

# Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

## CBRM Database

<b>Date:</b>	<b>August 8, 2012</b>	<b>Entry Number:</b>	<b>1216</b>
<b>Case Study Name:</b>	The interweave of people and place: biocultural diversity in migrant and indigenous livelihoods around Mount Cameroon		
<b>Author:</b>	Laird, S.A., Awung, G.L., Lysinge, R.J. and Ndivi, L.E.		
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<b>Region:</b>	Africa – south of Sahara		
<b>Country:</b>	Cameroon		
<b>Ecosystem Type:</b>	forest		
<b>Social Characteristics:</b>	Indigenous community		
<b>Scale of Study:</b>	Protected area		
<b>Resource Type:</b>	Protected area, non-timber forest products		
<b>Type of Initiative:</b>	Research-driven project		
<b>Community Based Work:</b>	resource management, conservation		
<b>Keywords:</b>	biocultural diversity, traditional forest management, Mount Cameroon, Bakweri, non-timber forest products		

**Summary:**

In order to further understanding of the links between biological and cultural diversity, this study examined the role of forest species and biodiversity in the livelihoods of indigenous Bakweri villagers and migrants to the Mount Cameroon region. Surveys of resources consumed and sold by 118 households were undertaken in five villages over the course of one year. The contributions of different habitats and management systems (compounds, farms, fallow, forest) and species (native and introduced; cultivated and wild-harvested) to local livelihoods were evaluated. The study showed that indigenous households depend to a much greater extent upon a range of habitats and species than migrant households, particularly for subsistence. Indigenous resource management systems grow from historical relationships between people and place, and promote resilience, well-being and adaptation in an area long characterized by environmental, social, political, and economic uncertainty. The managed landscapes of indigenous villages can contribute to broader conservation efforts in the region, including those associated with the newly established Mount Cameroon National Park.