being included in each of the organization's activities.

Village chiefs were very satisfied, especially the chief of Boninting, who expressed hope that a similar event could be held in his own village. The center's children showed the same enthusiasm, particularly during the musical parade held just before kickoff of the opening match. Many parents attended and were happy to see their children take part in the competition.

4. Recommendations for the Next Edition

- Also develop a women's competition during the same period of the football championship.
- Consider doing similar activities in other areas of the park, as football is an activity that brings many people together, take this opportunities to make awareness and work with population.



Miss Conservation 2026 and her runners-up



Winners and authorities