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REPUBLIC OF CAMEROUN

Peace – Work – Fatherland

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UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE I HIGHER TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHIE \*\*\*\*\*\*

## THE EXPLOITATION OF TOURISTIC RESOURCES IN BELO SUB DIVISION: CONSTRAINTSAND PROSPECTS.

A dissertation submitted in partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Award of the Post Graduate Diploma in Geography Education (DIPES II)

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#### **SUMMARY**

Developing the resources of a place has the possibility of ameliorating the life of the people. The study examines the different natural and human touristic resources in Belo Sub Division (BSD), the actors involved in the development of tourism, the constraints and prospects to the development of these touristic resources. BSD is located in Boyo Division and it is endowed with a good number of touristic resources though most of them are still under exploited as a result of some factors that the work examines. This study was carried out in some selected villages in BSD. Data for the study were generated from two sources: primary and secondary. Primary data was collected using a structured questionnaire which was administered to households in the selected villages. Interviews were carried out with some resource persons and field observations were also used in the collection of data. Secondary data was collected from internet and documented sources. The data was analysed using the descriptive and quantitative methods with the use of Microsoft Excel and SPSS 16 and presented in the forms of tables, figures, photos, percentages etc. The strategy to the development of touristic resources was analyses using the SWOT analysis (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats).

From field findings, it was observed that Belo sub division has a beautiful landscape which is made up of mountains, hills, rivers, caves, and crater lakes with attractive floral and faunal reserves. The hilly nature of Belo gives an outstanding panorama over the surrounding rugged grasslands and valleys. This sub division also has rich and diverse socio-cultural touristic resources which include the cultural festivals, ritual practices, traditional dances, arts and craft. All these can be used to develop tourism and other recreational activities in Belo which will promote and diversify the rural economy.

We adopted the qualitative method to verify the information we got from the field and Our hypotheses were all valid.

Keywords: BeloTouristic Resources, Constraints, Prospects, development.

#### RESUME

Développer les ressources d'un espace donné est une possibilité d'amélioration des conditions de vie d'un groupement d'une population donnée. La présente étude vise à examiner les différentes potentialités naturelles et humaines faisant objet de tourisme dans l'arrondissement de Belo (BSD), les acteurs impliques dans le processus de développement du tourisme, de même que les contraintes et perspectives au développement des ressources touristiques. L'arrondissement de Belo, localisé dans le département du Boyo regorge de nombreuses ressources touristiques malgré le fait que la plupart d'entre elles demeurent peu exploités en raison d'un nombreux de facteurs examinées dans notre recherche. Cette étude à été menée auprès d'un nombre sélectionné de villages de l'arrondissement de Belo. Les données utiles à la rédaction de ce travail ont été de deux principales sources à savoir ; les données primaires obtenues a parti du questionnaire administré aux 104 ménages. Des entretiens avec des personnes ressources de même que des observations de terrains on également été utilisés dans la collecte des données primaires. Les données secondaires n'étant pas négligés, elles ont été obtenus des sources webographiques et documentaires. Ces informations ont été analysées via des méthodes qualitatives et quantitatives à l'aide des logiciels tels que Microsoft Excel et SPSS 16 générant des tableaux, des graphiques et des pourcentages. Les stratégies de développement des ressources touristiques a été analysé via la méthode SWOT (Forces, Faiblesses, Menaces et Opportunités).

Des observations de terrains, il en ressort que l'arrondissement de Belo possède un beau paysage constitué de montagnes, collines, rivières, grottes, lacs de cratères de même qu'une faune et flore diversifiée et très attractive. La nature accidentée de cette localité lui donne une nature imposante par rapport aux alentours. Cet arrondissement possède également ressources socioculturelles riches et diversifiés tels que des festivals culturelles, pratiques rituelles, danses traditionnelles et l'art. Toutes ces potentialités peuvent donc être mises en valeur pour développer le tourisme à Belo afin que le développement rural soit promu. Nous avons procédé par l'adoption d'une méthode qualitative obtenus sur le terrain. Apres vérification des résultats, les résultats se sont avérés vrais.

#### Mots Clés : Belo, ressources touristiques, contraintes, perspectives, développement

## **DEDICATION**

This piece of work is dedicated to my lovely husband Mr Suh Valentine Ngwaniba and my kids for their moral, intellectual and financial support all through my training.

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The multiplicity of influences which came together in the production of this work in one way or the other has left deep and lasting impressions in me. I therefore humble myself to express my profound gratitude to:

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Special thanks go to my lovely husband and kids for their moral, intellectual and financial support they provided all through my formation. The kids always obeyed when I told them I needed to concentrate, and they struggled to study and do their assignment on their own because they knew mummy was also studying.

I also acknowledge the contributions of the different institutions and personnel who provided primary data for the development of this work. They include the Belo council, sub divisional delegation of forestry, Delegation of Tourism for the North West, RUDEC and BERUDA Offices in Belo, Tufoin Kenneth, Mr Akem, Mr Viban, Mrs Ewusi Joffi, the managers of the different hotels that were consulted for this work and Oliver the bike rider who took me round the sub division and served as a translator where need arose.

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABREVIATIONS

АТА	Africa Travel Association			
BSD	Belo Sub Division			
BUCREP	Central Office of Census and Population studies			
CAMTEL	Cameroon Telecommunication			
CAMWATER	Cameroon Water			
CPDM	Cameroon People's Democratic Movement			
CRTV	Cameroon Radio Television			
DO	Divisional Officer			
ENEO	The Energy of Cameroon			
ENS	Ecole Normale Superieur			
FALSS	Faculty of Arts and Leters and Social sciences			
GIC	Groupe d'initiative Communal			
GTZ	German Technical Co-corporation			
MDG	Millennium Development Goals			
MIFACIG	Mix Farming Common Initiative			
MINTOUL	Ministry of Tourism			
MTN	Mobile Telephone Network			
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization			
NIC	National Institute for Cartography			
RR	Respondent Rate			
RUDEC	Rural Development Community			
SDF	Social Democratic Front			
SOCATOUR	Societe Camerounaise de Tourism			
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences			
UNWTO	United Nations World's Tourism Organisation			
VDU	Village Development Union			
WHO	World Health Organization			
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature			
CAMAST	Cameron Association for Sustainable Tourism			
FEICOM	Fond Special d'equipement et d'intervention intercommunale			
ICUN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature			

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**GENERAL INTRODUCTION** 

Tourism has been a key industry in some towns in Cameroon. Towns like Limbe and Kribi, have developed today thanks to tourism. Belo Sub division is located in Boyo Division and one of the economic activities here is agriculture. Every village or quarter, has its own identity. As such, several locations in Belo Sub Division have their own particularity. Specifically the Ndawara complex which has its unique characteristic with natural and man made beautiful features. Belo Sub Division can become a good touristic destination but the resources and infrastructures are still underdeveloped. This study is aimed at identifying all the touristic resources in BSDand examine the reasons why despite the abundant resources they still remain underdeveloped. This work will also suggest ways by which these resources could be exploited to develop the tourism sector which will in turn bring development to the study area. This activity proceeds with underdevelopment thus we will seek to identify the resources and also find out the real difficulties of the development of the touristic resources. For the researcher to be able to carry out investigation interviews were carried out with some resource persons and questionnaires were administered to some selected households. After which the results were analysed and the hypotheses were verified. From findings the researcher gathered that few tourists actually visit this area. If these resources are developed, they will be attractive to tourists and more tourists will come to BSD. Can this sector generate revenue for the economic development of BSD and for the benefit of the local population?

The development of touristic resources in Belo Sub division hopefully relies on the development of infrastructure such as accommodation facilities, roads just to name a few. The study area has some of these facilities but they are not able to satisfy the demand of tourists. It is therefore strongly recommended that government and other actors should put appropriate measures towards the development of these touristic resources. This development will diversify the rural economy of BSD and promote economic growth through sustainable tourism development.

The prime objective of this work is to undertake a study on the exploitation of touristic resources in BSD, investigate why these resources remain underdeveloped and the prospects for the development. To come out with results this piece of work is logically structured into six chapters.

Chapter one comprises of the context of the study, justification of choice of study, the delimitations, literature review and statement of problem, research questions, objective, hypotheses and finally interest of the study.

Chapter two deals with the conceptualualisation, theoretical framework and lastly research methodology.

Chapter three is the research and exploitation of data in Belo sub division. Most importantly in this chapter is an answer to the first specific research question as well as first research hypothesis.

Chapter four focuses on the various actors and their activities in the development of tourism.

Chapter five is based on the second and third specific research questions, the second and third specific research hypothesis and suggestions to the constraints of touristic resource development.

Finally Chapter six comprises of the verification of hypotheses, criticisms, and recommendations followed by general conclusion.

Based on the existing literature and field findings, the study makes suggestions for the effective development of touristic resources in the study area. This work seeks to identify the problem by looking first of all into the background of the problem, the statement of the problem, the objectives as well as the hypotheses of the study.

# PART ONE: GENERAL FRAME WORK OF STUDY AND METHODOGICAL APPROACH

## CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL FRAMEWORK

#### I.1 Context of Study

According to the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO, 2008), tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in a place outside their usual place of residence for less than a year and whose main purpose for travel is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. It can be for purpose such as leisure, education, health, just to mention a few. In this case, they should not be involved in any income generating activity. Thus, a person who undertakes such a journey is called a tourist and the movement is called tourism. The definition of tourism is very complex, thus, any definition must have the following indicators: length of stay, purpose of visit and distance travelled. Our study will adopt the definition of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation.

The UNWTO ranks the following top African tourist destination countries according to international tourists arrival in 2013.

RANK	COUNTRY	INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVAL 2013		
1	Morocco	10.0 million		
2 South Africa 9.5 million				
3 Tunisia 6.2 million				
4	Algeria	2.7 million		
5	Mozambique	1.8 million		
6	Zimbabwe	1.8 million		
7	Kenya	1.4 million		

Table 1: Ranking of African tourists destination countries	Table 1: Ranking	of African	tourists	destination	countries
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Source: UNWTO, 2014.

Tourism in Africa is fast growing and has led to the socio-economic and cultural development of a number of countries. In general, close to \$1 trillion was gotten from tourism in the world in 2008. International tourism is ranked as the 5<sup>th</sup>largest Industry in the world after fuels, chemical and automotive products (United Nations World Tourism Organisation -UNWTO 2008). According to WTO, the number of Tourists in the world increased in 2012 from one billion thirty five million to one billion eighty seven million in 2013, that is, an increase of 52 million international tourists. International tourists represent 29% of world exportation of services and 6% of total exportation of goods and services, between 2013 and 2014.Worldwide international tourist arrivals increased by 4.3%.The UNWTO estimate an increase of 1.8 billion International Tourists by the year 2030.About 83% of developing countries have tourism as their leading export earner. In 2013, Africa recorded 55.8 million International tourists (5%) of the world tourists.

Cameroon has abundant touristic riches such as, natural, geographical curiosities, historic relics, cultural heritages and traditional characteristics of every people that she represents

exhibitions and other folkloric events as well as varied people of 258 ethnics groups alongside other attractions. Cameroon in 2012, Travel and tourism directly and indirectly accounted for about 4.6% of total employment (214000 jobs). This percentage rose by 0.3% in 2013 to 214624 jobs and is expected to rise to 2.7% per annum to 281 000 jobs in 2023 (WTTC 2012). Following data gotten from the ministry of tourism and leisure (MINTOUL) reveled during the exposition of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the world's tourism day. The number of tourist that arrived Cameroon in 2011 was 604000 and rose to 817000 in 2012 with an increase of 35%.this figure shows that the tourism sector can contribute a lot to the growth of the National Economy despite the fact that the touristic potential has not been actually valorized. For Cameroon to become an emergent country by 2035 relies very much on the tourism sector amongst others.

Since independence Cameroon has witnessed several evolutions in the structuralisation, promotion and development of the tourism industry. In the year 1960 there was the creation of inter provincial services for tourism, followed in 1970 by the General Commission for tourism whose purpose was to encourage investment by airlines, hotels and travel agencies to promote the development of the tourism industry. Furthermore the General Delegation for tourism was created in 1975, Secretariat of state for tourism in 1986, SOCATOUR (Société Camerounaise de Tourism) and finally the Ministry of tourism in 1989.All these evolution was to bring the administration closer to the population and to look for possible ways of identifying, developing and effectively managing tourist resources through coordination, supervision and monitoring. With these efforts Cameroon has witness an increase in the number of tourist but not like Morocco and South Africa despite all the strategies the Cameroonian government is putting in place. Of recent the valorization of touristic potentials is still a great problem in the country.

In spite of the apparent neglect of this economy booster, there are prospects that the country's tourism will compete to take the driver's seat on the continent. Already, according to the MINTOURL boss, in 2010, Cameroon got the status of a tourist destination following the criteria set by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation, UNWTO, for having received about 572,000 tourists and more than 670,000 in 2011. It is ostensibly due to this and the important role tourism plays in boosting the economy and alleviating poverty that government is taking steps to invest in the sector.

The promotion of the tourism industry is not done single handedly by the government but alongside a number of Non-governmental Organisations (NGO). Organisations like World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) the German Technical Co-operation (GTZ), PLAN Cameroon are out to protect the environment and alleviate poverty especially in rural areas. In effect, tourism has helped transform societies and the UN has identified that the development of tourism can be one of the ways by which poor countries can meet up the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These includes Cameroon which has been described as Africa in miniature because of its striking physical and human diversities which provide a panoramic view of Africa within a small geographical area. It is due to the diversified tourist environment that the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Africa Travel Association (ATA) World Congress was held in Cameroon in October 2013. The congress brought together hundreds of tourist leaders and professionals from government, business, and the nonprofit sector to promote tourism development in Africa and around the world. Since one of the aims of the ATA congress is to explore the newest products of the country, the research will unveil the touristic potentials of the study area. This may expose this area to the professional and the local community may benefit from the outcome of this congress. Despite all these initiatives the tourism sector faces a lot of difficulties but it is being promoted and supported by a growing number of people and groups in different parts of the world as a remedy to the problems of poverty and resource management in rural areas.

Cameroon in general and Belo Sub Division in the North West Region of Cameroon can be among those areas that can develop as a result of Tourism. In Cameroon for example we have towns like Limbe and Kribi which have developed thanks to tourism. More so findings show that rural areas have been neglected as regards to tourism.

This study sets out to examine how the tourism resources in Belo Sub Division can be identified and exploited in order to lessen the constraints to foster the development of the area. This study will not cover Belo as whole but particular villages in Belo sub division endowed with touristic resources. In Belo, there are also some Non-Governmental Orgarnisations (NGO) which started as Community Initiative Groups. They are known as the Belo Rural Development Association (BERUDA), Rural Development Community(RUDEC), Mixed Farming Common Initiative Group (MIFACIG) whose objectives is to eradicate poverty, raise living standards for the local community and they are also involved in the promotion of tourism. Thus, for tourism to develop and help promote prosperity and stabilize the Belo community effectively, it needs contributions from the host community, home government, economic operators and tourist. This area is served with a tarred road from Bambui through Belo to Fundong and also provision of electricity by ENEO and Cameroon water (CAMWATER), although all these utilities are not extended to the periphery.

## **I.2** JUSTIFICATION OF THE CHOICE OF STUDY

As earlier mentioned csdthe research work for the 55th batch of students in Geography DIPES II of the Higher Teacher Training College Yaounde centers on "Tourism and development. Thus our research topic "The exploitation of touristic resources constraints and prospects is derived from the central topic. Scientifically this study aims at contributing to the existing poll of knowledge by making modest proposals to the development of tourism. It will equally serve as reference to future scientific works in this area. From documentary finding, very little has been written on tourism in particular in the study area. Chia (2013) carried out a study on tourism in Boyo Division as a whole but this study is limited to BSD. The socio – economic development of a population depends on economic resources and performance, that is, the ability to create wealth. Since Belo Sub Division is largely an agricultural area and this activity does not generate enough income capable of ensuring development, there is a need for this study since it has as goal to identify the touristic resources and also suggest strategies and plan of action which can permit BSD become a tourist destination area and develop the area.

Also this study is to show that the economy of Belo Sub Division which is a rural area can be improved by developing the tourism sector. Generally it can be seen that the development of tourism is more and more in urban areas neglecting the rural areas which has beautiful and natural touristic potentials. The example of BSD is to boost the fact that rural areas can be developed through tourism. Tourism has transformed several societies around the world, like Morocco, South Africa, Kenya and in Cameroon towns like Limbe and Kribi owe their development to tourism, so why not Belo Sub Division? Tourism is the second source of foreign exchange after oil in the developing countries and it is becoming the most popular source of income generator in the world (WTO, 2008). The development of this area of study will reduce the level of unemployment and also reduce Rural Exodus (the rate at which youths abandon the villages and move to cities in search for jobs). Belo Sub Division is blessed with

a variety of tourism potentials such as wonderful scenery, landscape marked with attractive sites, traditions of the people that need development. Another concern for this study is to seek solutions to the constraints for the development of tourism in Belo Sub Division, such as ignorance which is one of the key factors that contribute to the negligence of touristic sites.

## **I.3 DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY AREA**

## **I.3.1 Thematic Delimitation**

The present study is derived from a general theme" Tourism and Development". The thematic framework is made up of "the exploitation of touristic resources in Belo Sub Division, Constraints and Prospects. This study focuses on identifying the abundant human and physical touristic resources in BSD, analyse why up till date these resources are underdeveloped. Very little has been done by the government to develop tourism in the study area. Thus this study will help propose some strategies that can be used to help alleviate poverty and enhance development in the study area.

## **I.3.2 Temporal Delimitation**

As far as time delimitation is concerned in this study begins after the period of independence in Cameroon 1960's and effectively from the early 70's when government promulgated laws given an upper hand to local councils to administer local affairs under the supervision of the state to ensure development of the local population (NIBA 1999). Also with the coming in of NGO's who have been so far the most active actors in the development of the tourism sector in BSD. BERUDA officially started with tourism in 1997 after its creation while RUDEC started tourism activities in 2006. This work also falls within present day when the Cameroon government is putting a lot of interest in the domain of tourism as a development strategy.

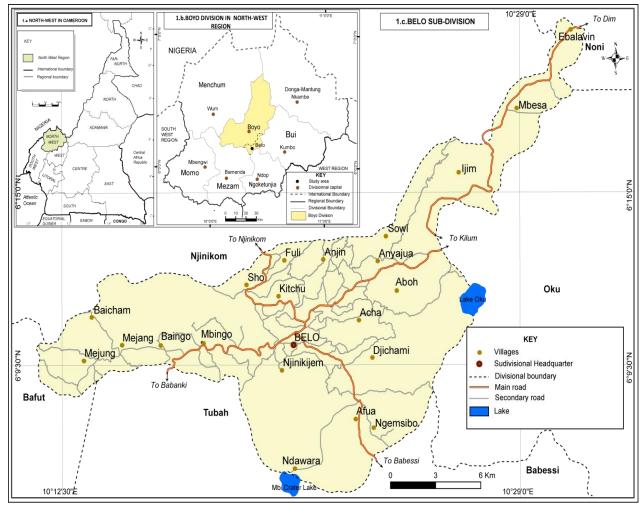
## **I.3.3 Spatial Delimitation**

The scope of this work is limited to the North West Region in Cameroon which is well endowed with touristic resources with BSD as our study area. Belo Sub division is one of the four sub divisions in Boyo Division and it is situated along the Bamenda- Fundong highway. Belo shares boundaries to the South West with Babanki in Tubah Sub division, to the South East with Babungo in Ngoketunjia Division and to the North and North West by Njinikom and Fundong Sub Division respectively and to the East with Oku Sub division in Bui Division as seen in Fig 1.AdministrativelyBelo was created as a sub division in 1993 following the reorganization of territorial administration by a presidential decree No 93/321 of 25th November 1993.BSD is a blend of semi-urban, rural and traditional settings. The entire sub division covers a surface area of 346km. Belo Sub Division lies between latitudes 6°4' to 6° 20' North of the Equator and spreads out between longitudes 10° 11' to 10° 30' East of the Greenwich Meridian with a distance of about 50km from Bamenda the main metropolitan town in the North West Region. It has a population of 40757 inhabitants, with 18314 men and 22443 female following the 2005 population census (BUCREP). This population is spread out over 29 villages and 94 quarters (Belo council, 2004). The entire sub division covers a surface area of about 46,068Km<sup>2</sup>. It is an administrative and a touristic area making it a source of attraction.

The population of this area is made up of people from different ethnic groups like the *Kom*, *Mejungs*, *Mejangs*, *Mbessa*, and Fulani. Most non-indigenes here are civil servants, business people, and farmers to name a few. Though the entire area seems to be a rural setting, it has some urban characteristics. The Belo Sub division is made up of four chiefdoms, three sub chiefdoms and quarter heads all headed by chiefs directly answerable to the paramount chief.

Government appointed officials like Divisional officiers and traditional heads complement each other when it comes to administration. The main economic activity here is agriculture and more interest is laid on the cultivation and commercialization of food crops like beans, cocoyam, and Irish potatoes, amongst others. Other livelihood activities include petty trading, hunting, livestock rearing. The primary languages spoken here are Itangi-kom, Mbessa,Mejang, Mejung, Baicham, Fulani, English language and pidgin. A few people speak French.

The sole means of transport in Belo Sub Division (BSD) is by road. A major highway runs from Bamenda through Belo to Fundong. Within BSD roads are untarred and made up of red earth (plate 16) that links the various villages. Quarters are also linked to each other by footpaths. This area also captures CRTV signals and international television signals through cable television. The area is connected to the rest of the world through MTN (Mobile Telephone Network) CAMTEL (Cameroon Telecommunication), NEXTEL, ORANGE networks and internet services. Belo Sub Division is blessed with a lot of touristic potentials (fig 13) but under exploited.



**Figure 1: Location of Belo Sub division in Cameroon** *Source: Drawn from the administrative map of Cameroon (NIC 2014)* 

## **1.5.** Literature Review

A comprehensive survey of post studies shows that many authors have carried out studies which examines the development of tourism in the world in general and Cameroon in particular. Very little attention has been paid by researchers on tourism in the study area. However, some global works, though written on related topics have contributed in the realization of this study as seen below.

The World Tourism Orgarnisation (WTO, 1996) defines sustainable tourism as "development that meets the needs of the present tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing the opportunity for the future, It is envisaged as leading to the management of all resources in such a way that economics, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, life support system, essential ecological processes and biological diversity." According to the researcher's point of view this definition has not assessed the constraints to development of touristic resources and impact of tourism development. Constraints hinder the development of tourism and assessing the impact will show a cost benefit analysis that may support or not the development of tourism

According to English tourism Council (2002) "sustainable tourism is about managing the impact of tourism on the environment, communities and the future economy to make sure that the effects are positive rather than negative for the benefit of future generations. This is a management approach which is good for all types of tourism no matter whether it takes place in the cities, towns, and periphery". This definition lays more emphasis on the impact of the development of tourism but neglects the identification of the resources which is very vital in the development of this sector. The researcher in this study thinks that touristic resources have to be developed before this impact of tourism can be felt.

Also, Lane (1994) discussed that the strategy of sustainable tourism is to consider the future needs of tourism, Muller (1994) suggested sustainable tourism needs to have a balance on five aspects which are healthy economy, fulfill the needs of the guest, well culture, subjective wellbeing and protection of resources. He stresses about the economic growth, environmental and social impact as well as "Sustainable tourism". Sustainable tourism is not a special form of tourism; rather, all forms of tourism may strive to be more sustainable (UNEP and UNWTO 2005).the sustainability principles applies to all types of tourism activities, operations, establishments and projects and responsible natural resource management.

According to Saarinen (2008) it is often postulated that local or regional governments should self-direct and play a greater role in tourism development because it is at the lower level that modifications are more likely to be effective. The author's ideas was supported by (McLennan 2005: Roberts, 2004) in which he mentioned that it is at the local level that difficulties, issues and paradoxes are more readily observed. A key concern in the transformation of tourism is the role and responsibility of government (MC Lenan 2005). Literature indicates that tourism in an area leads to development, there is need for leadership to grow and that direction can originate from government as well as from private sector. These authors' points out that the government needs to work hand in hand with the local population and other actors of tourism in making an area a tourist destination. Development cannot be effective without the participation of the local community

The above points of view can be applied to the study area boasting her become a renowned tourist destination in Cameroon.

Tourism has been described as an important venture to bring or take employment into rural areas with the ultimate goal of alleviating poverty Adebayo (2002). This author also mentions that tourism is a major source of income and foreign exchange earner for countries whose resources have been adequately developed. He carried out his studies in ONDO state in Nigeria where by cited the following problems militating against the development of tourism.

- Poor roads
- Inadequacy of funds
- Sub-standard lodging facilities
- Lack of interest in tourism on the part of the state and the people
- Poor implementation of the government polices

He went further saying that the development and revitalization of the tourists' resources is a venture for reducing unemployment and poor standard of living in rural communities since tourism is a large employer.

According to Ndenecho (2005), Cameroon has spectacular and beautiful mountains panoramas, scenic splendors and magnificent game reserves, with unique wild lives which are all touristic resources and could be realized with careful development of Eco tourism. He goes further to say that much of Cameroon's touristic potential wealth lies in its natural resource base. He took the case of Bamenda and its surrounding with potentials and the current management strategies that could lead to the development of the touristic industry. His idea can be applicable to our study area.

According to Lewis (1998) the development of tourism is often seen as a panacea for the ills of a rural community. Many rural areas have resorted to tourism in an attempt to fend-off their socio-economic problems. The rural economy is much different from the urban economy, so much so that it is "not unusual for rural economies to struggle while the nation's general economy flourishes." The plight of rural areas are many: migration of young and vibrant from the community, persistent poverty of the local population, lack of employment opportunities, an overall lack of infrastructure, and a lack of government intervention and revenue. For this, many rural areas should establish in tourism to generate revenue, which in turn transforms into jobs and income. Of-course, tourism cannot simply solve rural problems overnight. There must be an understanding of the development process thus impossible or difficult to deal with the impacts of tourism.

According to the researcher, Belo is a rural area thus the development of her touristic resources will be an opportunity to raise her economy and even change her statues from a rural to an urban area. Tourism is a viable method of development because it is economically feasible, relatively clean and is a method of economic advancement.

Wanie (2011); mentions that Cameroon has a variety of ecosystems with a lot of potentials suitable for the development of tourism. He took the case of the coastal region of Cameroon where he revealed that this area has or is characterized by coastal and marine ecosystems dominated by Mangrove forest, some forest reserves and national parks which are good sites for the ecotourism. Here, there are also mountain ecosystems like Mount Fako, with its diversities like Flora, wildlife, Crater Lake, waterfall, Savannah and steppes ecosystem. In a nutshell, this study investigates the coastal touristic potentials but he mentioned little about touristic infrastructure and also the fact that the development of tourism has negative impact on the environment.

Frida (2014); looked at tourism in Africa and Cameroon whereby she suggest guidelines on how to develop the tourism sector. According to her tourism can be developed sustainable if it is united into the country's overall economic, social and physical planning policies, enhancing regional promotion and effective marketing. She also looked at the role of tourism in economic development in Cameroon whereby she can benefit if tourism is promoted by developing the following; resources, service quality, good information technology, quality and numerous infrastructures, environmental management and good policy will take Cameroon to another level. The view of this author shows how tourism can be developed and also it benefits. Her ideas will be adopted in this study on ways to develop tourism, although she looks at tourism resources generally in Cameroon and Africa but this study seeks to examine the touristic resources in a more detailed manner in a specific area(BSD) in Cameroon.

Ngoufo R. (1988), points out that natural space and resources can be rationally used for agrotourism in mountainous areas even those having a high population density. The author brought out difficulties which are encountered in the development of mountainous zones for touristic purposes. He cited the case of the Bamboutos Mountain. The case of our study area is not far from the Arthur's point of view because it is endowed with hills and mountains which can be developed. For example bee keeping is an activity that can be carried out on mountains in BSD and serves as a touristic site.

Nkwenti (1983), pointed out that tourism not withstanding its many benefits such as generating income also brings alongside the interaction that exist between the indigenous population and visitors whereby they go back satisfied. He went further to evaluate the effects of touristic sites and its services on the development of the country. Also, that tourism development in developed countries can be very rapid and that developing countries like Cameroon may benefit from its development if certain conditions are met. The inspiration gathered here is that the effect of his activity is on both the host and the visitor thus positive effects of tourism outweigh the negative effects.

From my own point of view, tourism resources can exist in an area but if not exploited sustainably will not lead to positive developmental impact. Ideal tourism potentials will not also lead to development, so there is the need for a sustainable exploitation of touristic resources.

Chia (2013), in his work looked at the relationship between tourism and the environment in Boyo division as a whole. According to him tourism is a very complex socio-economic phenomenon which has significant influence on the state, natural environment and the community. This author carried out his work in the entire Boyo Division and in his findings Boyo has a beautiful landscape with attractive Flora and Fauna reserves, rich cultural diversity which can be used to develop tourism and other recreation activities and promote economic growth through sustainable tourism development. He also in his work carried out an inventory of all the touristic resources and infrastructures in Boyo Division and related its level of underdevelopment to the nature of the topography which is very hilly, making it difficult for the construction of roads to the touristic sites.

Tchindjang and Kenye (2003) in their book "Cameroon pay aux potentialite touristique sous exploitation" present Cameroon as Africa in miniature with a large extension of latitudes, variety of relief and plains, mountains and plateau, climate and dense vegetation and heterogeneous human population. Notwithstanding the above, up till date the country has not

been able to develop and benefit from these rich natural potentials. The contribution of touristic potentials in Cameroon is still very low at about 1%.

Colin Michael et al (2008), state that the following benefits could be derived from tourism promotion in the context of regional development:

- $\Box$  Income generation
- $\Box$  Employment generation
- □ Improvement in economic structure
- □ Encouragement in entrepreneurial activity
- □ Improve in population distribution

Jenny and Eugenia (2003), revealed tourism as a development option, and how rural tourism is increasingly viewed as a panacea, increasing the economic viability of marginalised areas, stimulating social regeneration and improving the living conditions of rural communities. Less developed countries, afflicted by debilitating rural poverty, have considerable potential in attracting tourists in search of new, authentic experiences in areas of unexploited natural and cultural riches. These authors outline that the clustering of activities and attractions, and the development of rural tourism routes, stimulates co-operation and partnerships between local areas. Meaningful community participation, together with public sector support, presents opportunities for the development of small-scale indigenous tourism routes in less developed areas. This showed how the development of rural areas. These authors only looked at the positive aspects of the development of tourism to the rural area but did not look at the negative aspect to the community. In our work we will look at the prospects for the development of BSD which is a rural area.

A few decades ago, tourism in Cameroon was virtually non-existent despite its very rich potentials, but of recent, there has been a rapid growth of this industry because the outside world is becoming more and more aware of the touristic opportunities in the country. Thus in this study, we will seek to assess the resources and constraints to the development of tourism in Belo Sub Division and propose strategies for the sustainable development and management of related resources.

The above has motivated the researcher to be able to carry out a research on the identification of tourist resources of Belo Sub Division, examine constraints to the development of tourism and also propose better developmental strategies for the growth of a sustainable tourism in the study area. Since agriculture is the main economic activity here, the development of tourism will help to diversify the rural Economy, thus, increase the living standards of the local populations.

## **1.6 Statement of problem**

(According to Leedy (1993: 53), the first step in deciding on conducting a research project is to identify a researchable problem that requires an enquiring mind, which seeks fact, which can then be synthesized into an accurate and logical conclusion). The tourism industry plays a more and more important role in the world economy and generally acknowledged to represent a significant source of economic growth for the European Union. This sector is a software

product with relatively high value addition and so needs to be exploited to its full (Bhatia, 2007). Examples of countries that have natural attractions and are endowed in tourism include: United States of America, Morocco South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Namibia, Cameroon counts over 828 touristic resources sites (GTZ, 2001), some of them are lakes, waterfalls, mountains, cliff, rocks, cave and reserve. There are also cultural sites with monuments, sultants, dances, chieftencies. All these resources are distributed all over the territory. She received about 604000 tourists in 2014 (MINTOUR 2014). In Cameroon towns like Kribi and Limbe has touristic resources and the growth of these towns is thanks to the development of their touristic resources which are under exploited (Keyne 2003) and which can be developed throughout the country but the contribution of tourism to the growth of the national economy is very low especially in rural areas. One of the reasons for this is the lack of adequate infrastructures like transport networks. It is usually said that where there is a road developed.

Quite often communities are endowed with abundant touristic resources, yet the inhabitants do not know the value and even how to go about the exploitation of these resources to enhance local development. BSD is one of the rural areas in Cameroon that has abundant natural and human touristic resources which if develop can lure nature lovers and also boost up its economy. These resources have certain immaterial values which are unique and if developed will be very attractive to the eyes of tourists visiting the North West region and Cameroon in general. Some of these touristic resources include lakes, streams, Kilum-Ijim Mountain with forest reserve which has rare species of plants and animals, waterfalls which are used for bathing, rituals (cleansing), and source of portable water; used in farms etc. There are also caves with bats and birds, hills and mountain ranges some with sharp pointed peaks and some with flat tops where Christians carry out pilgrimages and because of their quietness, these hills can serve as good sites for reflection and meditation; Mbingo Baptist hospital built by missionaries in 1957; farmlands with food crops like corn, beans, potatoes, cocoyam, plantains, plains, tea plantation in Ndawara among others. There are also cultural festivals like ritual practices to eliminate the ills in the society and bless yearly harvest, traditional marriages, death celebrations, palace dances not leaving out cultural artifacts to name a few. These are all good touristic resources which are diverse and if developed can act as an impetus for different forms of tourism to be developed and practiced such as climbing, hunting, hiking, horse riding, to name a few.

Although BSD has a good number of touristic resources they are underdeveloped and several reasons can account for this drawback such as inaccessibility, the roads to these touristic sites are bad due to the rugged nature of the area, roads are not motorable and usually seasonal. The distance between one touristic site to the others are far and can be difficult for a tourist to use a day to visit all the touristic sites. For example from the Anyajua waterfall to Ndawara is about 50km<sup>2</sup>. Moreover some areas with touristic resources are cut off from other touristic sites because there are no bridges to link them up. Some of these resources have been abandoned and left in the wild like the Mbi cave, crater lake, Anyajua waterfall and the Chuaku waterfall etc, management is poor, and lack of skills due to ignorance on the part of the local population. The people here still regard tourism as something reserved for particular persons like the government and the whites who are considered as tourists. All these owing to the lack of institutionalization of tourism that is to say no major organ like the delegation of tourism which does not exists in BSD. These have led to the underdevelopment of the touristic resources in this area.

According to Frida T. (2014), the exploitation of touristic resources give rise to a change in the economy of a place, for example it generates wealth, encourage innovation in addition to satisfying human needs. Thus the researcher thinks BSD is missing all the opportunities offered by tourism because the existing touristic resources are not developed. These opportunities are; employment or job generator, (that is people are employed to provide services to the tourist), increase in income leading to increase in standards of living, development of infrastructures, it will also help to reduce rural out-migration to urban areas. In all the development of tourism in Belo Sub division will have implications on the economy, natural and build environment on the local population and on the tourists themselves.

This activity here is characterised with underdevelopment in its resources. Despite all the abundant touristic resources in Belo Sub Division, there has been very little to develop these resources although a few resources are exploited by private individuals and GICs. The non-involvement of the local people in tourism activities and the inability of the sector to generate employment for them through poverty alleviation have instilled some laxity in its development thus decreasing commitment in tourism activities in Belo Sub Division.

#### **1.7 Research questions**

Two sets of research questions were used to guide this research work. These are one general research question and three specific questions.

#### **1.7.1 Main Research Question**

Why is tourism poorly developed in Belo Sub Division despite the abundance of touristic resources?

#### **1.7.2** Specific research questions:

- 1) What are the touristic resources of Belo Sub Division?
- 2) What are the constraints to the development of touristic resources in Belo Sub Division?
- 3) What are the prospects for the development of touristic resources?

#### **1.8 Research Hypotheses**

Following the above research questions, the succeeding hypotheses have been set up to serve as a guide for this study. There is the main hypothesis and the specific hypotheses.

#### **1.8.1** Main Research Hypothesis:

The lack of adequate infrastructures is responsible for the low development of tourism in BSD.

## **1.8.2** Specific Research Hypotheses

- 1) BSD has diverse natural and cultural touristic resources mostly unexploited.
- 2) The constraints to the development of touristic resources are due to lack of infrastructures and ignorance on the part of the local population.
- 3) The development of touristic resources by the local population, government, and NGO's through increase income, employment and accessibility will positively lead to the development of BSD.

## **1.9** Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study can be grouped under the main objective and specific objectives.

#### 1.9.1 Main Objective

The main objective of this study is to investigate reasons why despite the abundant touristic resources in BSD they still remain underdeveloped.

#### **1.9.2** Specific objectives

- 1) To identify the different touristic resources in Belo Sub Division and characterise their intrinsic values.
- 2) To investigate the constraints to the development of touristic resources in Belo Sub Division
- 3) To determine the prospects for the development of tourism resources.

#### **1.10** Interest of the study

#### 1.10.1 Academic Interest

To the academic world the interest of this study cannot be underestimated because it may add to the existing literature in the field of tourism and development. This study may also add new avenues for further research in the study area. More so, research is a foundation for any post diploma studies.

#### 1.10.2 **Practical Interest**

This piece of work is of great importance to the researcher because tourism has now become one of the sectors that generate substantial income. It also maintains conservation of the natural environment and promotes development if planned and implemented in an economic, socially, friendly manner although most developing countries have not still accepted it as a developmental tool. The results of this study may be of interest to the Belo community in general whereby they will know the existing resources and the importance of exploiting these resources. Also to individual investors who will want to venture into the tourism sector, this work would help them to understand this new phenomenon as a tool for the development of the economy. It will also be significant to the council, travel agencies, and NGO's, it's a source of inspiration for them to take part in the development of tourism in this area.

#### 1.10.3 Scientific Interest

The results of this study will also be important to decision makers to use in the amelioration of tourism as it will expose some of the unknown touristic potentials of the area. This study will also propose strategies that can guide policy makers in Belo in particular and Cameroon as a whole on how to improve the exploitation of touristic resources and develop the tourism industry. This work can be useful to policy makers in formulating tourism policy.

## CHAPTER 2: CONCEPTUALISATION, THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

Generally we cannot carry out a work on the exploitation of touristic resources without mentioning the theoretical models link to the development of tourism. Definition of terms and theoretical models are an assembly of ideas and works elaborated in very precise manner. They are also all the scientific references to which a scientific research is attached. Therefore in this chapter we shall look at the definition of certain terms, theoretical models of tourism development, operational and methodological framework to explain the variables and general methodology respectively.

## **2.1. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

Many definitions have been used to enhance the understanding of the researcher's objectives. Generally, our topic is; The exploitation of touristic resources in Belo sub division, constraints and prospects The following concepts defined briefly explains the present research on which an in-depth study will be carried out, tourism, exploitation, community perception, sustainable tourism, tourism resources, and constraints. Butler's theory on tourism evolution and the Multiplier effect theory on tourism have been used to ease the understanding of this work.

## 2.1.1Tourism

The word Tourism is complex when it comes to definition but some authors have their own conception as concerns tourism. According to Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary, tourism is a business activity which is connected with providing accommodation, services and entertainment for people who are visiting a place for leisure.

According to the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO 2008), tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in a place outside their usual place of residence for less than a year and whose main purpose for travel is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. It can be for purpose such as leisure, education, health, and business, just to mention a few. In the course of this, they should not be involved in any way income generating activity.

Lanquart Etoundi (2005), defines tourism as an initiated crafts and wood work, which revolves around the various relationships and facts that are brought about by the journeys and stays of people out of their usual place of residence provided that they are not motivated by any money seeking activity. In the second edition, he defines tourism as an activity that differs from journey in so far as it implies that fact that the traveller leaves a place and goes somewhere else for the sake of satisfying his fancy. Tourism is travel for recreational, leisure, or business purposes (Frida.T.2014). This study will take into consideration the definition of World Tourism Organisation which talks on tourism and brings out the various activities that concerns tourism.

#### 2.1.2Destination and the tourism industry

In discussing tourism, the term destination becomes ubiquitous; however, it is not always clear what a destination is. Be it a hotel, a city, a region, or a country is always a question that confuses many. Destination is defined as a country, state, region, city or town which is marketed or markets itself as a place for tourists to visit. However, regardless of what a destination offers, it must market itself to it consumers (Bierman 2003).

The free online dictionary defines destination as;

- The destined end of a journey or voyage,
- The ultimate end or purpose for which something is created or a person is destined.
- The ultimate purpose for which something is done. (Free online dictionary 2009).

On the other hand, in the sense of business tourism, destination is the place where the main focus of the business trip will be, be it a conference, sales presentation, an incentive travel package or negotiation meeting. It can be in a country, region, rural area, an individual city or single coastal resort (John et al, 2001).

In this research, destination is regarded as a geographical location be it city, town country village or any administrative location in the cape Coast municipal area (Swarbrooke et al 2001). We will also adapt the definition of the UNWTO (2008).

#### 2.1.3 Community perception/ attitude to tourism development

We cannot proceed without mentioning the attitude of the local population towards tourism development. This is very important for achieving continued sustainable tourism. The main objective is to involve people in the process of their own development and give them more opportunities to participate effectively in development activities. The local community will have a positive perception of tourism if their level of involvement in the activity is high alongside it benefits such as job opportunities and in general increase standards of living as compared to the past. On the other hand if the perception of tourism is negative then they will not involve themselves in the development of the tourism industry.

In relation to our study we will use the BOTTOM-TOP approach whereby for touristic potentials in BSD to develop there must be the involvement of the local population. Heng Z and Siu (2011; 916), suggests that the involvement of the local residents is important for the effectiveness of tourism. Their study brings out factors contributing to residents' participation intention, environmental knowledge, attitude towards tourism and the appeal of tourist landscape. Their finding reveals the significant impact of environmental knowledge and landscape likeability on the participant intention of the locals. Environmental knowledge strongly influences residents' attitude towards tourism.

The issue of decentralisation can be brought in which deals with political and financial autonomy of local authority, for example the councils, GICS which represents the local population be it at the level of development, decision making, management, ownership. For effective development of tourism to take place in BSD the local community has to take their destiny in their hands and not rely only on the government. More so if the local population has a positive perception on tourism they will actively take part in developing their touristic resources. For this to be made possible there is the need to develop programs that

focus on changing behaviors and perceptions, provide technical advice, sensitise the local population on the importance of developing this sector, employment opportunities and income generating activities. According to Lewis (1998) the development of tourism is often seen as a panacea for the ills of a rural community. Many rural communities have resorted to tourism in an attempt to fend-off their socio-economic problems. In all for tourism to develop in BSD there must be interaction between all the actors concern in the community.

## 2.1.4 Sustainable Tourism

This concept was adapted from the idea of sustainable development which is development that takes care of the needs of the present generations without challenging the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. One of the theories that encourage sustainability is that of Butler (1999), who goes ahead to add that without implementation and monitoring tools "the use of the term sustainable tourism is meaningless" WHO (2004), defines sustainable tourism as "Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economy, social and environmental impacts addressing needs of visitors, the industry, and the environment and host communities (Hunter, 2003). This concept also emphasizes that sustainable tourism should be able to develop guidelines and management practices appropriate to all forms and types of destinations. More so to ensure a long term sustainable development of tourism there must be a balance between environmental, economic and sociocultural aspects of tourism which will both benefit the host community and the guest" which are the tourist. In other words, Sustainable tourism therefore strives to benefit local communities and protect natural, cultural and historical resources on which tourism is based. Although perhaps not the panacea many had hoped for, the concept of sustainable tourism remains a model for areas hoping to build a tourism industry that promotes the economy without diminishing the areas resources. This theory is used in this work to better show how the efficient and sustainable development of this activity will be beneficial both to the present and future generation of the local population of BSD.

## 2.1.5 Touristic Resources

These are susceptible resources which can be transformed in one way or the other as products of tourism attraction. Any resource that people spend time and money to experience is an attraction. These resources can either be natural or human and they both constitute first class material for tourism and ecotourism. Natural resources can be Lakes, waterfalls, caves, mountains, forests to name a few, while human resources includes all human constructions, practices, and remain (archaeological), manifestations of human evolution and cultural expression like monuments, craftwork, festivals and Safari and so on (Lew et al, 2008).

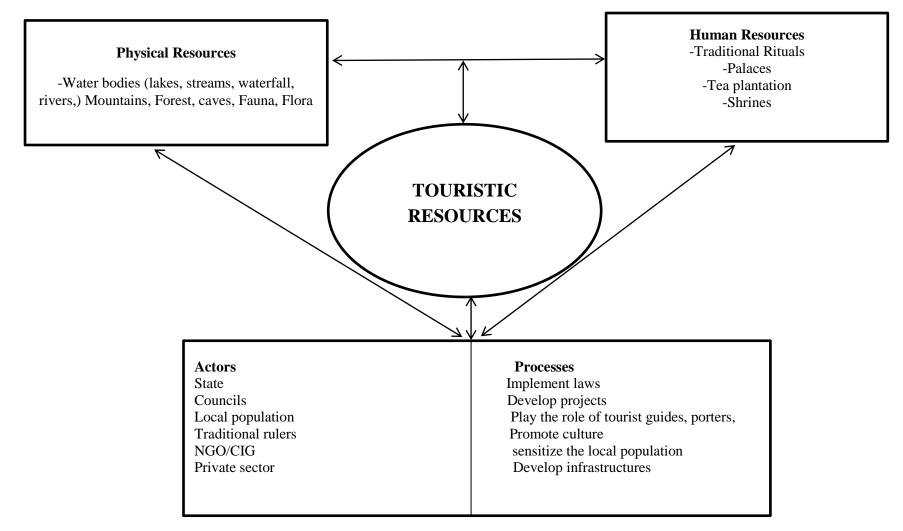
Resources are poles of attraction especially around plains and altitudes less than 200m. A touristic potential is that resource that has been developed and that attract tourist (Kamdem and Tchindjan, 2011). On the other hand, tourist potentials are those resources existing in possibility but likely to become attractions if developed and attractive to tourist.

The development of tourism depends essentially on the capacity of tourists and also the touristic resource. The touristic resources offer the totality of criteria's or elements that influence the realization of touristic activities and the touristic attractiveness of a region (TUROWSKY, 1972). According to TUROWSKY there exist three complex principal touristic factors namely: Natural factors, infrastructures and social factors. Tourism resources

base is a foundation for the development of tourism, thus there is need for the resources to be identified, evaluate and presentation of touristic resources (Gunn, 1988).

A resource can be found in an area but if not transformed, cannot be rated as a tourist attraction site. The level by which a resource can attract tourist depend on it's extend of development, closeness to major population centers, scenic beauty, publicity, accessibility. Thus if tourism resources are not well managed or treated by tourist over the years they could disappear. BSD has the following natural and cultural touristic resources and potentials; mountainous scenery with numerous waterfalls, caves, hills, forest with shrines and game reserves, Ndawara tea estate, cultural events, palaces, beautiful monuments. The above resources in BSD determine the level of leisure that a tourist can derive here. Also, the type of resources determines the type of tourism that can be practiced in an area. For example in BSD cultural, eco-tourism, Agro-tourism, to name a few can be practice here. Touristic resources do not exist in isolation; there is always a relationship where by the natural and cultural sites influence the existence of the other through their interactions as seen below.

#### **Conceptual Framework**



#### Source: Author's conception

Figure 2: Diagram showing the relationship between touristic resources, actors and their roles.

The above shows that touristic resources do not exist in isolation. The natural environment affects the human elements. The physical environment on its part is affected by human factors through their activities.

## 2.1.6 Exploitation

Exploitation is one of those concepts whose definitions have attracted the attention of many scholars from different disciplines. The divergence in opinions results in the confusion that surrounds this concept is mainly at the level of associating exploitation with the extraction of subsoil resources and unfair treatment of human beings Roemer, and Elster (1986), of the German School of thought focused on the negative aspects of exploitation on both exploitee and exploiter. An opposing view from Buchana (1985), perceive exploitation on manually advantageous because both the exploiter and exploitee benefit from such transactions as the two parties gains at least from the deal. The interpretation of exploitation can be looked both in the negative and positive points of view by different scholars' further making the understanding and use of this concept ambiguous.

In relation to our work, exploitation of the touristic resources in BSD will be looked at in a positive perspective which as a result ensures the sustainable development of the tourism sector and the development of the area as a whole.

## 2.1.7 Constraints

Constraints as defined by Oxford dictionary as something that imposes a limit or restriction or that prevents something from happening. Constraints can also be defined as problems encountered in the course of territorial planning and sustainable management of natural resources. Constraints are usually negative and hinder the development of something or an area. Constraints render the tourism sector weak, for example, lack of infrastructures such as roads, hotels, restaurants and electricity are some of the constraints to the development of tourism. Constraints can be looked at in different dimensions such as political dimension, economic dimension and socio-cultural dimension. Specific to Belo Sub Division, some of the constraints to tourism are inadequate services and facilities with most touristic sites still unexplored.

In summary from sources consulted not much studies on tourism has been carried out in rural areas in Cameroon and more particularly in the Anglophone section. The researcher has as intention in this study to fill the gaps by bringing out some implicit data from rural community with the use of quantitative data's to show that a rural area like BSD can also developed as a result of the development of the tourism sector.

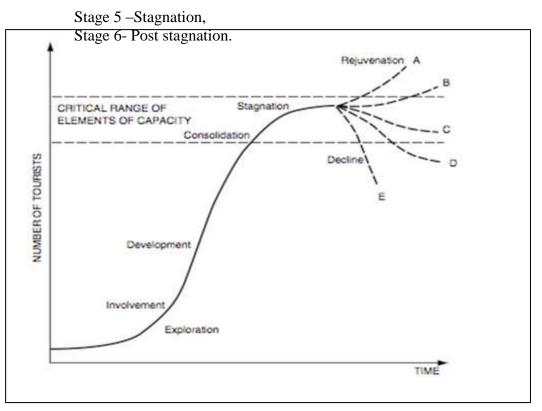
## 2.2Theoretical framework

This work pays allegiance to some authors especially economists whose theories have been used in this work for better understanding. These are the Theory of evolution Lifecycle of tourist area and the theory of the Multiplier effect.

## 2.2.1 Butler Theory (1980): Evolution of Tourist Area

Butler demonstrated six stages whereby a tourist area passes through. That is from its discovery to its final stage picturing evolutionary path represented with an S shaped curve as seen on figure 3 below:

Stage 1- Exploration, Stage 2-Involvement, Stage 3-Development, Stage 4–Consolidation,



Source: Butler's Model of Tourism Evolution, 1980

# Figure 3: Butler's Tourism Destination lifecycle model

Each stage is characterized by a different rhythm of growth, the change of attitude and composition of the main actors (tourists, administration, local entrepreneurs, international corporations, local residents and immigrants) and the variation of the main attractions (original or human made). Following the stages, an area begins as a relatively unknown place and tourist initially comes in small numbers not withstanding lack of access, facilities and local knowledge. (Miller and Gallucci, 2004), As more people discover its attractions, its amenities attractions are also increased and improved hence it develops. As tourists' arrivals then begin to grow rapidly it implies that the said destination is well known (Stagnation).

The rise from exploration to stagnation often happens very rapidly as implied by the exponential nature of the growth curve. The upper limits of this curve A -E (Rejuvenation-Decline) are examples of subset of possible outcomes beyond stagnation which is determined by the social, physical or economical carrying capacity of the tourist area destination. Some of the things that could cause a destination to follow trajectories A and B toward rejuvenation are technological developments or infrastructure improvements leading to increased carrying capacity .Also Examples of things that could cause a destination to follow trajectories C and D are increased congestion and unsustainable development, causing the resources that originally drew visitors to the destination to become corrupted, or no longer exist.

In this study the ideas of Butler (1980), will be adopted where they mention that factors like transportation, politics, economics and society can change areas which were considered hostile or unwelcoming destinations to tourists to become favourable tourist destination areas.

However BSD as a tourist destination could be located at the exploration stage as seen on the curve above since very few tourists already visit this area and most of the touristic resources

are underdeveloped. The researcher seeks to modify the propositions pointed out that in the exploration stage some facilities are provided by the local community and some private individuals. Here contact is very low and the organisations of tourist activities are still at their initial stage. This stage is also accompanied with less control leading to the destruction of the environment. The researcher also thinks that for this area to move from the exploration and the involvement stage towards the consolidation stage, its potentials has to be exploited and developed by improvement of the mode and means of transportation, improve on tourism marketing strategies, participatory management, investment, provide tourist facilities, making sure that the tourist carrying capacity is not exceeded and also controlling the negative effects of tourism. All these will make BSD receive more and more tourist and also regularly. Thus the study area can turn to provide facilities exclusively for visitors.

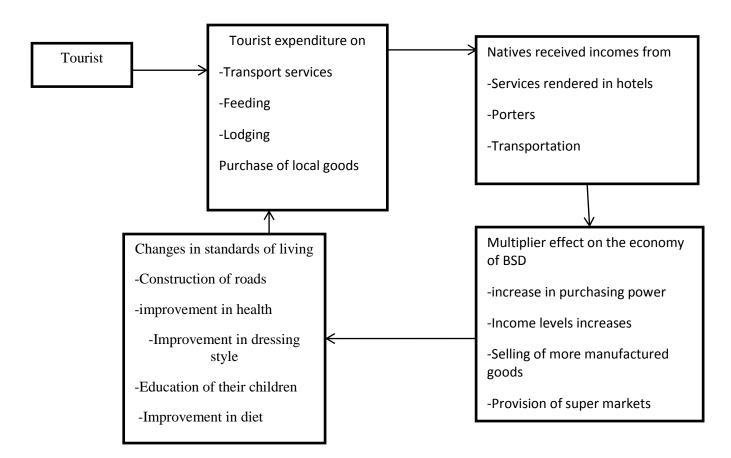
In summary, this theory is used to explain the various stages a tourist destination passes through. As time goes on, the tourist area witness a decline in its environmental quality, thus, tourist will turn to look for other attractive touristic areas. The evolution of a tourist area is brought about by a variety of factors including changes in needs of visitors, gradual deterioration of the area, and disappearance of the original natural and cultural attractions which were all responsible for the initial popularity of the tourist area.

#### 2.2.2 The Theory of the Multiplier Effect

The Multiplier effect theory on tourism refers to an economic concept that was conceived in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and developed by John Keynes in the 1930's. It is the economic effects brought about by a change in the level of tourism expenditure. In other words it entails the circulation of money spend by tourist in the economy of an area. The expenditure is in the form of the following

- -Spending on goods and services by tourists
- -Investment by external sources
- -Government spending (domestic or foreign)
- -Export of goods stimulated by tourism.

According to our study the development of touristic resources will attract more tourists to BSD and this will contribute to the economic growth of the area. This contribution is noticed from their spending in different domains. Visitors coming to BSD will pay for transport services, buy food, pay for hotels, buy local goods and pay for services rendered to them. All their spending will have an impact on other sectors leading to a multiplier effect on the economy of BSD and accrue enormous earnings to the natives. The natives will be employed directly and indirectly. Thus at the end contribute positively in changing the life style of the local population as seen on figure 4 below.



Source: Adapted by Komtangi Figure 4: The multiplier effect of tourism within the Economy of BSD

The practice of tourism will thus leave behind a multiplier effect in BSD?

# 2.3 OPERATIONALIZATION OF VARIABLES

This part consists of defining the indicators of our scientific research study. As concerns our research topic which is; "the exploitation of tourist resources in Belo Sub Division, constraints and prospects" two variables have been identified. One independent variable and two dependent variables.

# 2.3.1 The independent variable

The independent variable is the presumed cause of the dependent variable or justifies the changes of the dependent variables. Touristic potentials constitute the independent variable and without this variable there will be no development of tourism in the area of study. She is not influenced by any variable. This independent variable corresponds to our first hypotheses. This is shown on table 2 below.

Table 2: Illustration of dimensions, components and indicators of the independent variables

Concept	Dimension	components	Indicator	
		Relief	Caves, Mountains, Hills, Plains, Rocks	
	Natural	Hydrography	Rivers, Lakes, Waterfalls,	
		Biodiversity	Fauna, Flora	
Tourism Resources		Cultural Events	-Festivals (masquerade, Traditional dances).	
	Socio-Cultural	Traditional rituals	<ul> <li>Shrines</li> <li>Traditional Weddings</li> <li>Death Celebrations</li> <li>Birth Celebrations</li> </ul>	
		Monuments	Number of Museums, Palaces.	
	Economic	Infrastructure	Restaurants, Bars, Snacks, Inn, Guest house, Weekly Market, Tea Plantation, Roads, Banks, Micro finance, Income, Police post	

# 2.3.2 The independent Variable

The putting in place of the dependent variables depends on the independent variable. In this study the dependent variable is considered as the constraints to the development of touristic resources and prospects in developing these resources in BSD. These can be seen on our second and third hypotheses.

# Table 3: Illustration of dimension, components and the indicators of the independent variable

	Natural	Relief Biodiversity	Accessibility, Management, Finances, community perception, comparative distance between resources, illegal exploitation, Climate, deforestation.			
Constraints	Socio-Cultural	Cultural Events	Poor quality of roads, Forbidden Traditions, Finances, Conflicts,			
		Traditional Rituals	<ul> <li>Non valorization of culture</li> <li>Perception of the people</li> <li>Negligence, insufficient tourism information,</li> <li>non transfer of ancestral knowledge to the young generation</li> </ul>			
		monument	Theft, Degradation, management, negligence			
		Infrastructure	Finances, management, financial institution, weakness on the part of developmental actors, travelling agencies, Formation centers, Communications, Pipe borne water, Health center, hospitals, security post			
	Natural	Relief	Training of tourist guides, organisation of mountain race,			
		Biodiversity	Creation of parks, recruitment of forest guards, implementation of forestry policies.			
Prospects		Hydrography	Proper management Fishing competition, Sporting competitions, creation of restaurants, Bars, tents around the lake,			
	Socio cultural	Cultural events	Improvement on communication, sensitization			
		Traditional Rituals	Education(integrating culture in the educational system)			
	Economic	infrastructure	Loans, Foreign aid, participation of Elites in the development of tourism, participation of the government and local councils, recreational activities like parks, walkway, residential facilities			

Source: Adapted by Komtangi

# 2.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA ANALYSES

The goal of this chapter is to show the methodology employed to carry out this work. It examines how the collection and analysis of data were done. It also throws light on how the instruments used for data collection were constructed and administered, taken into consideration the target population of the study. The method of data collection, analyses as well as problems encountered during the study brings the chapter to an end. The data necessary for the realisation of this work involves two major sources, which include secondary and primary data sources.

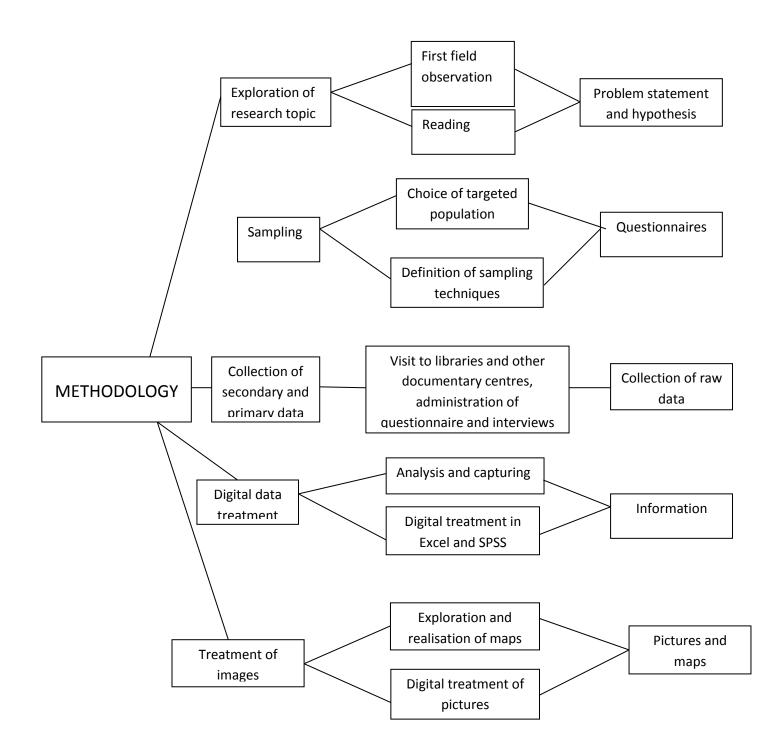
# 2.4.1 GENERAL RESEARCH DESIGN

This is the general plan or strategy for which the researcher used to conduct the research. The method that was used in this study was the hypotheses method associated with the systematic approach. This method was used in order to describe and analyse the state of tourist potential in our study area, reasons for its underdevelopment and the outcomes.

# 2.4.1.1 SYSTEMIC APPROACH

The methodology for the realization of this scientific work is the systemic approach. A system is a combination of parts forming a whole. It stipulates that any fact or event must be considered as part of a large set of interconnected elements and each under the influence of the other. This is actually a system whose functioning depends on or is essential to the participation of all elements. The systemic approach will take into consideration all tourism activities and actors in BSD being components that inter relate to each other and the system will not function well if one element is lacking.

This is justified by the fact that the touristic resources here are both natural and cultural, across the Belo sub division and also by the fact that its management and development must benefit all the locals first, then to the national economy. It is an approach that we believe if well applied will help develop the tourism sector in BSD. The exploitation and growth of these resources will depend on other sub sectors such as transport, Lodging facilities, communication, recreational facilities etc in other words tourism support facilities.



## Figure 5: Schematic presentation of the research Design

SOURCE : Author's conception

# 2.4.1.2 SPECIFIC METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

This section deals with the methods and processes that were used to carry out this research. The hypotheses previously defined have been verified through a method of investigation consisting of the following steps.

# 2.4.3 PRESENTATION OF TYPES OF DATA COLLECTION

In relation to our work two types of data were collected namely secondary and primary sources respectively. We have to take note that the secondary data was carried out first before the primary data, This can be justified in the sense that for primary data to be collected we need to gather first the secondary information to know what has already been written on the study area and also avoid repetition or copy work

# 2.4.3.1Collection of Secondary data

# 2.4.3.1.1 Documentary Research and Exploitation

The general and specific documentary research with regards to our research topic constituted the first phase of our research methodological approach. It consists a means of exploitation of documents susceptible to facilitate the understanding of the research topic.

The exploration of this topic through literature review enabled us to understand that this topic has not yet been fully treated by our predecessors. In order to consolidate the chosen orientation, this stage enabled us to better comprehend what the topic is all about and why certain aspects of this topic were approached by others. The literature review gave us the possibility to collect information indispensable for the attaining of the research objective.

Secondary data collection entails documentary review and it's the first phases of the research methodology. This constitutes an elaborate review of important information on tourism, theories and concepts, and documents directly or indirectly related to the study area. This predominant stage was done in diverse libraries and documentation centers. Some published and unpublished works were also consulted such as text books, newspapers, articles, dissertations, journals, official reports and also internet sources. These documents were consulted in the ministry of Tourism, library of Teacher Training College (ENS), libraries of the university of Yaounde 1 (the Geography Department library, Tourism department library Faculty of Arts Letters and Social Science Library (FALSS) the University central Library, Central Bureau of the Census and Population Studies (BUCREP) for statistics on the population of BSD, National Institute of Cartography, for maps on the study area. Articles and Journals were not left out. Rigorous internet searching is one of the major sources of data information. Information from these sources was used to help build up the literature review for this study, come out with the various research problems, hypotheses and objectives.

# 2.4.3.1.2 Written documents

- The documentation center of the Higher Teacher Training College (ENS) Yaounde. Here the researcher consulted theses and dissertations of our predecessors in order to make sure that these research topics had not been treated or to repeat what others have already done. The researcher was able to obtain information concerning tourism in Cameroon at large and ideas on how to carry out a research successfully.
- The central library of the University of Yaounde I. Faculty of Arts letters and social sciences, the library of the geography department of the University of Yaounde I provided the researcher with both texts and dissertations. The various documents on the one hand enabled us to do our literature review and to see the various dimensions by which the development of touristic resources have been handled. This gave the researcher a go ahead with the research topic.

- The library of the Ministry of scientific research gave us supplementary text on journals in tourism and this added more information to our research topic.
- The library of the Belo council provided the researcher with text, articles and report on the development plan for tourism in the study area and also its historical and physical background.
- The libraries of NGO's like BERUDA and RUDEC were also consulted to get information on the exploitation of the touristic resource, got data on the arrival of tourists and the functioning of the tourism sector as a whole in Belo.
- We equally consulted the in different internet research sites such as google and Yahoo search. This internet search helped us to get complementary documents on touristic resources and tourism as a whole in Belo, Cameroon and Africa

From the above mentioned sources we were able to gather information on tourism in Belo, Cameroon and the world in general. These also permitted us to elaborate on the theoretical and conceptual framework.

#### 2.4.3.1.3 Maps

Concerning maps, they were obtained at the Belo city council office. The statistic office and the architecture planning services put at my disposal the developmental plan for Belo where the researcher was able to get plans for the exploitation of touristic potentials. Thanks to this that the researcher was able to delimit the area of study and localize different touristic units like potentials vegetation infrastructure. In a nutshell these different sources gave one an idea to elaborate on the scientific context of this work.

# 2.4.3.2Collection of Primary data

Contrary to the secondary data collected from written or cartographic documents in the documentation centers, primary data are those obtained from direct observation or interview during field survey. The information for primary data which constitutes another important source was collected directly in the field using different techniques; Quantitative and qualitative data (Johnson and Christenson, 2004) The qualitative data is to have information about the depth of the phenomenon; thus, an interview guide was used and direct observation. The quantitative was to collect numeric data about the magnitude of the problem we are researching. Here, a questionnaire was used. These method was based essentially on the hypothesis where by data was collected from the field through direct and indirect observation whereby snap shots were taken followed by analysis in order to test the validity of the preconceived hypotheses in other words to accept or reject the hypothesis The primary phase of data collection was obtained in two phases. The first phase was in August 2015 during the summer holidays while the second in December 2015 during the Christmas break. In the first phase contacts were created with resource and administrative persons such as the Sub Divisional Officer (SDO). He gave me an authorisation to carry out my investigation and also for security measures. The mayor, traditional chiefs too were not left out. Some photographs were taken on the existing touristic resources, administered some questionnaires and made a critical observation on the research problems in BSD. The second phase which was in December was to witness cultural festivals, complete the administration of questionnaires, question guides and other information useful in the write up of the dissertation.

# > Qualitative Method

# 2.5.3.1 Interview

This is a procedure of investigation whereby there is verbal communication between the researcher and resource persons to get information on the study. This was characterized by pre

formulated questions. In order to carry out a good research work some selected individuals who are equally actors of the development of tourism were interviewed on the basis of their knowledge, ideas, information and experiences on tourism in BSD. This was to help the researcher have an in-depth understanding on the level of exploitation of tourist resources in the study area. The interview was both direct and indirect. The following individuals or authorities were interviewed,

- Regional delegate of tourism,
- Delegate of forestry and wildlife,
- Conservator of Environment and nature protection,
- Divisional Officer (DO) of BSD,
- Mayor of Belo Council,
- Director of RUDEC
- Director of BERUDA
- Hotel managers
- The Admnistrator Ndawara tea estate and Elba ranch.

- Traditional rulers were not left out including quarter heads, Fons and also other resource persons around B.S.D.

#### 2.5.3.1. Personal Observation

Through this technique of data collection the researcher for most of the time out in the field work hired the services of a bike rider to transport the researcher from one place to another. Some of such places were Ndawara, Anjin, Anyajua, Aboh, Mbingo, Fuli and Njinikijem just to name a few. In the course of all these movement the researcher took snap shots and observed the nature of the touristic resources and other instant observations.

# > Quantitative Method

#### 2.5.3.2 Investigation through questionnaires

Questionnaires were one of the methods used to get primary information from multiple respondents on the exploitation of touristic resources, constraints and prospects for the development of tourism in the sub division. The questionnaires also served as one of the sources of information to complement information from secondary sources.

This investigation through questionnaires was effective between the months of September to December 2015. It was distributed to household heads that constituted the targeted population. The questionnaire was made up more of closed end questions that were divided into 4 sections and a few open end questions. The first part was made up of personal information about the respondent, the second on the identification of touristic resources, the third on constraints to the development of tourism resources and the forth on prospects on tourism in BSD. The number of questionnaires used for this study was 104. The questionnaires were administered to the local population of Belo which is made of 40757 inhabitants and were subdivided into 3 zones. Zone 1, known as the Belo town has the population of 10130 and made up of 24.85% of the population; zone 2 known as the Belo Rural zone has a population of 20236 which makes 49.65% of the population and lastly zone 3 called the Ndawara zone has a population of 10391 contains 25.49% of the population. The researcher decided to group the study area because of the heterogeneity of the target population. These groupings were also to reduce cost and time. Zone 1 was entitled to 34 questionnaires, zone 2 had 49 questionnaires and finally zone 3 had 21 questionnaires making a total of 104 questionnaires. This number of questionnaire was divided taking into consideration the total number of households in each zone. In all the104 questionnaires were administered as seen on table 6 below.

#### **Target population**

The target population for this study included both men and women. Belo has a heterogeneous population made up of a number of quarters and villages with different population sizes and total population of 40757. Due to time constraints the distribution of questionnaires concerned selected villages endowed with more than one or more touristic resources, significant resources and those resources that already attract visitors These villages were grouped according to three major regions as follows; 1) Belo town 2) Kom and, 3) Ndawara. The study area is made up of 5195 households following information from the 2005 population and housing census in Cameroon. The questionnaires were distributed according to the total number of households in the selected sub groups which were our data collection centers. Thus everybody had the chance to be selected in the identified villages. The following villages/quarters were chosen in each zone.

Zones	Villages/quarters	Total number of	Number of	Total
		villages/quarter	households	population
		per zone		per zone
Zone I (Belo	Belo, Kichu, Achah,	4	1698	10130
town)	Njinkijem			
Zone II (Belo	Anjin, Aboh,	5	2458	20236
rural)	Anyajua, Mbingo,			
	Fuli			
Zone II	Ndawara	1	1039	10391
(Ndawara)				
Total	-	10	5195	40757

Table 4: The total population and number of household in the three sub groups in BSD

Zone I, Belo town, Achah, Kichu and Njinikijem. Zone II Anjin, Anyajua, Aboh, Fuli and Mbingo. Lastly Zone III made up of Ndawara.

#### Source: Komtangi

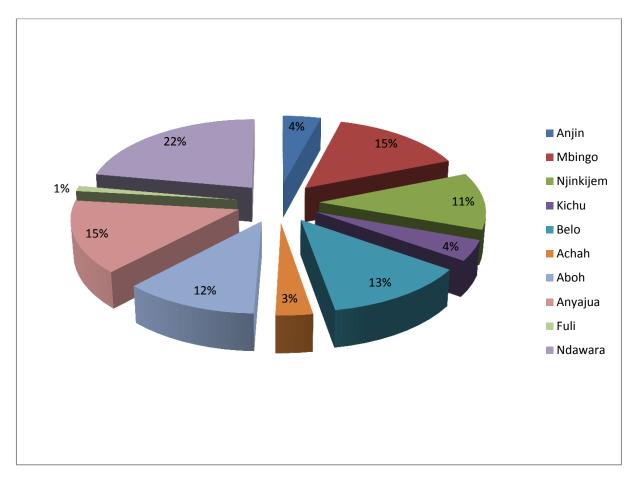


Figure 6: Distribution of questionnaire according to sampled Villages

Source :Fieldwork (Dec 2015)

The above figure presents the distribution of questionnaires according to villages/quarters. Ndawara had the highest number of respondents (22%) because she is considered as a village and at the same time a zone. The least number of respondents were in Anjin (4%) and Kichu (4%). If we have to take into consideration the zones then Ndawara had the least number of respondents.

Table 5: Distribution of questionnaire according to each Zone

Zones	Number of respondents	Percentage
Zone I (Belo)	30	32%
Zone II (BELO RURAL)	44	46%
Zone III (Ndawara)	21	22%
Total	95	100.0

Source: Fieldwork (2015)

As seen on figure 6 above, the distribution of questionnaires were not administered equally in the sample villages. These villages were selected because they had more than one touristic resource or significant resources. These villages/quarters were grouped into three zones (as seen above). Zone II which is Belo Rural had half (44) of the respondents while the rest came from Zone I (30) and III (21) that is, Belo and Ndawara. Ndawara had the smallest number of respondent because the population is small in relation to the other two zones. Belo Rural had the highest number of respondent.

#### Sample technique

A stratified random sampling technique was used in selecting those to answer questionnaire in this study. This technique was chosen because the target population is heterogeneous which is large and in order to reduce cost and time. The total population of 40757 constituted the sample frame for this study from which the sample size has been drawn. The sample size chosen for this study is 2% and a sample population of 104 household was selected. This sample size was chosen following Warford's conception (1994) which says that when dealing with a very big sample frame as in this case(40757) the smaller the sample size as compared to the sample frame, the higher the chances of getting a more representative population and vice versa. As such a proportion of 104 was found appropriate for this study which the researcher could easily handle.

The following formula was used;

$$\frac{k}{100}x\frac{2}{1}$$

Where K= number of household

\*=Multiplication sign 2%= sample size

Based on the formula above a total number of 104 households were selected for the survey, 34 households was selected in zone I which is Belo town, Zone II,49 households in Belo Rural and 21 household in Ndawara Zone III.

Villages	Population	Total	Number of	Percentage	Number of
		Number of	Sampled	of	questionnaire
		Household	Household	questionnaire	Returned
Belo Town (I)	10130	1698	34	32.6	30
Belo Rural (II)	20236	2458	49	47.3	44
Ndawara (III)	10391	1039	21	20	21
Total	40757	5195	104	100	95

Table 6: No of questionnaires distributed and No Returned

Source: Field investigation From September to December 2015

The above table shows the percentage of questionnaires distributed in each zone taken into consideration the number of household. A total of 104 questionnaires were distributed some got missing and some respondent collected the questionnaires and due to their busy schedule, asked the researcher to pass later and collect but at the end did not return their questionnaires.

This gives us 91.3%. At the end of the exercise the following numbers of questionnaires were returned per zone, Zone I the researcher collected 30 questionnaires, Zone II 44 questionnaires and Zone III, 21 questionnaires. Respondent Rate (RR) was

Respondent Rate (RR) =  $\frac{\text{Number of questionnaire returned}}{\text{Number of questionnaire Distributed}}$  x  $\frac{100}{1}$ 

 $\mathrm{RR} = \frac{95}{104} x \, \frac{100}{1} = 91.4\%$ 

# 2.6 DATA PROCESSING (ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION)

# 2.6.1 Data Analysis

Data analysis and treatment was carried out in two stages. We first of all started with manual analysis which consisted of bringing out (codifying) the responses collected from the field or population. In the next stage, we did a digital analysis which consisted of making the manual analysis more scientific. The data condified were then introduced to the SPSS software in the form of a typing mask. The variables were presented on SPSS in columns and rolls respectively according to the persons investigated. All the information was then codified according to the responses obtained. Many tools used for the treatment and analysis of information have helped to better explain our work.

# - The statistical analysis of data

To analyse the information acquired from the field, softwares were used. These were the statistical package for social science (SPSS) vision 16, the Micro software office Excel 2007. Thanks to these softwares we were able to type and analyse the data gotten from investigations.

# - Iconographic and cartographic data analysis

Through this treatment, the realization of maps and the analysis of photographs were made possible. Thanks to other Software such as Adobe illustration, Map-info and Arc.Gis.

# - Analysis of photographs

To treat photographs, software such as Microsoft office manager and Photoshop were used to ameliorate the qualities of pictures.

# 2.8 DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

Despite all the efforts to make sure that the piece of work comes out successfully, the researcher still experienced a lot of challenges at different levels which at some point slowed down the process of conducting the research and even the quality.

# - Difficulties in relation to documentary research

Firstly in elaboration of the scientific context of this work the researcher had difficulties in finding documents on tourism in the study area. In most libraries visited documents were seen in tourism but which did not concern our area of study.

# - Difficulties faced in the field

The exercise of data collection turned out to be very costly as the researcher had to travel long distances and through very bad and risky roads especially during the rainy season with heavy rains, mud, and stormy winds. For example in Ndawara and the Anyajua, it was hell to trace our way into the cave we had to use sticks and cutlasses. While on the field movement was mostly done on a motor bike and in some places the researcher had to step down from the bike and trek because of the slippery and bad nature of roads. It was not easy too hiring the services of a bike rider who masters the study area the vastness and enclave nature of the study area made the administration of questionnaires a very tedious and time consuming exercise.

Also it should be noted that a large part of the population of Belo is made up of illiterates, thus required the interpretation of some questions for better understanding. This made the

administration of questionnaire difficult, but to cope with this the researcher recruited some field assistants who are indigenes to help interpret the questionnaires to the local population.

Again the first field trip was orgarnised during the rainy season (August - September) was difficult to meet most households at home because it was a period of intense farming. Some respondents were very reluctant to reveal sensitive information especially about their personal information like income, age etc. This was very typical in the Ndawara tea estate where most workers were sceptical to give information, because of fear that it might affect their salary etc.

# - Difficulties linked to the attitude of resource person

There was also the unavailability of certain resource personnel who could assist us give information. For example the forest conservator and the Divisional Officer (DO) because of their tied schedule it was not easy to meet them. Also the inexistence of the data on tourism in Boyo was a great problem for the researcher to get data.

The researcher could not get data from certain resource person like MIFACIG because of fear of taxes since it's a private business.

Generally the research was financially very demanding since the field trip was not only carried out once. Most of the villagers did not also make it easy by demanding tips before responding to the questionnaires. Thus to be able to get the targeted sample well represented money and gifts given as incentives to respondents. This further increases the cost of the study More so due to our tied school schedule we had very limited time to carry out our field work. Especially during the period of administering questionnaire which was within the heart of the academic year and Christmas season when most people were focus on their farms and hustling businesses. In addition to this was the teaching practice that extended up to April. The only method to catch up with time was to burn the night candles and work day and night.

# - Difficulties in relation to the Analysis of data

One of the difficulties the researcher faced was the use of certain software programs due to low level of knowledge or experience. This concerns the software SPSS and Excel. This made the researcher at the end to work with a statistical to ameliorate the work. This also entails much money.

This chapter has permitted us to bring out the different methods; we used to come out with necessary information in the realization of this work. This entails the documentary, field investigation and analysis of data. Despite the difficulties faced in our zone of study the researcher did a lot of sacrifices with the objective of realizing a good research work which is awaited of us scientifically and academically. The research approach used was the hypothetical deduction method and the research design is seen on Figure 7 below.

# PART TWO: FINDINDS AND DISCUSSIONS

# CHAPTER 3: BELO SUB DIVISION, AN AREA BLESSED WITH TOURISTIC RESOURCES

# INTRODUCTION

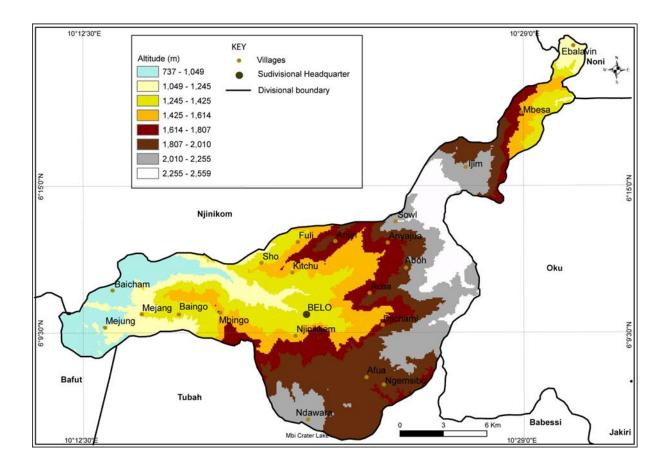
This chapter aims at bringing all the touristic resources in Belo Subdivision. This study area is blessed with abundant and interesting aspects of natural and cultural touristic resources. Physical resources are those nature has blessed BSD with and human resources are those put in place as a result of man's creativity. These touristic resources can be subdivided as follows: relief features, water resources, Forest and Game reserves, Climate, Caves, lake, man-made and cultural resources. If these resources are developed the area would be a tourist destination area.

# 3.1. Physical touristic resources in BSD

These are mostly the features that are related to the natural environment. BSD is blessed with outstanding and a good number of physical touristic resources which if developed can cause the development of the tourism sector and BSD as a whole. The physical environment of BSD in the North West Region is responsible for the good number of touristic resources that has intrinsic values. These physical resources will be seen below.

#### 3.1.1. Attractive relief features

BSD is found in the mountainous stretch of the Western Highlands agro-ecological zone of Cameroon and is endowed with a variety of beautiful relief features. Over 80% of the land is situated above 1900m in altitude and the topography is characterized by varied landscape like Mountains, escarpments, deep valleys, steep hills, plateaus and caves (Chia, 2013).



# Figure 7: Location of relief features in BSD

Source: Relief Atlas of Cameroon 2014

Figure 7 shows the distribution of relief features in BSD. The area with the highest altitude is around the Aboh hill moving towards the Ijim Kilum mountain while we fine mostly lowlands around the Baicham and Mujung areas. This area has very fertile soil with the cultivation of cocoa, coffee and plantains.

The topography ranges from 40-70% slopes with undulating hills and deep valleys, plains rolling hills and mountains with outcrops of rocks with picturesque peaks such as the Ijim-Kilum mountain range which measures 3000m above sea level and it's the highest mountain in the whole of Boyo Division, the Mbingo hill, Baingo escarpment, Ndawara plateau having an average height of 2900m. The hilly landscape with steep and delicate slopes increases the rate of erosion to expose the rock outcrops and accidented relief that characterize the relief of this subdivision. The valleys found here are both open and narrow and these open valleys are found on the slopes of hills and are usually favourabe site for rural settlements like Mbingo II and Baingo. It should be noted that most of the valleys have streams and rivers that are fast flowing and dynamic in nature. Some of them form rapids, rivulets and waterfalls. On some of these hills the slopes serve as grassfields where by pastoral nomadism and subsistence farming is carried out like the Mbingo hill and the Ndawara plateau. Most of these relief features have picturesque peaks (plate 1) that can attract plenty of trekking interest, safari, Pilgrimage (religious movement) and even mountaineering tourism can be practiced here as the case of mount Cameroon. The relief map on figure 6 clearly shows different relief features in BSD.



A) Mbingo rock outcrop and rapid

B) Baingo escarpment

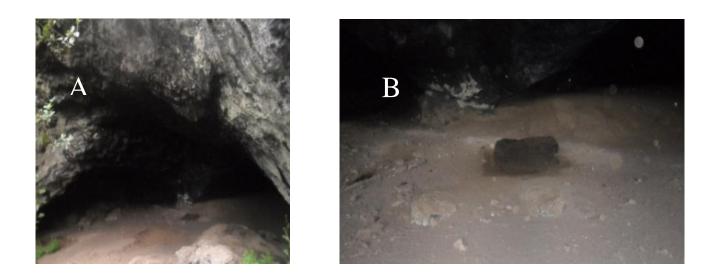
#### **Plate 1: Pictorisque physical landscape**

#### Source: Komtangi, 2015

**Plate 1** show the Mbingo hill (A) and the Baingo (B) with steep slopes exposed, causing an increase rate of erosion. There is a waterfall that flows through the long, narrow and steep slopes to the valley on the Mbingo hill. On these mountains believers travel independently or in groups to visit holy places either for fellowship, missionary or pilgrimage. These relief features also attract tourist to do trekking. Moving towards the summit you enjoy the calmness and cold mountain winds. These hills also offer panoramic views over many miles.

#### **3.1.2.** Historical Caves

Belo Subdivision has a good number of caves with different types of rocks beautifully formed and in a step-like manner. These caves vary in size, shape and even length. The largest cave found here are the ones around the Mbi forest reserve which can harbor about 500 people and about 100m deep and 50m wide (Mbi Forest Conservator). This area was identified as a touristic resource in 1964 by the Cameroon government. Beside this, there are two other caves. The entrances to these caves are covered with pitches of forests that forms part of the Mbi forest reserve. What is so specific in these caves is that it is home for other animals such as bats, birds, reptiles, monkeys to name a few. At the entrances of one of the caves can be seen an isolated flat rocks where by the forest conservator and his team always goes there time and again to put salt for the animals to eat. These caves also serve as hiding places for the animals like monkeys and snakes especially during periods of bush fires and hunting. Other caves in BSD include the Njinikijem cave just by the waterfall and Anyajua cave. Tourist can visit these caves for research purposes especially on rear species of animals and plants. Moreso in BSD some of these caves are used by the local population to carry out rituals or sacrifices to their gods demanding certain favours. Bat hunting and bee-keeping are some of the activities that can be carried out here. Most tourists come here for research on Fiona and flora species, sightseeing and cultural purposes. These are all what makes the caves here unique and attractive to tourist as seen on Plate 2.





# Plate 2: Various caves in BSD

- A- Entrance to the first cave
- B- Inside of the middle cave with a rock where salt is kept
- C- Forest conservators in one of the caves

#### Source: Komtangi 2015 Caves with superimposed convex rock, a habitat of some animals.

These caves are very large in size and the largest one can harbor over 500 people. The entrances of these caves are covered with patches of forest. These caves serve as hiding places for animals like monkeys and bats. The local population uses these caves to carry out ritual sacrifices, for bee keeping and even tourists come here to carry out research

#### 3.1.3. Resourceful water falls

Belo sub division is characterized by many rivers, clear streams and waterfalls. The hydrography constitutes a major touristic attraction. Most of these rivers take their rise from the Ijim-Kilum Mountain and forms the headwater of the Menchum River. The streams and rivers take different names along their courses and the main river which flows across Belo is River Mughom. Other major streams include the Mufua and Mejang. Also found in the subdivision are numerous springs and waterfalls which flow down the mountain slopes or hill slopes especially during the rainy season. Some of these streams and waterfalls are seasonal, flowing only when there are heavy rains and drying up during the dry season. The rivers and streams here are characterized by rapids, cataracts, waterfalls such as the Mbingo rapids, Mulong waterfalls, Afua waterfalls, Anyajua waterfall and Djichami waterfall which is about 35metres high.

When the volume of these rivers reduces during the dry season it makes it possible for the local population and even tourists who visit these areas to catch tadpoles and do fishing. Moreso, some of these streams are used for rituals and cleansing like the stream located just below the Anyajua 2nd class chief's palace. It is believed that if a woman who finds it difficult to conceive comes here for purification with water from this stream, she will be able to conceive and put to birth. Also during heavy rains the rivers overflow their banks and deposit alluvial material at the river banks which forms fertile soils for agriculture where crops like cocoa, coffee, cocoyam's, plaintains, beans and maize are planted for both commercial and subsistence purpose. This agricultural activity can also lead to the practice of agro-tourism. Some of these rivers and streams have hanging bridges built over them to ease movement across them. For example the bridge over Mughom and Ngewi rivers



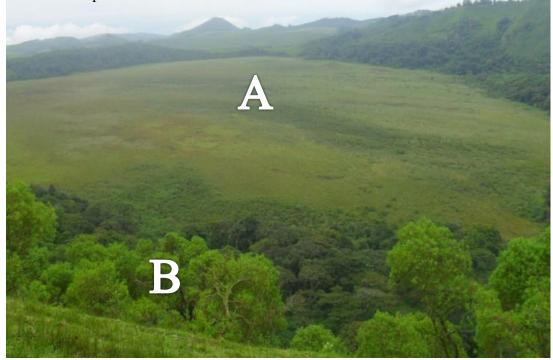
Plate 3: Water potentials in BSD

Source: Fieldwork, 2015 (A) Ngeiwi River (B) Chuaku waterfall (C) Anyajua waterfall

A look at these falls and their glistering colours as they flow down the hill makes one to appreciate the beauty nature bestowed on BSD. The 15m high waterfall in Chuaku are hidden within Belo itself, a beautiful close look to the activity of the village. During the dry season it is even possible to walk behind the falls. The walk from the center of Belo takes around 45 minutes, through sparse forest. Note that during the rainy season the waterfalls can only be seen from a distance as the rocks in the area become slippery and dangerous. This waterfalls and rivers can be used by tourist as picnic spots and also river sports.

## **3.1.4. MBI CRATER LAKE**

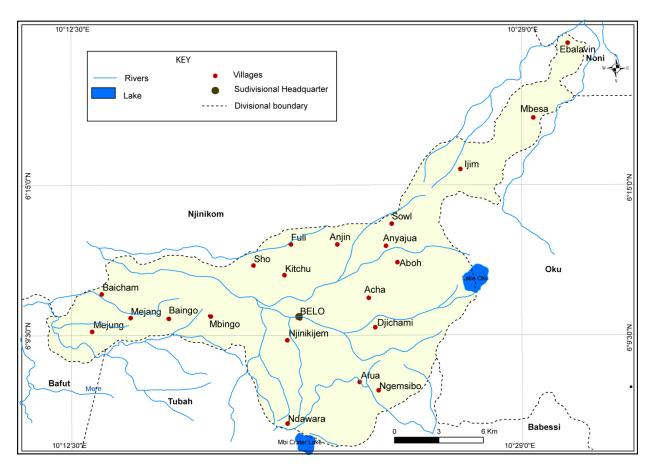
Mbi crater is a fauna reserve of about 400 hectares and located on the Ndawara plateau area. It was identified as a touristic resource in 1964 by the Cameroon Government. The Mbi crater is surrounded by a private owned cattle ranch known as Ndawara Elba ranch and extends North-Westward to the Mbingo forest (IUCN). The interesting part about this lake is that water is not visible at the top of the lake. The top is usually covered by grass with water found beneath especially during the dry season. An eye view of this lake makes BSD worthy of a tourist region. This area is facing serious human threats by the expansion of the Ndawara tea plantation. The local people here believe that plants around the lake are medicinal used in the treatment of many diseases. Powerful traditional doctors are believed to visit the lake for more inspiration. At the banks of this lake rare species like "Isoetes Bianfrana" are found. Around the reserve 03 caves of different sizes can be found, this adds to the attractiveness of this lake. About 25 tourists visited this Crater Lake in 2014 (conservator). The beautiful Mbi lake is shown below on photo 1.



#### Photo 1: The Mbi crater lake covered with grass

#### A- Mbi Crater Lake. B- Surrounding Forest Reserve Source: Fieldwork, 2015

The above photo presents the Mbi Crater Lake surrounded by the Mbi forest reserve which makes it difficult to trace the entrance to the lake especially during the rainy season with thick undergrowth. The upper part of the lake is covered by grass and beneath is water.



# Figure 8: Hydrographic network of BSD

Source: Hydrological Atlas of Cameroon 2014

Belo sub division has many rivers and streams. From the above map we can also see that there are two lakes, the lake Oku which is located between Oku sub division and Belo subdivision and the Mbi lake. Most of the rivers take their rise from the Ijim –Kilum mountain forest.

# 3.1.5 Diversed Vegetation

Belo sub division has four distinctive vegetation types, which are the montane forest, Domesticated submontane landscape, shrub savanna with *terminalia glaucescens* and semi deciduous forest with *sterculiaceae* dominating. This domesticated sub montane vegetation makes up the greatest vegetation type found within the area. It is mostly found in the center and northern part of Belo sub division, the second largest part is the montane forest which is found in between the two portions of the domesticated sub montane landscape. The shrub-savana with *terminalia* glaucescens and semi deciduous forest colonize the western part of the sub division. Forest can be found in the Ijim-Kilum mountain. In general BSD has both primary and secondary forests which are of great touristic importance. More so the forest is of particular importance to the local people because it is a source of fuel, a source of raw material for construction of houses, roads and bridges. It should be noticed that some of the forest especially around the Afua forest has been destroyed as a result of grazing activities. In Ndawara part of the vegetation has been cleared to make room for tea plantation.

# 3.1.6 Wildlife and Forest Reserves.

BSD is blessed with a variety of vegetation and wildlife species. They have secret forest, community forest, Mbi forest reserve and the IjimKilum forest reserve amongst others. These forest reserves were created by the government and the traditional rulers. All these forests are

homes to numerous endemic animals, birds' species and also flora species which are great potentials for eco-tourism.

# 3.1.6.1 Ijim- Kilum Forest Reserve

There is the Kilum-Ijim forest reserve; part of the forest is located in Belo Subdivision while the other part is located in Oku Subdivision. It is the largest mountain forest in the study area. What is so particular about this forest is that it provides a unique habitat for endangered wildlife species such as birds known as the BannermansTuraco (TuracoBannermani), Banded wattle-eye (Platysterra Laticincta), Cephalophus Monticola, green breasted bush strike to name a few. The Bannerman turaco is known as the Kings bird and it's the pride of the Kom man because the colourful feather is used to classify or rank the chiefs and notables in Kom. These feathers are used to decorate a traditional chief. It is put on the traditional caps worn by chiefs. The sound of this bird has been imitated by the villagers in one of the instruments used in their traditional music, called the "Njang". This species of bird is rare and only found in Ijim-Kilum mountain forest. Some species here include Precissi Monkey commonly called in the Kom dialetNtum. This monkey is one of the most important mammals that exist in the area and classified as velvet monkey known in Kom as 'Kayn', Annubis Baboon called 'Acham" in Kom. There is also the Golden mole and brief furred mouse which are found only in the kilum-ijim forest. A few species of frogs are endemic to this mountain and the nearby mountains like Baingo hills and Aboh hill. This reserve also harbors a good number of tree species very useful to man like the Pygeum Africano, Meletia excel. The local population harvest medicinal plants, fruits and Firewood. Tourists come to carry out research and to watch birds. All these are good attractions to tourists. Some fauna species can be seen on the plate 4 below.

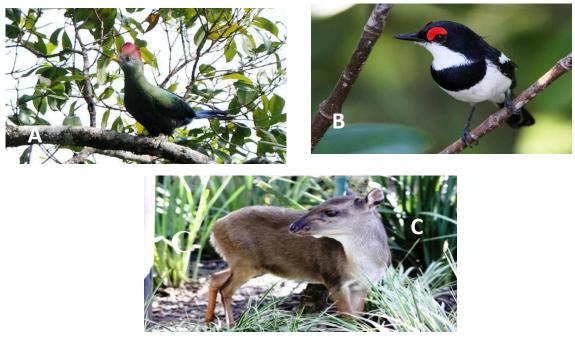


Plate 4: Some fauna species in the Ijim-Kilum Forest Reserve

# **A-Bannerman Tauraco B- Banded-wattle-eye C- (Cephalophus Monticola) Source:** Conservator Mbi game Reserve.

Bannerman touraco is rear specie of bird and is refered to as a king bird in Kom. This is because it has some cultural significance. The colourful and beautiful feathers are used decoration tittle holders. The banded wattle-eye and cephalophus monticola are also protected species of animals found only in Kilum –Ijim mountain forest

## 3.1.6.2. Mbi Forest Reserve

This reserve has some 120 species; some species of animal here include bush pigs, chimpanzees, baboons, buffaloes and other mammals like, birds, reptiles and rare vegetation species. What is very specific about the Mbi game reserve is that has rich diversity of fauna and flora. This area is covered with a montane forest, woodland, montane grassland and rocky ridges. The best period of the year to visit this site is between April and March when most plants are very productive, that is, producing flowers and causing birds to be very active. This is a favourable period for tourist to carry out research and even carry out bird hunting. Also during the dry season between the months of October to February it is very easy to track down Chimpanzees because there is little undergrowth, Places are not slippery and more so this is when Chimpanzees harvest honey (Forest conservator 2015). Another attractive period in the Mbi reserve is towards the end of the rainy season when fig trees produce fruits (fruiting and ripening). During this process the smear from the fig trees attract chimpazees to gather around it. Information we gathered from the Mbi conservator was that an estimate of 6 international tourists visited this area in 2005. Most of them researchers from the following countries: United States, Germany, Britain and Czech Republic. The Mbi forest reserve is a good touristic attraction because tourists will carry out the following touristic activities; bird hunting, research, bee keeping and hunting.

Common name	Scientific name	Remarks
Indgenous local palm	Pandamus candelabrum	Often used for making bags and mats,
		Medicinal plant
Sapele	Entadrophagma cylindricum	Often used for making bags and mats
Iroko	Meletia excels	Often used for making bags and mats
Obeche	Triplochiton scleroxylon	Often used for making bags and mats
Pygeum	Prinus africana	Often used for making bags and mats,
		medicinal plant
Mahogany	Khaga ivorensis	Often used for making bags and mats

Source: Belo council Monographic plan 2010



#### Plate 5: Mbi forest reserve: A touristic resource

Source; Komtangi Blanche (Dec 2015)

Plate 4 presents the Mbi crater game reserve that surrounds the Crater Lake. The reserve harbors a good number of fauna and flora species. On the photo, we can see that the reserve is made up of both grassland and forest. There is also a sign board showing the reserve, owned by the state although the Ndawara tea plantation is gradually encroaching into the reserve (Conservator Mbi Reserve).

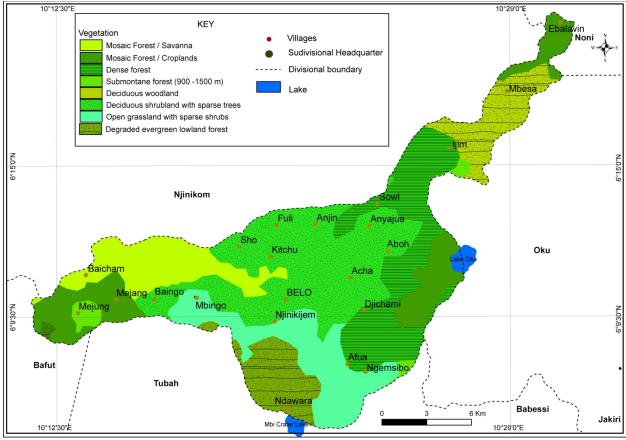


Figure 9: Vegetation types of Belo Sub Division Source: Forest Atlas 2014

# **3.1.7.** Favourable climate

Generally the climate is cold tropical and characterised by 2 seasons rainy and dry season. Annual rainfall varies between 1780mm and 2290mm. Most of the rainfall occurs between June and September and characterized with winds and fog. A dry season which is marked by a windy and dusty atmosphere occurs from mid-October to mid-March with mean annual temperatures ranging from 14<sup>o</sup>C to 28<sup>o</sup>C.Micro- climates are noticeable which tend to vary with the altitude of the place. Climate has been identified as a key driver for tourism and an important destination attribute (Hu & Ritchie, 1992), Climate is either the main tourism resource, for example in the case of beach destinations (Kozak et al., 2008), it acts as a facilitator that makes tourism activities possible and enjoyable (Gómez Martin, 2005). The importance of climatic attributes for tourist destinations is reflected in advertising materials (Gómez Martín, 2005) as well as destination image construction (Pike, 2002). Thus the study area has a favourable climate for man's habitation and leisure activities that any tourist will enjoy and can easily adapt, be it an international or national tourist.

All these physical resources are wonderful touristic sites that can attract tourist to carry out trekking, farm stay experience, safari, and mountaineering and even serve as decor in film

scenes if careful development is realised. These touristic resources are distributed all over the sub division as seen on table 8 below.

Touristic Ressources	Frequency	Percent
Cave	18	18.9
Hills	15	15.8
waterfalls	24	25.3
lakes	5	5.3
rivers	7	7.4
forest	11	11.6
plantation	7	7.4
Palace	8	8.4
Total	95	100.0

Table 8: Distribution of questionnaires following the location of touristic resources.

Source: Field work (Dec 2015)

Table 8 shows the distribution of touristic resources in the various villages in BSD. Amongst the 95 respondents, 24 of them indicated that waterfalls are found in their villages. This is the highest touristic resource in Belo Sub division in terms of number, followed by caves. Ndawara alone has three large caves that need to be developed to attract more tourists. The least number of touristic resource located in BSD is the lake. As seen on the table just 5 respondents indicated that lakes are located in their locality.

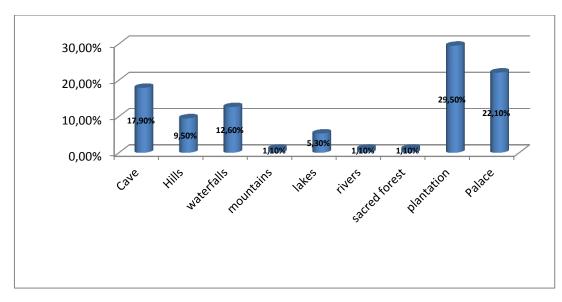


Figure 10: Presentation of the most visited touristic sites

Source: Field work (Dec 2015)

From figure 10 above, investigations shows that the most visited touristic resource site as mentioned by 29.50% of respondents is the plantation and the least visited are the sacred forest, rivers and the mountains. This very low rate can be accounted for the fact that some of them are not yet known and also because access to these sites are far and very difficult. The Ndawara represent the highly visited site because there are many tourism attraction like the tea factory, Nursery which is the largest in the whole of West Africa (Ndawara), zoo, a night club and more so because tourist do not pay charges to visit these attractions. They only pay for lodging and feeding.

# **3.2. MAN MADE TOURIST POTENTIALS IN BSD**

Belo Sub Division is also endowed with many man-made tourist resources which range from tourist sites to a rich cultural diversity. The study area has a diversified culture in relation to the different ethnic groups such as the Kom, the Fulanis (Mbororos) Mejang and Mujung. Some of the man-made tourist sites in BSD are the Ndawara Tea complex and the palaces.

# 3.2.1 Ndawara multipurpose complex

Ndawara complex is located in BSD on the Ndawara plateau. From Belo center to Ndawara is about 2 hours walk or 1 hour on a bike from Belo. The state of the road from Belo is not the best. This area is a wonderful touristic site and for the past years has pulled hundreds of tourist from every part of Cameroon and all over the world. The resources here will be examined under physical and human aspect.

# 3.2.1.1. Physical aspect

The landscape is so beautiful that it cannot escape the eyes of visitors entering through the gate of the Ndawara highland region. As one approaches the doorway of Ndawara you feel the cool and fresh climate with a terrain which is made up of undulating hills covered with Savanna grass for cattle grazing making it a beautiful scenery. This area is covered in some parts with outcrops volcanic rocks. Ndawara highland plateau is a major water divide where most rivers from Ndop take their rise.

# 3.2.1.2. Human aspects

The Ndawara tea estate was created on the 3th of March 2004 and the Elba ranch in 1979. Ndawara has the largest tea estate in Cameroon and also the largest tea nursery (Chief Administrator Ndawara 2015) in West Africa. It has a tea processing factory and a packaging factory. The tea estate covers over 5000 hectares and privately owned by El-Hadji Baba Amadou Dan Pullo. The main activity in the ranch is the rearing of animals. A tourist visiting this site will fine over 5000 herds of cattle, 17000 horses, and sheep. There is also a zoo with a variety of animal species like Birds such as guinea fowl, pigeon, peahen, geese ostriches, Python, Cobra, and Chimpanzees, as seen on the plate below. More so to have a tour in this area, the management of Ndawara complex puts to the disposal of tourist ponies and tourist guide to take tourist to the nearby Mbi crater lake, the caves and the Mbi forest reserve, the Afua waterfall, the Fulani settlements, the plantation workers camps and also open areas good for horse riding. All these services are rendered for free. There is also a very beautiful mosque with good architectural design. There is a small hospital, a police post, a school, a restaurant, Bakery, Hotel, visitors club, (night club)) and even a guest house for visitors who want to spend some nights. Also a tourist can decide after a tour to spend the night with a nearby Fulani family or alternatively with a Kom family. While here the tourist

will take part in the day's activities such as preparing a traditional meal, working, on the farm etc.



- A- Ndwara Administrative Bloc
- **B-** Harvesting of tea
- C- Harvested tea put in bags ready for weighing
- **D-** Tea factory

# Plate 6: Ndawara tea plantation

# Source: Oliver B. Dec 2015

The photos on plate 6 show different activities in the Ndawara tea estate. Photo A presents the front view of the administrative block where most offices are located including the general manager's office. Photo B presents tea harvesters harvesting fresh tea to be taken to the factory. Photo C shows tea harvesters with harvested tea ready to be carried to the factory for weighing which is the very first stage for processing processing. Lastly photo D shows tea that has been processed and packeted ready for the market for consumption.

#### Ndawara Zoo







Plate 7: Animals in Ndawara Zoo

A-Python B-Cobra C-Baboon D-Chimpanzee E-Ostrich



Source: Komtangi Blanche Dec 2015

Plate 7 presents the different animals found in the Ndawara zoo. Photo A is a male python confined in a cage. There are 3 pythons in the zoo each weighing over 50kg.Photo B is a cobra snake looking very wild while photo C and D are species of monkeys known as Baboon and Chimpanzee. The Chimpazees are 6 in number and are friendly to human beings. They enjoy seeing people around them and also receiving gifts like bread banana to name a few. Photo E shows Ostrich each having a weight of over 30kg. All these are very attractive to the tourist.

#### **3.3.1.** Palaces, traditional houses and their Artifacts.

Belo S.D has a good number of quarter and village heads. All of them answerable to the paramount chief of Boyo Division who is resident in Fundong (Laikom). The village and quarter heads are in charge of the following.

- The maintenance of peace and order within the village
- The organization of Community development work
- The resolution of conflicts between villages
- The circulation of important information within the village

#### 3.3.1.1. The Anyajua Palace

This palace has renown craft works such as masks, statues all made out of wood. This palace has beautiful museum very attractive to tourist. Here also there is a shrine where women who find it difficult to conceive a baby can come for cleansing. It is believed that women, who are cleaned here, are at the end able to conceive and put to birth. The chief also informed the researcher that at the beginning of each planting season sacrifices are usually offered against strong winds and very heavy rains capable of destroying crops. There is a secret forest here where only notables can have access and for any ordinary person to visit this forest she must pass through the chief to be able to enter the forest. In this forest there is a banana plant that was planted in the 17<sup>th</sup> century that is when the palace was constructed. What is interesting about this plant is that nobody eats fruit of cut leaves from this Banana plant, when the bananas get ripe only birds eat them, this plant remains fresh no matter the season be it rainy or dry season. These are all resources that will keep fresh memories in the minds of the tourist when they go back to their place of origin.



Photo 2: Main entrance to Anyajua palace

Source: Komtangi Blanche Dec 2015

Photo 2 presents the main entrance to the 2rd class chiefdom of Anyajua. This chiefdom is given a lot of respect and has a cultural significance to the Kom people in general. For one to become the paramount Chief of Kom you must first of all pass through this chiefdom before becoming the overall chief in Laikom. There is a shrine in this compound known as "Akua Mukum Maya" and it is use to initiate traditional tittle holders.

# **3.3.1.2.** The Aboh palace (Fon's compound)

This palace is locally called *Abeh Aboh*. What is so particular about this traditional compound is that it is the compound of the parents of the Chief of Kom. Usually the months of May and June are months programmed for traditional dances that come up every year called Chong and Achum. Local instrument are used to play this dance. This festival brings together all the notables, Elites and local population in Kom as a whole. In this compound there is a secret forest and a shrine, material used in the construction of the traditional house is from the secret forest. There is a particular building in the compound that is said to glitter in the night.



Photo 3 : Paramount Chief's Former Residence in Aboh

# Source: Komtangi Blanche 2015

Photo 3 shows the compound of the Fon of Kom. The present paramount chief of Kom originates from this compound. This building has existed for over 100years and the material used to build the house is called Indian bamboo harvested from the Ijim mountain forest. The building is believed to glitter in the night.

# 3.3.1.3 Traditional houses

Traditional building and traditional architectural style represent the way of life and history of the people who settled and still live there. Notable are the traditional houses in Aboh, Njinikijem, Fulani houses in Ndawara just to name a few. Particularly the traditional hut in Achah (Belo town) which has existed for over 120 years (plate 8). This house was constructed in the 18th century. The material (Indian bam) used in building this hut was gotten from Ijim mountain forest and the grass used on roofing the house was from a nearby hill called Nkwin Aboh. This house is very attractive to the eyes of tourist.

In Belo, houses are made up of typical mud blocks and grass roof tops or corrugated iron sheet. There is a difference with the Fulani's (Mbororos) who have their traditional round hut, made with grass. There are seen below on plate 8.





Plate 8: Typical Traditional Kom houses Source: Komtangi Blanche 2015

The photos on plate 8 represents traditional houses in BSD. The first house is owned by the man standing in front called Bobe Diangha Simon. He told us that he was delivered in this house and it was built by his parents. It is a tarched house built with local materials like mud and Indian bamboo. The roof is made of grass. The house has existed for over 120 years. The second house is a typical Mbororos house in BSD. It is also made out of mud and grass. This type of building is common around the Ndawara and Afua village because the area is mostly inhabited with the Mbororos

Today modern houses are gradually replacing the traditional houses. These traditional huts today form part of the tourism resources in BSD. Some of these houses can be found in Ndawar, Achah, Anyajua. A tourist can decide to pass a night with these kom or Mbororo families living in these traditional houses to experience their ways of life.

# **3.3.1.4.** Shrines and Sacret Places

The spiritual values of the people of Belo are synonymous with their cultural life. Culture is the way of life of a people. Sacred forests are places of yearly worship. During this period tourists flow into BSD to discover the rich nature of shrine worship. The Kwifon usually goes to the Aboh and Anyajua shrine for worship of gods and sacrifices. Here the gods receives their gifts as thanksgiving and hand down their blessing in the form of rain (Chia 2013). This period of worship of gods are great tourist moments in Belo. Before the kwifon goes to the forest it is usually announced months earlier.

Sacred forest and shrines remain holy to the people. They thus maintain an originality of the people's culture as a tourist attraction. These places are feared to be trespassed as there can be unfathomable consequences. Such areas properly reserved become luring arena for tourist and a habitat for many animals, such as snakes and scorpions. The dynamism exhibited in performing these rituals motivates tourists to visit BSD.



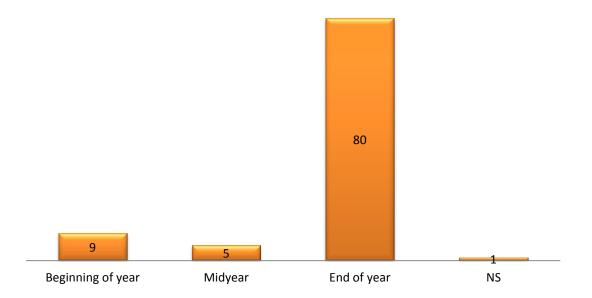
Photo 4: Sacrifices and idol worshiping in Aboh compound

#### Source: RUDEC 2014

Photo 4presents the offering of scarifies by the traditional authorities to their gods. This ceremony is carried out at the beginning of every planting season to ask for good harvest. All this is usually carried out between the months of January and February when farming activities are less intense and the weather conditions favours these activities

# 3.4. Cultural heritage

Culture is an important tourist attraction. A survey of cultural attractions carried out by the researcher showed that BSD has a variety of cultural attractions. These ranges from arts and crafts, music and dance demonstrated during death and birth celebrations, ceremonies like marriages and annual festivals, traditional shrines, beliefs and practices, traditional dishes, and traditional village life. All these can be very captivative in the eyes of the visitors. The cultural heritage of the Kom people in general serve as a resourceful tourist attraction worldwide. They range from chieftaincy affairs, festivals, and many more.



# Figure 11: The existence of cultural festivals and the period of the year in which these festivals comes up.

From the above figure, 94 respondents agreed to the fact that cultural festivals takes place in their locality. 80 of them said most villages organise their cultural period toward the end of the year because most people will prefer spending the end of year with their families back in Belo. Also ceremonies like death celebration and marriages are often program towards the end of year usually from September to December mostly during the summer holidays and Christmas period. The Kom people in general have a renowned tradition, admired by most visitors especially the "Ndowi" and "Ndo ifui" ceremonies. These festivals are very attractive to the eyes of the tourist.

# 3.4.1. Arts and Craft

The local population of BSD is involved in small craft work. A few daily, handicraft shops can be found in the Belo central market especially on market days. These dealers of these products come from different villages and gather here on market days. This involve wood work for carved stools, baskets woven with grass used to put corn fufu, wind, bowls, palm oil, containers, and walking stick and drums. Masquerades of the area are made of wood, feathers, and fibres and displays widely in traditional ceremonies. Beads are also made usually worn with traditional dresses and during traditional ceremonies. There is also attractive work of Arts in the Belo round about carried out by a young man by name Ndong Zebulun (lucky child). He uses paints of different colours to design beautiful pictures as seen on plate 9 below.



Plate 9: Art and Craft work in BSD

# Source: Komtangi Blanche 2016

- A- Arts work by Lucky Child
- B- Carvings in Anjin Palace

# 3.4.2. Elegant and colourful Dresses

Plate 9 (A) presents different art and craft work in BSD. Picture A is showing a typical Cameroonian hard working woman with a child on her back and water on her head going to the farm. Photo B presents a house in the Anyajua Chiefdom. This house is known to be the house where the Fon of kom left before going to the traditional headquarters (laikom). It represents the Kom Chiefdom. Some beautiful arks work can be seen infront of the house. On the right we have statues of males and to the left women. These statues represent the mothers and fathers of the Paramount chiefs of Kom and are made up of special wood with local instrument, all of them having their significance according to the tradition. This house was built on top of a spring that never run dry and the only person who can carry water here is the 2rd class chief. Water from this spring is believed to have some mystical and medicinal powers.

In BSD the traditional dress is the embroidered material made especially in white and black or with some other colours (Bicom style). These traditional dresses reflect the whole of North West dressing style. This dress can be a jumper, for men a wrapper or gown for women. The dresses are accompanied with a traditional cap and bag made with fibre from raffia. All these are produce from hand needle work. An assembly of all these produce beautiful regalia designed with decorative colours. It is commonly worn on occasions like death celebrations, birth celebrations traditional weddings, cultural meetings etc. All these different dresses and dressing styles can attract a good number of tourists. Most tourists visiting Belo enjoy putting on this traditional outfit. The traditional dress is shown on the plate 10 below.

Traditional dress making and embroidery are commonly found in the villages and in Belo Centre especially on market days.







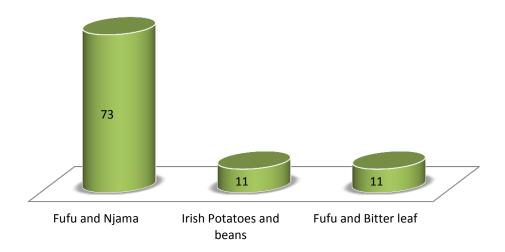
Plate 10: Kom Traditional dresses

#### Source: Komtangi Blanche Dec, 2015

Plate 10 above presents the Kom traditional dress (Dalla) which is worn occasionally. When people are seen wearing this dress it means there is a very important ceremony such as death celebration (cry die), marriage (Ndowi), birth celebration (Ndowain) to name a few. This dress is usually worn with beautiful necklace made out of beads. The design for men can be worn by women but they are certain designs particularly made for women.

#### 3.4.3. Staple food

The stable food of the Belo people is corn, fufu, katikati (chicken roasted with its feathers, cut in small pieces and cooked in red oil). With huckleberry (Njama Njama) a specie of local vegetable. This food can be very attractive and delicious to a tourist visiting BSD. A guest knows he/she is well treated if large lumps of this foodstuff are served. Pounded colocasic (cocoyams) with various soups, potatoes and beans. There is also a very special meal and drink made from guinea corn is also a delicacy used for ceremonies. The tarring of the Bamenda Fundong road that passes through Belo has helped for the transportation of other food stuffs like rice, water fufu and Eru, which have added the menu for tourists. The variety of foodstuff in BSD allows a tourist to choose the type of meal to consume.



# Figure 12: Different traditional meals

Source: Komtangi (Dec 2015)

During field survey 73 respondents indicated that more people eat fufu corn (Abain) and kati-kati and 11 mentioned irish potatoes and fufu corn and bitterleave. Though BSD is made up of people from about five ethnic groups a variety of meals are prepared but this does not council the fact that most people still go in for the main traditional meal. If a visitor attends any festival in Belo the first meal he would be served is fufu and kati-kati. People give much value to this traditional meal in such a way that any visitor will be anxious to have a taste of it.

#### 3.4.4 Marriages

Marriage in the BSD is a respected institution. It comprises some stages, introduction of the couple the knock door-during which the traditional rites are performed alongside eating drinking, and exchange of some token gifts of firewood, oil, palm wine and kola nuts. The following stage is the real traditional wedding known as "Ndowi". This is done on an arranged date in the compound of the girl's father. It is on the traditional wedding proper that the bride price is given the amount depends on each and every family. During this occasion much firewood is brought by the husband's family. Oil is put in particular container's called "avofu kah" which takes about 36 litres which has to be shared amongst the mothers. The bride and her maids of honour are anointed with cam wood all over the body. The girl is later dressed with gifts from her husband such as loincloths, beautiful bracelets and other gifts in a box as seen on photo 5 below.

This traditional ceremony comprises heavy feeding and dancing. At first it was celebrated all through the night but today it is during the day after which the girl is taken to her husband's home. All these are activities very attractive to tourist and can lead to the development of cultural heritage tourism (HT). It involves not only tangible heritage like site, colours, material and settlement patterns but also intangible heritage such as societal structure, tradition.



#### Photo 5: Traditional wedding.

#### Source Komtangi Blanche (May 2015)

A traditional wedding in Belo is a ceremony that people come from far and near to experience. Photo 5 shows a bride in Belo on her traditional wedding day. She is presented to the onlookers, beautifully dressed in new loin cloths, beads, cowries, all these items offered to her by her husband. She is holding a basket and in this basket money is put inside which she will share amongst her sisters. The money we see on her head would be given to her mother's family and the money people put on her legs will be given to her father's family. This signifies some sort of appreciation to the bride's family. During this occasion friends, relatives come to witness and during their stay here they take part in other activities like buying of local and manufactured goods.

# 3.4.5. Traditional dances, Ritual Practices and tourism Attraction

BSD area is blessed with very beautiful dances and ritual practices. These are executed in men, women and youths. Traditional grassland rhythms characterize the music of the people. The popular rhythm is the "Njang" dance which is very common and appreciated in the areas and other areas in and out of the area as well. The Ndong dance, the "Njang" or xylophone dance "fibwein", "fibang", "chong" dance and the "Njong kom" are enjoyed by people and are good resources for tourist events. Musical instruments include drums, xylophones, flutes, and rattles of various types. Some of these cultural festivals have fixed periods that they come up. For example the cultural dance in the fon of kom's fathers compound called Chong and Achum. It comes up between the months of May and June every year. The Ngvin which comes up in June each year. This practice is to eliminate societal ills and bless yearly harvest. This can be a period for tourist to program their visit. Some of them come up randomly like the Ndohwi, Ndowain, death celebration and this makes the tourist to always come back and spend some leisure time in BSD. The Ngvin is performed during a cry die or cultural festivals while the Chong is during a born house. All these are good resources for tourism events as seen on plate 11.



**Plate 11: Belo traditional Dance** 

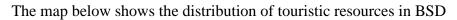
*Source: Komtangi Blanche 2015* A- Ngvin Dance B-Njang Dance

Photo A shows the Ngvin jojo dance performed during the presentation of Aid to the Belo council from the Hord council in Germany. On the photo we can see a white tourist dancing alongside the Mayor of Belo council with other officials. Photo B shows the Njang dance performed during the installation of the Divisional Officer (DO) of BSD. All these dances represents the tradition of the Belo people

NAME VILLAGE	OF	Waterfall	Cave	Forest	Palace/ Traditional house	Artifacts	plantation	Shrine	Hills/ Mountains	Wildlife	Lake	Total number of touristic potentials/Villages	Selected villages
АСНА								*				1	$\checkmark$
BELO		*			*	*						3	✓
KITCHU			*			*						2	$\checkmark$
CHUAKU		*		*								2	
NJINIKIJEM			*		*							2	✓
ABOH				*	*			*	*			4	$\checkmark$
IJIM\ Kilum				*					*	*		3	
ANJIN		*	*									2	✓
ANYAJUA				*	*	*		*				4	$\checkmark$
FULI		*							*			2	$\checkmark$
DJICHAMI		*		*								2	
NTUNGFE									*			1	
BAINGO			*						*			2	
NDAWARA			*	*	*		*			*	*	5	$\checkmark$
AFUA		*		*								2	
MBINGO		*							*			2	$\checkmark$
TOTAL												40	10

# Table 9: Villages, sampled villages and available touristic potentials in BSD

Source: Arthur's conception



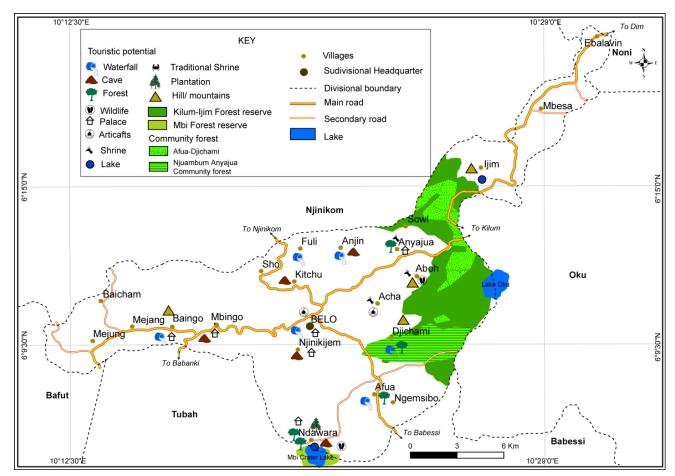


Figure 13 : Natural Touristic Resources in BSD

Source: NIC 2014

# **3.5.** The Exploitation of Touristic Resources and Tourism Support infrastructure in Belo sub Division

The exploitation of touristic resources in BSD is not a resent activity. This activity existed so many years back but there were no actual institutions to manage the sector. Tourist who first visited these touristic resources was accompanied by untrained individual who did it for their personal interest and not for the benefit of the community. Today things are not the same. For example the NGOs are those spearheading the management of these resources in BSD. They carry out a good number of hikes and excursions depending on the demand of the tourist as seen on table 10 below;

Hikes/Excursion	Level of Difficulties	<b>Duration/hours</b>	Amount/FCFA		
	Diffeuties		Foreigners	Nationals	
Mbingo Cliff	Medium	3	6000	1500	
Aboh Hills	Medium	3	6000	1500	
Djichami and Afua community forest	Easy	2	6000	1500	
Ndawara Tea Estate	Easy	2	6000	1500	
Waterfalls and natural poles in Belo	Easy	1	3000	1500	
Mbi crater Game reserve	Medium	3	6000	4000	
Lake Oku	Difficult	7	9000	4000	
Ijim-Kilum forest	Difficult	8	9000	4000	
Belo Cross walk	Easy	2	6000	1500	
Ashing and Djichami	Medium	3	6000	1500	

#### **Table 10: Different hikes and Excursion Practiced in BSD**

Source: CAMAST 2010

Level of difficulties Easy = < 2 hours Medium = 3-5 hours Difficult = > 5 hours For every hike the tourist is accompanied by a guide. For every hike technical details and indicators are given to tourist including the duration, length and difficulties encountered. The time taken on each hike will also depend on the technical and physical fitness of the hiker. Before a tourist undertakes a tour he must first of all pay for registration and the amount depends on the number of persons as can be seen on table 11.

#### Table 11: Levies for visit at the touristic sites

	Registration	Guide
	/person	/person
Group	3.000	3.000
Lonely person	6.000	4.000

#### Source: CAMAST

The amount paid for a guide can be negotiable depending on the number of days the tourist spend (RUDEC).

TOURISTIC RESOURCES			
Natural Resources	NUMBER OF TOURISTS	PERIOD	
- Waterfall	28	December-March	
-Lakes	9	December-March	
-Forest	30	December-March	
-Caves	15	December-March	
-Mountains	17	December-March	
		1	
HUMAN TOURISTIC RESOURCES		December-March	
Plantation	159	December-March	
Palace	68	December-March	
shrine	12	December-March	
Total	324	-	

#### Table 12: Summary of estimated Number of tourists 2010

#### **Source: RUDEC**

**Table 12** indicates the number of tourists visit to the different touristic sites. According to RUDECs' achieve we realised more tourist visit these touristic sites between December and March. This is due to the fact this period is charactrised with diversified socio- cultural activities. The most visited physical touristic sites are the waterfalls, the least visited is the lake. The plantations are the most visited human touristic resource and the least visited are the shrines. Shrines are the least visited because it is strictly restricted to visitor. One has to obtain authorization from the traditional rulers before entering the shrines.

#### 3.6. Tourism Support Infrastructures

These infrastructures are indispensable in the development of tourism. A tourist leaving his home to a foreign destination depends much on these support infrastructures. These are all the systems which support the operation of tourism. These support infrastructures include accommodation and catering services, transport, communication and social goods such as electricity, water and health as seen below.

The slow development of touristic resources in Belo is also due to the insufficiency of infrastructures in spite of the abundance natural and cultural resources. The infrastructures in

BSD were not initially geared towards tourism but are used by both the local population and tourist visiting this area.

#### 3.6.1. Road Network (transport)

This is a very important tourist infrastructure. The main tarred road stretches from Bamenda passing through Belo to Njinikom and Fundong. This tarred road is accessible all year round and has led to increase influx of tourists. There exists a series of rural roads and food paths that links up the various villages and quarters. Belo has a total length of about 192.806km of road network and just about 17.173km is tarred. The rest of the roads are untarred and constitute farm to market roads.

Most of the villages can be reached by motocylces and bicycles. The Fulanis also use horseback for transportation especially around Ndawara and Mbingo. There are a few transport agencies that carry passengers and tourists from Bamenda and other parts of the country to BSD. These travelling agencies include;

- Amour Mezam Agency
- Guarantee Express Agency
- Kom Star Agency
- Symbol of unit travel of Tourism Agency

These are the registered transport agencies. There exists also clandestine transport services that transport passengers and tourist in BSD commonly known as "clandos". The map below shows the distribution of road network in BSD.

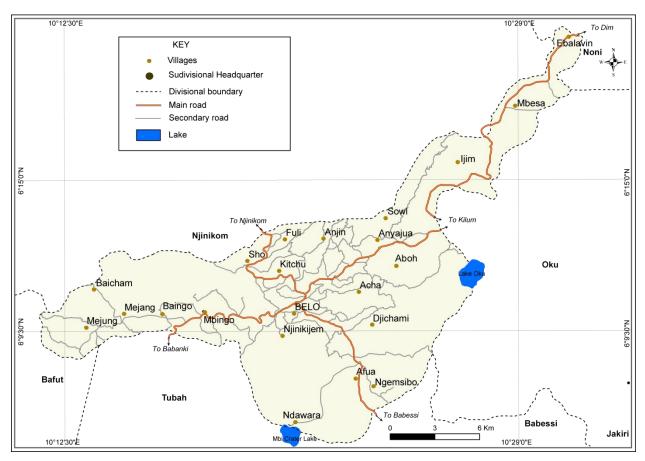


Figure 14: Road map of BSD (NIC 2014)

Source: Administrative Atlas of Cameroon

The above map shows the distribution of roads in BSD. We can see from the map that there are a few main roads as well as many secondary roads leading to the different villages and quarters. The entire sub division is characterized by footpaths.

#### **3.6.2.** Electricity and water supply

The government of Cameroon has provided this area with electricity through AES SONEL though not all the quarters and villages are electrified. The cry of most villagers is for the extension of electricity to villages which have not yet benefited. Electricity is a necessity in BSD, it stimulates many development ventures and investments. Electricity supply is also a dominant factor determination the development of tourist resources. Out of the 29 villages in BSD 18 has been electrified.

The supply of water in BSD is from different sources like pipe borne and spring. Belo has benefited from rural water scheme especially that of Helvetas Cameroon. Village development unions (VDU's) have also embarked on the provision of pipe borne water to some villages. Though all these facilities are not provided directly for the development of the tourism industry, the sector has benefited directly and indirectly from these facilities. For example tourists use water and electricity in their hotel homes, for drinking, bathing, ironing and charging of phones and lighting. Tourists coming here admire the clean, fresh, cold water source.

#### 3.6.3. Telecommunication Network

BSD is also served with some telecommunication network system. These include the MTN, Orange, Nextel, internet networks. The most widely used is Nextel. There is also a post and telecommunication office (postal Agency). The above communication network in BSD is very important because a tourist needs them for communication with their families, and relations back home. They also use these to know about their prospective host countries and their area of interest before journey is programmed. Belo has about 9 private satellite dishes which receive the CNN, TV5, and CRTV channels amongst others.

#### 3.6.4. Accommodation facilities

These are places where a tourist on a trip can pass the night such as hotels, guest houses and inns.

BSD has just two Hotels which are located in Ndawara and Belo town, and several guest houses, the lodging facilities can be classified as common lodge or inns. They do not have standards of hotels and most of them are old, having limited facilities and concentrated in Belo Center. These inns are Dubai Hotel, West end Hotel, City Hotel to name a few as seen on plate 12.





Source: Komtangi Blanche Plate 12: Partial View of Westend and Dubai Inns

- A- Westend Hotel
- **B-** Dubai Inns

These Inns are privately owned and serve as lodging places for tourist. They both have 7 rooms each and are all located at the heart of Belo.

The lodging facilities are distributed in BSD as follows:

Name of establishment	Number of rooms	Number of workers	Cost(cfa)/room/ night	Arrivals	
				Forei gners	Nationa ls
Dubai Hotel	7	3	5 000 - 10 000	10	211
West end Hotel	7	3	5 000 - 10 000	5	129
MIFACIG Guest House	12	2	3 000 - 10 000	42	73
CBC Women's Rest house	8	5	3 000 -10 000	7	50
Zwinkels camp	10	3	5 000- 10 000	15	20
Workers Club Ndawara	39	3	5 000- 20000	105	126
Ndawara Hotel	35	3	20000+	76	155
Total	118	22	_	260	764

Table 13: Lodging infrastructures in BSD

Source : Fieldwork 2015

Most of these lodging facilities are located around the Belo Center, and are very accessible except for the Hotel and Workers club found in Ndawara. The table below shows lodging facilities and the number of visitors received per lodge. The Ndawara lodges (Workers Club and the Ndawara Hotel) receives the highest number of tourists both national and international. This can be explained by the fact that Ndawara has good attractive sites and good lodging facilities as compared to other lodging facilities in BSD.MIFACIG has the lowest because it has few rooms and also due to the fact that it is not located at the heart of Belo town like the Westend and Dubai hotels.

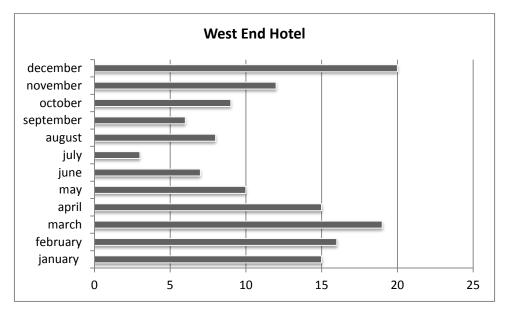


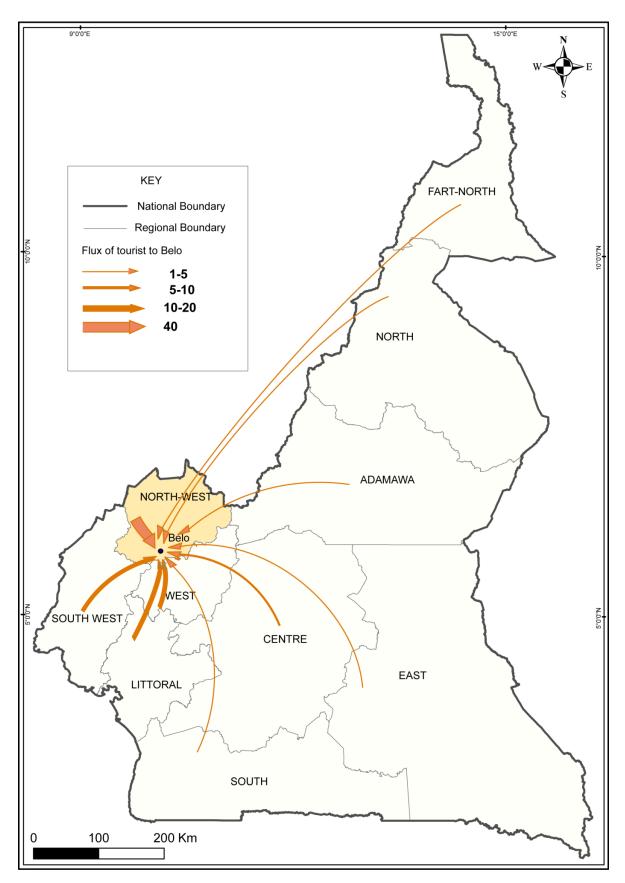
Figure 15: Monthly Distribution of tourist arrival in Westend Hotel 2015

Source : Fieldwork 2015

Figure 15 above shows the arrival of tourists in West End hotel in 2015. The month of December was the peak period with about 20 tourist spending nights in this hotel. This number can be accounted for the fact that this period was the Christmas holidays and many people travel back home to spend with their families. In the month of July the number of tourist greatly reduced because of heavy rains.

#### Influx of National Tourist to BSD from December 2014-december 2015

Interviews with most hotel managers in BSD revealed that majority of tourists are nationals and few international tourists from France, Britain, America, Germany and Netherlands. The figure below shows the influx of tourist within Cameroon to BSD.



*Source: Lodging Facilities in BSD 2015* Figure 16: Influx of National Tourist into BSD 2014-2015

**F**rom figure 16, the influx of tourists within Cameroon shows that BSD receives more tourists from the North West region. This is because BSD is located in the NWR thus interms of transport fair the cost is not much. This area also receives more tourists from the South West region, Littoral, and the West region and most of these tourists come here for health reasons in the Mbingo hospital. This area receives few tourists from the south, Adamawa, North and Far North regions, this can be accounted for by the fact that these areas are very far from BSD and most people will prefer to visit nearby touristic areas.

#### **3.6.5.** Catering services

These are places where a traveler can obtain food and drinks such as restaurants and bars. The provision of local dishes is the role played by the local inhabitants. Belo has 2 major restaurant which is found in Belo town and Known as Mega restaurant. This restaurant prepares both traditional and modern dishes. Prices range from 500 FRS and above. Most tourists who lodge in Guest houses and in the hotel in Ndawara eat there and this is by command. Visitors can also get food from bars and small eating houses by the road sites. They prepare very few dishes, a plate of food ranges from 200 FRS and above.

#### **3.6.6.** Health services

Health facilities are the most vital aspect of tourism. Health institutions ensure the welfare of the indigenes and non-indigenes. Health infrastructures here are owned by either government or private sector. The main hospital here includes the Mbingo Baptist hospital and the rest are health centers like Government health centers, Baptist health center. Generally the health infrastructure here has to be improved upon.

#### **3.6.7.** Financial institutions

Financial institutions are very important in the development of touristic resources and tourism because it facilitates the exchange of currencies especially for foreign tourists. Belo is blessed with micro financial institutions such as Express Union, mutual health they all carry out money transfer services both in and out of the country. They guarantee the safe arrival of tourists with their money. These financial houses also give out loans, subsidies to tourist operators and local population who intern to use the money for socio-economic development.

#### 3.6.8. Security

Belo is blessed with a Gendarmerie Brigade and police stations. They ensure the general peace safety and security of the local population and the tourists. Here also we can find trained private security guard. This encourages more tourists to come here. Most villages are very peaceful and hospitable even though police posts are not found in some of the villages.

As a matter of fact these infrastructures need to be improved upon in order to facilitate the development of tourism in Belo Sub Division.



#### Photo 6: Gendarmerie post in Belo Sub division

Source: Komtangi Blanche (Feb 2015)

#### Conclusion

This chapter has presented the natural and human touristic potentials of BSD which are still underdeveloped following the number of tourists that visit them annually. BSD also has some tourism support infrastructures dough they were not built for purposes of tourism but they contribute to the development of touristic resources. These resources cannot be developed if infrastructures such as hotels, roads, water, electricity, restaurants are lacking. No tourist will want to visit a place if his stay is not confortable. Thus the presence of some of these infrastructures is a guarantee to the development of touristic resources in BSD.

# **CHAPTER 4: TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN BELO SUBDIVISION**

# **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter will present the tourism actors, their functions and activities to the development of touristic resources in BSD. Tourism is a system in which all components act in collaboration with each other for the satisfaction of visitors. Tourism activity can be defined as a combination of complex intervention of different actors who offers divers products like hotels, restaurants, transport just to name a few.

#### 4.1. Tourism actors

We can define actors of development as all persons that take part in the good functioning and development of Tourism directly and indirectly. These actors can include the state and non-state actors. The state actors include MINTOUR, MINFOF, and the Belo council while the non-state actors include the NGO's, Local population and Private sector. Each of these actors has a determinant role to play in order to ameliorate the development of touristic resources and tourism as a whole. Jones (1996) concludes that the development of a successful community based tourism strategy will require a sound institutional framework based on a constructive of partnership between the local community, state, the private sector and Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs).

The support of tourism actors is essential for the development, successful operation, and long-term sustainability of tourism. However, not all visitors have the same level of interest in sustainable tourism development and may be less active or not active at all. Moreover, some actors are more important than others in the development of touristic resources and determining the success of tourism activities.

#### 4.2. Types of Actors

There are several actors involve in the development of tourism; these can be grouped under the following types: State Actors and non-state Actors. The state actors include MINTOUR and MINFOP, Belo council while the non-state actors include the Non-Governmental orgarnisation (NGO), Traditional rulers, local population and the private sector.

#### 4.2.1 State Actors

#### 4.2.1.1. MINTOUR:

This ministry was created in 1989 by decree N° 89/674 of 13 April. Following decree N° 2005/450 of 09 November 2005 this ministry was reorganized and the name was changed to MINTOUL (Ministry of tourism and leisure). The decree states the function of the ministry of tourism as follows;

- Formulation and implementation of development policy
- Long-term planning of tourism development at national level

- Coordination of development implementation
- Formulation and implementation of laws and regulations for tourism
- Establishment and administration of facility and service standards
- Adoption of sound environmental principles in tourism development and operation
- Statistical collection, compilation and reporting
- Conducting of research studies
- Planning and implementation of human resource development for tourism
- Establishment and administration of training standards, in coordination with the concerned authorities.
- Leasing of land for tourism and registration of all tourism operators and facilities determine touristic sites and actualize touristic map of Cameroon.

Chia (2013) says it is only governments which have the power to provide the political stability, security and the legal and financial framework which tourism requires.

# **4.2.1.2.** Ministry of Forestry and wildlife:

Just like its name signifies, the Ministry of the Protection of Nature has as interest the management of the environment, required to ensure the implementation of roles and regulation for the management of reserve areas. This interest dates as far back as 1972 in the Stockholm conference during the United Nations Conference on Environment (UNCE) up till the Rio Summit in 1992. This Ministry is in charge of elaborating, and putting in place government policies on forestry and nature protection In relation to tourism this Ministry has as responsibility the creation and management of zones of interest in synergy with the Ministry of tourism. This ministry is represented in BSD by the delegation of Forestry and wildlife and it has as objective the following:

-Planification and creation of ecological reserves.

-Management and protection of reserve areas.

-In charge of elaboration of government policies on forestry.

#### **4.2.1.3.** National council for Tourism (NCT)

This institution was created by law  $n^{\circ}$  14 April 1998 and organised by law  $n^{\circ}$  99/112 of 27 may 1999 presided by the Prime Minister head of government. It is in charge of the following;

-Study and proposed to the government all measures or disposition susceptible to facilitate the entry and stay of tourist in Cameroon and their security.

-Provide to the government in a general manner all propositions or recommendations link to the development of ecotourism. Notable those that concern the promotion of investment, orgarnisation, management with partners in tourism.

#### 4.2.1.4. National Committee for the development of tourism

This organisation has as mission to study and propose to the government all measures linked to the development and management of ecotourism. In effect it is in charge of the identification and monitoring the touristic sites, prepare sensibilisation programs, information and inform the population on the opportunities and threats linked to the sustainable development and management of ecotourism and the active participation of Cameroon in different activities, national and international meeting in the tourism sector. At the level of Belo Sub Division this institution identified the Mbi game reserve and the Ijim/Kilum reserves.

# 4.2.1.5. Regional Delegation of tourism

This institution represents the ministry of tourism at the regional and local level

The ministry of tourism does not work in isolation but in collaboration with other institutions who directly or indirectly intervenes in the promotion and development of touristic resources in BSD as seen on table 14 below.

Table 14: Administrative institutions that intervenes in the Promotion of tourism in BSD

Institutions	Domain of intervention
Ministry of territorial administration	Sensitise the administrative authority and responsible
and decentrialisation	for collective decentralization of the territory in the
	promotion and development of touristic resources,
	she reinforces measures based in the amelioration,
	resection and ensuring the security of tourist in BSD
	Intervenes in tourism taxes and through FEICOM
Ministry of finance	they give finances to the Belo council to carry out
	tourism projects. The council's budget for tourism in
	2015 was 1000000 million.
Ministry of transport	Through this ministry the main road from Bamenda
	to Belo was tarred and also to interior villages
	facilitating the movement of tourist within Belo.
Ministry of public works	Incharge of disenclavement of touristic sites within
	BSD. Through this ministry there is the possibility
	for tourist to move from one touristic site to the
	other.
Ministry of secondary, basic	Educational institutions also play an important role
education and employment and	in the development process of touristic resource in
professional formation.	BSD. Though these ministries there has been the
	creation of technical schools like Government
	technical College (GTC).Here there is a department
	where students are given basic knowledge on
	cookery and hotel management.
Ministry of communication	This ministry is incharge of educating and
	sensitising the local population on tourism through
	media campaigns. This is done through CRTV and
	other local radio stations like the Belo community
	radio in Belo.
Delegation of national security	This ministry is incharge of ensuring security for
	both the local population and tourists visiting the sub
	division. There is a police and gendarmerie post in
	Belo town and Ndawara village.
Ministry of health Ministry of	This ministry is incharge of ensuring health of the
environment and nature protection.	local population and that for the tourist visiting this
	area. There is a district hospital in Belo town

#### 4.2.1.6. Belo Municipal council

The Belo council is an important actor in the development of touristic resources. One of its roles is the implementation of sustainable tourism development, re-enforce the touristic resources, transport regulations, and also infrastructures like creation and maintenance of roads, hospitals, markets. They encourage and collaborate with NGO's to promote touristic resources and develop tourism. Mayors and other local authorities are expected to play leading roles in creating council and inter-council tourism boards, write projects and galvanise the population to contribute to the development of tourism in their areas. They also corporate with international organisations for financial support for the development of tourism in the area of study. In order to develop its goals the council in its developmental plan has outlined projects she intends to realize in the tourism sector. Also the council has as role to build partnership, mobilise the local community to participate In the development of touristic resources. The council has been able to identify some touristic resources in the area of study (2004 Monographic studies). The Belo council is presently putting in place a tourism board which will be in charge to identify, develop touristic sites and promote tourism in Belo. This board will also be important because they shall serve as tools for educating tourists, letting them know the local areas to visit, what is available and how to get to various sites. The council work in collaboration with SIBADEF (sustainable integrated balanced development foundation) who are consultants to the council in their development plan.



The budget for tourism for the Belo council 2016 stands at 1000000 FRS.

Source: Komtangi Blanche (Feb. 2016) Photo 7: Belo council Building

The above photo represents the Belo council building, beautifully built storey building. It was built by the present mayor who is standing directly infront of the main council door with his SDF militants about to chair a meeting with them.

#### **Belo council Market**

In Belo sub Division, every 8 days busy markets take place in different villages. The biggest ones are in Belo town. Traders travel long distances to sell their products including fresh and dry fishes, meat, beans, rice, palm oil, fruits, vegetables as well as clothes and shoes. Go and soak up that special atmosphere and get to know the African tradition of bargaining. The market lasts for the whole day, and even during the night, every town is turning into a big party. Bars stay open until late at night, Cameroonian and Nigerian music is played non-stop and after a busy day everybody is just relaxing while enjoying a cool drink

#### 4.2.2. Non state actors 4.2.2.1.Local population

In order to realize the objectives of the sectorial developmental strategy of tourism in Cameroon, the local population must be involved in the development of tourism in their area. The local population is the actor that benefits most from the outcome of tourism. The local population is in charge of managing the touristic sites, encourage the beautification of the environment and revitalization of the touristic sites. She also maintains and manages infrastructure like roads, schools etc. Some local population also act as host to tourist for the number of days the tourist spend in Belo. In the course of their stay with the host families they take part in their day to day activities like; cooking, going to the farm, cultural activities. More so the services of the local population are hired by tourist temporally as tourist guides, porters, transporters, and translators. Some of them are proprietors of home-stay accommodation and resorts, or souvenir and eating houses. The local people eventually become part of the tourism play because they are able to promote local products, culture and sell indigenous home-made products Thus tourism cannot be developed without involving the local population they act as suppliers because they are the custodians to these resources The involvement of the local population in tourism planning and decision-making is important for the sustainable development of touristic resources.

# 4.2.2.2.Traditional Chiefs.

Traditional chiefs are one of the actors of the development of tourism especially in the domain of culture. In effect decree number 77/245 of 15 July 1977 states the roles and organisation of traditional chiefs. They have a secondary role after the administrative authorities in the supervision of the local population. Article 20 of this same law states clearly the political, economic, and socio-cultural attributions of the traditional chiefs in the maintenance of law and order. They are the custodians to the community in other words the proprietors of the resources in their locality. They play a very important role as far as tourism is concerned. Information gotten from the 2<sup>nd</sup> class chief of Anyajua outlined some functions of the traditional chiefs as; they are in charge in the protection of their culture, assemble the local population to do cleaning and maintenance in and around the touristic sites, ensure security and provide a native (tourist guide) to accompany a tourist to the site. This is so because there are certain areas that are restricted to visitors and need authorization from chiefs before going there. It is usually forbidden to visit a touristic site without passing through the traditional chief. This 2<sup>rd</sup> class chief is a Christian and he said he is trying to see how the mystical part of tradition will be eradicated so that visitors should not be scared to visit this area. In BSD most traditional artifacts are found in palaces and traditional compounds. The roles of traditional rulers are indispensable in the development of tourism in general.

# 4.2.2.3.Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs)

Non-Governmental Orgarnisations are becoming increasingly relevant as an alternative and legitimate source of tourism development in BSD. NGOs are considered to be any not-for-profit government which concentrates around development issues, especially on health issues and poverty alleviation. They are involved with environmental issues, small business management and traditional community development, not leaving out sustainable development of tourism. The NGOs are the main actors as long as tourism is concerned in Belo sub division. They are in charge of orgarnising tourism activities, publicise nationally and internationally the image of tourism in Belo. Also they train families to host tourists when they come to Belo and they practice reasonable tourism (tourism that is beneficiary to both the local people and the tourist).



Plate 13: Local NGOs in BSD

Source: Komtangi Blanche (Dec 2015)

On the Plate above we can see some NGOs in BSD namely A BERUDA and Photo B RUDEC They are very active actors in the promotion of tourism in BSD and development projects.

#### Organization of touristic activities by the NGOs

In Belo sub Division, NGO, orgarnise touristic activities such as tours, provide guide to accompany tourists for the period spend here. Each destination or touristic site has its own action intinery and a fixed tariff although negotiable depending on the number of people, the number of sites to be visited and the duration. The tariff at times too matters depending on the tourist's demands and revenue. There are three main NGOs in BSD which have tourism as part of their objectives. They include BERUDA, RUDEC and MIFACIG. They undertake some forms of short stay in BSD for tourist. These include:

- Farm stay experience (bee keeping and agriculture)
- Trekking experience (hiking and mountaineering)
- Home stay experience (carryout daily activities with a local family)
   Some of these NGOs have also engaged in the management of certain activities linked to tourism such as restauration, accommodation and tourist guiding.
   Studies have shown that most of these NGOs engaged in tourism at the local levels always have some weaknesses such as internal quarrels, the problem of leadership, inadequate materials, funds and limited human resources.

RUDEC which is one of the renown tourist actors in BSD carry out bee keeping which is very attractive to tourists visiting this area. The promoter and founder of this NGO is Joshua Chiambah, who has many years of experience in beekeeping. He will take visitors to one of the bee hives around Belo. Here the visitor will learn more about bees, the hives and the production of honey. In the course of this the visitor is given a protective clothe to wear so that he should not get closer to the bees because they are dangerous. Afterwards Joshua will show the visitor how to collect the honey and how to produce wax out of the waste products. At the end of the day, the visitor can even get his own little jar of delicious, local and organic honey.

Jusua the founder of RUDEC and the chairman of the tourism committee in Boyo division told us that this NGO was officially created in 1997 and so far has been doing the following to develop tourism in Belo;

- Develop the road to lake Oku to ease the transportation of tourist.
- Develop the cave at Anyajua.
- Develop the following traditional compounds; Abeh Aboh, Abeh Anyajua and also the compound of the 2<sup>rd</sup> class chief in Belo.
- They also do a lot to bring in voluntees and tourist to BSD.

#### 4.2.2.4. Private sector

The private sector is an indispensable actor in the development of touristic resources in BSD. These involves private operators in the economy and are most engaged in commercialization and putting in place products in the market that will be required by tourist. For example the proprietor of the Ndawara tea estate (El-Hadji Baba) is a giant tourism promoter in BSD. This sector has timely responded to some demands of the industry particularly in lodging, restaurants financial institutions, transport services orgarnisation, cooperative credit unions, express union, express exchange, and entertainment.

#### • Lodging facilities

Belo sub division has several lodging facilities which are privately owned, for example Westend hotel, Dubai hotel, MIFACIG, City hotel, Palace hotel, Ndawara hotel, workers club. Though most of them are not of high standards and do not respect norms and regulation for the construction of hotels, they however respond to tourist demands.

#### Restaurants

In BSD one can fine just 2 modern restaurants capable of satisfying visitors. One is in Belo roundabout and the other in Ndawara. The rest are petit restaurants or eating spots. All of these are privately owned.





#### Plate 14: Restaurants in BSD

#### Photo A-Traditional restaurants, Photo B-Bristol Restaurant Source: Komtangi Blanche (Febuary 2016)

Photo A shows a traditional restaurant in Belo where prepare dishes like Fufu and Huckleberry (njama-njama), rice and stew, beans is sold. Photo B is a modern restaurant where one can get prepared meals as well as food prepared on command.

#### • Transport Companies

Privately owned travelling agencies here include Amour Mezam. Guarantee express, Kom star, symbol of unity. Other means of transport is by motor bike and they are owned by private individuals. Most tourist coming here are transported to the touristic sites by motor bikes since the roads are bad.



#### Photo 8: Kom Star travelling agency

#### Source: Komtangi Blanche (Dec 2015)

shows an 18 seater bus in a travelling agency called Kom star. This buses transport tourist from Bamenda, Bafoussam, Douala and South west regions to Belo. The manager (Looh Paul) told us that they have 12 buses which transport passengers in the day and by night to the above mentioned destinations.

#### • Financial sector

Here we have credit unions, like Ntarinkon credit union, Micro finance like express exchange, and express union. These financial institutions ensure and ease financial transactions made by tourists in and out of the country.





Plate 15: Financial institutions in BSD

# Source: Komtangi Blanche (Febuary 2016)

The above plate portrails different financial institutions in BSD. Photo A is Express Exchange and photo B Express Union. They are all tourism actors who ensures safe and fast transfer of tourists from one area to another.

#### **Local Associations**

These generally include GICs and associations. Belo has the Elderly women's club who are actively involved in tourism activities like presenting the local heritage and touristic site included in traditional events. Their activities are elaborated below;

This association is old people's club around Belo made up of close to 30 women. It's a social group and one of their objectives is to perform traditional songs and dances for visitors. They also perform during traditional events like births, new pregnancy, marriages etc. During the ceremony they prepare fufu and Njama Njama. A visitor in this area will like to take part in their activities such as preparing and eating this traditional meal, dance with this old women, learn abit of local dialet and experience cultural highlights. Usually this group of women after performing all these are given a token of 16000CFA (including dance, dialet, showing how to prepare the food and eating etc) (BERUDA)

In summary the table below shows the different resource persons interview during our field work.

Structure visited	Number of people Interviewed	Objectives
BERUDA	02	Promote Reasonable and eco- Tourism
RUDEC	01	Promote tourism and alleviate poverty
COUNCIL	02	Supervise and Give financial Aids to NGO's carrying out tourism activities. Construction of infrastructures
NDAWARA TEA ESTATE	02	Promote Leisure and tourism for free and local development
DELEGATION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE	01	Conservation and preservation of forestry and wildlife resources
CONSERVATOR	01	Conservation of the Mbi crater Forest Reserves
PALACE	01	Preserve Culture and encourage tourism, local development. During findings the chief of Anyajua told us that they hold firm to their culture and non indegenes do not have access to their secret places.

 Table 15: Presentation of some Actors interviewed and their objectives

Source: Authur's Conception

# 4.3 Activities that have put in place by the different tourism actors in BSD

Although touristic resources have not been developed in BSD efforts have been made by some actors to ameliorate the states of these touristic resources.

#### **4.3.1** Improvement on Projects and infrastructures

The Belo council is working with foreign partners to provide aid to carry out development projects. We have the case of the Horb council in Germany who has been doing a lot to the Belo council. For example one of its goals is the protection of the environment that is, creating 10,000 hectares of forest reserve in Mejang. This center will act as a touristic site and at the same time a research center. The Belo council being aware of the state of roads is not sleeping. There has been improvement on the state of roads especially with the acquisition of the council caterpillar for the grading and enlargement of roads. The council also used money obtained from the Horb council in Germany to maintain roads like the road going to Anjin which was recently graded. With this, there is a high prospect that poor nature of roads will not be a constraint to the development of touristic resources.

#### 4.3.2 Creation of Tourism Board

Belo council created a tourism management committee in 2013 to put in place the development of tourism. She is working hand in hand with the councils of Fundong, Njinikom and Bum to create a tourism board in charge of promoting tourism in the whole division. The council has been gathering some data on tourism so as to use in the process of development of this sector.

#### 4.3.3 Participatory development of tourism

The NGOs are putting more efforts to reduce some of the constraints mentioned above. They are struggling to facilitate the development of touristic resources by involving the local population in the planning and implication of the projects like; they encourage home stays whereby tourists stay with families and take part in their daily activities like cooking; farming, cultural activities. This is to promote the culture. Also the NGO's work in close collaboration with the council. The council gives them the developmental plan of action so that they can in one way or the other contribute to the development of these touristic resources. The NGO's intend give reports to the council on what they are doing.

#### 4.3.4 Tourism is tax free

To promote the development of these touristic resources the council does not tax the tourist thus encouraging more tourists to visit the touristic sites. This will to an extend benefit the hotels, guest houses, inns and host families because they will pay for the services rendered to them. This increase of income of the people will lead to increase investment in tourism.

#### 4.3.5 Development of New touristic attractions

BERUDA and RUDEC which are both NGOs have taken the initiative to build a touristic site with a fish pond where pigs and goats will be reared. They intend to use waste from these animals to produce local cooking gas. This project will go a long way to produce cooking gas to those around this area thus reducing poverty.

#### CONCLUSION

In the field of tourism, relationships sustainability, competitiveness or even survival in terms of destination competitiveness, but also at the level of individual tourism projects. The development of touristic resources in BSD should involve both local and non-local actors, because there is no development without the participation of the local population. They are the custodians to their resources and collaboration of various actors can be crucial for long-term development.

# PART THREE: CONSTRAINTS AND PROSPECTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISTIC RESOURCES, VERIFICATION OF HYPOTHESIS, CRITICISM AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

# CHAPTER 5: THE CONSTRAINTS AND PROSPECTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISTIC RESOURCES IN BELO SUB DIVISION

#### Introduction

Constraints here will be looked at as problems encountered in the course of territorial and sustainable planning of natural resources. They are always negative and hinder the development of an area. Despite the fact that BSD has touristic resources, it has not been developed and if it is developed BSD would become a renowned tourist destination like Limbe and Kribi, in Cameroon. Information gathered from the field show that many factors are responsible for the low level of development of these touristic resources. These constraints will be looked at in different dimensions; Institutional, economic, Socio- Cultural dimensions as seen below

#### 5.1.Institutions

#### 5.1.1. Absence of decentralised structure.

Decentralization refers to the transfer or delegation of competence and authority in the domain of public service from the central to the local authorities. There is no delegation of tourism in Boyo division. It was alleged that there was a delegation in Fundong but when we went there we noticed there was no structure or building meanwhile it is on paper but physically it does not exist. We see at this level that decentralization is not very effective because there is no structure representing the MINTOUR. The absence of tourism authorities here signifies that government does not recognize the touristic resources present here .The spartial distribution of the delegation of tourism all over the country is not even, for example areas like kribi has a regional delegation and at the same time a divisional delegation of tourism. Whereas some divisions do not have the opportunity to have a delegation. Privilege is given to particular areas. During our field work investigation, we realised that the main institutions with interest in developing the touristic resources in BSD are the NGO's like BERUDA, RUDEC and MIFACIG. They come up with projects but lack government approval and financial support to develop these touristic sites. The only government institution that is trying to do something link to tourism in BSD is MINFOP. The chief of post for MINFOP and the Conservator for the Mbi reserve says they usually receive foreign tourist who come for research purposes.

#### 5.1.2 Lack of the implementation of tourism policy

The political factor here refers to the policies and laws establish to govern tourism in Cameroon. For example Article 4 of law No 96/006 states that all over the national territory the state has as its pre-occupation to develop tourism activities. This is not the case in BSD. The state is doing little or nothing to develop this sector, instead the little that has been done is in the hands of the private sector whereby they do it not for the benefit of the community but for their private interest. There is no effective transfer of competence as compared to other sectors of the economy. The NGO's and private sector lack knowledge on the norms guiding tourism. In an interview we had with the Mbi forest conservator he made mention of the fact that animals in the Ndawara zoo were confined in a cage, therefore depriving them from the natural habitat where they are supposed to be.

#### 5.1.3 Lack of Harmony amongst Actors

One of the major problems that hinder the development of touristic resources in BSD is lack of harmony amongst the tourism actors. The divisional delegation of tourism which is supposed to coordinate tourism activities at the divisional and sub divisional level is not functional. This create lack of harmony and collaboration amongst the private actors who usually work just for their private benefit and not for the interest of the community. The governments' actors, who are supposed to advertise, promote and orgarnise tourism activities are absent and other actors in the private sector do not collaborate to develop the touristic resources. If there was a delegation of MINTOUR they would have been able to identify, developed and promote tourism in BSD the different actors like the state, the private sector, NGO, local population and council do not collaborated to develop the touristic resources.

#### 5.1.4 Insufficient Funds.

Inadequate funding remains one of the main obstacles to private and public investors who wish to embark on any remarkable tourism in BSD. The Belo council has very limited funds to promote tourism. Her budget destined for tourism for 2016 is 1000000 FRS (Belo council) which is relatively small for the promotion and development of tourism. The funds given to councils are in relation to the size and the proposed project put forward by the council.

For example the money that has been given to the Belo council for the year 2016 is 147,097,738FCFA from FEICOM and Fundong council which is bigger than the Belo and Njinikom the amount of 186,332,025FCFA. With these limited funds the council will instead engage in priority projects like development of roads and electrification of the community. As seen above the budget put in place for the Belo council for the development of tourism is relatively small.

#### 5.1.5 Lack of information and Statistics on Tourism

For tourism to be developed tourism actors and investors have to know the importance of tourism. These can be done by presenting information and statistics on tourism activities annually and also the number of tourists visiting BSD, how much is got from tourism and its output in general. This will be through money paid in hotels, money from what the tourists buy etc. Thus to make the local population have interest in tourism they have to know the benefits from tourism. When these people are aware they will have interest to develop the resources. The underdevelopment of these touristic resources boils down to the fact that BSD lacks the delegation of tourism which is also in charge with providing tourism statistics. If statistics are available then it will help the government to be able to tax hotels, restaurants, etc. Also it will help the government and the local population to invest more in this lucrative sector.

#### **5.2. Economy Constraints**

#### 5.2.1. Inadequate infrastructures

One of the major constraints to the development of these numerous resources in BSD is that of inadequate infrastructures such as:

#### 5.2.1.1. Roads:

The inaccessibility of most roads linking the attraction sites represents the most crucial problem to the development and effective exploitation of these touristic resources. The main tarred road in BSD is the major road that links Bamenda to Fundong. Apart from this the roads are all earth roads and usually seasonal roads. During the rainy season it is hell to reach these touristic sites mostly "four wheel drive" vehicles ply the roads for example in Ndawara.

The roads are very narrow, untarred and slippery. Most touristic resources have been abandoned in the bushes because there are no roads that one can use to reach them. During field work, we had to use a cutlass to be able to make our way to the resource site like in the Ngewi waterfall, the cave in Djichami and Mbi cave (as seen on plate 16 below). Also some of the roads are temporary road and foot paths which are usually muddy and slippery especially in the rainy season. This makes movement very difficult for tourist. In fact road network is pivotal to the development of tourism because tourists cannot easily get to the touristic sites when roads are bad or do not exist. During field work we were informed by the Belo council that the state of the roads is due to lack of machines and finances to construct and maintain roads.

Most of these sites are reachable with the use of motto bikes or by trekking. Motor bikes play a major role as a means of movement because of the mountainous nature of the area which makes it difficult to construct roads. Bridges here too are bad and not solid; some are even constructed with wood. All these makes transport fair to be very expensive for tourists. For example from Belo center to Ndawara during the rainy season is 4000FRS on a bike and 2500FRS during the dry season. We notice a difference of 1500FRS on transportation fair between the two seasons. The roads are very hilly and stony and usually very muddy and difficult to go through after and during the rainy season.





#### Plate 16: Bad State of roads

#### Source: Komtangi Blanche 2015/2016

#### A-Road to Anjin

#### B-The road to District Hospital BSD after rains.

Plate 9 shows the nature of roads in BSD. Photo A is the road to Anjin, it is charasterised with stones and dust making it very difficult for vehicle to ply the road. Photo B presents the road from Belo roundabout to the district hospital. The road is slippery and muddy because the picture was taken just after heavy rainfall. These bad states of roads make it difficult for a tourists with limited duration of stay to visit all the touristic resources.

Table 16 : Time taken to reach touristic site

Duration from Belo round about to this site	Villages	Frequency	Percentage
<1 hour	Belo town, Achah, Kitchu, Fuli, Njinikijem, Mbingo,		40.0
2 hours	Aboh, Anjin, Anyajua, Ndawara,	57	60.0
Total	10	95	100.0

:

#### Source: Field work (2015)

Figure 16 shows the time taken from Belo roundabout to the touristic sites. Out of the 95 respondents 38 said less than 1 hour can be used to reach where these resources are located. 57 of them said 2 hours and above. Thus we can conclude that the roads are far and also bad.

# 5.2.1.2 Insufficient and low standards of Accommodation facilities

Accommodation in BSD is insufficient and of low standards. The whole sub division is faced with accommodation problems. BSD has very few lodging facilities which cannot be rated under hotels, but inns. They are characterized with few rooms, very small in size with the employment of very few workers. The inns are not evenly distributed; almost all is located at the center of BSD thus very far from where most touristic resources are located. These inns are unclassified and were not constructed for the purpose of tourism. They have very few carrying capacities. If we take the case of the Westend and Dubai inns each of them cannot host more than 10 people per night. There are a few guest houses too and of low standards like the guest house in Njinikijem known as MIFACIG with few number of rooms. There is also one known as the Zwinkles camp owned by a white from neither lands. This guest house has been abandoned for some time due to poor management. Thus the resources here have not been developed because of insufficient lodging facilities and tourist support facilities. If BSD had lodging facilities of good standards more tourist will come in and making the different actors to develop the resources

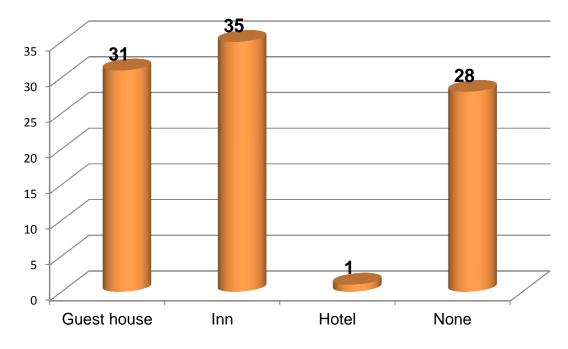


Figure 17: Lodging facilities in BSD

Source: Fieldwork (2015)

From the table above, a good number of areas are without any lodging facilities. 29.5%. Guest houses and inns available are densely located in the central town of the BSD, whereas most of the touristic sites are located in the interiors. This is a major handicap to the tourism sector of the area because lodging is a very important determining factor for the attraction of tourists.

# 5.2.1.3.Lack of Restaurants.

BSD has inadequate restaurants. There exists just two modern restaurants one in Ndawara and the other in the Belo roundabout. There are a good number of petit restaurants that can be classified as clandestine restaurants. These eating spots are not modern and usually located along the roadsides or in front of Bars. These small eating places are not for purposes of tourism but because there is high demand for cooked food. The hygienic condition of food prepared by most of these eating spots is poor. They prepare food according to the demand of people and not cultural meals (traditional Dishes) in order to encourage cultural tourism.

#### 5.2.1.4. Absence of Market

The absence of a handicraft cooperative or a museum in BSD to serve as a market for some arts work like carvings and weaved products has reduced these activities. There is actually no establishment to promote and even give subsidies to those engaged in this domain

# 5.3. Socio-Cultural Constraints

#### **5.3.1.** The myth attached to tourist sites

Most of the touristic sites are surrounded with a lot of mystery and myth. BSD has a good number of sacred forests and shrines which can be very beautiful and attractive to the eyes of

the tourist. The local population is strongly attached to their cultural heritage, entery to these places is strictly forbidden. For example the shrines and secret forest in Njinikijem, Anyajua, palace and the Aboh compound are secret places where only title holders and authorised people can get there. Before visiting some of these places one must ask for permission from the traditional elders. It is believed that in these places if anything falls down it cannot be picked and more so there are places where people do not talk. These are all attractive sites to tourists but because of culture people cannot go there. All these act as a stumbling block to the development of the tourism resources in the sub division.

#### **5.3.2.** Perception of the Local populations

The local population of the entire Belo thinks that the development of touristic resources does not concern them. As such they spend very little time to reflect on how to develop the touristic resources. They think it's only the government to take charge in developing these resources. Because of ignorance they think that tourists are only whites and also ignorant on the fact that the local population benefits the most from this activity. More so they are not aware of the benefits they can get from preserving their environment that is why they destroy the forests (deforestation), hunting, they use poor farming methods etc thus affecting the natural resources that attract tourists.

# **5.3.3.** Inadequate Provision of Public Goods (Health, Electricity and communication Network).

#### 5.3.3.1. Health Facilities

Health is a very vital aspect in the development of tourism. Human comfort and leisure depend on the state of health. BSD has very few health institutions and they are not well equipped. Those that exist have few trained nurses and doctors. There are even some health centers without a permanent Doctor like the Omega Community Health Post in Ntungfe. In the whole sub division only one good hospital is found the Mbingo Baptist Hospital. The disturbing issue about the hospital is that it is located far about 400km from Belo center. In case of any emergency the patient might die before reaching the hospital in addition to the fact that state of the roads are very bad. Because of lack of means people go to traditional healers when they are sick. No tourist will like to come to a place where health is not well guaranteed. If the health care and services in BSD was better, more tourists would visit the numerous resources found here making the area a tourist destination area. If this sector is developed then more tourists can come for health tourism.

#### 5.3.3.2. Electricity

Electricity supply is one of the greatest needs of the people. In the 29 villages that make up Belo over 17 villages are not electrified. These touristic resources have not been developed because there is no electricity to develop the sites without electricity other recreation and touristic activities too cannot be created around the touristics sites. The cry of most villagers is the extension of electricity to villages which have not yet benefited. For touristic resources to be developed there must be proper development and maintenance of roads, hotels, communication network etc.

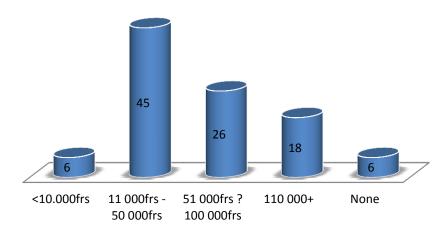
#### 5.3.3.3. Communication Network

Though BSD is very close to the regional headquarters of the North West Region with good communication networks the study area is facing serious network problems. The network

companies that exist here are MTN, orange, Nextel but they are not equally distributed. Some villages capture only the MTN (Mobile Telecommunication Network) network while others like Ndawara and Anjin captures mostly the NEXTEL network. These cause variable and significant network variations. In some villages in order to make a call you need to walk for some kilo meters to search for Network. There are some villages with just one call booth since communication is a serious problem here it hinders the publication of the existence of touristic resources. More so tourist will not like to visit an area where they will be completely cut off from communication. There is lack of other modern communication equipment like fax, e-mail and access to internet is found just in Belo center

#### 5.3.3.4 Low level of income and high dependency on agriculture

The economy of the Belo people is based mainly on agriculture mostly subsistent and commercial purposes this activity is usually characterized with poor yields. This is as a result of poor soils, poor farming tools, inaccessibility. Because of the over dependent on Agriculture which is usually characterised with low income levels, thus investment in the tourism sector is very small. People have small incomes which does not permit them to spend on leisure or invest in developing the touristic resources. The rate of participation of the local population in tourism activities is small.



# Figure 18: Montly income

#### Source: field work 2015

From investigation the general income level of the people interviewed is very low. 50% of respondents depended on less than 50000 FRS per month. That is about 1600 FRS per day. BSD has abundant touristic resources but because the income level of the population is low the household would not be able to feed the family, save some money or even invest in activities that can develop these touristic resources. Furthermore, if these resources are developed they will attract more visitors and act as a source of additional income to businesses and individuals supplying goods and services to tourists.

# 5.3.3.5. Lack of management and technical staffs

Lack of skilled workers remains an acute problem in the tourism sector in BSD. These also result from the inappropriate education structure curricula, school system and lack of facilities in technical schools or professional schools. Most people here who play the role of tourist guards are not usually trained and for that reason they do not render quality services to the tourists.

#### 5.3.3.5. Seasonality of tourism

Another major factor inhibiting the growth of touristic resources in BSD is the seasonality of tourist activity. Dry season being the busy period (November to February) especially towards the end of the year while rainy season receives less tourists. Very few tourists visit this area during the rainy season due to bad weather conditions and bad roads. These seasonality makes tourism and associated activities very dormant during the rainy season.

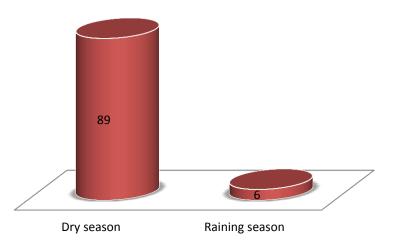


Figure 19 : Peak period for Visitors

#### Source: field work 2015

The figure shows that the peak period that tourists visit these touristic sites is during the dry season between the month of October and Febuary.89out of 95 people indicated that tourists come here during the dry season and just 6 people mentioned the rainy season between March and August. Most of the international tourists who come here during the rainy season are researchers who come during the rainy season for research purposes in the Mbi and Ijim-Kilum game reserve (Forestry delegate). The states of roads are too bad and very costly to be used during rainy season.

# 5.3.3.6. Insecurity

The issue of insecurity is a hindrance to the influx of tourists to Belo and Cameroon in general. Particularly the instability caused by Boko Haram with the rampant kidnapping of tourists. BERUDA told the researcher during field work that the number of tourists to Belo has reduced since the advent of Boko Haram. Also due to the fact that the resources in BSD are unexploited and inadequate infrastructure they prefer to take tourists to Limbe and Kribi.

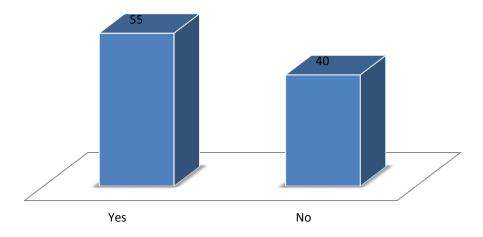


Figure 20: Existence of Security

#### Source: Field work 2015

Most tourists will want to be assured security during their stay in any area. From our studies, 57.9% of the population interviewed thinks their areas are not well secured while 42.1% thinks their areas are secured. Most respondent who agreed their area is secure are mostly those around Belo town and Ndawara because of the presence of a police or Gendarmerie post. The concentration of security posts are centrally located and most touristic sites are far off without security.

# 5.3.3.7. Constant harassment of tourist by forces of law and order

Apart from bad roads etc tourist are constantly harassed by forces of law and order. This tourist on their way to Belo are forced to settle several control post (gendarmerie and police). They are forced to pay some money of which no receipt is accounted for. The police people harass them asking from one document to another making the tourist feel very uneasy. In a nutshell the constraints mentioned above are responsible for the underdevelopment of touristic resources in BSD. However some attempted measures have been put in place by the actors involved in the development of tourism.

# 5.4. Prospects to the development of touristic resources

BSD has enough resources in terms of tourism and therefore the constraints highlighted above should not in any way dampen the enthusiasm and determination to make it a truly competitive national and international tourist's destination in a few years to come. If there is the establishment of partnerships between the local governments, the private sector and the local population in the management of these existing resources then it will lead to job creation, development of tourism related activities, increase in the number of tourist coming into BSD as well as the stimulation of local economies

-There will be an increase in the number of tourist coming into BSD. The number will increase because more hotels would have been built, more restaurants of high standards. The prospects to the development of tourism resources will be looked at in different dimensions.

#### 5.4.1. Economic

-The development of touristic resources will lead to the creation of employment opportunities both skilled and unskilled. For example the creation of a craft industry, the local population will be employed to make more works of arts and thus promoting the local culture of the area. Also more activities will be developed in BSD like commerce and processing firms which will take care of the growing need of the local population and employ them directly and indirectly. This will go a long way to reduce the high rate of unemployment and poverty.

- -The development of the touristic resources in BSD will employ both girls and boys as porters, interpreters to tourist, guards, transporters, gardeners and managers in protected areas like the Mbi and the Ijim mountain forests. The youths whose interest is to get something that generates income fast will be dominating this sector because they will be employed directly and indirectly.
- -The development of these touristic resources will also motivate Investors to carry out development projects in BSD. For example the construction of hotel facilities, More inns and guesthouses will be constructed and developed to provide much cheaper and comfortable accommodation facilities for visitors both domestic and international tourists. This will change the physiological look of Belo into an attractive man made side.
- -Communication centers will be established at attraction sites and strategic public places. This will ensure effective communication, an ingredient necessary to the success of tourism industry. The construction of roads here will lead to an increase in the mobility of tourist.

#### 5.4.2 Social

One of the prospects for the development of the tourism industry is the development of water based activities. The tourism resources in BSD at its present state is not enough to ensure a longer visitor stay. There is the need for more activity based tourism like swimming competition, Boat cruises, Sport fishing restaurant services, etc. to enhance the resources and render it more attractive. A lot of these activities can be developed on and along the Mughom river, lake oku, Ngeiwi waterfall and the Mbi crater lake.

Recreational and amusement parks or centers should be developed in the sub division at close proximity to the attraction sites to prolong the visitors stay. According to the World Tourism Organization (2003), in areas where the local conditions are not conductive to the development of other activities, the landscape, climate, water, air and sun become raw materials for tourism. Promotion and development of tours like the one BURUDA and RUDEC have put in place. Funding must be found for the development and enhancement of historical cemeteries like the one in Aboh village, sidewalks on the Mbingo hill, public places of convenience, improvement in health and security services etc. for the institution of tours in BSD.

Promoting tourism and the involvement of the local population will lead to a means of education. The local people will be thought on ways to protect and conserve their natural resources and also on ways to attract more tourists to their area.

#### 5.4.3 Cultural

There will be an institution of more attractive events like trade fair, festivals necessary to fill the gaps that existed before the development of the touristic resources. There are opportunities for the production of craft and souvenir items for the tourists. Souvenir items and crafts that are related to the

attractions visited which will reinforce and enhance the memories and experience of the visitor about the BSD such as carvings of traditional festivals, beats, necklaces etc. All these would help put more revenue into the local community to alleviate poverty.

## 5.5. SWOT ANALYSIS

SWOT Analysis is an important technique of environmental analysis. It has been used in this work as a strategic management tool for the development of touristic resources in BSD. The SWOT analysis is ( $\mathbf{S}$  = Strength, W = Weakness, O = Opportunity, T = Threats). Belo sub division has a lot of resources for the development of rural tourism. These resources are both physical and socio- cultural as seen in chapter 4 form the strength. Though they are not well developed because of the constraints mentioned above forming the weaknesses to the development of the tourism resources. As a result not all the opportunities are exploited for a sustainable development of tourism. Threats are the problems that the development of these touristic resources in BSD will cause. The SWOT analysis in BSD yielded the following results:

\* S = Strengths

i) Rich and varied biodiversity found in different game reserves, conducive mountain climate.

ii) Rich traditional values, culture, art and crafts.

iii) Positive attitudes of local people to visitors and tourists.

iv) Annual festivals, traditional ceremonies and celebrations organized each year.

v) Available ecological potential to increase the demand for tourism.

vi) Opportunities for recreation (swimming, mountaineering, horse riding, participation in dances and rituals).

vii) Welcoming culture of the local population

\* W = Weaknesses

i) The area is far from the main regional town (Bamenda city).

ii) It suffers from adequate infrastructure and the lack of tourist support services.

iii) The development of touristic resources will require high investment costs.

iv) There is the lack of professional staff for tourism.

v) The lack of facilities for advertising and marketing.

vi) Both tourist and local people are insensitive to environmental issues.

\* O = Opportunities

i) The provision of employment for all age groups, sex and alternative income generation.

ii) The protection and sustainability of natural and cultural values.

iii) The participation of local people in the protection process in view of the benefits.

iv) The development of traditional cottage industries (arts and crafts) based on local livelihoods and culture.

v) Belo sub division is close to Bamenda.

vi) Creation of a tourism board

vii) Attract medical tourist because of the presence of Mbingo Baptise hospital.

\* T = Threats

i) Increased pressure on the environmental resources of the protected area due to the development of touristic resources and intense tourism activity.

ii) Degradation of attractive landscapes used as centers of intensive recreational usage (walking areas, picnic areas, camp sites, festival sites and Lake Oku and its shore).

iii) Undeveloped environmental consciousness among indigenous people.

iv) Lose of indigenous cultures through their commercialization and exposure to tourists. Cultures will be commercialized and perverted to please the tourist.

v) Risk of the loss of a cultural heritage. The coveted and irreplaceable historic treasures of indigenous people may be secured by tourists for display in museums and private. vii) Inter-tribal wars and insecurity (Boko Haram).

viii)The lack of professionals with foreign language skills

This analysis show that for the touristic resources to be developed, there must be a sustainable management. Thus the strength for the development of the touristic resources in BSD is many and can lead to the development of tourism and the entire area.

## 5.6. IMPACT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISTIC RESOURCES IN BELO SUB DIVISION

Tourism is an important source of income, employment, wealth generation amongst others in local communities. Despite these advantages, some areas cannot develop touristic resources because of some environmental and human constraints. In areas where development of touristic resources is successful, it provides considerable social- cultural, and economic, benefits and its rapid expansion also has detrimental environmental and socio-cultural impact. Tourism affects the economy and the lives of societies and has proven to be a lifesaver for many destinations.

• The creation of jobs through tourism activities in Boyo gives hope in solving the problems of unemployment and poverty. Though there are limited

Employment opportunities that directly concern tourism like the management of natural tourist resources and services, there are greater job opportunities in tourism-related activities. The employment is found both in the primary tourist enterprises like hotels, catering and travel agencies, guards and tourists guides and in the secondary tourist enterprises like banking, retailing and marketing of the tourist products and handicrafts. In addition, tourism in Boyo provides jobs of various types (from unskilled to skilled, part-time to full-time) and for both genders. The local populations (residents) who are not skilled are still employed as porters at the motor parks, maids in hotels and lodging homes, servants in restaurants, labourers and guards. With the numerous employment opportunities offered by tourism and tourism-related activities, one can say that tourism, if well developed in Boyo, will be the second employer after agriculture. The sector is not well organised in such a way that statistics can be provided on those employed in this sector. The development of tourism in BSD can have immediate effects on the local economy, social and cultural life of the community.

## 5.7. Positive effects of the development of touristic resources in BSD.

## • Integrity of culture.

The development of touristic resources will also foster concerns about changes in the character of community life. There will be integrity of cultural traditions and practices. Most people in BSD will enjoy the opportunity to talk with new people and exchange ideas. The practice of different culture if practice during cultural festivals where by neighboring villages like Bambui, Babanki, Bafut are invited. They also present their own rich culture through dances and displays

## • Increase in the number of tourist

The development of touristic resources has an impact on the number of tourists. This development may be the expansions of the touristic attractions geographically, maintenance and construction of roads etc. All these will lead to an increase and frequency of tourist to BSD.

## • Creation of protected area.

Development of touristic resources will lead to the creation of more game reserves in addition to MBI and Ijim. This will go further to promote resource conservation and protection. Enhancement of cultural values.

Provision of social amenities

## • Employment opportunities

The development of touristic resources is going to create new opportunities for the fall in agricultural products as a result of climate change and bad farm to market roads, they will leave the agricultural sector to the tourism industry for economic survival. (that is changing historical pattern of employment.

## • Economic growth.

The development of touristic resources will lead to additional economic benefits such as new business growth, leading to increase contribution in taxes and also secondary effect on tourist spending.

Developing the touristic resources will have a significant possible impact on employment because both men and women will be employed irrespective of the age.

## 5.8. Negative effect of the development of touristic resources

## • Fall in environmental value.

The development of touristic resources in Belo Sub Division will also lead to the frequent and intensive use of natural areas with special scenic qualities or wild life viewing. This increase means a fall in the quality of the environment.

## • Decline in societal morality

The development of touristic resources may also affect the social and moral life of the people in Belo subdivision. Socially it might cause tension between the various actors of tourism having different access to resources (Yihe 2010). Tourism has been linked to moral problems including crime, prostitution, gambling and illegal drug use (Mathieson and wall 1982). To some researchers the development of touristic resources will lead to changes in cultural practices of indigenous people potential loss of cultural integrity, religious rites, all these to cater for tourist needs. To fight against this the local population has to decide which cultural traditions to gear to the public and which to keep private. Some tourist travel not to visit home away from home but because they want to experience the personality and authentic characters of resorts, communities and attractions.

Extensive development of touristic resources can also bring about some undesirable effects such as increased prostitution, gambling, drunkenness, unwanted noise and other exercises (Mcintosh. Goelder and Ritchic, p 235, 1995.

## • Lose of cultural Heritage.

In complicity with local natives and forces of law and order for cash, tourist may likely negotiate stolen valuables, treasures, valued by the tribes or ethnic groups. These treasures are smuggled out, we have the example of Afo- A-Kom in Laikom which was stolen in 1966 and was displaced for sale in New York. But thanks to diplomatic actions it was successfully brought back to Cameroon in 1973 with hilarious welcoming and glaring.

Some local people will dislike the presence of so many strangers in BSD for reasons of safety, health and security reasons.

## CONCLUSION

This chapter has presented the constraints, prospects and impacts (positive and negative) of the development of touristic resources in BSD. The analysis of this chapter with photo illustrations and tables shows that BSD is blessed with touristic resources but due to several constraints sited above these resources are not capable of attracting tourists. In our next chapter we are going to look at some recommendations, criticisms and verification of our hypothesis.

## CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CRITICISM AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this chapter we are going to verify our hypothesis, criticise certain aspects of our work after which we will propose some recommendations that can be implemented by different actors of tourism in view to ameliorate the development of touristic resources in Belo sub Division.

#### 6.1. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.

At the beginning of our work we mentioned general hypothesis and three specific research hypotheses. These hypotheses responded to our three specific research questions and the specific objectives which guided the orientation of the work. For the fact that we used a descriptive method to go about this work, we will have to verify the hypotheses using a qualitative technique. At the end we will draw conclusion if the hypotheses were accepted of rejected.

#### 6.1.1. Hypotheses I

(What are the touristic resources in BSD).

Here we have to verify if actually BSD is endowed with touristic resources or not.

- > Presentation of the human and physical touristic resources in BSD.
  - 1. **Caves**: From finding we realised out of the 95 respondents, 18 said caves were found in their locality. BSD has an estimate of 5 caves (table 9) with Nawara alone having 3 caves. The administrator (Alh Ahmadou Wagua) in Ndawara told us that people visit more of the plantations than the caves. This is because the caves are located far off from the plantations and also because of bad roads.
  - 2. Waterfalls: BSD is characterised with a good number of waterfalls. Out of the 95 respondents 24 said waterfalls are found in their localities and the remaining 71 respondents indicated other touristic resources. BSD has over 7 waterfalls (table 9).
  - 3. **Lakes**: BSD has two lakes; lake Oku and Mbi Crater Lake. Out of the 95 respondents 5 indicated that they have a lake in their village. This lone lake is found in Ndawara within the Mbi game reserve.
  - 4. **Forest**: 11 out of 95 respondents said they have forest in their area. These forests include reserves and community forests. Table 9 and figure 7 shows the presence of forest in BSD.
  - 5. **Palace/Traditional compounds and Plantation**: Of all the 95 respondents 8 indicated that there is a palace in their locality, 7 made mention of the presence of plantation. BSD has 1 plantation and few places/traditional compounds (table 9).

To conclude, after presenting the touristic resources in Belo sub division, we can see that she is endowed with physical and human touristic resources. She has more of physical resources than human resources and they are all things that will attract tourists the most. If these resources are developed tourist will prefer to visit BSD than going to other tourists' destination areas. In effect the above hypothesis is valid.

## 6.1.2. Hypothesis II

(The constraints to the development of touristic resources are due to lack of infrastructures and ignorance on the part of the local population.

Presentation of the constraints to the development of touristic resources in BSD. Considering the fact that BSD is endowed with natural and human touristic resources, they remain unexploited due to the following factors. Firstly there is no delegation of tourism in BSD. The issue of decentralisation is not effective here. For this reason there is no organ to implement laws and control this lucrative sector which can develop the community. The local actors involved in tourism do not collaborate with each other; the roads are bad as shown on Plate 9, high transport cost of about 2000-4000 francs to reach some of these touristic sites. Also BSD do not have adequate lodging facilities, the few that exits are of low quality. As seen on figure 11, we had 31 respondents who said a guesthouse is in their locality, just one indicated hotel and 28 respondents mentioned they do not have lodging facilities in their locality.

We then conclude that even though BSD has touristic resources the above factors are a hindrance to their development. Thus findings show that our second hypothesis is valid.

**6.1.3. Hypothesis III** (The development of touristic resources by the local population, Government, NGO's through increase income, employment, and accessibility will positively lead to the development of BSD).

Presentation of the prospects to the development of touristic resources in BSD. The touristic resources are under exploited with relevance to the number of tourists visiting the touristic sites. For example the conservator for the Mbi game reserve told us that he recieved 6 international tourist for the year 2015. The tourism actors have to do a lot in order to develop the resources. These resources will change from its underdeveloped to a developed state attracting more tourists to come. The respondents indicated that if these resources are developed more tourists will visit BSD; other touristic related activities are going to be developed. For example super markets, transport sector would be increased; more travelling companies will develop, the quality of hotels improved. If decentralisation becomes a reality many infrastructure will be improved by the council, local population and other actors. Verification of research findings are satisfactory taken into consideration the proposed hypothese.

#### 6.2. CRITICISM

No human is perfect and in regards to the difficulties faced in carrying out our work, it is important to criticise generally certain aspects, in order to help one see into pertinent elements which will help the researcher ameliorate on other research in future. In this light we are going to point out missing facts noticed in our research and which in one way or the other influenced the final results of our work in a negative or positive way.

#### **Methodological limits**

Though very vital in research study and permitted us to get pertinent information, this methodology presents some contribution and short comings.

## Contribution of methodology.

The success of the method we adapted and used in this work depends on the tools which help to ameliorate and give precise information. It entails in effect:

- The software used for typing (CSPro) permitted us to type with little error the data collected in the field. It was then taken to the SPSS which is a software used for statistical treatment. It is with this software that we used to cross the different variables and came out with ample information necessary for the development of touristic resources in BSD.
- > The obtained tables from SPSS were later treated using Excel, Which generated explicit figures.
- Windows manager, Photoshop was used for the treatment of pictures, Adobe Illustrator and Arc- Gis permitted us to obtain high quality images.

#### • Sampling

The principal problem here is centered at the level of elaboration of the sampling. The choice of the stratified random technique was more or less not very correct because the data collected from the council was different from the one collected from BUCREP. The data collected from BUCREP never had data from Ndawara household, reasons being that during the population census in 2005 Ndawara was not yet a village, by then it was classified as a quarter under Afua. So we had to borrow data for Ndawara from the Belo council and use. For this reason we used data from BUCREP for the other two zones. Due to the fact that the data from BUCREP was collected in 2005, when we arrived the field we realised the number of household never corresponded with that of BUCREP. So we had to estimate the household at certain point.

## • Data collection

This stage of the research was done within a very short period of time and regular interruption by academic obligation (classes and teaching practice). This short period never permitted us to carry out all our programmed interviews, in order to get their own point of view on the constraints and the prospect of development resources in BSD. Also because of time constraint the researcher could not visit all the touristic resources in BCD.

## • Treatment and data analysis

As earlier mentioned in chapter 2 of our research work, data treatment analysis were done using the following software SPSS, and Excel. There was the problem for open ended questions since this software transforms all open ended questions into closed ended questions. So several questions which could have given the free expressions of the respondent became impossible.

## • Exploitation of questionnaires

During the coding interface, it was realized that not all questionnaires were properly answered. As such there were some missing items though the codification of variables and data went on successfully. This nevertheless had some impacts on our research results though it might be minimal. Also the questionnaires were all exploited but because of time analysis of data was not completed .Certain variables were also seen to have no place in our work.

#### • Financial and material constraints

A variety of texts books indispensable for our research were not exploited due to it scarcity and difficulties one had in purchasing them especially those found online and which demanded the creation of account before we could get access to them. This to an extend influenced our research work. Financial difficulties prevented the research to go to the field several times to gather more information that would have added to the already existing information.

## • Orientation of the research topic

In the case of an elaboration of a conceptual method a research questions has the possibility of covering all it dimension, variables and indicators which permits one to take note of the frequency and the degree or extent to which phenomena each work despite the conceptualization of the independent and dependent variables, it dimensions and indications, a majority of these were not sufficiently integrated in the research study in order to better present our dependent and independent variables. If these omissions had been taken into consideration it would have certainly permitted our readers to better understand why till date the touristic resources have not been well exploited in order to foster development of the study area.

## • Verification of the hypothesis

At the beginning of our research work we proposed three specific hypotheses. These hypotheses tentatively responded to the three specific research questions that guided our work.

For the first research hypothesis it was verified and valid in the sense that BSD has both natural and touristic resources.

The second was also verified and validated. After verification we realized it was not the case from what we observed in the field for the second hypothesis, the constraints we mentioned were not the only hindrance to the development of touristic resources. They were other constraints to the development of these resources like lack of harmony amongst tourism actors, insufficient funds to name a few.

For the third hypothesis which we mention that if touristic resources are developed by certain actors it will positively lead to the development of BSD. This hypothesis was validated thus we have to take into consideration that, the development of touristic resources in BSD will have both positive and negative impacts on the development of BSD.

## **6.3. RECCOMENDATIONS**

The development of touristic resources in BSD has a very vital role to play in the development of the area. However, conscious of the constraints hindering the development of these resources, the researcher therefore puts forth a number of recommendations that can be applied to ensure a sustainable development of the touristic resources.

Despite difficulties faced by the tourism sector in the BSD as listed above, there is hope as to what can be done to remedy this situation. The aim here is to bring out what can be done by the different actors in development to ameliorate the output from tourism and related activities. The government through its policies is an actor and a partner in the tourism sector, and should be the engine of development of this sector.

#### **6.3.1. Decentralization of powers**

Due to the centralized nature of the tourism sector in the BSD, tourism and Its related activities can't be fully exploited. The government of Cameroon can aid the tourism Sector by creating a functional divisional delegation of tourism in the Boyo division. This delegation should have as role to oversee, implement tourism policies, manage and control all the tourism and related activities in the division and BSD in particular. NGO's like MIFACIG who act in this sector have good projects in promoting tourism but lack the technical knowhow and means to effectively carry them out. This delegation of tourism is going to take charge of these.

## 6.3.2. Policy implementation

The government has to ensure that policies it lays should be respected. Tourism in the BSD suffers from anarchical exploitation and this has an effect even on the natural and future generations. For example, the Ndawara zoo doesn't have enough tree plantings which serves as a natural habitat for wildlife in this area. The government through the delegation of tourism can look into this by setting up follow up committees that supervise the activities of all the tourism actors in the BSD. It is also very important for tourism actors to respect and implement tourism polices as require and more so go through effective training. For example for someone to be a tourist guard he should be bilingual, be able to speak the native language, be vested with the local environment and have a certificate to show that he has gone through training etc. This will create some awareness and increase their level of consciousness.

## 6.2.3. Government mediation

As an overseer, the government can mediate between the private and public sectors of tourism in the BSD to develop the touristic resources. Harmony between these actors will synchronize their individual goals and this will be of benefit to the entire sector. If there is good collaboration the development of touristic resources will be fast and in good condition

## 6.2.4. Funds

If the actors in the tourism sector can get enough funds, this is going to be a big plus for them as they'll use this to develop the tourism sector in the BSD. The main challenge faced by the private sector is lack of funding to maintain and exploit to the full extent the touristic resources for BSD. Funds will be used to improve on the lodging facilities, health facilities, maintenance of touristic sites and even road maintenance. These funds can either be provided by public or private organizations

## 6.2.5. Statistics

The government through the delegation of tourism should ensure that they provide data on the touristic activities in the area. Thesse statistics provided to the economic investors and local population is going to enable them see the touristic resources in BSD and that will enable them take it serious and want to invest in the sector.

## 6.2.6 Infrastructures

These infrastructures include restaurants, health, roads and accommodation. These are vital facilities needed for the development of tourism in the BSD. Both local and national actors can put hands on deck to ensure that these infrastructures are provided to encourage tourism in the area. The government, local councils, local populations and individuals can all contribute to provide these very important facilities. Presently there are no hotels in the BSD and the few inns and rests houses found are either inhabitable or simply below standard. For example the MIFACIG rest house in Njinikijem can be renovated and its standards upgraded with assistance from the government and the local councils, and then taxes reduced to encourage other stakeholders to invest in these domain. Roads should be constructed and existing once maintained by the council such that the touristic sites should be made accessible. This will go as far as reducing the cost and time taken to reach these sites. Health facilities, security and restaurants should be the lookout of all the actors

## 6.2.7 Education

Government and other tourism actors should inculcate the tourism culture amongst youths by organizing seminars on tourism, training youths to become tourist guides, sponsor youths out of the country to get formation on the development of tourism. Government should also introduce tourism in school curriculum far back at the primary, secondary and higher levels of

education. According to Yihe L. 'higher education institutions bear a profound, moral responsibility to increase awareness, knowledge, skills and values needed to create a just and sustainable tourism future'. As such, educational institutions are involved in collective actions for the development of tourism. It can be seen that educational institutions will have the responsibility and considerable influence as their perceptions and preoccupations about tourism, intellectual history and social location will determine the choice of personnel and reflect on the type of tourism developed in BSD.

## 6.2.8. Sensitisation and advertisement

The NGOs should go out and sensitize the local authority and local population on the importance of developing the touristic resources and the benefit that can be realize from tourism. This will make the local inhabitants fully participate in the sustainable development of the touristic resources. Also the touristic resources should be developed and promoted either through brochure with snapshots, radio and television programs, trade fairs, campaigns. This will help sensitize Cameroonians and foreigners at large about the numerous touristic resources in Belo.

Museums should be created in order to develop cultural tourism. People should be sensitise on the importance of museums. This will help organize, advertise and add more economic value to the work of arts in BSD. Artifacts face the problem of preservation, marketing and organization of their products.

#### 6.2.9 Participatory approach

This study also suggests that to ensure sustainable development there should be a combination of government, the civil society and non-governmental organisation. A sustainable development of touristic resources requires a network and efforts from each of these sectors. To facilitate this also the ministry of tourism should be represented in BSD. The creation of the sub divisional delegation of tourism in collaboration with the divisional delegation will help oversee tourism activities in BSD and foster the development of its resources.

## 6.2.10. Food and restaurants

Food and restaurants are required at tourist sites. The restaurants should be able to serve a variety of food to suit all tastes and also have stress for local food. Restaurants should be able to supply mineral water to the health conscious tourist of the day.

#### 6.2.11. Primary health care

Every touristic site like the waterfalls, caves and palaces should be equipped with a primary healthcare centers to provide first aid and amenities to minimize stress and fatigue relief.

#### 6.2.12. Development plan

The state can contribute to tourism by planning broad strategies of development, provision of fiscal and monetary incentives to catalyze private sector Investments and devising effective regulatory and supervisory mechanism to protect the interest of the industry, the consumer and the environment in BSD.

**6.2.13**. The council should also create museums in chiefdoms where arts and craft work will be displaced and the Local population should have a welcoming spirit towards visitors.

# **GENERAL CONCLUSION**

The presence of both natural and human resources in BSD requires a sustainable exploitation in the short and long term. This will act as a corner stone for the future of BSD. As a matter of fact BSD needs to improve on the management of their resources and even go to the extent of borrowing and adopting planning policies from other areas that have benefited from the development of tourism like Limbe, Kribi and Bafut. This will go a long way to sell the image of Belo abroad. The future of tourism is bright here even though almost all the resources are unexploited and if well exploited tourism will be a leading source of revenue in this locality. The success of the development of these touristic resources will be achieved if there is effective participation of all actors given them the autonomy and visibility to carry out projects to develop touristic resources.

Belo Sub division is blessed with natural and human touristic resources which are underdeveloped. Reasons being that the area is characterised with bad roads, no delegation of tourism, lack of harmony amongst tourism actors as confirmed in our third hypothesis.

Developing touristic resources will attract more tourists who will spend more in the hotels and other lodging homes, restaurants and bars leading to the creation of jobs, sources of income increase living standards to the people involved in this domain. Thus this confirms to our third hypothesis which states that "The development of touristic resources by the local population, government and NGO through increase income employment and accessibility will positively lead to the development of BSD".

From our findings, the touristic resources in BSD are underexploited and it is for this reason that we came out with some strategies that have been put in place by various tourism actors in BSD. Furthermore we criticised the work and proposed certain recommendations. The appropriate application of the above tourism recommendations can improve the low income levels, provide job opportunities to the local inhabitants, diversify the rural economy of BSD and in all improve the living conditions. On the part of the state, she will benefit from the taxes paid by the hotels, restaurants and tour operators. Also, revenue obtained from the tourists on the developed tourist sites and the travel agencies will in the longrun provide a source of revenue to the tourism board and the government.

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# APPENDICES