

TOGOLESE REPUBLIC



Work - Freedom - Homeland

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

New York, july 2017

TOGO COUNTRY REPORT

SUMMARY

Following the adoption in September 2015 of the Development Programme for 2030 incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the international community, Togo has been firmly committed and taken ownership of these Goals in the formulation of its National Development Plan (NDP) for the period 2018-2022.

In this respect, the country had voluntarily submitted itself to peer review during the First High-Level Political Forum held, which enabled it to share its experiences in the integration of the SDGs in its national development planning instruments. The Togolese Government would like to seize this opportunity to extend its gratitude to all the partners that supported it in its fight against poverty.

This Togo Country Report, drawn up following the theme adopted by the United Nations for this year 2017, i.e. "eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world", hinges on: (i) its preparation process and the general framework for the integration of the SDGs into its national planning instruments; (ii) efforts deployed towards the implementation of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 17 selected by the United Nations for the current review and (iii) major challenges and prospects.

➤ Report preparation process

The report preparation process was participatory and inclusive to the extent that all development stakeholders were consulted and involved in its formulation. The process was carried out in two main steps, namely (i) the preparation and collection of information, and (ii) the drafting and validation of the report.

➤ General framework for the integration of the sustainable development goals in the planning instruments

The general framework for the integration of the SDGs in the national planning instruments comprised two essential aspects. The first relates to the SDG ownership process, while the second concerns their proper integration in the national planning instruments.

The process for the appropriation of the Sustainable Development Goals became effective in Togo thanks to the several awareness and outreach activities dedicated to these goals in order to ensure a shared vision at all levels. These activities involved training and sensitization workshops carried out at the national and regional levels, as well as in different localities, for the benefit of development stakeholders to enable them to contribute and take full ownership of the issues at stake in terms of sustainable development and the formulation process for the 2018-2022 National Development Plan, which constitutes the reference framework for development policies over the next five years.

In taking into account the sustainable development goals in the 2018-2022 National Development Plan (NDP), Togo proceeded with the integration of these goals based on their associated targets.

At the sectoral level, certain sectoral policies or plans have been updated or are currently being updated to reflect the sustainable development goals based on their associated targets.

- Efforts deployed towards the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17

In Togo, efforts geared towards eradicating poverty in all its forms include improving the living conditions of the poor in general and the vulnerable persons in particular. The poverty rate dropped from 61.7% in 2006 to 58.7% in 2011 and 55.1% in 2015, a decrease of 6.6 points. The national rate of access to potable water increased from 50% in 2015 to 53.9% in 2016. This rate increased in rural areas over the same period from 55.3% to 64.4%.

The rate of access to electricity in 2016 was estimated at 35.63% at the national level and 6% in the rural areas.

With the prospect of ending hunger, achieving food security and promoting sustainable agriculture, the Government has since 2008 been deploying major initiatives in terms of investment and organization of stakeholders. These efforts have helped increase the agricultural sector's contribution to the national GDP, which rose from 40% in 2015 to 41.9% in 2016. Since 2009, the country has recorded a surplus of grains and tubers thereby allowing it to export said products across the sub-region and thus contribute to improving the incomes of small-scale producers.

Efforts deployed towards ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages have begun to bear fruit. They include the institution of a functional, accessible and equitable healthcare system that acknowledges the right to health for all, especially for the most vulnerable persons. The maternal mortality rate stood at 400 per 100,000 live births in 2015. The percentage of rural villages with a community health worker trained on integrated healthcare treatment for illnesses such as diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria was estimated at 45.4% in 2015.

Via the implementation of its National Equity and Gender Equality Policy (PNEEG), the Government aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Various actions undertaken have helped improve the educational enrolment of girls, which has increased from 93.5% in 2015 to 94.2% in 2016; the percentage of illiterate women stood at 49% in 2015, while the percentage of female parliamentarians (increased from 11.1% in 2012 to 18.7% in 2017) and that of female ministers (increased from 16.7% in 2016 to 21.7% in 2017).

In order to build a resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization that is beneficial to all and foster innovation, significant efforts have been made in terms of investments in road, port and airport infrastructure as well as promotion of the digital economy. Whereby the rehabilitation of the Lomé- Burkina Faso border corridor and the main cross-throughways. The Gnassingbé Eyadema International Airport in Lomé was also rehabilitated and upgraded to international standards in 2016 with the construction of a new terminal with the capacity to accommodate more than 1.5 million passengers per year. This helped to increase traffic from 589,416 in 2013 to 758,000 passengers in 2016. The construction of a third pier and a dock

equipped with the state-of-the-art equipment helped to boost the capacity of the Autonomous Port of Lomé. The volume of containers handled at the Port of Lomé was estimated at 905,700 in 2015. Trade facilitation in Togo has changed significantly with the implementation of the Single Window for Foreign Trade (GUCE). The construction of a 250 km fiber optic network (e-government) has helped to connect more than 560 office buildings and more than 10,000 civil servants for sake of modernization of public administration and simplification of administrative procedures. The domains for the installation of the industrial sites of Adétikopé and Kpomé have been secured and their master plans completed.

In order to ensure the conservation and sustainable exploitation of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, the Government established in 2014 the National Agency for State Action on Maritime Matters (ONAEM) which is specifically aimed at safeguarding maritime interests, effectively combatting insecurity in its maritime spaces and developing a blue economy. In this respect, from 10 to 15 October 2016, Togo hosted the Summit of the African Union (AU) on Maritime Safety, Security and Development in Africa which culminated in the signing of the Pan-African Charter on Maritime Transport. In addition, Togo pledged at the International Conference themed "Our Ocean, Our Future" to achieve two main targets towards the elimination, by 2022, of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities ("pêche IUU") in maritime areas under its jurisdiction; and by 2025, cases of pollution arising from oil dumping and effluent discharges into the sea. With respect to coastal protection, Togo is in the process of implementing a programme for integrated coastal management and protection against coastal erosion. The encroachment on the lineal seashore protected against coastal erosion has increased from 20,820 m in 2014 to 21,170 in 2015, i.e. an increase of 350 meters.

In a bid to revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development and strengthen the means of implementation of this partnership, Togo has embarked on the implementation of reforms geared at mobilizing both internal and external resources for economic emergence. These structural reforms have led to the establishment of the Togolese Revenue Office (OTR), a fusion of the customs and tax authorities, which has helped increase State revenues by 24.1% between 2014 and 2016. While external resources and budgetary support have increased by 43% over the same period.

Moreover, Togo is equally striving to attract more public or private foreign partners in the implementation of reforms required to improve the business environment, preserve the gains of sound macroeconomic management under the framework of the three-year programme with the IMF and conclude the threshold programme in negotiation with the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Since 2016, the Government is striving to sustain this momentum notably through sanitized land management, improved supply of information and communications technology (ICT), promotion of investments in the water and energy sectors, fast-track establishment of an appropriate legal framework for public-private partnerships and the promotion of active diplomacy for development purposes.

➤ Major Challenges and Prospects

In a bid to ensure the successful implementation of the SDGs, Togo is firmly committed to meeting some major challenges in terms of statistical development, operationalization of the decentralization process and strengthening of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms with a view to ensuring the establishment of planning, monitoring and evaluation structures within the sectoral ministries.

In perspective, Togo is striving to strengthen its statistical output through the operationalization of the National Institute of Statistics and Economic & Demographic Studies, the development of a national mechanism for evaluating indicators, the finalization of the National Development Plan incorporating the SDGs and the mobilization of resources to finance its implementation.