

**The Cameroon Civil Society
Engagement Charter for the Sustainable Development Goals
(SDGs)**

July 2016

Preamble:

In September 2015, UN Member States adopted a landmark agreement on a universal transformative agenda - The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). The SDG is an agenda for people, planet and prosperity, which also 'seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom.' The new agenda is universal; it will be implemented by "all countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership". The vision articulated in the 2030 agenda for a better world, free of poverty and want, will be achieved through the attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, forming an integral part of the agenda. The adoption of Agenda 2030 presents significant opportunities and challenges to Africa, particularly in ensuring that "no one is left behind" in the development process.

The mobilization of the Cameroonian civil society to actively participate in the development of Cameroon is based on the relevant provisions enacted at the national, continental and global levels.

At the global level:

While defining the "Future We Want" after the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), it is absolutely necessary to avoid the mistakes of the past as recommended by the United Nations to involve stakeholders of Member States to brainstorm around the challenges and perspectives of the post 2015 Development Agenda.

At the Regional level:

The African Union agenda 2063 dubbed the "Africa We Want" is a continental development agenda that incorporates the full participation of citizens for its implementation, particularly with regard to its "aspiration 3" that underscores "a united Africa with prevailing good governance, democracy, respect human rights, justice and the rule of law". It "stresses that" Africa should be a continent where institutions are at the service of his people, and citizens provide and actively participate in social, economic and policy development as well as to management".

The essential factors for the transformation of Africa focus on "the determination, participation, autonomy and solidarity of the people and African leaders, as prerequisites for success, in recognition of a number of key tenants such as ownership and continuous mobilization of the people of Africa and the Diaspora in various circles, effective communication, outreach, and social dialogue as inclusively and sustainably addressed on Agenda 2063.

At the national level:

Relevant provisions for the involvement of civil society are included in the Cameroon national strategic documents. In fact, the "Vision 2035" and the Growth and Employment Strategy paper (GESP) include numerous lines on involvement of the civil society, such as:

National integration¹: Participation of all people is indispensable to the success of any social project. The strategies considered in this context include the promotion of partnerships between the State, private sector and civil society and the integration of marginalized groups (marginal populations) or usually marginalized (women, children, disabled, elderly, etc.).

The economic role of the state and the partnership strategy: As a strategic partner of the State, civil society will be mobilized at four levels: (i) provision of social services for the fight against poverty and social advancement, including for marginalized groups; (ii) moral authority to safeguard and promote the national cultural heritage, the promotion of common values, fight against the centrifugal forces; (iii) participation and social mobilization crucible for the integration of the productive forces and democratization in the context of decentralization; (iv) monitoring activity in defence of human rights in general, including those of workers, women, children and minorities.

The promotional mechanisms of the GESP will focus on strengthening the participatory approach, consultation, promoting a framework for expression of freedom of association, social dialogue, participation of citizens in policy and plans development, participatory budgeting, public expenditure tracking, monitoring by citizens of the delivery of public services, etc. The partnership with civil society is part of a proactive approach that takes the form of creative spaces through which social actors form their educational development perspective to drive inclusive citizenship development models in Cameroon. By also being involved in the function of social and political mediation, civil society contributes to risk management and to lifting other constraints.

The GESP promotes involvement of the civil society through:

- A strategic governance and management approach of the State that promotes the participation of citizens and civil society in public affairs running;
- An improvement of citizen's access to information for the monitoring and evaluation of public affairs' management by (i) strengthening the participatory monitoring of public governance and (ii) the systematic dissemination of information on public acts including development projects monitoring & evaluation and audit reports.

The monitoring & evaluation system of the Public Investment Budget went through a third generation reform in January 2009 in a view to strengthening both the parliamentary scrutiny and citizen's auditing in the implementation of programs and public investment projects. Additionally, an option was taken in the GESP for the civil society to be widely associated, through various appropriate mechanisms, to the implementation and monitoring of programmes aiming at fighting poverty.

With regard to the institutional implementation framework, the private sector and the civil society, as partners to the Government are required by the GESP to provide inputs in the definition and implementation in a number of specific aspects. It is in fact prescribed that resources for building their response capacity or enhancing their representativeness and governance be explicitly budgeted in each program in which they are called to intervene

¹ Vision-2035, page 35, paragraphe 3

and integrated into their task specifications. Development partners are equally called to contribution, through provision to of adequate technical and financial assistance to the Government and to other national development actors, based on expressed needs.

Based on the above foundations the civil society was involved, in the SDGs consultation phase in Cameroon, through the organization of participatory consultations in 2013 to define national post 2015 priorities and in 2014 to discuss the localization the related agenda. These participatory consultations were fruitful opportunities for exchanges between representatives of all development actors in the country (the civil society, local elected officials, the private sector, the youth the government and development partners, including United Nations agencies).

In 2015, the civil society also organized a national workshop to strengthen their capacity regarding their full participation in the implementation of the post 2015 Agenda in Cameroon. This civil society capacity strengthening and engagement workshop issued 11 recommendations and resulted in the establishment of a Common Working and Collaboration Platform for Collaboration (CWCP) for the implementation of the post 2015 Agenda.

Collaborative working relations are in the process of consolidation through formalization with key governmental institutions within CWCP. The desire for greater involvement of all segments of the population in discussions and development activities, encouraged by the development partners, is thus clearly expressed by the civil society and the government.

However, in practice, it frequently happens that contributions from the civil society are not addressed in the way or at the level expected, due to issues with CSOs identification in accordance with relevant topics, the short time allocated to prepare contributions, or to insufficient prior information.

The roles, duties and commitments of the Civil Society

In consideration of the foregoing fundamentals, taking a more active part in development discussions and activities requires that the Cameroonian civil society works to do better than in the past, to increase and improve its contribution to national development. Therefore the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) hereby commit to:

1) In general

- Strengthen their technical, organizational and operational capacity, in light of the “Istanbul Principle”, to improve their performance;
- Respond positively to all invitations and requests from other development actors in Cameroon, so far as they are in the interests of the country and consistent with its areas of intervention, and to the extent of available resources;
- Apply the principles of good governance in their approach and actions and contribute to the establishment and functioning of an SDGs accountability framework involving all development actors;
- Jealously ensure in all their undertaking that the national interest is preserved;

2) In particular

- Working in partnership with other development actors in Cameroon within the framework of the Common Working and Collaboration Platform (CWCP);
- Contribute to the creation and maintenance of a database of civil society by fields of intervention and SDGs interest;

Justification and orientations of the Civil Society Charter

The Civil Society commitments with regard to their engagement for the SDGs implementation are state in the present charter:

Mindful of the fact that the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter will enable the civil society, citizens, the government and the private sector to make better informed decisions as means to fast track the achievement of the SDGs in Cameroon;

Conversant of the fact that the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter can help highlight trends, identify social and economic challenges and inequities, and benchmark progress in public programs and services regarding the SDGs in Cameroon;

Knowing that the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter can empower governments, citizens, and civil society and private sector organizations to work toward better outcomes for public services in areas such as health, education, public safety, environmental protection, human rights, and natural disasters management;

Noting that, the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter can contribute to the generation of inclusive economic growth by supporting the creation and strengthening of new markets, enterprises, and jobs. These benefits can multiply as more civil society and private sector organizations adopt good open data practices and share their own data with the public.

Mindful moreover that the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter can help improve the flow of information within and among governments, and make government decisions and processes more transparent. Increased transparency promotes accountability and good governance, enhances public debate, and helps combat corruption.

Convinced that the Civil Society SDG Engagement Charter presents opportunities to provide innovative, evidence-based policy solutions and support, economic benefits and social development for all members of society; **thus the Civil Society SDG Engagement Charter** shall foster the following

:

- **Supporting evidence-based policy making:** Encouraging consideration of the SDGs by the government in policy development and evidence-based decision-making, which enables improved public policy outcomes and underpins sustainable economic and social development;
- **Enabling cross-sector collaboration:** Supporting collaboration among governments, citizens, and civil society and private sector organizations on the design of policies and the delivery of better public services;
- **Monitoring Public Investment Budget (PIB) performance:** Showing how and where public money is spent in order to incentivize governments to demonstrate that they are using public money effectively;

- **Improving governance of natural resources:** Increasing awareness about how countries' natural resources are used, how extractives revenues are spent, and how land is transacted and managed;
- **Monitoring impact:** Supporting assessments of the impact of public programs, which in turn allows governments and civil society and private sector organizations to respond more effectively to the particular needs of local communities.
- **Promoting equitable growth:** Supporting sustainable and inclusive growth through the creation and strengthening of markets, enterprises, and jobs;
- **Improved decision-making:** Enabling citizens to make better informed choices about the services they receive and the service standards they should expect;

Acknowledging the importance for CSOs to develop action plans or identify existing mechanisms and policies in support of the implementation of **the Civil Society SDGs Engagement Charter's** principles, as well as the importance of agreeing to commit the necessary resources for work within existing legal frameworks, in accordance with technical best practices and fixed time frames;

Mindful that “no one should be left behind” in the 2030 agenda and therefore it is absolutely necessary for the Cameroonian civil society to organize itself around thematic clusters as a citizen's mandate to engage in the entire process of mobilizing resources for the implementation of the SDGs, as well as aligning their respective missions towards the monitoring and evaluation of the 169 SDGs global targets.

It is against this backdrop that the organizations endorsing the present Cameroonian SDGs engagement charter agree to work according to the engagement principles and orientations developed herein. The Cameroonian Civil Society Organizations hereby agree to comply with these Engagement Principles in a view to contributing (where possible) in fast tracking, monitoring and evaluating the SDGs in Cameroon:

The Cameroon Civil Society Engagement Principles:

Engagement Principle 1: The Civil society has a responsibility in fast tracking the implementation and achievement of the SDGs in Cameroon:

The Cameroonian civil society has made a commitment to get involved in and help fast track the implementation and achievement of the SDGs in terms of mobilizing stakeholders towards domestic and international resource mobilization as well as the developing a monitoring and accountability framework for the tracking of the SDGs.

Engagement Principle 2: The desired “theory of change” for engaging with public and private sector stakeholders: achieving positive behavioral change by engaging in cross-sector dialogue:

The CSOs desired theory of change is that of “seeking to achieve meaningful and critical engagement of the Cameroonian civil society to lobby and advocate for institutionalized

cross-sector dialogue with all stakeholders in order to monitor and evaluate the overall implementation performance (outcome indicators and impact) of the SDGs in Cameroon.

Engagement Principle 3: Categorize CSOs into thematic clusters in order to ease collaboration with likeminded CSOs, the Government and other stakeholders with the purpose of drafting periodic thematic reports:

The Cameroonian CSOs shall be categorized into thematic clusters in order to align them with the 17 SDGs and the 169 targets with the intent of easing collaboration with corresponding key public institutions and other stakeholders as well as the drafting of thematic reports regarding their respective sectors of intervention in the implementation of the SDGs.

Engagement Principle 4: Engage in fostering institutionalized dialogue with key government institutions and the private sector in Cameroon to encourage broader cross-sector dialogue in Cameroon:

The Cameroonian civil society shall be committed in engaging with sectoral government ministries and departments to foster institutionalized dialogue, and will equally engage in cross-sector dialogue with the private sector to foster Inclusive Partnerships for Effective Tripartite Development Cooperation as recommended by the Busan partnership for Development Effectiveness.

Engagement Principle 5: Develop an accountability framework that holds all stakeholders and the civil society first, accountable towards their responsibilities, through the preparation and publication of periodic thematic reports (evidence based advocacy documents):

In a drive to hold all stakeholders accountable towards their responsibilities in the implementation of the SDGs, it is absolutely necessary to develop a comprehensive people-driven social accountability model geared towards the publication of thematic reports (evidence-based advocacy documents) that shall drive the entire implementation cycle of the “2030 agenda” on sustainable development.

Engagement Principle 6: Validate the People’s perspective in the entire cycle of the SDG implementation:

Regular thematic review and validation meetings will serve as conveyers of the people’s perspectives in the implementation of the SDGs in Cameroon.

Engagement Principle 7: Advocate for the leveraging of public policies regarding the SDGs by providing inputs to all policy making frameworks regarding the SDGs in Cameroon.

This is likely to result in the development of a blueprint for decent jobs including a legal framework to encourage decent work in Cameroon.

Engagement Principle 8: Fight against the misuse and embezzlement of public funds in Cameroon;

A data base established in collaboration with relevant existing institutions such as the CONSUPE will help effectively monitor the use of public resources allocated to the SDGs in Cameroon.

Engagement Principle 9: Engage with Local Councils parliamentarians and Traditional Authorities collaborate in building their capacities in popularizing the SDGs at the local level by sensitizing grassroots population.

This will enable “Elected Local Authorities” better defend the interest of grassroots populations in the SDGs implementation process in Cameroon. It will also strengthen the capacity of Traditional Authorities regarding the implementation of the SDGs at the grassroots level.

Engagement Principle 10: Provide greater visibility to SDG activities;

By developing a comprehensive communication and knowledge sharing blueprint geared toward publishing all SDGs related projects in Cameroon to keep the wider public informed on the progress. Also by setting up and operationalizing a national civil society SDGs information center.

Engagement Principle 11: Engage CSOs in the monitoring of Public Investment Projects and procurement process in Cameroon.

This is part of the necessary commitment by CSOs in developing the culture of data tracking regarding the SDGs in Cameroon.

Engagement Principle 12: Engage in inter-cultural dialogue to trigger cultural and customary transformations in order to achieve certain SDGs.

This is in relation to boosting creative expression for the SDGs in Cameroon in light of the rich national art and culture potential.

Engagement Principle 13: Always refer to the national official roadmap on the SDGs localization in alignment with the national development strategy, to propose solutions and get the implementation process move forward.

The Civil Society component of the SDGs national official roadmap attached as annex to the present charter plus the actions defined herein constitute the minimum extent of the responsibility of Cameroonian CSOs and shall always be fully taken for the SDGs implementation.

Annex to the Charter

A1- CSO Key actions for the SDGs implementation in Cameroon

	Action	Time frame	Remark
1	Baseline SDGs Progress Assessment Report	September 2016	Collaboration with the National Statistics Institute
2	Database to effectively monitor the use of public resources allocated to the SDGs in Cameroon	December 2016	In collaboration with the CONSUPE (State Auditing Institution)
3	Regular thematic review and validation meetings to convey people’s perspectives in the implementation of the SDGs in Cameroon	Annual	In collaboration with Local Government, Parliamentarians and Traditional Authorities

A-2 National Roadmap for the SDGs Localization²

² Synthesis report of the Cameroon National Report on the Localization of the Post 2015 Agenda

CWCP

**Common Working and Collaboration Platform on the
Sustainable Development Goals in Cameroon**

Reference Document

DEFINITION – OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

March 2016

SUMMARY

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➤ Administrations / TFP	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
➤ NGOs/CSOs	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
➤ All Actors	Erreur ! Signet non défini.

1 - Origin of the CWCP

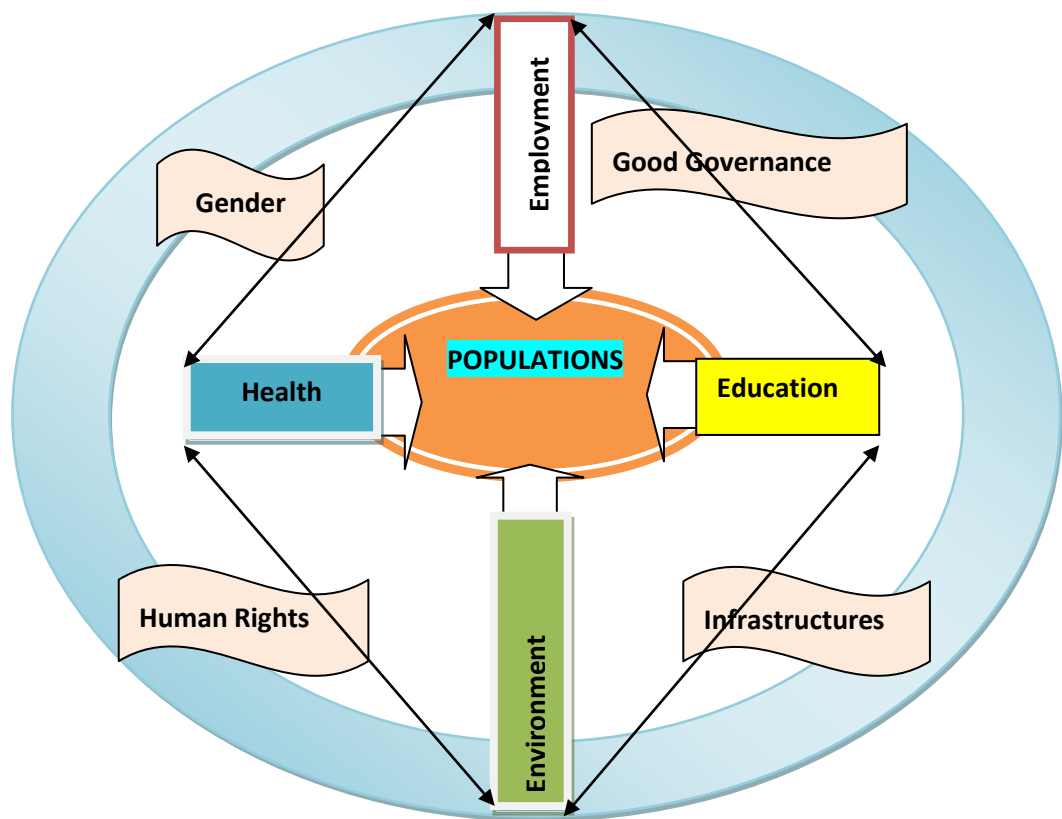
Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) should be considered with a view to best meet the expectations of the people, by involving everyone, institutionally or individually, relying on the capabilities of everyone. This is in a spirit of common but differentiated responsibility, in accordance with the accountability framework commonly accepted and integrated, operating at all levels with structural links.

At the level of the UN, to avoid the mistakes made in the design and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), measures have been taken to mobilize maximum skills to reach an Agenda that takes into consideration the development concerns of populations globally. This is reasons why several consultative structures were established for the post 2015: High Level Panel (HLF), Open Working Group (OWG), the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Financing Sustainable Development (IGCFD), National Consultations in sixty countries including Cameroon, etc. In line with these, the Secretary General of the United Nations recognized that *"development framework of the post- 2015 will be all the more effective, and will be the result of a transparent open and inclusive process with the participation of multiple stakeholders . "*

Indeed, it emerges in the world today with a broad consensus on the need to hinge the new development framework on a broad process of consultation with various stakeholders, including civil society organisations and groups usually left on the sidelines of the design of development policies and programs. Implementation frameworks and multi actor interactions have emerged as essential to development services provision that meet people's expectations.

Based on the above, the idea of an adequate framework for dialogue has gradually imposed in Cameroon through the process of defining the Post - 2015 Agenda in several stages:

- 1) The 2013 national consultations (on financing of the United Nations agencies) to prepare the contribution of Cameroon (one of the 60 countries asked by the United Nations for this purpose), which resulted in five meetings which were attended by public administrations, TFP, domestic private sector, and more than 120 national civil society organizations (CSOs) covering ten regions and all development sectors of the country. These consultations resulted in the formulation of national development priorities as a **"Sustainable Development Efficiency Circle - SDEC"**;



Key: populations, placed at the center of all development activities primarily are in need of health, education / training, employment and environmental protection. The quantity and quality of development services they receive in relation to these priorities are determined by the availability of infrastructure, taking into account gender approaches and human rights, and good governance.

- 2) The 2014 national consultations of (on financing of the United Nations agencies) to prepare the contribution of Cameroon (one of the 15 countries tasked by the United Nations for this purpose) to the design of the implementation of the Agenda at local. These consultations were also attended by several governments, TFP , national private sector (through the SME organizational grouping, Umbrella association of Enterprise (Entreprises Cameroun -ECAM), representatives of Youth and University (Through the National Youth Council - CNJC) , population (through ADIN and Positive Generation) , elected local authorities (through the United Cities and Councils of Cameroon - UCCC) .

- 3) The workshop mobilisation workshop on Financing for Development (FD3) and Post-2015 Agenda. This consultation, organized by Africa Development Interchange Network (ADIN) with support of SightSavers, saw the participation of several Sector Ministeries (including the Ministry of External Relations-MINREX; the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development -MINEPAT; the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development-MINEPDED, the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts-MINPMEEESA and others), United Nations agencies (UNDP and UNECA), and several CSOs. It was during this multisectoral consultation that were outlined the groundwork of a Platform Collaboration and Working Group within which synergies between all stakeholders (internal and external) for the development of Cameroon.

- 4) The 3rd Conference on Financing for Development held from 13 to 16 July 2015 in Addis Ababa. It was with the framework of the PCTC put in place that Cameroon's participation in the conference was prepared, which constituted an official national delegation extended to non - state actors (meetings between civil society represented by ADIN and officials of MINREX and MINEPAT, contribution to interventions delivered by the Minister (MINEPAT) , Head of the Cameroon delegation, and technical experts who accompanied him, the organisation of a side event co- chaired by Cameroon (ADIN) and Kenya (CSO African Working Group on the Post 2015 Agenda) in Addis Ababa... etc.

2 - Actors of the PCTC

The main actors in the PCTC are all those concerned for effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially those who feel they are at the forefront of the four national development priorities inscribed in the Circle of Sustainable Development Efficiency - CSDE (Health, Education , Employment, Environment) and / or the four cross-cutting concerns (Infrastructure, Good Governance, Human Rights, Gender)

3 - Format of the CWCP

The CWCP offers a framework capable of encouraging and strengthening the synergies between development actors in Cameroon for the implementation of the Post -2015 Agenda. It is not the exclusive property of any actor in particular. This is an open collaborative and collective framework through which

- Each actor plays its role in its area of intervention
- No actor decides to another
- No actor has the ability to prevent another from contributing
- Each actors is free to associate or engage others to address important for the development of Cameroon and the implementation of the SDGs.
- The proposals or recommendations of the PCTC are designed to provide highlights to allow each actor to improve his performances or interventions in their respective area of expertise for the benefit of Cameroonians.

Thus defined, PCTC shall contribute to the accountability framework which is a requirement for results oriented management, and to the realization of the shared responsibility amongst all stakeholders in the design and implementation of actions national development.

4 - Resources for animation of the CWCP

Human, financial or other in-kind resources necessary for the animation of the PCTC can be mobilised by any actor, including governments, donors, the private sector or civil society . Interested players are free to decide the method of use of these resources and the implementing partner, each according their level of commitment and its internal practices, with respect established ethical rules of ethics and the spirit of synergy building within the framework of the PCTC .

5 - Branches and operational procedures of the CWCP

Within the framework of the PCTC, each actor, in accordance with the values and laws in place, can define the format for collaboration with other actors that align with its statutory mission, subjects under consideration, timelines for meetings, funding arrangements etc.

In particular:

GOVERNMENT / Technical and Financial Partners (TFP)

Governments and donors of Cameroon will find an organizational model of partnership with civil society working in the field in their areas of expertise;

➤ **NGOs / CSOs**

NGOs / CSOs will find a framework for transparency in the presentation of their contributions and potential areas for intervention for Cameroon's development, and finding consistent support from other actors to strengthen their activities on the ground ;

➤ **ALL STAKEHOLDERS**

All actors at national level will find a tool to demonstrate at international level, consistency of actions carried out.



**PROGRAMME TO POSITION CSOs
TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE SDGs IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS**

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**Perspectives of the Cameroon SDGs Monitoring Review and
Accountability Framework
(MRAF)**

Preliminary Write-up

August 2016

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A- Introduction

A number of outcomes have derived from the implementation the programme “to position CSOs to play an active role in the SDGs implementation process in Cameroon, from March through July 2016. These include: (1) a Database of CSOs, private sector active on SDGs and roles in SDGs progress assessment; (2) a CSOs SDGs Engagement Charter (CSEC); (3) Specific Collaboration Platforms between CSOs and Sectoral Ministry (MINREX, CONSUPE, MINJEC¹); (4) Simplified SDG information tools and (5) clear perspectives on a Monitoring, Review and Accountability Framework (MRAF).

This brief summarises the concept that is emerging on a Monitoring, Review and Accountability Framework (MRAF) for the SDGs in Cameroon that calls for the commitment of all stakeholders in the SDGs implementation process in Cameroon.. The overall objective is to ensure that the implementation of the SDGs in Cameroon effectively meets the aspirations of the people.

B- Features of the Cameroon SDGs Monitoring, Review and Accountability Framework

B.1 Overall objective

In general, the MRAF will be a mechanism to ensure that each stakeholder in the implementation of the SDGs does what it should do, assess the results and impacts, while ensuring the respect of good governance practices.

B.2 Specific objectives

The MRAF will be structured to ensure that:

- the responsibilities of each actor in the implementation process of the SDGs are clearly defined, shared and communicated ;
- collaboration between the different stakeholders in data collection and analysis on the results achieved is effective;
- reports are produced to share information and analysis, as well as to bring forth qualitative perspectives in "progress reporting" on the implementation of the SDGs.

B.3 Status

The MRAF for the SDGs in Cameroon shall be based on an independent and inclusive system where, despite the fact that the government fully guarantees the implementation of the SDGs, it does not have a prominent place in the leadership of this system. That would ensure for more efficiency and transparency.

B.3 Operating mode

- The National Road Map adopted in late 2014 on the implementation of the Post -2015 Agenda at the local level (page 24 of the MINEPAT /UNDP report thereon), will be the reference to ensure that the assessment process is based on commonly accepted official data sources. That national SDGs Roadmap is the official document establishing the main activities and responsibilities of stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs. This roadmap will be the reference guide for the monitoring and accountability framework.
- Sectoral stakeholders shall be identified and grouped by SDGs categories, and in accordance with the national Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP). The government ministries and CSOs will each be intervening in their sectors based on their

¹ Ministry of Youth and Civic Education

prerogatives in an interactive and complementary dynamic Presently at governmental level, there already exists a clear clustering of sectoral Ministries by group of SDGs, with respective Leads. Additionally, a circular letter of President of the Republic on the preparation of national budget for year 2017 gives specific instructions on the costing the SDGs implementation.

- The MRAF will function following a collaborative working approach. To this end, a coordinating body for the implementation of the SDGs shall be establishment, to operate with representatives of all stakeholders in a view to ensuring a participatory approach to all segments of the population. This structure shall exist at national level as well as at decentralised levels. To facilitate a participatory and inclusive dynamic, Focal Points shall be designated in each Administration, to be in charge of monitoring the implementation of the SDGs and of the collection and provision of relevant administrative data. With regard to the data collection aspect, the National Statistics Institute (INS) has expressed its readiness to work with the civil society to contribute in the collection of data necessary for the MRAF².
- The MRAF shall include a results communication component. Each stakeholder will be accountable through regular reports of its activities. These reports will serve as sectoral background documents at different levels and inform a national overall Cameroon SDGs implementation dashboard, within the national coordination unit. This will help measure progress, gaps, and challenges. Different parties convening on a regular basis will thus be able to learn and draw lessons from the differences that will probably appear from their reports and adjust. A specific communication plan for monitoring the implementation process of the SDGs in Cameroon will be developed.
- Funding mobilization will have to be ensured for the MRAF. Concrete proposals will have to be made by all stakeholders to the government, on due time, when the national budget is in preparation, with regard to the activities that they plan for monitoring the SDGs implementation. In addition, support will potentially be requested from Technical and Financial Partners (TFP).

C- Emerging consensus on a Monitoring, Review and Accountability Framework

It is clear from the results of the national Civil Society workshop on “an institutionalized dialogue for the SDGs implementation in Cameroon” that some consensus is progressively building around a MRAF. The putting in place of the framework was at the occasion seen as a way to enable every actor take responsibility and be accountable to others and the people. A number of public institutions clearly expressed their interest and readiness. The National Statistics Institute committed to collaborate with CSOs to design simplified indicators for data collection on qualitative people’s perspective. The CONSUPE is willing to work with the Civil Society to extend its Auditing scope, using the SDGs Accountability framework. The Ministry of Small and Medium Size Enterprises willing to work toward more frequent consultation on the SDGs.

The MINREX recommitted to champion the advocacy for CSOs-Government specific collaboration platforms, which that Ministry sees as a crucial tool for the functioning of the MRAF through the work of SDGs Ministerial Focal Points. They also put to the reflexion of all, the issue of leadership and hierarchy in the SDGs reporting system, but acknowledged however that the Common Working and Collaboration Platform for the SDGs is a a good step toward an effective solution, provided that is concept is fine-tuned and its functioning sustained.

MINREX in addition considers that the Civil Society Engagement Charter for SDGs implementation will be in key in ensuring full Office inclusion of the grassroots in the monitoring, review and accountability process. They are looking forward to backing the Civil Society in conveying

² During the 28 July 2016 workshop on an “institutionalized dialogue on the implementation of SDGs in Cameroon”

information on that to the presidency of the Republic and the Prime Minister's Office. A foreword is envisaged to be requested from the Prime Minister when the document is published in its final version.

D- Conclusion

The current dialogue engaged through the programme “to position CSOs to play an active role in the SDGs implementation process in Cameroon, that culminated with the national Civil Society workshop on “an institutionalized dialogue for SDGs implementation in Cameroon”, has not yet gotten to the validation of the relate Monitoring, Review and Accountability Framework (MRAF), but has permitted advanced in discussions on its features and triggered collective and shared agreement on the necessity to have one. To be effective, the framework must give room for checks and balances that call to order actors that are doing nothing or doing less than expected from them to take their responsibility for better.

Annex

- Reference Document of the Common Working and Collaboration Platform for the SDGs (CWCP) in Cameroon.