

ESONG LIONEL EBONG

✉ esongebong22@gmail.com/esongebong@tpu.ru

📍 Buea, SWR Cameroon
☎ +237 679869380

Sex: Male; **Date of Birth:** 28/08/1992; **Languages:** English, French and Russian

WORK/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2023–Current: Founder/CEO/Biomonitoring Officer at FReECo – (www.fre-eco.org)

Responsibilities;

- Identify conservation/environmental needs;
- Develop conservation initiatives
- Co-develop project proposals
- Facilitate field implementation programmes with the local team

Nov 2021 to September 2022: Research and Biomonitoring Officer at Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERuDeF)

Responsibilities;

- Conduct surveys using interviewing, questionnaires, focus groups, market analysis surveys
- Identify survey needs and specific requirements, such as special sampling
- Prepare and Present summaries and analysis of survey data, including graphs, tables and fact sheets

01/2020 – 2021 Wildlife Conservation Officer at the Environment and Community Development Association (ECoDAs-Cameroon)

Responsibilities;

- Project design, facilitation and implementation
- Field team training and management
- Ecology/wildlife surveys

EDUCATION

Sept 2022 – June 2024: M.Sc. Ecology and Nature Management: Tomsk Polytechnic University, Russia

2017-2021: M.Sc. in Natural Resource and Environmental Management: University of Buea, Cameroon.

2010-2013 B.Sc. (Hons) Geography: University of Buea, Cameroon

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP

17/June 2023 Use of GIS for Biodiversity Conservation, at TPU, Russia

December 2018 South West Regional Delegation of Environment end of year Evaluation meeting at German International Corporation (GIZ) Buea.

- Minute taking, presentation on hazards to Wetlands in Buea.

March 2016 ACEFA Training Workshop on sustainable farming practices with emphasis on Agro-forestry.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Competent with Microsoft Office programs, Basic knowledge in QGIS Software, Skilled in Cartographic design and Map Reading/interpretation

GRANTS and SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

May 2024: North American Pangolin Consortium (NAPC)

Project title: Suppressing Anthropogenic Threats for the Long-term Preservation of Pangolins in the DDNP (Ongoing)
August 2023: Rufford Small Grants

Project title: Suppressing Anthropogenic Threats for the Long-term Preservation of Pangolins in the Deng-Deng National Park, Cameroon (completed)

April 2023: Mohammed Bin Zayed Grants

Project Titles: Community Rangers Project for the Long-term Collaborative Conservation of Pangolins in Deng-Deng National Park, East Region of Cameroon (Completed).

March 2023: American Society of Primatologists (ASP)

Project title: Monitoring the Ecological Corridor of the Bakossi National Park and Banyang-Mbo Wildlife Sanctuary to Understand the Habitat Use and Migration Pattern of Drill Monkeys and Nigeria Cameroon Chimpanzees

May 2022: 2nd IDEA WILD GRANT (For continuation of Pangolin conservation in Deng-Deng National Park)

2022: Russian Open Doors Scholarship in the Masters (№2022/Ear-M056) Track

July 2019 Pittsburg Zoo and PPG Aquarium Conservation Grants

Title: Using Local Ecological Knowledge to Evaluate the Status and Threats to Pangolins in the Deng-Deng NP.

NETWORKS

(1) American Society of Primatologists (ASP), (2) Pangolin Conservation Network (PCN)

PROJECTS

1. **January – December 2023: Geophagy by Angulates in the the Sikhote-Alin Biosphere Zapovednik, Russia (Russian Wildlife Agency to the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering, TPU).**
2. **Dec 2021 – August 2022:** Community Rangers Biomonitoring Project in Tofala Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, ERuDeF (Arcus Foundation)
3. **March-Sept 2019-**Evaluating Community Livelihood Impact on Biodiversity in the Bakossi Mountains, South West Region Cameroon. (Completed): Organisation: MINEPDED/DD/KM

ACADEMIC PAPERS/PUBLICATIONS (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-6306-5368>)

1. J. C. Tinsman, C. Gruppi, C. M. Bossu, T.-L. Prigge, R. J. Harrigan, V. Zaunbrecher, K.-P. Koepfli, M. LeBreton, K. Y. Njabo, W. Cheng, X. Shuang, K. A. Abernethy, G. Ades, E. Akeredolu, I. B. Andrew, T. A. Barrett, I. Bernáthová, B. Černá Bolfiková, J. L. Diffo, G. Difou Fopa, L. Esong Ebong, I. Godwill, A. F. Koumba Pambo, K. Labuschagne, J. N. Mbelem, B. R. Momboua, C. L. Mousset Moumbolou, S. Ntie, E. Rose-Jeffreys, F. T. Simo, K. Sundar, M. Swiacká, J. M. Takuo, V. N. K. Talla, U. Tamoufe, C. Dingle, K. C. Ruegg, T. C. Bonebrake, T. B. Smith, Genomic analyses reveal poaching hotspots and illegal trade in pangolins from Africa to Asia (2023); <https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.zkh1893g7>.

2. Simo Franklin, DifouFopa. G, Ebong E. L., et al. Using local ecological knowledge to improve the effectiveness of detecting white-bellied pangolins (*Phataginus tricuspidis*) using camera traps: A case study from Deng-Deng National Park, Cameroon. *Afr J Ecol.* 2020;00:1–6.

3. Melle E. M., Esong L. E, Nkwatoh A. F., Ichu Ichu Godwill, Amos Fang Zeh (2019). “The Ecological Impact on the Distribution of Pangolins in Deng-Deng National Park, Eastern Region, Cameroon”. *Annals of Ecology and Environmental Science* 3(1), pp.23-32

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- Twitter: https://twitter.com/ebong_lionel
- Facebook: <https://web.facebook.com/esong.ebong>
- ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Esong_Ebong3

<https://news.tpu.ru/en/news/a-young-tpu-scientist-from-africa-has-helped-identify-new-pangolin-poaching-hotspots-article-publish/>

References:-

1. Professor Melle Ekane Maurice
Head of Department/Wildlife Expert
Forestry and Wildlife, University of Buea Cameroon.
Email: melle.ekane@ubuea.cm
Telephone: + +237 675393156
Relationship: Supervisor/Mentor
2. Mr Ichu Godwill Ichu
World Heritage Officer
UNESCO Regional Office in Yaounde, Cameroon
Email: ig.ichu@unesco.org
Telephone: +1 (662) 617-1123
Relationship: Mentor/Trainer
3. Dr. Matthew H. Shirley
Biological Sciences Program Coordinator
National Forensic Science Technology Center
Global Forensics and Justice Center
Florida International University
Email: mshirley@fiu.edu
8285 Bryan Dairy Rd #125, Largo, FL 33777
+1-352-562-2243 (Cell - USA)
+225 59 13 04 57 (Cell – Côte d'Ivoire)
Relationship: Mentor
4. Bulat Soktoev, Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Division for Geology, School of Earth Sciences & Engineering,
National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University, 634050, Russia
Email: bulatsoktoev@tpu.ru
Telephone: +7 (3822) 707-777 (add. 2976), tel.: +7-923-402-99-46
Relationship: Supervisor