

**TOGOLESE REPUBLIC**  
**Work – Freedom – Homeland**

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**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**TOGO COUNTRY REPORT**

**2018 Edition**



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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADAPT	: Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change
AEP/PWS	: Portable Water System
AGOA	: African Growth and Opportunity Act
AIC/CSA	: Climate-Smart Agriculture
ARMP	: Public Procurement Regulatory Authority
AT2ERPUDC	: Togolese Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Agency – Community Development Emergency Programme
AU	: African Union
AVE	: Village-Based Livestock Auxiliaries
BTA/ITS	: Improved Traditional Sheepfolds
CNDD	: National Commission for Sustainable Development
ECOWAS	: Economic Community of West African States
ESOP	: Service Enterprises and Producers’ Organization
FAO	: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
FCPF	: Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FNE	: National Environment Fund
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
HLPF	: High-Level Political Forum
HPP	: Human-Powered Pump
ICT	: Information and Communication Technologies
IMF	: International Monetary Fund
IWRM	: Integrated Water Resources Management
KWp	: Peak Kilowatt
MAPS	: Mainstreaming Accelerating and Policy Support
MIFA	: Incentive-based Mechanism for Agricultural Finance
MCC	: Millennium Challenge Corporation
MUTTA/ASATM	: African Single Air Transport Market - Community Development Emergency Programme
OFL	: Observatory for Local Finances
OTR	: Togolese Revenue Authority
PACED	: Community Programme for Access to Sustainable Energy
PAGLEMOC	: Local Governance Enhancement Project for Community Project Management
PGICT	: Integrated Disaster and Land Management Project
PIDU	: Infrastructure and Urban Development Project
PND/NDP	: National Development Plan
PNE	: National Water Policy
PNEA	: National Water and Sanitation Policy
PNH DU	: National Habitat and Urban Development Policy
PPED	: Energy Promotion Programme for Development
PRiset	: Togo Energy Sector Reform and Investment Project

PRSP	: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PTA	: Improved Traditional Poultry Houses
REDD +	: Reducing Emissions from Degradation and Deforestation
RIA	: Rapid Integrated Assessment
SCAPE	: Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion
SDAU	: Urban Development Master Plans
SDGs	: Sustainable Development Goals
SLM	: Sustainable Land Management
SIIEau	: Integrated Water Information System
SNMPR	: National Partnership and Resource Mobilization Strategy
SOTRAL	: Lomé Transport Company
UCT	: Union of Togolese Communes
UEMOA/WAEMU	: West African Economic and Monetary Union
ZAAP/PADA	: Planned Agricultural Development Zones
ZES/SEZ	: Special Economic Zones

## Opening Statement

As we gather to review the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Togo wishes to express delight for having been invited once again to present its report. Over this period the country took the firm commitment to mainstreaming the SDGs into all of its development policies.

Indeed, the Government resolutely embarked on a process to continuously improve economic and institutional governance. This led to speedy reduction of poverty rate, whilst maintaining Togo on a strong and sustainable growth trajectory averaging around 5% between 2015 and 2018. As a result, poverty rate dropped from 55.1% in 2015 to 52.1% in 2017. Likewise, unemployment and underemployment rates fell progressively, with the inflation rate kept in check at 0.8% in 2017. In this dynamic, the national debt dipped from 81.5% of the GDP in 2016 to less than 70% in 2018.

In 2017, total revenues and donations mobilized stood at 709.94 billion FCFA, presenting an increase of 2.1% compared to 2016. Total expenditure and net loans scheduled for the period dropped by 21.4% and stood at 717.74 billion FCFA. Thus, budgetary execution for 2017 registered a deficit (inclusive of grants) estimated at 7.8 billion FCFA, which represents 0.3% of the GDP.

In order to meet the increased need for resources to finance development, Togo maintained a steady pace not only in mobilizing domestic resources with growth averaging around 20%, but also in developing strategies to attract foreign direct investment. The reform program developed in agreement with key international institutions has been implemented, whereby the country secured, amongst other things, the approval of a support award to the tune of 35 million USD from the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), including the approval of an additional contribution from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The country also entered into an agreement with the IMF to accelerate the enhancement of the macroeconomic and budgetary framework.

And when it comes to partnership enhancement, Togo hosted more than twenty major international conferences, including the August 2017 AGOA Summit and the Extraordinary Session of the ECOWAS Heads of State held in April 2018, the Conference on the African Single Air Transport Market (ASATM/MUTAA) held in May 2018 and the ACP-EU Ministerial Conference held in June 2018. The country had also strengthened its presence at all major international gatherings, opened up to Latin America, Eastern Europe and Asia and mobilized new strategic partners.

This High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development intends to mobilise partners and offers Togo the opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to the implementation of the SDGs, to share its experiences and also learn from success stories from other partners in order to improve on its own development framework in the interest of its populations.

Within the framework of this forum, the Togolese Government would like to share its modest experience through initiatives and measures taken towards the effective implementation of the SDGs. One of the flagship measures taken by the Government is the preparation and adoption of the National Development Plan (NDP 2018-2022). Indeed, after having implemented the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE 2013-2017), the Government decided to endow the country with a National Development Plan (NDP), which henceforth constitutes the sole reference framework for development. In line with the 2020 vision of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the 2063 Agenda of the African Union (AU) and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this new framework seeks to embrace the two notions of "emergence" and "sustainable development" while focusing on the structural transformation of its economy to ensure a strong, sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth that could generate decent jobs and induce improved social well-being.

The implementation of the NDP will contribute in enhancing Togo's international reputation. It will also help improve social & financial inclusion and position the private sector to take over public investment, as well as enhance safety and security. This will translate into the implementation of programs and projects such as (i) the wide range port and the Lomé international airport modernisation projects (ii) the development of the North-South logistics corridor, (iii) the facilitation of connection between transport infrastructure facilities and special economic zones (SEZ), (iv) the creation of business tourism hubs around conference centres, (v) the creation of financial and business hubs around SEZs, (vi) the construction of industrial parks, the establishment of agropoles involving the execution of several activities and (vii) the development of educational, health and environmental projects. Ultimately, the NDP will enable the creation of 1,500,000 jobs (including indirect jobs and income-generating activities).

Several measures are underway to achieve these ambitions, notably the award of 20% of public procurement to Togolese young men and women entrepreneurs including the implementation of an incentive-based risk sharing system for agricultural lending called MIFA. MIFA will be endowed with 65 billion FCFA with a view to increasing the rate of agricultural lending from 0.3% to 5% of the overall credits to the economy.

When all is said and done, and bearing in mind the legitimate expectations of the populations and the numerous development challenges ahead, there is need for substantial resource mobilisation, synergy of actions, and indeed all stakeholders' hands should be on deck to help implement all these initiatives and measures. Therefore, the Togolese Government intends to further mobilize domestic funds and it is the hope of the Government that the international community, in particular the Technical and Financial Partners, will provide the necessary backing and support.

Togo's participation in three successive HLPFs testifies to the importance that the Government attaches to the national voluntary review process and the commitment by all stakeholders to report on their actions toward the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

## Executive Summary

This is the third time that Togo is undergoing a national voluntary review, which was set up by the United Nations since the adoption of the SDGs in September 2015.

The Government will seize the opportunity of this 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, placed under the theme "Transformation Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies", to duly take stock of efforts made towards the implementation of the SDGs under review, namely the SDGs 6; 7; 11; 12; 15 and 17.

This report was prepared not only in a participatory and inclusive fashion, but also involved all development stakeholders at all stages of its formulation. The process went through two main stages, namely: (i) preparation and collection of information, and (ii) drafting and validation of the report.

The process of integrating the SDGs into national planning instruments proceeded mainly through the finalization of the NDP for the period between 2018 and 2022. The SDGs are therefore implemented in line with this new plan, with an overall goal of "structurally transforming its economy to ensure a strong, sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth that could generate decent jobs and help improve social well-being". The NDP is designed around the following strategic focus areas: (i) to establish a logistics hub of excellence and a world-class business centre in the sub-region; (ii) to develop poles for agricultural processing, manufacturers and extractive industries; and (iii) to consolidate social development and strengthen inclusion mechanisms.

During the formulation phase of the NDP, the civil society organizations, the private sector and major groups, i.e. women, youth, traditional chiefs, were brought on board and indeed they contributed in preparing this report.

This 3<sup>rd</sup> HLPF seeks to assess the status of implementation of the following six (6) SDGs in Togo:

### **SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

Potable water supply rate rose from 50% in 2015 to 52% in 2017. But the country recorded a decline in the rate of access to wastewater management infrastructure from 7.4% in 2011 to 7% in 2007.

With respect to access to potable water, it is worth noting, amongst other things that 2,491 old boreholes were rehabilitated and fitted with human-powered pumps (HPP). The population, in particular the most disadvantaged ones, were provided with 906 new boreholes. Concerning the preservation of water resources, the following achievements have been made: (i) integrated water resources management (IWRM) measurement tools were provided; (ii) an integrated water information system (SIIEau) has been introduced, and (iii) the Volta and Mono River Basin Authorities were set up as part of efforts to enhance cooperation in the management of cross border water resources. In

terms of sanitation, fourth lakeside development projects were completed and this contributed in achieving cleanliness and better sanitation in the surrounding districts.

### **🏠 SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

The rate of access to electricity rose from 22.5% in 2008 to 35.6% in 2016, whereas rural electrification rate increased from 3% in 2008 to 6.3% in 2016.

Regarding access to electricity, an electrification project for the period 2017-2018 is underway. The said project, which covers about 271 rural communities will be executed within the remits of Togo Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Agency (AT2ER).

As regards access to sustainable energy for the rural and landlocked populations, four (4) solar photovoltaic solar power plants with a cumulative total capacity of 600 KWp have been installed, as well as 10,000 solar streetlights in the five regions of Togo.

On behalf of the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister launched the Togo electrification strategy on 27 June 2018. Also present at the launching ceremony were Mme Ségolène Royal, the French Special Envoy for the Alliance Solaire Internationale, financial partners, as well as private sector representatives, who pledged their commitment in supporting the Togolese government in achieving its ambition to expand electrification nationwide.

This new strategy seeks to shift electrification paradigm. In adopting this strategy, Togo firmly commits itself to the achievement of energy transition and ease access of all Togolese to power by 2030. The validated strategy will be implemented in three operational phases, each of which focusing on the following clear-cut objectives:

- the demonstration phase from 2018 to 2020, targetting an increase in the current electrification rate from 38% to 50% ;
- the acceleration phase from 2021 to 2025, during which period will increase electrification rate from 50% to 75%, and finally,
- the consolidation phase from 2026 to 2030, during which period the country seeks to achieve the optimal electrification rate of 100%.

In order to achieve these outcomes, Togo intends to bring the private sector on board and introduce a combination of electrification technologies, ranging from individual solar kits to mini-power plants. The country also intends to expand and densify the standard grid. 550,000 households in over 2,000 communities will be electrified, and finally 1,000 new communities will be connected to the national power grid. Furthermore, tremendous densification efforts have been made to connect 400,000 households without power supply although they are located in electrified communities.

## **🏠 SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

In terms of the harmonious and spatially balanced development of urban centres, the proportion of communities harbouring above 5,000 inhabitants with updated development and town planning master plans (SDAU) increased from 31% in 2015 to 37% in 2017.

As part of efforts to promote safe, resilient and sustainable housing the Government built 540 social housing units. In addition, 3 major housing estates are under construction by private developers. With regard to the management of household waste, a technical landfill site with a capacity to contain 250,000 tons of household waste per annum and a plastic waste recycling centre have been built.

## **🌾 SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

In the area of agricultural production, more than 1,343 hectares of irrigated lands and lowlands have been developed with high geared water control facilities. 20 planned agricultural development zones (ZAAP), covering 1,729 hectares, have also been developed, easing access to land to more than 2,561 producers. In addition, the Government initiated in 2017, a process to develop a soil fertility map covering 3,600,000 hectares of arable lands.

Furthermore, in order to ensure that our products are sustainably competitive and meet quality standards, the Government passed a Framework Law establishing High Authority for Quality and Environmental Standards (HAUQE) along with its standardization, licensing, certification, accreditation, metrology and environmental bodies, backed by a National Fund for Quality Promotion (FNPQ).

Regarding the promotion of sustainable public procurement in Togo, the project called "Sustainable Public Procurement and Eco-labeling" was launched and will ultimately pave the way for a national policy on Sustainable Public Procurement and its action plan.

In order to bring everyone on board, the Government resolved on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018 to dedicate 20% of its public procurement to young men and women entrepreneurs. In this context, a website has been created and dedicated to this category of entrepreneurs. This made it possible to identify 600 women out of a total of 2,500 registered entrepreneurs. Their capacities are regularly built so they can successfully apply for calls for tenders via simplified procurement procedures.

## **🌳 SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

In Togo, forestry resources coverage rate stands at 24.24%. When it comes to sustainable forest management and in particular reforestation, 6,064 hectares of new state-owned plantations have been developed, coupled with the restoration of 7,364

hectares of forests, and the reforestation of 1,060 hectares of new community plantations.

A total of 45,047 hectares of plantations have been protected from bushfire/wildland fire.

As part of the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (SPANB), Togo launched a wide range process to set the boundaries of and secure its protected areas. The Government reached a consensus with the local communities as it sought to set these boundary. As a result, 7.4% of the territory has been secured. So the portion of protected territory secured for biodiversity conservation has increased from 7% in 2015 to 7.4% in 2017.

### **🌱 SDG 17: revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development and strengthen the means of implementation of this partnership**

With respect to the revitalization of the global partnership for sustainable development and the need to strengthen the means for the implementation of this partnership, Togo had placed emphasis on the mobilization of both domestic and foreign resources.

Following the reforms that led to the establishment of the Togolese Revenue Authority (OTR), which significantly strengthened the mobilization of domestic State revenue, the Government established a public holding company called Togo Invest Corporation as well as a Committee for consultations between the State and the private sector in a bid to optimize public-private partnerships for major investments and foster a sound business climate.

At the local level, a process for the production of a taxpayer sheet was launched in five (5) communes of Togo with a view to mobilizing local revenues.

In 2018, Togo successfully implemented the necessary reforms that enabled it to benefit from a Threshold Program funding totalling US\$35 million awarded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) from the United States of America.

Since 2017, Togo has benefited from the AGOA textile visa award, which allows it to export its textile products and clothes to the United States on preferential terms. In 2018, Togo created an autonomous entity MIFA, "an incentive-based risk sharing agricultural lending mechanism" to help increase agricultural lending from 0.3% to 5% of all credits granted to the economy.

Regarding the implementation of the SDGs, Togo faces the following major challenges: safe land tenure rights, decentralization, digitization of the economy, setting a national statistical system, strengthening of human resource capacities and financing of the economy.

In Togo, the ambition of the SDGs perfectly translates into the NDP with emphasis placed on wealth creation and redistribution. All that is now required is to couple the NDP's monitoring and evaluation framework with that of the SDGs. The success of this approach will essentially depend on the mobilization of all stakeholders, notably by organizing a partners' roundtable to raise fund for the NDP.

## **I. Introduction**

This third edition of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development scheduled in New York from 9 to 18 July 2018, is focused on the theme "Transformation Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies".

It should be recalled that this exercise, which falls within the ambit of paragraph 84 of the 2030 Agenda on Regular Peer Review under the umbrella of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, is carried out voluntarily by the States with a view to sharing the experiences, achievements and challenges faced during the implementation of the SDGs.

In this respect, the third edition of this forum is dedicated to the review of the SDG 6, to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; SDG 7, to ensure access to affordable reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all; SDG 11, to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; SDG 12, to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; SDG 15, to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss; and SDG 17, revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development and strengthen the means of implementation of this partnership.

The country report of Togo, which is participating for the third consecutive time in this forum, is essentially structured around two item points, namely: the SDGs framework which are built on innovations introduced in the development planning approach and Highlights on identified SDGs with emphasis on achievements, challenges and prospects.

## **II. Methodology and Report Preparation Process**

In accordance with the underlying principles of Agenda 2030, which advocates for a participatory and inclusive process, Togo, for the third consecutive year, presents its Country Report to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), for the 2018 Edition themed "Transformation Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies". Togo's Country Report was indeed formulated in accordance with the prescribed participative approach involving all stakeholders: public administration, local authorities, civil society, private sector under the supervision and coordination of a technical team composed of the Presidency of the Republic, the Prime Ministry, Ministry of Development Planning, including the Technical and Financial Partners.

The preparation of the report was carried out in six (6) stages:

- ✿ Stage 1: Update of the data collection questionnaire used during the second review.

This stage enabled the update of the data collection questionnaire used at the last session based on the SDGs selected for 2018: SDGs 6; 7; 11, 12, 15 and 17;

## 🗄 Stage 2: Preparatory Kick-off Workshop

The inception workshop held on 16 March 2018 was attended by more than 150 people representing the institutions of the Republic, the public administration, the local administration, the civil society, the private sector including the technical and financial partners. This workshop enabled the participants to draw lessons from the HLPF 2017 edition, agree on the methodology and adopt the tools for the preparation of this report (questionnaire, dashboard of indicators);

## 🗄 Stage 3: Data Collection

The data collection which was conducted from 20 March to 6 April, 2018 enabled the gathering of necessary information from the various stakeholders for purposes of data analysis and processing;

## 🗄 Stage 4: Drafting of the Preliminary Report

This stage allowed for the adoption of a reporting template in accordance with the common guidelines adopted for national voluntary peer reviews. Subsequently, a cross-sectoral team set up for this purpose proceeded with the drafting of the preliminary report;

## 🗄 Stage 5: Validation of the Report

The preliminary report was considered at a national validation workshop during which all the invited stakeholders contributed to its enrichment;

## 🗄 Stage 6: Editing and Dissemination

The final version of the document available in French was translated into English for its accessibility to a much wider audience. Both French and English versions of the Final Report have been published and disseminated at the national level (transmission to the various stakeholders) and at the international level (during the HLPF in New York).

Owing to the diversity and calibre of stakeholders that participated in the exercise, this methodological approach helped strengthen the global and inclusive participatory approach so much desired for the integration and implementation of SDGs. It made it possible to take into account all of the efforts deployed by the stakeholders and the synergy of efforts generated among the various stakeholders.

### **III. Framework for the implementation of SDGs in Togo: the National Development Plan (NDP)**

The NDP is the reference framework for development in Togo and sets out all the mechanisms and procedures for implementing the SDGs. Within the framework of this report, it would be appropriate to indicate the NDP finalization process and to highlight the priorities set out by the said plan.

#### ***3.1- Process for the finalisation of the 2018-2022 NDP***

In July 2017, when Togo presented its report to the second edition of the HLPF, the NDP was in the process of formulation with a preliminary draft proposing to debate on five (5) strategic focus areas.

As a reminder, the NDP formulation phase involved four main stages, namely: (i) the situation analysis (ii) the diagnostic analysis, (iii) the strategic framework, and (iv) drafting of the document. These various stages were inclusive and participatory involving all the categories of actors and stakeholders.

The situation analysis was performed in two steps. The first resulted in consultations between the various development actors within the framework of SCAPE review and the second in an exercise for the prioritization of the Sustainable Development Goal targets, which consisted in assessing the level of implementation of the major concerns of the populations based on the SDG Target Prioritization Grid (TPG). These exercises were carried out throughout the national territory. Among the 169 SDG targets, 60 targets appeared recurrent, thus reflecting the priority needs expressed by the populations.

These identified needs were analysed in comparison to the other priorities, notably those contained in the social project of the Head of State, the residual challenges of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) highlighted by the analysis based on an assessment of the latter and the priorities of the 2063 Agenda of the African Union (AU), those of the 2020 vision of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) as well as other international commitments on sustainable development. The key priorities identified at the conclusion of the analysis formed the basis for the strategic framework.

The Strategic Framework consisted in grouping the priorities so-determined according to the strategic goals and themes they address in view of their alignment with the strategic orientations of the country's 2030 vision. These groupings helped to identify five (5) strategic focus areas for the NDP: (i) improve the well-being of the people and enable them to fulfil their potential ; (ii) improve the productivity and competitiveness of the growth sectors ; (iii) strengthen infrastructure that supports growth; (iv) ensure sustainable management of the territory, environment and living conditions, and (v) strengthen governance and consolidate peace.

The last phase of the NDP formulation process entailed giving a content to the various axes defined, which permitted to come forth with a preliminary version.

This version of the NDP went through a complementary exercise to ensure intersectorality between the different interventions, a balanced consideration of the three dimensions of sustainable development via the SDG targets and a linkage with the country's development vision.

This exercise was performed by means of the Rapid Integrated Assessment Tool (RIA)<sup>1</sup> through an inclusive and participative approach with the strong involvement of all the development actors at both the central and local levels.

The information generated by this tool and the conclusions of the High-Level Government Seminar on the Integrated Development Plan chaired by the Head of State, helped to bridge, through a concerted governance approach, the gap noted in the consideration of various actions that would lead to the structural transformation of the Togolese economy. This exercise led to a strategic reorientation of the NDP hinged on three (3) interrelated strategic axes, namely:

- ✚ Strategic Axis 1: Establish a logistics hub of excellence and a world-class business centre in the sub-region;
- ✚ Strategic Axis 2: Develop poles for agricultural processing, manufacturers and extractive industries;
- ✚ Strategic Axis 3: Consolidate social development and strengthen inclusion mechanisms.

On the basis of this new NDP configuration, Togo now has a reference document that provides clear guidelines for the transformation of the economy for sustainable growth and the effective redistribution of national revenues arising from this growth.

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<sup>1</sup> The RIA is a tool developed by the Bureau for Policy and Program Support (BPPS / UNDP), in contribution to the operationalization of the SDG contextualization (it corresponds to the third step of the MAPS strategy (Mainstreaming, Accelerating and Policy Support) of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) to support Governments in implementing the SDGs at the national / regional level.

### ***3.2- Priorities of the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022***

Through the NDP, Togo has set as priority over the five years horizon to **structurally transform its economy to ensure a strong, sustainable, resilient, inclusive growth susceptible of generating decent jobs that will induce improved social well-being.** . The objective is to achieve a strong and inclusive growth of 7.6% by 2022. Thus, the structural transformation of the economy will proceed through:

- ***The establishment of a logistics hub of excellence and a world-class business centre in the sub-region, notably through improvement of existing infrastructure, multimodal connectivity and ICT.***

Achieving this ambition will be accompanied by strengthening of the business environment. In this context, Togo intends to rely on its geographical position and its modern infrastructure in this case the airport and the deep-water port which is currently equipped with a third wharf. In addition, the country intends to make further progress in improving the business climate. Indeed, significant progress has been made in this area as evidenced by Togo's ranking in 2016 among the most business reforming countries according to the Doing Business report. These achievements will further contribute to the development of the private sector in the coming years and make Lomé a prime business centre in the sub-region.

- ***The revitalization and modernization of agriculture and industry adapted to national realities geared at economic diversification that will generate decent jobs, help reduce the poverty incidence and inequalities, and widen access to basic social services***

Through this pillar, it is for the Government to focus on the development of an agricultural processing pole through the value chains approach in targeted sectors to improve productivity, ensure food security and nutrition, reduce the agricultural trade balance deficit and to massively create agricultural jobs. To this end, with the support of the private sector and development partners, it will devote more resources to the agriculture sector with innovative mechanisms for adequate financing. These resources will be used primarily to modernize agriculture, especially to improve performance through the development of appropriate mechanization, water management and strengthening of cooperatives related to the processing sector and most especially to upgrade the research centre including the Togolese Institute for Agronomic Research as well as agricultural training centres. They will also help to set up agropoles<sup>2</sup> around

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<sup>2</sup> An Agropole constitutes "a set of enterprises marked out in a given geographical area, which maintain functional relations in their respective activities: production, processing, support services and commercialization of any given crop, livestock or fishery product ". It is also "a zone for agricultural or agro-industrial and logistics activities, which brings together several players of varying calibre and technical & technological expertise , specializing in one or more targeted agricultural sectors."

high value-added sectors and to install a major processing plant per targeted high value-added sector.

Furthermore, the Government's action will focus on the establishment of a pole for manufacturing and extractive industries (in linkage with the establishment of a logistics centre of excellence) because it considers the industry and mines sectors as the primary growth engines susceptible of boosting the growth pace as well as the essential pillars for the structural transformation of the economy. Indeed, a significant growth in manufacturing and extractive activities is essential for the creation of job opportunities. In this perspective, it will focus on putting in place coherent policies (simplification of procedures and incentives) that promote (i) the integration of production units in the SEZ and the development of the textile industry centered on top-of-the-range products for export, and (ii) the development of value chains for the extractive industries sub-sector (promotion of a fertilizer production chain, development of building materials, etc.).

***- The Consolidation of the social base and strengthening of inclusion mechanisms so as to position the Togolese national as the prime actor and prime beneficiary of the country's development .***

Under this pillar, the NDP will place special emphasis on: (i) vocational training, which is a central element for improving the productivity of the economy, accelerating youth employment and reducing social inequalities, (ii) ) social protection for the gradual and extensive inclusion of all segments of the population and to strengthen the contribution of the social sector to wealth creation, (iii) corporate social responsibility to enhance the accountability of the citizenry in order to ensure protection of rights, and (iv) continued efforts to improve the quality and access to basic social services, notably general education, healthcare, nutrition, energy services, water, sanitation and environmental protection.

The guiding principles formulated to govern the implementation of the NDP are: (i) leadership and ownership, (ii) partnership and mutual accountability, (iii) results-based management and sustainability, and (iv) equity, gender and inclusion.

In order to ensure efficient monitoring and resource mobilization, the Government intends to rely on existing structures, notably the coordination structures of the ministries in charge of planning and finance, including the special monitoring and enforcement units under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic. This mechanism, fully integrating the private sector and the civil society, will be composed as follows:

- a National Development Council: structure positioned at the strategic level, which will be responsible for strategic orientations and monitoring of results;
- a Strategic Secretariat that will provide support to the national development council and shall be responsible for coordinating the monitoring of efforts deployed;
- an Operational Secretariat set up by the PRSP Technical Secretariat and responsible for daily facilitation of the activities of the integrated monitoring mechanism.

At both the regional and local levels, regional and local development and planning commissions shall be put in place and their technical committees shall be constituted under the framework law on territorial planning.

All the ministries forming the governance architecture, including the public institutions, the local/public administrations and the decentralized territorial authorities, altogether constitute the institutional actors responsible for the implementation of the NDP. The private sector and the civil society, as partners of the State, are strongly involved in the definition and realization of certain specific components. The development partners shall also be called upon to provide the State and other national development actors with appropriate technical and financial assistance, as and when required.

Ultimately, the structural transformation of the economy via the implementation of the NDP should accelerate Togo's progress towards emergence, through rapid and sustained growth over time, to the extent of achieving a high intermediate income revenue, a significant reduction in poverty, a strong agricultural and industrial base, and a concomitant rise of the middle class to sustainably support the growth process.

#### **IV. Progress on the SDGs and targets with a focus on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 6; 7; 11; 12; 15; 17**

##### **4.1 SDG6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

With regard to access to potable water, hygiene and sanitation services, the Government had since 2015 embarked on the process of updating the National Water Policy (PNE) adopted in 2010. The new National Water and Sanitation Policy (PNEA) presented at the government seminar on 29 March 2017, aims to (i) preserve water resources for the development of all socio-economic activities; (ii) improve access to potable water services; (iii) improve access to adequate sanitation and hygiene services; (iv) improve governance, the institutional framework and develop support instruments adapted to the new vision. In order to ensure consistency in the implementation of the policy, the department responsible for this sector has been established as a full-fledged ministry.

The potable water supply rate increased from 50% in 2015 to 52% in 2017. However, there was a decline in the rate of access to wastewater management infrastructure, which dropped from 7.4% in 2011 to 7% in 2007.

In terms of water resource preservation, the efforts deployed to put in place 17 piezometers, 19 hydrometric stations, 9 automatic weather stations, 3 synoptic stations and 4 climate stations helped to strengthen the national network of hydrological measurements, whose operational stations increased from 33 to 52 between 2015 and 2017. Furthermore, it had been also possible to carry out monthly piezometric measurement and gauging campaigns at 7 hydrological stations in Togo's lake basin. It should also be noted that an integrated water information system (SIIeau) has been put in place, 28 permits have been granted to water-conditioned producers, 5 application decrees have been signed relating to the Water Code, the development of the Hydrological Yearbook which provides information on the hydrological balance of the country's river basins (Oti, Lac Togo and Mono) and the participation of Togo in the establishment of the Volta and Mono Basin Authorities within the framework of the cross-border water management cooperation.

As regards access to potable water, 2,491 old boreholes equipped with human-powered pumps (HPP) have been rehabilitated and 906 new boreholes equipped with HPP completed, 4 of which are equipped with a mixed pumping system (solar and manual). One (1) mini-AEP/PWS and three (3) AEP/PWS have been built. All of these achievements enabled to attain a delivery service rate of 52.19%. Moreover, under the Community Development Emergency Programme (PUDC), Togo has initiated the process for the installation of 629 HPP boreholes, 50 of which equipped with a mixed pumping system, including the rehabilitation of 54 mini-AEP.



In terms of rainwater sanitation, the development of the fourth lake and the sanitation of surrounding neighbourhoods have enabled the dredging of 652,000 m<sup>3</sup> of the lake's volume, 7,849 meters of the linear collector and 19,625 meters of the linear canal. This action combined with the regular maintenance of the 10 retention basins have helped to reduce flood and waterborne diseases related problems in the concerned areas. In addition, the country has developed sanitation master plans for the cities of Tsévié, Atakpamé, Sokodé, Kara and Dapaong.



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4ème Lac

Togo has experimented with a good management mechanism through the establishment of water committees and water user associations for the management of their water points in rural and semi-urban areas. However, this mechanism is experiencing difficulties in some localities due to lack of ownership by and involvement of the beneficiaries. There are plans to strengthen awareness-raising and the monitoring system.

This sector's principal challenge is management of water resources for socio-economic uses. There is a contradiction between periods of abundance (precipitation) and periods of drought.

Over the next five (5) years, Togo seeks to improve the institutional framework of water resources management through the establishment of water basin committees and water basin agencies, to develop a master plan for the Oti<sup>3</sup> river basin; strengthen the system of collection, processing and dissemination of information on water resources through the construction of 53 piezometers and 70 hydrometric stations; increase the potable water supply rate at the national level to above 68%; and increase the proportion of the population with access to a domestic sewage disposal facility to above 22.5% as against the current 7%.

<sup>3</sup> River located in the North of Togo

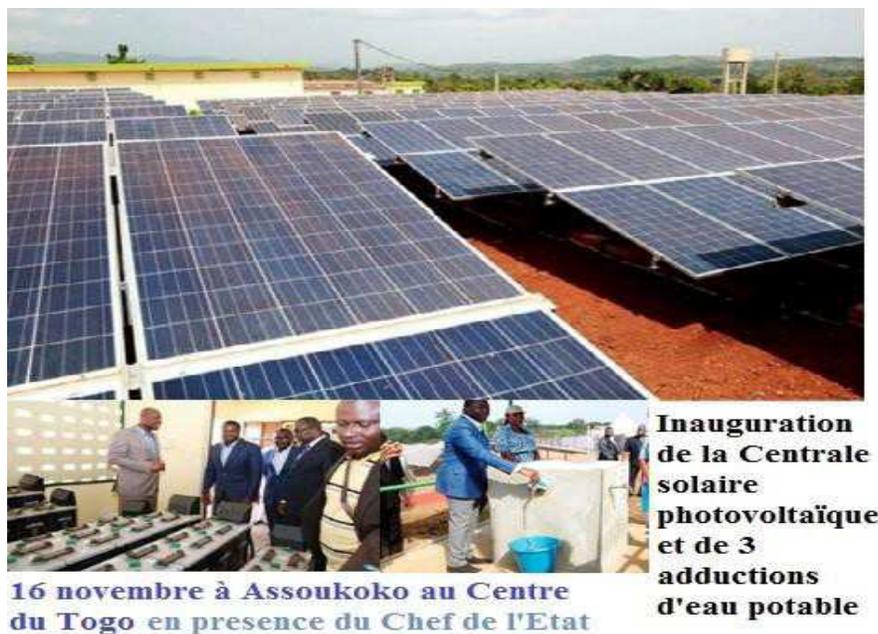
The Union of Togolese Communes (UCT) has initiated, under the Local Governance Enhancement Project for Community Project Management (PAGLEMOC), actions aimed at strengthening the capacity of the communes in the management of water, hygiene and sanitation projects. These include: (i) support the development of sectoral plans for potable water, hygiene and sanitation in five (5) communes in Togo; (ii) support 5 communes in setting up a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for potable water, hygiene and sanitation; (iii) strengthen the capacity of 60 communal technical service agents and local committees in the management of the potable water, hygiene and sanitation sector; and (iv) facilitate household access to potable water and sanitation through the expansion of the potable water and sanitation network.

#### **4.2 SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

The policy of the Togolese Government in this area seeks to: (i) improve the governance framework and competitiveness of the energy sector; (ii) supply and ensure access to modern and high-quality energy services for all; and (iii) develop renewable energy and promote clean technologies, energy conservation and energy efficiency. This strategy has achieved significant results in recent years. Indeed, the electricity access rate rose from 22.5% in 2008 to 35.6% in 2016. With regard to rural electrification, this rate increased from 3% in 2008 to 6.3% in 2016. In this respect, the rural electrification of about 271 localities is underway over the period 2017-2018 under the coordination of the Togolese Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Agency (AT2ER).

In terms of access to sustainable energy for landlocked populations, 10,000 solar street lights have been installed in Togo's five regions, including 7,000 standard solar streetlights, 2,000 solar streetlights with 5 outlets for charging appliances and 1,000 solar streetlights with 5 outlets for charging devices and a Wi-Fi "spot" for internet connection. In addition, the support of civil society organizations, through the implementation of the "Togo Smoke Free" programme, has allowed the popularization of more than 2,000 solar lamps.

Yet still in the context of renewable energy development and promotion of clean technologies, energy conservation and energy efficiency, the government installed in 2017, four (4) photovoltaic solar micro-plants with a cumulative total capacity of 600 KWp in rural areas.



In a bid to ensure that the populations gain access to energy at least cost, the Government developed in 2017 the Togo Energy Sector Reforms and Investment Project (PRISET) for: i) the rehabilitation of the electricity grid in the city of Lomé; (ii) the development of a new master plan for the electricity sector; and (iii) the development of a tariff study.

Within the framework of the Global Fuel Economy Initiative (GFEI), Togo, with the support of the International Automobile Foundation (FIA), launched the "Low-Emission Sustainable Transportation" project on 31 March 2017. This project helped to: (i) inventory new and used vehicles (cars, motorcycles) imported in 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2016 and (ii) develop the strategy for the promotion of fuel economy and low emission transport for the period 2018-2027.

In perspective, it should be noted that the implementation of the Cizo<sup>4</sup> project, a presidential initiative launched on 2 December 2017, is expected to distribute 20,000 kits in its pilot phase. On a scale, this translates to two million Togolese nationals, i.e. 300,000 households that will be able to gain access to electricity by 2022 through individual solar kits paid by instalments via mobile money (PayGo). Plans are underway for the deployment of solar academies that will train 3,000 technicians over the period 2017/2018 within Togo's 5 regions.

<sup>4</sup> Cizo means "light up" in one of the local dialects of the country.

The civil society organizations have launched several projects/programs including the Community Programme for Access to Sustainable Energy (PACED) aimed at enabling 100,000 households in rural areas to enjoy the benefits of the utilization and generation of environmentally-friendly and sustainable energy. At the decentralized level, resources have been mobilized for the implementation of the Energy Promotion Programme for Development (PPED) in a pilot Commune to facilitate sustainable access to essential services for the masses, notably access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and energy efficiency.



#### **4.3 SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

The government adopted the *National Housing Strategy (SNL)* in 2009 *and in 2014 developed* the National Habitat and Urban Development Policy (PNH DU). The latter is aimed at: (i) the harmonious and spatially balanced development of urban centres; (ii) facilitating access to decent housing; and (iii) the rational and sustainable management of waste.

In this perspective, it signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on 15 November 2017 to promote healthy, viable and sustainable human settlements as part of the implementation of the New Sustainable Urban Development Agenda adopted in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016.

In terms of harmonious and spatially balanced development, Togo has adopted a national policy and a law on regional planning. The proportion of localities harbouring above 5,000 inhabitants with updated development and town planning master plans (SDAU) increased from 31% in 2015 to 37% in 2017.

In terms of the development of open spaces, 25,557 m<sup>2</sup> of green spaces have been developed in the city of Lomé since 2016. In addition, the landscaping of the surroundings and medians of public roads has been systematized in major cities.

With respect to facilitating access to decent housing, 540 social housing units are being built in Lomé, in the pilot phase. In addition, land acquired by the State for construction of social housing has increased from 13 hectares in 2016 to 36 hectares in 2017.

In support of the Government's actions, three (3) major housing estates ("Cité des Anges", "Well City" and "Cité de la Renaissance") are being built by the private sector.

**With regard to the promotion of resilient housing and energy efficiency**, the number of compressed earth blocks (derived from local resources) produced per year increased from 71,356 in 2015 to 88,560 in 2016 and to 62,830 in 2017.

Moreover, the legal and institutional reforms have helped to reduce the deadline for obtaining building permits from 250 days in 2015 to 30 days in 2017 and the related costs have decreased from 300,000 FCFA to 30,000 FCFA.

In order to ensure access to a safe, accessible and viable transport system through the development of public transport, the Government has made the Lomé Transport Company (SOTRAL) operational with a social tariff policy.

In respect to rational and sustainable waste management, 243 non-regulatory garbage dumps were eliminated between 2016 and 2017 and 500 garbage cans were installed along public arteries and spaces in the city of Lomé in 2017. In addition, it is noteworthy to mention the construction of a landfill with a capacity to contain 250,000 tonnes of household waste per annum. Furthermore, more than 500 tons of plastic bags have been collected and recycled and 3,000 households have been sensitized on the selective sorting of waste at the source.



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In order to avoid conflicts and reluctance which often result from the implementation of development plans and urban planning policies in the field, a new coordinated development approach has been adopted, i.e. government technical officers, the private sector and the landowners manage in an integrated fashion land subdivision operations using a participatory approach. This approach is being tested in the Nimanya, Alinka and Davié areas in the Lakes, Agoenyivé and Zio prefectures respectively.

Securing land tenure rights has been identified as a major challenge in the areas of housing and urban development. In this regard, the law pertaining to the code on private and State-owned lands, which was adopted by the National Assembly on 05 June 2018, is an appropriate response.

**As part of efforts to develop this sector, the government intends to:** (i) increase the proportion of municipalities with up-to-date land use and urban master plans from 33% in 2017 to 41% by 2022; (ii) pursue the building of social housing units with a second component of 2,500 housing units, the overall goal being to build 5,000 social housing units per annum by 2020 in accordance with the Government's policy statement; (iii) implement the Infrastructure and Urban Development Project (PIDU) jointly funded by the Government and the World Bank over a period of five (5) years in six (06) cities; (iv) update the national housing and urban development policy; (v) develop a green urbanization program in Togo; (vi) operationalize a Housing Bank and an urban land works and construction company; and (vii) the development of an urban transport plan for the city of Lomé.

#### **4.4 SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

As part of efforts to sustain consumption and production in line with its agriculture modernization program, Togo has adopted an agricultural policy for the 2016-2030 period, which builds on four priority areas: (i) to increase sustainable production in the agricultural sector and ensure value addition; (ii) to improve access to factors of production and modernize production infrastructure; (iii) to promote technological innovation, vocational training and ensure the dissemination of best techniques to help transform agriculture; (iv) to improve governance, the institutional framework, and to develop support instruments in line with the new vision.

**In the area of sustainable production growth in the agricultural sector and value addition**, certified cereal seed averaging 7,000 tonnes (maize, rice, sorghum), pulses (cowpea, soy, peanut) are supplied every year.

In order to come up with innovative smart fertilization solutions, a fundamental pillar for the improvement of agricultural production, Togo launched the development and

the implement of a countrywide fertility map, which covers 3,600,000 hectares of cultivable land with a view to achieving competitive and sustainable agriculture. This map will eventually allow accurate need identification in terms of crop nutrients. In the identification process, due care will be taken of the country's agricultural potentials and the variety of soils. This will also help in rolling out a smart fertilization program through the development of an expert system using the Geographic Information System format (GIS). Recommendations will then be made as to which fertilizers are needed for targeted crops in the country. During the first phase, a soil fertility map has been produced for the 100,000 hectare pilot site under cultivation.

In order to revive and ensure sustainability in the coffee-cocoa subsector, the following activities were carried: (i) high-performance plant inputs material (including over 1,147,682 cuttings and 118,392 cocoa pods were produced/purchased and distributed at subsidized price to the farmers; (ii) regeneration of old plantations (20,809 ha of coffee trees and 11,115 ha of cocoa trees).

As part of efforts to promote the processing and marketing of local agricultural products, various actions were taken, leading to: (i) the establishment of 20 Producers and Service Providers' Companies and Organizations (ESOPs), which process rice, honey, pineapple, soybean and peanuts (these commodities are processed into oil and cake products) with 13,979 beneficiary producers, 39.77% of whom are women; (ii) 700 gins; 100 rice husking machines, 150 threshing-machines and fanning-mills, 250 pressing machines, 1,250 tarpaulins are distributed; (iii) 5 high-yielding varieties of rice (IR841, Nerica-L-20, Accession 5, Green Hat Chapeau vert and TGR 203) have been identified, and the use of the following quantity of fertilisers is regarded to be economically viable, i.e. 300 kg / ha of NPK (15-15-15) + 150 kg / ha of Urea (46%).

#### **Box 1: Producers' and Service providers Companies and Organizations**

An ESOP is a social enterprise model that establishes a commercial and institutional alliance between private entrepreneurs and organized producers in order to adequately meet demands that are not yet or poorly addressed. ESOPs "Producer and Service Provider companies and Organisations" aim to develop family farming by promoting competitive and profitable local agro-food channels for small-scale producers. They also aim to connect producers to profitable markets and sustain such connection in order to increase and secure their incomes. The ESOP model combines economic efficiency and social development.

#### In terms of achievements:

- A total of 20 ESOPs were created, including 10 ESOP rice, 5 ESOP soya 2 ESOP honey, 2 ESOP pineapple and one (01) ESOP Cassava.
- A total of 13,979 producer beneficiaries, 39.77% of whom are women.
- 2,134 tonnes of rice is being processed
- A total of 2.0418 billion FCFA have been distributed in rural areas using proceeds of producers' sales to ESOP

**In order to support animal production,** 2.166 million small ruminants were immunised against plague; 13,234 million poultry were vaccinated against the Newcastle disease; 948 Village Livestock Auxiliaries (AVEs), 304 agricultural advisors (CRA), and 7,579 livestock farmers were trained; more than 4,424 improved traditional hen houses (PTA), and 3,280 improved traditional sheep barns (BTA) were built; nearly 8,979 breeding spawners were introduced into family farm yards (including 3,679 small ruminants and 5,300 chicken spawners); and 4,235 beacons, which were manufactured and installed to set the boundaries of corridors and pathways as well as 15 pastoral boreholes, so to better manage and address transhumance issues.

**With regard to fish production,** 186 modern fish farms were provided with 266 tons of feed and 1,119,550 fry at subsidized price; and 172 technicians were trained in the field. Three water body management sites (Lac Nangbéto, Koumfab dam, lagoon system) were developed; 6,000 regulation-sized mesh nets, 18,500 reels were distributed, and 15 water bodies of water were stocked (733,500 fry).

**As for efforts to promote fish processing,** 73 improved ovens and a smoking platform for 400 women were built. In addition, 320 women (smokers, processors, fryers) were trained. It should also be noted that a new fishing port has been built.

In addition, civil society organizations, through the implementation of the "Togo Smoke -Free" program, have supported the installation of more than 2,000 improved wood-burning stoves in 13 communities across the country. More than 50 promoters of these stoves were trained on manufacturing techniques. More than 1,000 improved coal-burning stoves were made available.

In order to improve access to factors of production and modernize production infrastructure, it should be noted that: (i) more than 1,343 hectares of irrigated sites and lowlands were developed and were equipped with full water management system (this allowed famers to complete 3 cycles of production of rice and other off-season crop per year);(ii) the distribution of 300 low-pressure micro-irrigation kits to promote micro-irrigation (drip irrigation) to farmers cooperatives and (iii) the construction of at least 350 agricultural storage and marketing facilities (stores, market sheds, processing equipment shelters) for various types of commodities across the country to support efforts towards production and marketing by rural actors. A total of approximately 44,580 tonnes of storage capacity has been made available.

## **Box 2: Planned Agricultural Development Zones (ZAAP)**

In Togo, ZAAPs are large developed areas (of minimum 50 hectares) to be made available to small producers for their own use. ZAAP aims to seize the opportunities offered in the agriculture sector in Togo to address a number of challenges, including: (i) land insecurity; (ii) low rate of mechanization; (iii) low irrigation rate; (iv) poor agricultural lending by banks; (v) very poorly developed agro-industrial sector; (vi) marketing difficulty; (vii) pressure on the environment; (viii) weak organization of producers.

### **Operation of ZAAPs**

- **Land management:** it should be noted that the strategy seeks to achieve better land security. Up until now, land is secured only through an agreement in principle or a simple agreement contract signed with the producers. On ZAAP sites, the producers are granted authorisation to grow perennial crops such as cashew nut and occupy the land space over a minimum period of 30 years. This long period requires of the landowner to perform land security formalities and secure it for future generations, thus the need for formal notarized land deeds.
- **Water control:** In view of the harmful effects of climate change in recent years, the producers' efforts were more or less undermined because of lack of rain, thus the need for irrigation systems to be in place in each of the ZAAP.
- **Mechanization:** at the ZAAP sites, the State provided the cooperatives with tractors. It has been decided to privately manage on ground the agricultural equipment that are provided.
- **Product marketing:** At the start of the ZAAP project, food security was an issue in the country. Maize and other food products were mainly produced. Today, there is a need to shift to more promising crops such as rice and other profitable commodities. Storage facilities must be provided on each ZAAP site to avoid that produce is sold at a cheap price.
- The strategy provides that ZAAP reforestation covers 1/10 of the land.

### **Outcomes**

Implementation of 20 ZAAPs with 1,729 ha of improved land, access to more than 2,561 producers (70% of whom are young and 45% female);

- The construction of ten (10) water reservoirs and water intakes for market gardening purposes not only allowed women in particular to develop income-generating activities but also to reduce pressure on the replanted areas.

With respect to industrial sector output, the Harmonized Industrial Production Index (IHPI) increased from 97.3 in 2016 to 109.9 in 2017. In order to ensure sustainable productivity as well as quality-compliance industrial production, the Togolese Government has set up the High Authority for Quality and the Environment (HAUQE), whose task is it to guarantee consumption, facilitate exports and ensure competitiveness in the sector.

Regarding the promotion of sustainable public procurement in Togo, the government signed on 23 October 2015, a micro-financing agreement with UN-Environment with a view to implementing the "Sustainable public procurement and eco-labeling" project. This project aims to build the capacity of the administration through the sensitization of local decision-makers and the training of procurement professionals. It provides

technical assistance for the development and the coordinated implementation of sustainable public procurement (APD) and eco-labeling policies.

In the preparation phase of this project, the government set up an interministerial committee to monitor the process of developing the national strategy for APD. A legal study on APDs was carried out and made available to the Procurement Regulation Authority (ARMP).

In order to carry everyone on board, the government, under the leadership of the President of the Republic, decided on 1st February 2018 to secure 20% of public procurement to the youth and women entrepreneurs. In that regards, a website was developed and dedicated to that category of entrepreneurs. This allowed the identification of 600 women over a total of 2,500 registered entrepreneurs, whose capacities are regularly built in order for them to effectively bid through streamlined procedures.

The major challenge is to disseminate and implement the recommendations of the report on the promotion of production techniques as well as sustainable consumption which was produced in 2011.

#### **4.5 SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

In 2010, Togo adopted its national vision on the environment et natural resources: « by 2050, a sound clean sain environment is created; populations adequately master best environment and natural resource management practices, which will allow them to mitigate the effects of climate change as well as natural disaster risks so to achieve sizeable growth in Togo and contribute in improving the living conditions of the population and reduce poverty».

Togo undertook its first national forest inventory (IFN) between 2015 and 2016. According to the results of this inventory, Togo has a forestry resources coverage rate of 24.24 %.

With respect to progress achieved in terms of sustainable forest management and particularly reforestation, 6,064 hectares of new state-owned plantations were developed between 2015 and 2017, coupled with the restoration of 7,364 hectares of forests and the reforestation of 1,060 hectares of new community plantations, as well as the efforts of private stakeholders. In support of the State, the civil society has restored at least 1,000 hectares of land across the national territory through the planting of seedlings/saplings.

Over the same period, layout plans were developed for 5 protected areas: notably the protected areas (PAs) of Togodo, Fazao-Malfakassa, Abdoulaye, Alédjo and Amou Mono. Over the same period, 4,345 hectares of forest management areas were laid out within the State's forestry reserves.

In terms of sustainable management of wetlands, management plans were developed for three river basins: notably the central part of the Zio and Haho river basins as well as the southern part of the Mono river basin. Furthermore, between 2014 and 2017, 10 hectares of mangroves were restored for the conservation of biodiversity and mangrove ecosystems in the basins of Togo and Boko lakes, 65.8 kilometres of river banks have been restored and stabilized through reforestation and anti-erosive works.

With regard to the protection of plantations, a total of 45,047 hectares of plantations have been protected from bushfire/wildland fire between 2015 and 2017. To this end, 34,062 kilometres of firewalls were opened around the plantations and early/controlled fire exercises were engaged in the plantations to be protected. In addition, 19,845 hectares of young plantations of the State's forestry reserves were protected against all forms of adverse weather and aggressions by forest patrols over the same period.

To reverse the degradation trend and achieve land-degradation neutrality by 2030, Togo has set a goal to restore at least 80% of the degraded lands (187,920 hectares) and limit to 2% (108,802 hectares) the degradation of lands not yet degraded in order to strengthen the preservation of terrestrial ecosystems as against the reference situation of 2010. To achieve this, the country is resolved to: (i) increase by 3 % (i.e. 43,557 hectares) the surface area of Togo's forestlands and (ii) reduce to 1/3 (i.e. 73,250 hectares) lands depicting a negative trend in productivity.

Between 2015 and 2017, 118 hectares of degraded lands have been restored. In addition, 11 712 hectares have been developed for agroforestry over the same period, 31.88 hectares of agro-forestry parks created, 320.82 hectares of forestlands placed under protection ("no go" areas), and 382 hives have been distributed for the promotion of apiculture.

With regard to integrated soil fertility management, 613 farmer field schools were set up for 6,046 producers, 46% of whom were women between 2013 and 2016. The use of the GIFERC technique, which consists of the use of mushroom-based biological products associated with compost has led to a clear improvement in soil structure and water retention capacity. In addition, compound pits were built for the benefit of 600 households in the localities of Akoumapé, Bassar, Boadé, Cinkassé. Furthermore, 212 groups were formed and further equipped with fungal biofertilizers kits (this activity was carried out concomitantly with the promotion of drip irrigation to achieve greater impact).

As part of the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (SPANB), Togo launched a wide range process to set the boundaries of and secure its protected areas. The Government reached a consensus with the local communities as it sought to set these boundary. As a result, 7.4% of the territory has been secured. So the portion of protected territory secured for biodiversity conservation has increased from 7% in 2015 to 7.4% in 2017.

Since 2016, Togo has stepped up efforts against the exploitation and illicit trafficking of wild species, notably through reforms and tightening of its penal framework as well as the revision of its forestry code. As a result, crime observation and control missions carried out on ground by the forestry police enabled, in 2017, to seize 1,705 sawmill products (all products combined), a 40 feet container containing objects of arts from wild animal trophies, 219 kilograms of fresh royal python skins, 1.62 kg of dry sebae python skins and four ivory horns (7 kg), 955 shark fins, 66 marine baby turtles/shells and 2 marine turtles (olive-ridley).

Furthermore, in a bid to ensure a better management of cross-border resources, the country is strengthening cooperation ties with its neighbouring countries (Burkina-Faso, Benin and Ghana). On 27 September 2016, Togo and Benin jointly submitted to UNESCO for recognition, three projects for the creation of biosphere reserves including a cross-border reserve: The Mono Basin Cross-border Reserve. The creation of the Togo National Biosphere Reserve enabled the country to integrate 15,750 hectares of forestland into the national protected areas system.

With regard to the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, Togo has prepared and sent its interim report on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS on 8 December 2017. The Interim National Report formulation process helped to inform and raise awareness among the public and in particular practitioners of traditional medicine, cosmetic and pharmacy stakeholders, researchers and academics on the issues of the Nagoya Protocol (NP).

In terms of research into new environmental management techniques, a compendium of environmental management and traditional/modern natural resources techniques applicable in Togo has been developed. In the same vein, the civil society organizations have initiated a green environmental-entrepreneurship leadership training guide and organized a national forum on green entrepreneurship, which has trained 5,080 youths.

A "National Green Entrepreneurship Week (SNEV)" will be celebrated annually, starting from this year 2018 in order to sensitize the population on the need for preservation of the biodiversity.

#### **4.6 SDG 17: revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development and strengthen the means of implementation of this partnership**

In a bid to facilitate the mobilization of domestic and foreign resources for development, through the revitalization of the global partnership, the Government developed the National Strategy for Partnership and Resource Mobilization (SNMPR) in 2015. The Government's vision thereon is to ensure that "by 2030, Togo has sustainably emerged from its state of fragility and the group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), through the institutionalization of an efficient resources mobilization and management approach and established sustainable partnerships".

This strategy aims to: (i) strengthen foreign resources attractiveness by Togo; (ii) improve governance in terms of mobilization of partnerships and resources; (iii) strengthen the capacities of actors involved in resource mobilization; and (iv) improve the effectiveness of mobilization and management of mobilized resources.

The establishment of the Togolese Revenue Authority (OTR) following the bundling of the customs and tax authorities has significantly increased the level of domestic resource mobilization.

In terms of local resource mobilization, a process for the formulation of a taxpayer sheet was launched in five (5) communes of Togo with a view to mobilizing local revenues and training of 50 financial officers from the Communes on financial and accounting management of the communities so as to improve accountability and transparency in financial management. In addition, Togo has instituted a permanent framework for consultation between the various actors concerned with a view to proposing and evaluating reform policies relating to local taxation. Said framework is the Observatory for Local Finances (OFL), which comprises the Togolese Revenue Authority (OTR), the Court of Auditors, the Permanent Secretariat in charge of Monitoring Financial Reform Program and Policies, the Public Treasury, the Union of Togolese Communes (UCT) and, the Technical and Financial Partners (PTF).

In its quest for new partnership opportunities, Togo had successfully implemented the necessary reforms that enabled the country to benefit in 2018 from the Threshold Program funding awarded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) from the United States of America. This funding is geared at supporting the implementation of actions in the fields of ICT and land tenure. In addition, the AGOA textile visa award granted to Togo enables it to export textile and clothing to the United States on preferential terms.

In the dynamic of concretizing public-private partnership, a Committee was set up for consultations between the State and the private sector with a remit to discuss with the

private sector actors on the evolution of the economic activities in view of promoting investment, encouraging consumption and stimulating growth. This enabled the private sector to set up a platform wherein its concerns are voiced to the Government. In the same process, an incentive-based risk sharing agricultural lending mechanism (MIFA) was set up to help increase agricultural lending from 0.3% to 5% of all credits granted to the economy.

**Box 3: Establishment of a public-private partnership for the implementation of the agropoles**

Agropoles require the establishment of a dynamic public-private partnership. To build this partnership, the State must take legislative and regulatory measures, in order to clarify the role and responsibilities of the different actors (state, national private sector, cooperatives, local authorities, multinational companies, etc.).

In this respect, the State will appeal for foreign resources through banking institutions and cooperation agencies for the realization of major irrigation infrastructure, roads, communication networks, as well as energy and water infrastructural facilities. Mechanisms will be created to mobilize financial resources in support of agricultural development, the management of agricultural risks and disasters and the provision of guarantees to SMEs / SMIs. To this end, particular emphasis will be placed on the creation of inter-branch organizations and the development of joint ventures.

In terms of capacity building, a national skills development plan (2023) was adopted in 2017 for better planning of human resource requirements and ensure coherence in skills management.

In addition, conscious of the key role of volunteering as a powerful human and transversal means of implementing the SDGs, the Togolese State established the Togolese National Volunteering Agency (ANVT) in 2015. This agency is today a tool for mobilizing Togolese volunteers to serve in the fight against poverty, the consolidation of a strong growth foundation and the socio-economic development of the country.

Togo has thus been striving to build a strong partnership with its citizens towards achieving the 17 SDGs through the mobilization, since 2011, of more than 27,000 national and international volunteers for development projects.

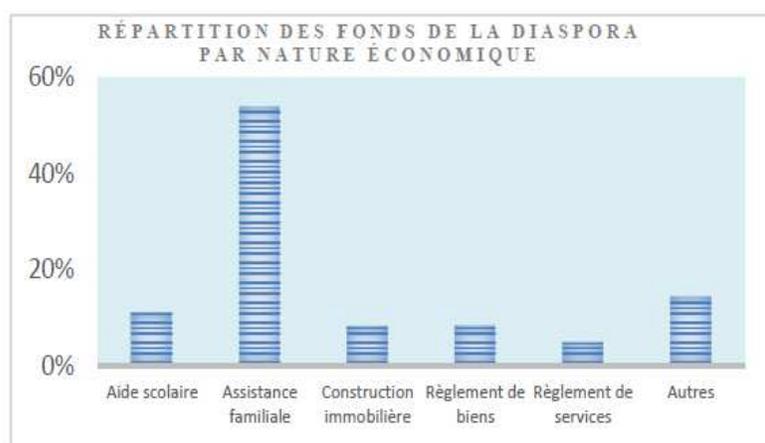
In the interests of the principle of inclusion, Togo launched an innovative volunteering programme in 2016 that enabled it to reach out to a vast target group that had been previously excluded from most youth programmes. This programme, called Civic Commitment Volunteerism (VEC), is open to youths out-of-school and half-schooled. As a result, out of 8,127 interested young Togolese nationals, with a high proportion of young women among, 5,446 (i.e. 67%) benefited from this initiative.

Another type of innovative volunteering that Togo is currently developing is the International Reciprocity Volunteering (VIR) which allows for the exchange of volunteers between Togo and African countries as well as other continents.

Togo's visibility abroad has been strengthened through intensified and solidified regional and multilateral cooperation, giving credence to Togo's exemplary nature among international/regional organizations and institutions that are privileged support partners in the inclusive and sustainable development process in which the highest authorities are committed.

The mobilization of the Togolese diaspora has intensified in recent years through innovative initiatives such as "Réussite diaspora" which is a programme designed to mobilize of the competences of the Togolese diaspora, on the one hand and to intensify the visibility of Togo abroad as a preferred destination for foreign investors on the other hand. Efforts to promote a peaceful political and social climate, as well as to promote human rights and protect civil liberties have contributed to the gradual mobilization of diaspora resources and, at the same time, their investment in innovative projects for harmonious development.

In 2017, a sum of about 281,264,000,000 FCFA i.e. 483,251,218 USD was transferred into the account of Togo by the diaspora. This funding is distributed as follows:



The challenges in implementing the SDGs relate to the availability of qualified human resources and the mobilization of significant financial resources.

In perspective, there will be need to consolidate Togo's role, at the bilateral and international levels, for its integration into the economic diplomacy sphere within the framework of a national mechanism that will better serve the State's interests and promote wealth generation and job creation, notably to (i) facilitate and expand opportunities for national enterprises abroad (ii) attract foreign investment, and (ii) influence, during their negotiations, regional and international regulations and directives affecting the interests of national and regional organisations (in which the country holds membership), in the areas relating inter alia to trade, investment, migration, development assistance.

It should be noted that the civil society organizations that form the Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have initiated the process for formalization of the SDGs. To this end, the formulation of a charter is underway for the establishment of a CSO Forum on Sustainable Development focused on thematic groups.

## **V. Conclusion**

The report formulation process for the Togo Country Report to be presented to the High-Level Political Forum enabled the Government, the Civil Society Organizations, the Private Sector and Technical and Financial Partners to take stock of the progress in the implementation of the SDGs under review for the 2018 edition: namely, the SDGs 6; 7; 11; 12; 15 and 17. The exercise made it possible to highlight the main achievements, good practices, challenges and prospects related to achieving the targets of the selected SDGs.

This report has also highlighted the context of the development of the NDP, which was characterized by efforts to prioritize the targets, mainstream the SDGs, and the shift in paradigm that then called for a focus on building synergy among development sectors. Accordingly, the NDP constitutes the reference framework for achieving the SDGs.

Consequently, it is of paramount importance to mobilize sufficient financial, technical and human resources. To this end, the private sector is highly exhorted to lend support to the efforts of the State, which in turn expresses its commitment to create a conducive environment for investment and to adopt incentive measures towards achieving the SDGs.