LA LIGUE D'ÉGALITÉ





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INTRODUCTION

Girls and women around the world face difficult challenges, stereotypes and barriers to sport. Petrichor has been working in Cameroon for 7 years through an association model that is built on equality, community change and sustainability through football. Girls in Cameroon face similar challenges of access to sport, inequality and stereotypes. La Ligue D'Égalité was built for them.



This innovative league is run by Petrichor Football Association in partnership with LaLiga and FUNDACION LaLiga. The success of the league, media attention and impact in Cameroon proves we have not started a project but a movement.

The La Ligue D'Égalité pilot league was launched in February 2022 which impacted 180 young girls and helped educate 25 female coaches. Our follow up league began in October of 2022 with growth of over 200%. It reached 550 young girls and nearly 50 female coaches educated by FUNDACION LaLiga. Over 162 games, 8 months and thousands of minutes played the girls expressed themselves, learned leadership skills and had fun.

This initiative has proven to create impact, provide leadership pathways and show the world that girls can thrive with equal access to sport. In this report you will get a picture of how the power of sport can create social change and positive pathways.

PROJEGI

Create safe, fun and productive spaces for girls and women in sport. Teaching on equality, leadership and confidence building are pillars to this initiative.

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SPORTS MANAGEMENT:

This project teaches how to develop, organize and run a league. Through on the job education on finance, safety, transportation, logistics and media. Understanding league management is an important professional skill gained by sports leaders in Cameroon around this project.

COMMUNITY:

From field upgrades, community gear lockers and food distribution - these are all ways Petrichor shows focus on issues beyond the field.

BEYOND FOOTBALL:

Life lessons in confidence, dignity and leadership are being noticed by players' families, teachers and communities. We stand for something different and we are just getting started in this movement called Ligue D'Égalité.

TABLE 1: LEAGUE OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

GAMES PLAYED: 162 PLAYERS IMPACTED: 550

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Provide young girls in Cameroon the opportunity to play football in an organized league. Giving equality, dignity, confidence and leadership skills through the power of sport.

TARGET GROUPS

Girls in the Yaounde community and surrounding areas ages 8-15.

RESULTS INDICATORS

Improved physical performance.

Players have proper equipment.

Players grow in confidence and leadership.

MEANS OF VERIFICATION

Equipment distributed to 100+ players that needed it.

Team leaders chosen to help lead teams.

Youth players interviewed by local media, ESPN Africa and Petrichor.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IMPACTED

550 youth participants aged 8-15 directly impacted through this project.

TABLE 2: WOMEN'S COACHES TRAINING

Women's Coaching Course:

The young girls we work with do not see many female role models and leaders. There are several reasons including cultural stereotypes, no opportunities and lack of education. As a part of this league we run women's coaching courses in an effort to start changing mindsets and breaking down barriers. Nearly 50 women have completed the LaLiga methodology coaches course alongside this initiative. The long term goal is to create ongoing educational opportunities and pathways into the game itself through internships and coaching placements for graduates. This has never been done to this scale and quality and we are committed to providing top level education and programs to women through La Ligue D'Égalité.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Provide women in Cameroon the opportunity to learn the La Liga Methodology and other coaching essentials.

Provide pathways for women to gain leadership roles in the coaching and sports world.

TARGET GROUPS

Women coaches, aspiring sport leaders and future coaches in Cameroon (mainly Yaounde).

RESULTS INDICATORS

Attend coaching sessions.

Achieve base level coaching knowledge.

Coaching tools and methods learned.

MEANS OF VERIFICATION

Basic equipment distributed to participants. (Journal, pen, bag, whistle, stopwatch)

Attendance lists, photo and follow up communication records.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IMPACTED

45 participants directly impacted through this project.





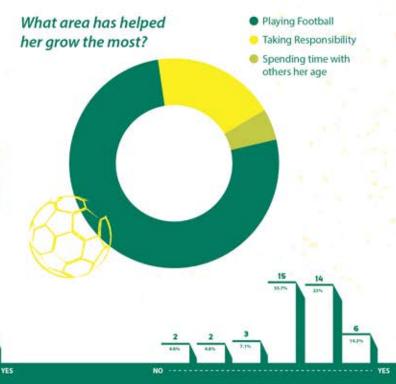


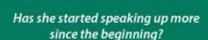
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Multiple surveys were completed at the beginning and end of the league with the participants to measure the change. We were able to get some insights from a third party unbiased opinion through surveys done by coaches and community leaders about the players change also.

18 **Players Responses** YFS FOOTBALL FAMILY FRIENDS 10 A LITTLE Does your team give TEAMMATES you more confidence? What area helps you the Answered: 40 Skipped: 0 most with confidence? Answered: 39 Skipped: 1 61 Responses Did your confidence grow during Do your teammates and your community respect you Does La Ligue D'Egalite give you the feeling that you are more today than at the beginning of the League? La Ligue D'Egalite? getting the same opportunities as guys in football? My Team My Coach If your confidence What was your Playing football regularly My Father grew, who made it favorite part of the Training more outside of game days Family League? grow most? Spending time with my teammates Personal Growth Playing Football Specifically Teammates Neighborhood If there was a Parents change in respect, School with who specifically? No change Others



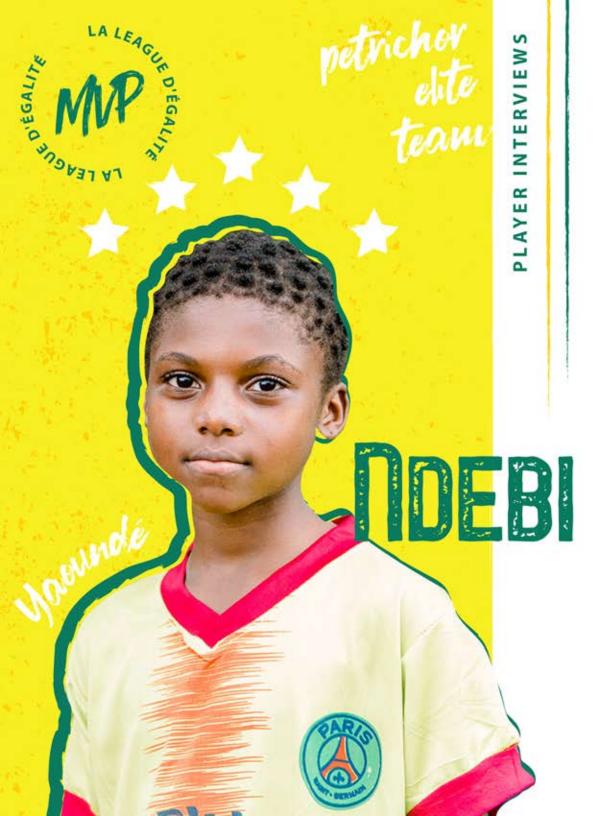


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Has she gained confidence since the beginning of the League?

Has the respect that the girl gets from her team and/or her community grown?





What is your name? Ndebi Henriette FLORINE

How old are you? 14 years old

Where are you from? Yaoundé

How old were you when you started playing soccer? 8 years old

When did you join Petrichor? This is my 3rd year with Petrichor Elite Teams but I have played with my member club for 7 years.

What do you enjoy most about playing with Petrichor? What I like most is the work of the coaches, we're making progress every day and PETRICHOR has plans for us girls, we're slowly moving towards professionalism and it makes us dream and know that these dreams can come true one day by the grace of GOD and all the efforts PETRICHOR is making for us, it's incredible and also my teammates who are there to help me progress every day, it's a pleasure to play with them, there are a lot of good players.

How does it feel to play in the equality league? It's been great, it's given me a lot of games in my legs, and it's also given me the chance to meet some really good players and play against them on the pitch. I'd say I've gained more experience in the game and improved tactically, and I've also learned to simplify my game and stop carrying the ball around too much.

What prizes have you won in your career? I've won several prizes: boots, jerseys, backpacks, balls, and at the Equality League tournament I was awarded the prize for best revelation in the u15 category.

What do you hope to become one day? Since I play soccer, I'd like to be a professional, live from soccer, be a leader because of soccer, be a role model for others, one day be called up to the national team, and also play abroad for the club I love, Olympique Lyonnais.

Who is your favorite player? Christiano Ronaldo

If you have a message for a young girl like you, what would you tell them? Keep your head high, get down to work, accept criticism from coaches or other people who know you. If you walk with good people you're bound to be a good person, don't do things that could kill your dream of becoming a footballer, believe in yourself and above all pray.



What is your name?

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What is your position?

Elite Team Captain

What did you think of the league this year?

It was the second édition. There were more teams and even more competent ones, which made the compétition more exciting and fun. We finished first in the championship once more but winning the final this time was the cherry on the cake.

What advice would you give to others playing in La Ligue D'Egalite in the future?

All the play is for fun and with that fun we can have even more fun. Be courageous, stay fair and do your best.





TRANSPORTATION:

The taxi and bus services that our teams use each weekend to get to and from games have grown. Guaranteed clients each weekend has helped these transportation companies invest back into and grow their businesses. Creating better services, safety and branding.

FOOD:

The local cafe has grown by over 100% to provide refreshments and food for the spectators and players on gameday.

FIELDS:

Community infrastructure and field improvements are helping other clubs and programming in the communities we work with.

PROJECT VENDORS:

We all rise together and this includes vendors for jerseys, equipment, signage and media. This project has helped develop the sports management sector in Yaounde to new heights.



We no longer wonder what the impact will be. We have now seen that this first of its kind league is the catalyst for young girls all over Cameroon to dream big. This partnership has and will continue to greatly impact youth football in Cameroon. It is growing a desire and instilling value in girls to express their talents and play the beautiful game. It is motivating women coaches around the country to pay attention to and elevate girls football. It is also equipping and allowing them to have an outlet for their new teams to play. Petrichor can say with confidence that after the second version of this project has finished, girls youth football has started to take root in Cameroon.

Cameroon now has more organized girls football, better coaches, a functioning league and more talented girl athletes than ever before. This partnership is changing the face of girls youth football in Cameroon and beyond.



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Petrichor is a registered 501(c)3 in the United States and an officially recognized Sports Association in Cameroon.

