

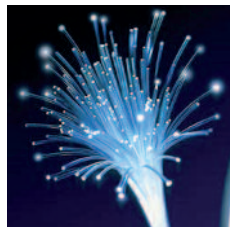


REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
PEACE - WORK - FATHERLAND



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INVESTING *in* Cameroon



A tropical beach scene with palm trees, a blue sky, and a body of water. The text "Welcome to Cameroon" is overlaid in the center. The image shows a serene coastal landscape with several palm trees, some leaning over the water. The sky is a mix of light blue and white clouds. The water is a calm, light blue. In the foreground, there are several large, dark logs or branches lying on the beach and in the shallow water. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and inviting.

Welcome to Cameroon



H.E. Paul BIYA

President of the Republic of Cameroon

“...Since 2009, the Cameroon Business Forum has effectively been a government venue for dialogue between the public and private sectors. It is an appropriate framework for identifying and monitoring the implementation of reforms aimed at continuously improving the business environment. The reforms undertaken within this context have eased the creation of enterprises, settlement of invoices, tax exemptions, implementation of business contracts, promotion and protection of investments, and the development of cross-border trade...”

Extract from the Head of State's speech in Turkey, March 2013.



Philemon YANG

Prime Minister, Head of Government

INSTITUTIONS

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

Phone : (+237) 22 23 40 25
(+237) 22 20 04 55
Fax : (+237) 22 22 08 70
(+237) 22 21 26 38

PRIME MINISTRE'S OFFICE :

Phone : (+237) 22 23 58 02
(+237) 22 23 80 99
Fax : (+237) 22 23 57 24

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Phone : (+237) 22 23 11 90
Fax : (+237) 22 22 50 91

MINISTRY OF TRADE :

Phone : (+237) 22 23 02 16
Fax : (+237) 22 23 90 29

GICAM

P.o.box : 1134 Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 33 42 31 41
Fax : (+237) 33 43 38 80

SYNDUSTRICAM

Phone : (+237) 33 42 30 58
Fax : (+237) 33 42 56 16

CONSULAR CHAMBERS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Phone : (+237) 33 42 67 87
Fax : (+237) 33 42 55 96

CAMEROON CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FORESTRY

Phone : (+237) 22 22 23 28
(+237) 22 23 28 44

PUBLIC AND PARABUPIC BODIES

NATIONAL INVESTMENT COORPORATION

P.o.box : 423 Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 22 44 22
Fax : (+237) 22 23 13 32

INDUSTRIAL ZONES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.o.box : 1431- Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 22 19 42
Fax : (+237) 22 22 19 42

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL FREE ZONE BOARD :

P.o.box : 925-Douala
Phone : (+237) 33 43 33 43
Fax : (+237) 33 43 33 17

ONE - STOP - SHOP FOR FOREIGN TRADE :

P.o.box : 12679 - Douala
Phone : (+237) 33 41 02 43
(+237) 33 41 44 45
Fax : (+237) 33 43 60 78

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY :

P.o.box : 6998-Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 30 66 26
Fax : (+237) 22 30 33 62

NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY :

P.o.box : 11538 -Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 21 06 37
Fax : (+237) 22 21 06 30

DOUALA PORT AUTHORITY

P.o.box : 4020 Douala
Phone : (+237) 33 42 01 33
(+237) 33 42 73 22
Fax : (+237) 33 42 67 97

AIRLINES

CAMAIRCO

P.o.box : 1186-Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 23 40 01
(+237) 22 23 38 08
Fax : (+237) 22 28 39 74
(+237) 22 23 03 04

AIR FRANCE

Phone : (+237) 33 42 15 55
(+237) 33 42 80 20
(+237) 33 42 21 26
Fax : (+237) 33 42 99 52

KENYA AIRWAYS

Phone : (+237) 33 42 96 91
Fax : (+237) 33 42 00 09

SN BRUSSELS

B.P 2374-Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 22 87 37
Fax : (+237) 22 22 87 32

SWISS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES

Phone : (+237) 22 22 97 37
Fax : (+237) 22 22 63 29

HOTELS

HILTON YAOUNDE

P.o.box : 11852-Yaoundé
Phone : (+237) 22 23 36 46
Fax : (+237) 22 22 32 10

LE MONT FEBE

Phone : (+237) 22 21 40 02
Fax : (+237) 22 21 60 70

DJEUGA PALACE :

Phone : (+237) 22 22 46 46
(+237) 22 22 64 57
Fax : (+237) 22 22 47 00
(+237) 22 22 64 26

LE MERIDIEN

Phone : (+237) 33 43 50 00
Fax : (+237) 33 43 35 07

SAWA :

P.o.box : 2345-Douala
Phone : (+237) 33 42 08 66
Fax : (+237) 33 42 38 71

SECURITY

Yaoundé

Emergency police 17
Fire brigade 18
Gendarmerie 13
Hôpital Central 22 23 40 20
Hôpital Général 22 20 11 22
Hôpital Jamot 22 20 43 90
22 21 52 26

Douala

Emergency police 17
Fire brigade 18
Gendarmerie 13
Airport 33 42 49 49
Hôpital Général 33 37 01 44
Hôpital new-bell 33 42 97 80

Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development

Edited in Yaounde
® MINEPAT July 2013

P.O.box : 660 Yaoundé
Phone.: (237) 22 23 36 37 / (237) 22 22 09 22
Fax : (237) 22 22 15 09 Web site : <http://www.minepat.gov.cm>

Foreword



Emmanuel NGANOU DJOUMESSI (*)

This document is meant for all project promoters : notably entrepreneurs, potential investors, company buyers, in short for all those who intend to do business in Cameroon. The purpose of the document is to inform them on support facilities available for entrepreneurs as well as on administrative and private structures which may help them in the realisation of their project. It is meant for all promoters (nationals and foreigners) because seeking information has hardly been an easy task. The document provides trustworthy information drawn from reliable and credible sources on a country which has a strategic position in the Gulf of Guinea, with a large opening into the Atlantic Ocean, in Kribi, where a giant industrial and port complex is being constructed. Cameroon offers enticing investment opportunities for economic

operators who wish to settle in the country. Dynamic and hardworking people welcome you in the heart of Central Africa. Whether French, English, Chinese, Japanese, American, African, Korean,... any investor who intends to do business in Cameroon will be welcome in a friendly manner and will benefit from multi-faceted incentives and facilities. The World Bank, the IMF and the AfDB made this statement following the assessment mission they conducted in Cameroon from 2 to 16 May 2012 : "Cameroon's economic recovery continued after the global crisis of 2008 - 2009, with a growth rate estimated at 5% in 2013 and inflation contained to less than 3%. Economic prospects remain favourable and growth is expected to reach 5.2% in 2013,"

**Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development*



Menchum falls

Contents

CAMEROON'S ECONOMY

10

WHY INVEST IN CAMEROON ?

13

BUSINESS CLIMATE

15

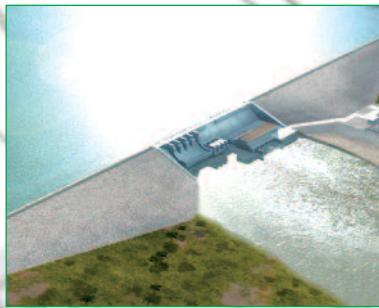
MAIN SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY

19

CAMEROON IN BRIEF

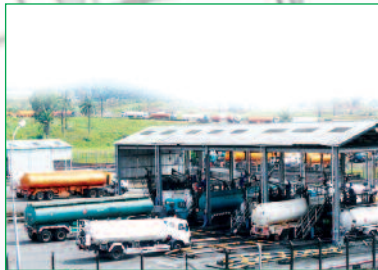
35

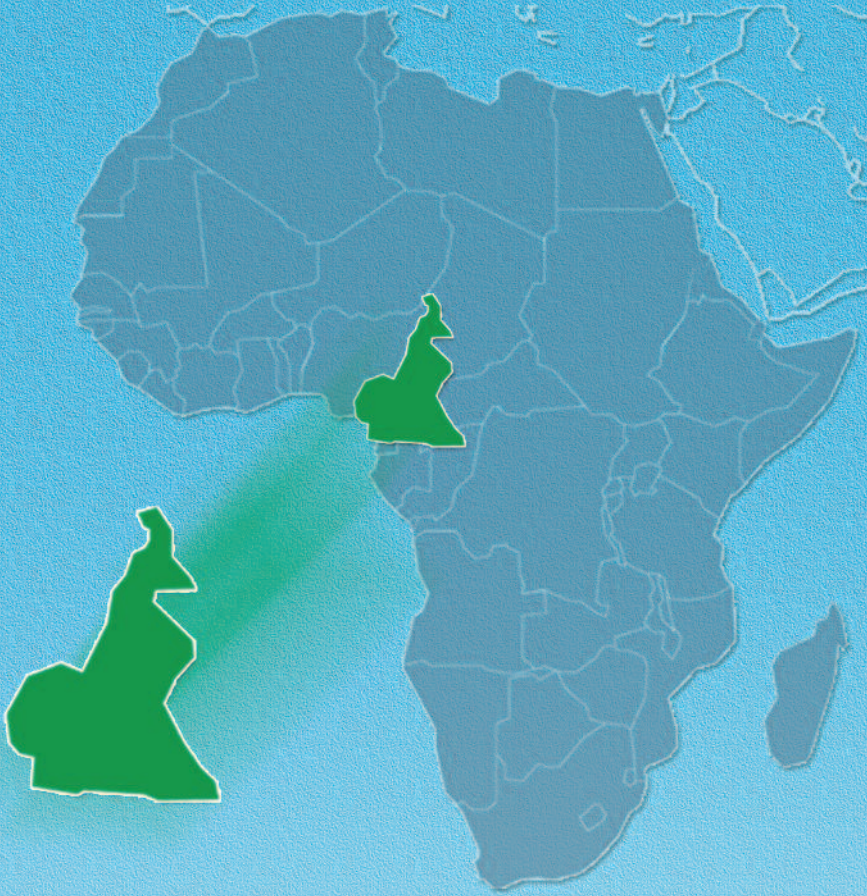






CAMEROON'S ECONOMY





Cameroon has a strategic position in the Gulf of Guinea. The country is also referred to as Africa in miniature owing to its remarkably contrasting relief, made up of high and low lands ; its varied vegetation made up of forest, savana and steppe ; its tropical climate which is a combination of all the inter-tropical climates of the continent ; and a basically young and dynamic population.

WHY INVEST IN CAMEROON ?

Pride of her diversity, rich in potentials, envied for the social peace and stability of her institutions, Cameroon, in many respects stands as a paradise for any investor who intends to multiply his benefits. Let us have a look at a few aspects of this genuine Promised Land.

At the geo-strategic level : Located in the Gulf of Guinea, Cameroon has a key position which makes the country the entry and exit gate to the sub-region. Indeed, Cameroon is the only country in the sub-region which shares borders with all the other five countries of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC). Cameroon is bounded on the South by Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, on the North by Chad and on the East by the Central African Republic. Besides CEMAC countries, Cameroon also shares a 1700km-long border with Nigeria. This peculiarity, coupled with her economic performances (50 per cent of CEMAC GDP) makes of the country the leader of the sub-region.

At the institutional and political levels : Cameroon has strong and reliable institutions which guarantee social peace and political stability, contrasting with the constant upheavals and conflicts observed here and there in Africa. Yet, nothing has come easily : so much ground covered, so many hurdles cleared on

the way towards the building of a strong, united, inclusive nation, friendly to investments.

In terms of natural and human resources : - Cameroon has huge hydraulic resources (the 2nd largest in Africa after the DRC) ;

- Cameroon has about 52 types of identified minerals. As illustration, Cameroon has one of the world largest deposits of cobalt, nickel, manganese, bauxite, iron ore, uranium, etc.

At the human and natural levels : Cameroon is also referred to as “Africa in miniature” for her geographical diversity; her vegetation, climate and soil are conducive to agriculture. According to census data, Cameroon’s population is 19,406,100 inhabitants (2010) with 64 per cent aged under 25. An educated youth, well trained and hardworking, which is synonymous to an available and skilled labour force.

At the touristic level : Cameroon has more than 350 km of coasts. With her wildlife and flora Cameroon has one of the most attractive ecosystems. With close to 300 identified tourist sites, Cameroon is potentially a dream destination. So why invest in Cameroon ? Well, simply because natural conditions and the political will are combined to make the country an ideal destination for all types of investments.

BUSINESS CLIMATE

Incentives to facilitate business creation

Cameroon has identified a series of measures in order to improve its attractiveness. Some of these measures have already been implemented while others have been scheduled in the medium term.

Entry into Cameroon

Any foreign national who is willing to set up a business in Cameroon either as a self-employed professional or a promoter of activities in the industry, agriculture, pastoral, trade, handicraft or arts sector should get an entry visa corresponding to the period of the intended stay.

Starting a business in Cameroon

Starting a business in Cameroon requires registration into the register of trade names and personal property. Economic operators can get their attestation of business start-up seventy two (72) hours upon submission of the file, thereby conferring a legal foundation on their business in the Republic of Cameroon. After this period, the submission receipt shall serve as attestation.

Building permit

The deadline for the processing of building permit applications has been set to 45 days as from the date of submission of the file.

Customs regime

A one-stop-shop (GUCE) has been established in order to ensure the physical and virtual grouping of customs clearance formalities. The GUCE

therefore contributed towards the reduction of time and costs of transactions at the Port Authority of Douala. Another significant reform is the introduction of the container scanner into the Port Authority of Douala which has as objective to considerably reduce physical visits of goods and the time spent in port. In order to alleviate “fiscal pressure” and streamline procedures for the purpose of improving the business climate, Cameroon has identified and implemented the following tax and administrative policy measures :

Tax policy measures

Other measures in report :

- Introduction of a tax regime for structuring projects ;
- Introduction of a tax regime for public-private partnership contracts ;
- Measures to improve enterprises' cash position ;
- Exemptions from registration duties on current account agreements ;
- Drop in the ceiling of reimbursement of VAT credits from 25 to 10 million ;
- Drop in the bona fide penalty rate from 50 per cent to 30 per cent ;
- Gradual lift of the bond in guarantee of the payment of logging area fees in the forestry sector ;
- Measures to enhance the rights and guarantees of tax payers ;
- Cancellation of the payment of 10 per cent of the tax amount ;
- Cancellation of the bank bond as part of the legal tax dispute in order to enhance the rights of tax payers with regard to disputes notably by facilitating their access to the judge ;



The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court



Emblems of the Judiciary



One-stop-shop



Tax administration measures

Supervision of tax payers :

- Structural reforms that led to the setting up of the Division of Large Enterprises (DGE) responsible for “major” tax payers that is, those who have a turn over equal to at least CFA F 1 billion ;
- Specialized Centres for self-employed professionals, which are a clear illustration of the tax-payer based management approach ;
- Functional reforms through the organisation of services per specialized units in order to take the line of activities into account ;
- Preparation of manuals on procedures and distribution to tax payers and users in order to ensure that they have simple and useful information ;
- Computerization of almost all the services for increased promptness and efficiency.

Streamlining of procedures :

- Legal constitution of e-statement and e-payment ;
- Cancellation of the practice of withholding tax and duties by the private sector, public corporations and parastatals.

Payment and settlement systems :

- In order to facilitate the payment system, the Bank of Central African States (BEAC) helped six Member States to get an efficient and secured regional system for payment and settlement that complies with international standards.

Payment of customs duties :

- A memorandum of understanding was signed in April 2012 between the Ministry of Finance and 13 major Cameroonian banks. This Memorandum of understanding consists in :
 - Reducing the time spent for customs clearances,
 - promoting improved management of the State treasury,
 - securing financial transactions by reducing money circulation,
 - easing

congestion in the one-stop-shop. Business men and women henceforth have to pay their customs clearance operations by bank transfer which is an innovation in this area.

Regulation of exchange :

The Minister of Finance ensures the smooth application and dissemination of the provisions of the regulation on exchange in force in Cameroon since 2004. This regulation rescinds most of authorisations and administrative visas once required within the framework of short and long term movement of capital.

Funding of projects by banks :

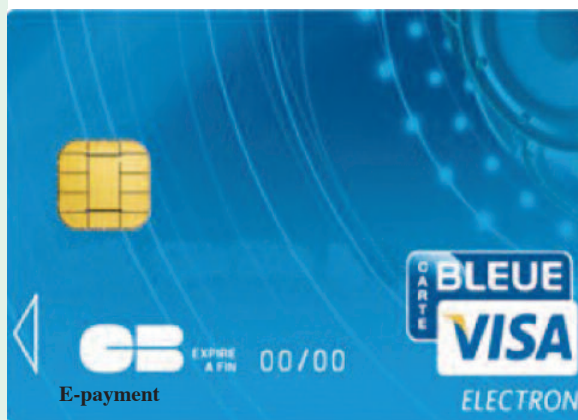
About 40 per cent of SMEs request bank support to fund their projects. There are financial establishments and leasing companies that finance the acquisition of professional capital goods. Medium and long term loans are funded by national and international banks as well as funding agencies.

Legal governance :

Ministers of Justice from 14 Member States of the Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa (OHADA) adopted in April 1997, series of instruments that laid down the bases for a modernised economic law common to countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC). These new instruments introduced indepth changes into the business landscape by advocating the liberalization of economic activities with solid legal guarantees.

Conflict of law rules :

At national level, conflicts are settled in courts of first instance and appeal courts. The Common Court of Justice and Arbitration (CCJA) created within the framework of the OHADA Treaty examines conflicts in the last resort. Its decisions are final.



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES



MAIN SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY

At sector level, Cameroon is full of many types of potentials that can be exploited to accelerate its economic growth.

Agriculture

The buoyancy of the agricultural sector is a key factor of the Cameroonian economic growth as it accounts for about 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs about 70 percent of the working population. Similarly, exports of agricultural products account for about 43 per cent of exports excluding oil. Agricultural products include :

Food crops :

They include a wide range of crops such as : cereals, starchy food, roots and tubers and vegetables.

- Cereals : maize output reaches 1,085,000 tons. The aim of the government's policy is to increase this production to 1,960,000 tons in 2015. At this stage, the main projects that are being implemented to achieve this objective include : the National Maize Sub-sector Revival Programme (PNRFM), the Grassfield project, the Special Programme for Food Security (PSSA) and the Rural Women Income Improvement Programme (PARFAR). The production of rain-fed and irrigated rice stands at 60,000 tons. The objective

is to increase this production to about 170,000 tons in 2015 thanks to actions conducted within the framework of the Grassfield and PSSA Project and Programme.

- Starchy foods : the production of plantain stands at 1,350,000 reference tons. The objective is to increase this production to 2,700,000 tons in 2015 within the framework of the Programme for the Revival of the Plantain Sub-sector (PRFP).

- Roots and tubers : the objective is to increase roots and tubers (cassava, Irish potato, sweet potato) production to 6,319,000 tons in 2015 as against 3,836,000 reference tons. In this respect, actions are conducted under the National Roots and Tubers Development Programme (PNDRT) and the Grassfield Project.

- Vegetables : tomato production reaches 430,000 tons and onion 80,000 tons. The government through the National Employment Fund and the Canadian Cooperation are working towards boosting the production of these two vegetables.

Cash crops :

Cash crops include: cocoa, coffee, palm oil etc.



Banana plantation



Sawyer



Cocoa tree

Cocoa production stands around 180,000 tons. It must be increased to 280,000 by 2015.

- **Arabica and Robusta coffee** : Arabica and Robusta coffee production stand at 10,000 tons and 50,000 tons respectively. The objective is to increase these productions to 150,000 tons and 90,000 tons respectively in 2015. Two projects are being implemented to boost cocoa and coffee productions namely : the Project to protect cocoa and coffee farms and the Project to revive the production of cocoa and coffee improved plant material.

Palm oil :

Palm oil production is expected to rise from 130,000 tons to 166,000 tons in 2015. This will be achieved through the Programme for the development of small-scale palm groves.

- **Cotton fibre** : cotton fibre production stands at 83,000 tons. This sub-sector is facing a drastic drop in international prices owing to the fact that western countries grant subsidies to their farmers.

- **Natural rubber** : natural rubber production stands around 62,000 tons. An average 7 per cent increase is expected by 2015 thanks to the rise in international prices.

Banana :

Banana production stands at 260,000 tons. The production is on the drop due to the threats caused by the opening of the European Union market to dollar bananas.

Tobacco :

There will be brisk business in the tobacco sub-sector notably through the Project for the support of the revival of tobacco cultivation in the East region of Cameroon.

Forestry :

Cameroonian forests cover 40 per cent of the national territory representing 22.5 million hectares. It is the second forest block in Africa after the Congo block

(DRC). Loggers are increasingly interested in Cameroonian forests due to the richness of the marketable species that abound in these forests (more than 600 marketable species). The most prized species include : iroko, akki, sapelli, mohabi, sipo, swetenia, movingui. Log production stands at about 2.3 million m³. Actions taken to stabilise this production volume are centred on the Forest and Environment Sector Programme (PSFE). The idea is to promote reforestation and sustainable management of forest and wildlife resources, to upgrade forest and wildlife heritage, ensure biodiversity conservation, promote community management of the forest and wildlife heritage for the betterment of the living conditions of the population. Besides, the National Forest Development Support Agency (ANAFOR) has been set up to assist in the implementation of the National Programme for the development of private and community forest plantations. More specifically, the aim is to provide training services and supervise grass-roots communities within the frame work of the development of forest plantations.

Livestock :

Livestock has a prominent place in Cameroon's economy due not only to its contribution to the agricultural sector through the production of organic fertilizers and animal draught power, but also to the key role it plays in the enhancement of food security.

Cameroon plans to double meat production by 2015 in order to meet the nutritional needs of the population and set aside the surplus for exports. Thus, the size of cattle production is expected to move from 5,600,000 head to 15,746,277 head in 2015. Several programmes and projects are being implemented in this respect, notably : the Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizooties (PACE) and the Support Project for the Control of Animal Trypanosomiasis and their vectors (PALCTAV).



Oil palm nursery at Dibamba



Tea plantations



Cotton



Coffee tree



The Head of State in front of the model of the Memve'ele dam



Sonara oil refinery plant



Memve'ele Fall



Pipeline TCHAD-CAMEROON

The purpose of both projects is to improve the animal production environment by laying special emphasis on the capacity building of producers and veterinary services for epidemiological surveillance of trans-border diseases and effective control of trypanosomiasis and glossinas. The Small Holder Dairy Development Project aims to increase dairy production and create employment in pastoral communities.

In the pig breeding sector, production is projected at 3,374,202 head in 2015 as against 1,200,000 head presently. The Programme on the Development of the Pig Sub-sector (PDFP) is used in this respect.

Poultry production stands around 20 million. Since 2007, the government of Cameroon has launched the Non conventional Breeding Support Project in order to disseminate activities associated with non-conventional breeding (coturnix, hedgehog, snail, squirrel, guinea pig), through supervision of producers and provision of market opportunities.

Fisheries :

Given the large expanse of its seaboard, Cameroon is endowed with enormous halieutic assets used for local demand and also for agro industry which remains under-exploited. Fisheries production is estimated at 173,000 tons with 93,000 tons produced by small-scale maritime fishing, 75,000 tons from continental fishing and 5000 tons from fish ponds.

Several projects are being implemented to improve fisheries production namely : Aquaculture Promotion Project, Project to improve the health status of fisheries products, project to reduce post-catch losses, the project to support the development of small-scale and maritime fishing, and the pilot project « improved livelihoods in the post-catch sector of small-scale fishing ».

Energy :

To date, the energy sector constitutes a highly strategic production factor. The development of this sector depends on implementation of major projects to revive growth.

Electricity :

Electricity is supplied in Cameroon by AES-SONEL whose generation capacity is estimated at 935 MW, with 722 MW of hydroelectric capacity and 213 MW of thermal capacity. This potential is expected to increase thanks to the construction of the Yassa heavy fuel plant at Dibamba with a capacity of 85 MW. The Rural Electrification Agency (AER) has been set up alongside AES-SONEL to promote electrification in the rural areas.

Hydroelectricity :

Cameroon's hydroelectric potential is the second largest in Africa after that of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This potential is estimated at 995 terawatts/h. Cameroon's generation capacity can reach 20,000 megawatts in the next few years provided adequate means are mobilised for the development of the sector.

Water :

Cameroon is ranked second in Africa behind DRC in the hydroelectric sector thanks to its enormous potential. In fact, rainfall ranges from 500 to 5000m³ per year from north to south. The country is also the second zone of the world in terms of abundant rains notably in the locality of Debunsha in the South-West (at the foot of Mount Cameroon) with up to 12m³ rains per year.

- Surface water : this includes flood plains (14,500 sq km and 300 of coasts), natural lakes (1800 sq km), rivers (100 sq km).

- Groundwater : represents more than 120 billion m³ of waters likely to be exploited ; and spreads over the main aquiferous zones below: base (43,000 sq

km), Chad basin (19,800 sq km), Benoue basin (7800 sq km) and a few minor basins (9,900 sq km).

Drinking water :

The quantity of drinking water is still insufficient to meet the needs of all the segments of the population. To address this issue, the government of Cameroon has adjusted its institutional framework in the drinking water sector. In this light, the company CAMWATER was set up to run, under the authority of the State, assets and rights transferred to the public structure charged with potable water in urban and peri-urban areas while "Camerounaise des Eaux" (CDE) was set up to produce and supply drinking water in urban and peri-urban areas, and to ensure infrastructure maintenance, water treatment and marketing.

Hydrocarbons :

Many actions have been initiated in favour of the hydrocarbons sector. In this respect, a promotion sharing contract has been signed with EurOil on the Bomono Onshore zone, in the Douala/Kribi-Campo basin. Exploitation per se is centred on the drilling of 5 wells in the Dissoni North oil fields by Total E & P, Etinde by Noble EurOil and Nyong II by Noble Energy. Oil reserves discovered are estimated at 232 million barrels.

- **Production** : The operator Total E&P has resumed activities in the oil sector with the drilling of 7 wells in the Rio del Rey basin, notably in the fields of Bakingili, Kombo Centre, Ekoundou, Bravo South, Horst, Kole Marine. In addition, Total has made operational 9 production wells. Globally, national oil production is evaluated at 32 million barrels.

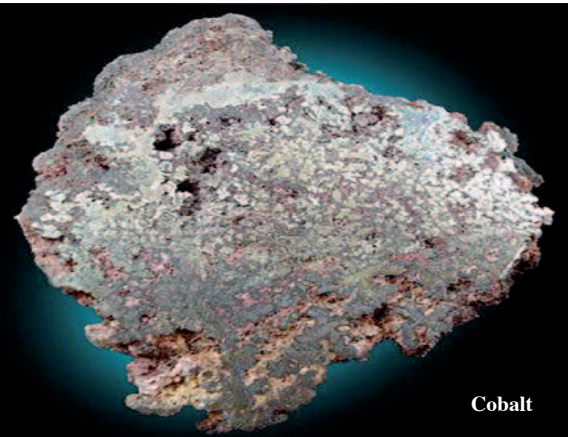
- **Marketing** : Marketing is done by the National Hydrocarbons Corporation, a state-owned company which acts as government proxy in oil related activities.



Aluminium



Sapphire



Cobalt



Bauxite mining site

The legal framework relating to oil activities offers interesting incentives to investors. It is elaborated based on the Oil Code in force since 1999. It is aimed at re-launching development of the country's oil potential in keeping with international environmental standards. The major incentive provided for by the Code is the possibility to negotiate the two forms of contract applicable in the oil sector notably: the production sharing contract and the concession contract.

- Production sharing contract: in the production sharing contract, the following provisions are set out :

- The contractor can choose from two types of sharing; according to daily production or according to the values of the Ratio laid down in the contract ;
- Taxes are excluded from the calculation of production shares ;
- Depending on the nature of the project, all the economic parameters are likely to be negotiated, notably, the percentage of production for cost recovery, the production shares for remuneration, corporate taxes, premiums, etc.

- Concession contract: in the concession contract, the following provisions are highlighted :

- Royalty rates vary with the production ;
- Tax rate is negotiable.

For both forms of contract in general, the following provisions are formulated :

- Rights of participation of the national company are variable and negotiable ;
- There are tariff exemptions during the exploration phase for specific projects such as production of natural gas ;
- Customs duties are reduced for the first five years of production ;
- Customs procedures are streamlined;
- The government grants its support to land tenure issues ;
- Repatriation of profits abroad;
- The right to keep sales proceeds abroad ;
- Conflicts are settled through international arbitration ;
- Obligation to restore the site in their normal condition after operations.



Small-scale gold mining



Gold from Betare Oya

Mines :

Cameroon mining potential is rich and diversified. More than 50 minerals have been identified nationwide. However, none of them is exploited at the industrial level. To date, the main deposits recognized at the global level include:

Bauxite :

Cameroon is ranked 5th in the world in terms of bauxite potential. The reserves of Mini Martap and Ngaoundal deposits in the Adamawa region are estimated at more than one billion tons. At Fongo Tongo near Dschang in the West region, the bauxite reserves are estimated at 35 million tons.

Cobalt / Nickel :

Cameroon has considerable deposits of cobalt and nickel located at Nkamouna near Lomie in the East region. Mineral reserves are estimated at 52 million tons. The average content of this mineral is 0.24 per cent of cobalt and 0.72 per cent of nickel. This will be exploited by GEOVIC Cameroun PLG.

Rutile / Disthene :

There is a pool of rutile at Akonolinga in the Centre region. The reserves are estimated at 3 million tons. These reserves are larger and they span over an area of more than 30,000 sq km throughout the Centre, South, Littoral, East and West regions of Cameroon. Their economic weight has not been clearly evaluated.

Gold :

There is small-scale gold mining in Cameroon. The mineral is effectively

exploited in Adamawa, Far-North, North, East and South regions. Gold reserves stretch over 20,000 sq km. Studies are ongoing to evaluate the potential of this metal.

Diamond :

There are clear signs of the existence of diamond along the Cameroon side of the border with the Central African Republic, on a surface area of 700 sq km, from the Adamawa to the South-West regions of Cameroon. Diamond is exploited in the East region mainly at Kette in the Kadei division and at Mobilong in the Boumba and Ngoko division. The existence of diamond has also been discovered in the Mayo Sangha, a tributary of Faro in the North region and in the gulf of Mamfe in the South-West region.

Iron ore :

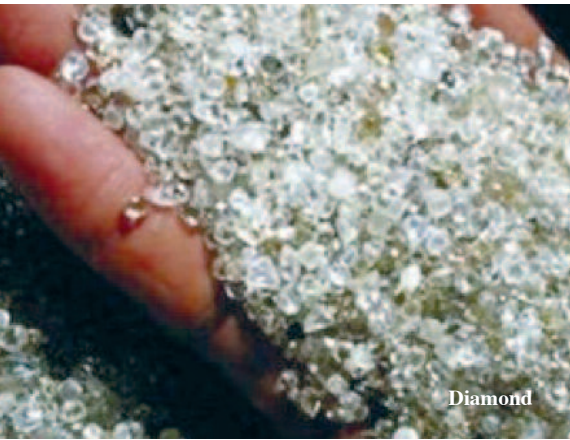
Two iron ore deposits were identified in Cameroon, namely the Kribi deposit estimated at 330 million tons, with an iron content of 30 per cent, and the Mbalam deposit estimated at 220 million tons with a 60 per cent iron content compounded with 588 million tons with an iron content ranging from 22 to 38 per cent. CAM IRON SA is getting set to exploit these reserves.

Tin :

Tin is still produced on a small-scale basis in Cameroon. The exploitation is effective in Mayo Darle with a production estimated at 6500 tons of cassiterite. Potential reserves of this ore are stretched over a surface area of 100 sq km. They have not been clearly identified.



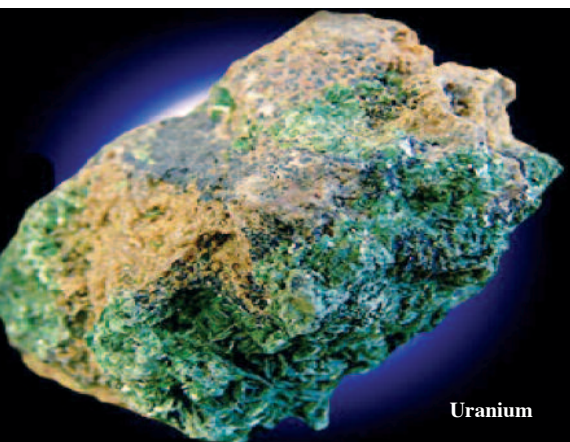
Gold



Diamond



Diamond



Uranium

Sapphire :

Sapphire deposits were found in Mamfe in the South-West, and in four of the five divisions of the Adamawa. More than 5,000 artisanal miners exploit sapphire in the Djerem, Vina, Faro and Deo, and Mayo Banyo divisions.

Uranium :

A uranium deposit was discovered in the North region, at Poli. However, the real potential of Cameroon has not yet been estimated.

Stone materials :

Deposits of stones used as construction and ornament materials cover three quarters of the Cameroonian territory. They include : marble, sandstone, limestone, quartz, dolerite, gneiss, diorite, gabbro, syenite, granite, etc.

Legal framework of the mining sector :

As part of implementation of growth revival strategies, the Cameroon government clearly expressed its will in favour of increased development of the Cameroon mining industry as illustrated by the adoption of the Mining Code which is particularly exemplary.

Industry :

The industrial sector is one of the priority sectors for the revival of economic growth and fight against poverty. The industrial fabric is fast expanding and is quite diversified. It includes : agro-industry, agri-food industry, extractive industry, chemical industry, and iron industry. Given the constraints associated with the liberalisation of the economy and globalization, the government of Cameroon has readjusted its industrial policy to adapt to the new economic order. In concrete terms, this was translated by the improvement of the business climate through effective implementation of the Investment Charter of 22 July 2004.

This Charter provides for the establishment of economic zones which will grant a number of tax incentives to investors according to the investment regime. For instance, under the reinvestment regime, the investor will benefit from a tax reduction equal to 50 per cent of reinvestments and an exemption from duties and taxes for the purchase of locally manufactured products.

This is in an attempt to take advantage of the strategic position conferred on it by a potential market of 200 million consumers in Central Africa, including Nigeria; the manufacturing industry accounts for 26 per cent of the GDP. More than 55 per cent of industrial production is realised by about twenty companies which employ more than 5,000 workers, and account for 75 per cent of salaries, 65 per cent of the turnover of the sector and more than 50 per cent of exports. The sub-sectors of the industry include:

Agro-industry :

Agro-industry comprises two sub-sectors: agro-food industry and export agro-industry. The brewing industry plays a leading role in the agro-food industry sub-sector. Cameroon is among the biggest brewers in Africa with an average production of four million hectolitres. Four breweries are active in the sector. Meanwhile, export agro-industry is led by large corporations such as CDC which is specialized in the production of banana, palm oil and rubber ; SOSUCAM (sugar) ; SODECOTON (cotton) ; SOCA-PALM (palm oil) ; HEVECAM (rubber) ; PHP and SPM (banana) ; SAFACAM

(crude and refined palm oil).

Extractive industry :

It is specialized in exploitation, processing and supply of oil and mining products. This industry has a large expansion potential.

Textile industries :

The sector is led by Cameroon Cotton Industry Corporation (CICAM) which produces 7,500 tons of cotton yarn and 32 million metres of printed fabric. Its branch, SOLICAM, manufactures terry cloth earmarked for exportation.

Metallurgical industries :

ALUCAM is the leading company in the metallurgical sector. The company is specialized in the transformation of alumina into aluminium. ALUCAM produces 90,000 tons of aluminium ingots on average. The government, in partnership with RIO TINTO ALCAN, has implemented a vast project on the extension of ALUCAM in order to increase the production capacity of the company to 300,000 tons per year.

Engineering industries :

A good example of engineering industries is shipbuilding. The leading company is the Cameroon Shipyard and Industrial Engineering Ltd (CNIC). Initially the CNIC focused on ship repairs but is now involved in shipbuilding. In 2008, CNIC built the first drill barge in Africa. Other companies specialized in hardware and boiler engineering operate alongside CNIC.





Kribi Beach

Chemical industries :

There are a few companies in this sector which manufacture detergents, perfumes, soaps, painting, pharmaceutical products, etc. The soap industry is highly developed ; it is led by the Complexe Chimique Camerounais (CCC).

Electrical industries :

In Cameroon, the sector still lags behind. The firms that operate in the sector are focused on the production of batteries (PILCAM) and storage batteries, assembly of household appliances and radios, and rewind of engines, etc.

Tourism :

Cameroon is recognized as one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. The country has great tourist assets which only need to be developed. In this respect, the government of Cameroon launched an important project for the promotion of its tourist potential which hinges on the following objectives : openness and development of tourist sites ; deployment of effective promotion actions during international encounters ; improvement of conditions for the reception of tourists in the country through the creation of information kiosks in Cameroon airports ; organisation of sensitization seminars in all the regions. Furthermore, the government undertook the following actions : development of special control corridors in international airports ; reduction of deadlines for the issuance of entry visas to group tourists at airports ; establishment of a special shop in airports for the control of exports

of handicraft products ; upgrading of the Ngaoundéré National Hostel and Tourism School into a CEMAC sub-regional School.

Since 2008, Cameroon has reached the number of 500,000 visitors per year, which is the World Tourism Organisation's standard to become a tourist destination. Cameroon tourist potential offers a remarkable variety of attractions to tourists.

Safari and hunting :

There are seven national parks in Cameroon which abound in animal species: elephants, lions, gorillas, chimpanzees, monkeys, buffalos, antelopes, giraffes, hippopotami, etc. There are also 5 km of earth roads that are maintained and give access to hunting zones. The hunting season is launched in December and closed in May. Protected species cannot be hunted.

Beach tourism :

The coastal line of Cameroon is over 400 km. It is open on the Atlantic Ocean. It is a great attraction for beach tourism in Limbe and Kribi.

Mountain tourism :

The high plateaux of the West region have a pattern which is favourable to mountain tourism thanks to the range of mountains and hot springs that stretch from North to South.

Cultural tourism :

Cameroon is a cosmopolitan country composed of 250 ethnic groups which



Lake Manengouba



Rhumsiki pick



Traditional dance

account for the cultural richness of the country. The tourist can catch sight of the country's diversity through traditional architecture, handicrafts, cuisine, folklore, clothing, etc.

Sporting tourism :

Several sporting activities are developed in Cameroon alongside the popular football, notably big game fishing in the Wouri estuary, golf practice in Yaounde and Tiko, horseback riding in Yaounde, Garoua and Douala, climbing and hiking on Mount Cameroon, the cycling tour of Cameroon, etc.

Ecotourism :

Special sites are favourable to ecotourism in Cameroon, notably the Dja forest and wildlife reserve, classified world humanity heritage, the Korup park rich in rare plant species, the Mount Cameroon flora, etc.

Handicraft :

Cameroon handicraft falls within small and medium sized enterprise activities. It is the expression of the cultural richness of the country which is characterised by an exceptional know-how inherited from the past and which is passed down from generation to generation. Thus, Cameroon has about 34,000 craftsmen enrolled in organisations, groups and associations. The apex structure of the sector is the Corps National des Artisans du Cameroun. Handicraft is divided into several types of activity, notably :

Wood carving :

It is mainly practised in the West and

North-West regions ; the following products are made : statues, masks, beds, panels, etc.

Leather work :

It is practised in the northern regions, and specifically in Garoua and Maroua. Products include : shoes, sandals, bags, belts, footstools, etc.

Bronze sculpture :

The major centre of the activity is the Noun division in the West region. The statues and masks made in this region are recognized worldwide.

Clothes :

Clothes are made mainly in the West, North-West and Northern regions.

Raffia and natural fibres :

They are used in making various products (furniture, pictures, bags, etc.) in the Centre, South, West and North-West regions.

Yaounde handicraft exhibition :

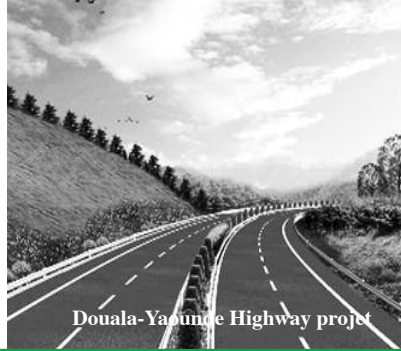
Cameroon has been organising the Yaounde International Handicraft Exhibition since 2008. This event is a high level centre of exchange between Cameroonian and foreign craftsmen. It is also an occasion to appraise the richness and the know-how of Cameroonian handicraft and craftsmen hence open to the world.

Transport :

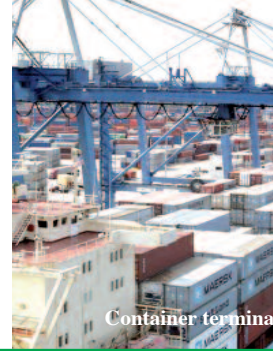
The transport sector is increasingly given pride of place in the implementation of growth revival strategies in Cameroon.



Camair-Co



Douala-Yaounde Highway project



Container terminal

The objective is to rehabilitate and develop major roads and rural tracks.

Road network :

Cameroon has a road network of more than 50,000 km comprising a priority network of 28,600 km with 4950 km of tarred roads, 11,670 km of earth roads and 123,553 km of rural roads ; as well as a transit network serving the CEMAC zone of 6080 km with 3297 km of tarred roads and 3300 km of roads to be tarred. Moreover, the government of Cameroon has been implementing a series of deterrent and repressive measures over the past years to protect road infrastructure. These measures are geared towards respect of the authorized legal loads and the respect of rain gates.

Air transport :

Cameroon has about ten airports that meet the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), including three Class A airports in Yaoundé, Douala and Garoua.

Airlines : the government of Cameroon has initiated a process for the restructuring of the national airline which led to the establishment of CAMAIR CO. Other airlines operate in Cameroon alongside CAMAIR CO, namely Air France, SN Brussels, Kenya Airways, Ethiopian Airlines, Swiss International, West African Airways, Air Gabon, Toumai Air Tchad, Air Ivoire, Lina Congo, Air Guinea Cargo, LHU (Germany), Benin Golf Air, Africa West Cargo, Iberia (Spain), etc.

Rail network :

This sub-sector is currently managed by CAMRAIL, through the concession signed in 1999 with the government. The overall rail network stretches over 1016 km of main tracks. It includes 33 railway stations of which the Bessengue railway station in Douala is the largest.

Railway lines : the rail network is broken up as follows :

- Transcam I. Douala - Yaoundé. Length : 294 Km ;
- Transcam II Yaoundé - Ngaoundéré. Length : 619 Km ;
- West Douala - Kumba line : Length : 103 Km.

Maritime transport :

Cameroon has a large seaboard which confers on the country a strategic position in the gulf of Guinea. Most of Cameroon's foreign trade transactions are by sea. The country has four ports at present: the Douala port which is functional, and three other ports under rehabilitation namely Kribi, Limbé and Garoua ports.

The Douala port authority : this port controls most of the maritime transport of Cameroon with 95 per cent of shares representing 5,503,623 tons broken down as follows: 5.4 million tons for international traffic, 140723 tons for cabotage traffic, including 1215 ocean vessels and 2147 cabotage ships. Wood and lumber products account for 65 per cent of the total volume of exports excluding cabotage.



at the Douala seaport



Kribi Deep Sea Port



Shipping lines : the liberalization policy initiated by the Cameroon government in 1998 in the port sub-sector led to the privatization of the National Shipping Line CAMSHIP in which the State had 67 per cent of capital. The Cameroon Handling and Stevedoring Company (SOCAMAC), and the Cameroon Container and Transit Transport Company (CAMTENER) which were under State-control were also privatized.

Legal framework : the government has made remarkable efforts to reduce the costs and time spent in ports particularly at the Douala port authority which manages the bulk of maritime traffic in Cameroon. The establishment of the One-Stop-Shop for Foreign Trade (GUCE) has contributed to the significant reduction of the period of treatment of goods.

Information and communication technologies :

The Information and Communication Technologies sector is fast-changing due to the 1999 liberalization. Several private firms operate in the sector alongside Cameroon Telecommunications (CAMTEL), the traditional operator.

Telephone operators :

The Cameroon government has granted two licences to private operators, namely ORANGE and MTN to operate the mobile telephone; while the land line telephone is still monopolized by CAMTEL, the public operator. Cameroon Mobile Telecommunications, a branch of CAM-

TEL, was established in 2006. Competition became stiff after the arrival of the new operator in the sector resulting in a considerable drop in communication costs.

Community telecentre :

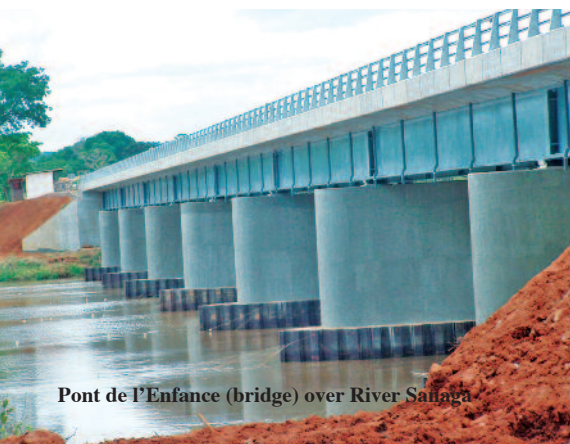
The development of an information society in the context of globalisation spurred the government to implement a project on the enhancement of the population's means of access to information. Multimedia community centres were set up in the ten regions of the country to enable the population to have access to useful information in the domain of education, health, agriculture and environment using the Internet and the radio. Community tele-centres are set up primarily in the rural areas. They aim to promote local development by providing ICT services in order to raise the standards of living of the rural population, to create income-generating activities and combat the rural exodus.

Internet :

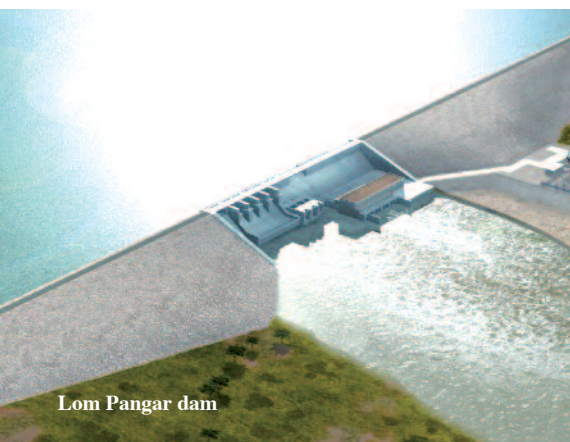
The Cameroon government is fully aware of the key role played by the Internet in development as well as its importance in bringing people together. In this regard, the government has reduced or abolished certain customs duties and taxes for the import of computers and accessories. This has helped expedite the expansion of the Internet nationwide. In 2002, the National Information and Communication Technologies Agency (ANTIC) was set up to promote and



Douala-Yaounde highway project



Pont de l'Enfance (bridge) over River Sangha



Lom Pangar dam



Multipurpose Sport Complex

pursue government action in the ICT sector.

E-Government :

E-government appears to be a tool for governance efficiency since the advent of the information society. With the use of ICTs, the government has a valuable tool for the exchange of information within a short period of time thereby having a close eye on the functioning of government services and on the relations with its social and international partners. In concrete terms, e-government also referred to as "online governance" offers brighter prospects for the enhancement of governance, notably :

- Improved synergy among sector administrations ;
- Permanent access to public information by users of the administration ;
- Administrative procedures available online thereby facilitating users' approaches.

Buildings and public works :

The BPW sector has witnessed a significant recovery after the attainment of the completion point of the HIPC Initiative by Cameroon and the reduction of the country's foreign debt that followed suit. The government therefore has substantial financial resources to launch major development projects, spurring growth and employment.

Building industry :

The recovery of activities in the BPW sector has a clear impact on sub-sectors such as cement, iron rods, metallurgy, painting, etc.

To date, the cement sub-sector is led by CIMENCAM, a Cameroon-based cement plant which has the monopoly of manufacturing this product in Cameroon. CIMENCAM has two clinker grinding plants; one in Douala which produces 1,600,000 tons per year and the other in

Figuil in the North Region with an annual production of 100,000 tons. The overall production is largely below the local demand estimated at 3 million tons. This is why the government has liberalized the import of cement in order to meet this demand in net progress through the launch of major projects (roads, ports, dams, public buildings, hotels, etc).

In addition, the project on the construction of a cement factory in Limbé to produce one million tons per year has been completed by the government and South Korean investors. Similarly, in the metal sheets subsector, the company SOCATRAL, an ALUCAM branch, produces 25,000 tons per year on average ; iron production is estimated at 65,000 tons and is carried out by the company FOKOU FOBERD, through its branch SOFAMAC. The production of local materials (fired clay bricks, roof tiles) was initiated by the government through its establishment of the Local Materials Promotion Authority (MIPROMALO).

Public Works :

This sub-sector has also witnessed a considerable recovery of activities thanks to the government's Public Investment Budget (PIB) and financial assistance from its development partners ; major road projects have been executed nationwide among which :

- The tarring of the Melong-Dschang road ;
- The construction of a bridge over river Mungo ;
- The rehabilitation of the bridge over River Wouri ;
- The rehabilitation of the Yaounde-Soa road ;
- The construction of the Yaounde-Kribi road ;
- The construction of the Ayos- Abong-Mbang road ;
- The construction of the Abong-Mbang- Bonis road ;
- The rehabilitation of the Mutengene-Kumba road ;
- The tarring of the Ring Road ;
- The rehabilitation of the bridge over River Sanaga ;

Other road projects are under execution in the country : construction of the second stretch of the Yaounde-Kribi road ; rehabilitation of the East and West entry roads into Douala; rehabilitation of the West entry road into Yaounde, etc.

Some major road projects are under scrutiny, notably the construction of a second bridge over River Wouri in Douala, the construction of a highway linking Yaounde to the Nsimalen International airport, the construction of the Douala-Yaounde highway. An in-depth presentation of some of these projects will be made in the section devoted to priority economic growth revival projects.



FOR ANY INFORMATION ON CAMEROON CONTACT THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURES

Whatever type of project you have and the investments that may ensue thereof, you will have to request to the following administrations.

Cameroon Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Mines : The Chamber has quantity and quality data on almost all economic sectors and may provide you with useful information.

Cameroon Employers' Association (GICAM) : As the largest professional trade union, GICAM brings together the majority of Cameroonian business leaders. As such, it has a privileged position that enables it to advise investors and entrepreneurs.

The Economic Advisor to Cameroon's Embassy in Paris is one of the sources of information. He has indispensable resources for promotion and information to assist the business community in seeking for exchange and partnership.

Cameroon's Embassy in China, Peking and Beijing

La Maison de l'Afrique in Paris : This structure will provide you with an updated index of 2,500 French and African companies, an identification of markets, analyses of competition and supply chains.

This body has published macro-economic « country files » over the

past years.

The « Africa » Department of the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIP) : It promotes French-speaking African countries while working for a better understanding of their economies. It publishes an economic file on each of these countries.

The Council of French investors in Africa (CIAN) : Its purpose is to promote the interests and investments of the private sector in Africa among governments and professional organisations. By keeping a permanent contact with these organisations, the CIAN has a better knowledge of the African market.

UBIFRANCE : It provides commercial-based information on various products and particularly on African countries. Documentation centres are open to the public for this purpose. Country-specific monographs are sold in these centres.

The MEDEF or the Movement for French Businesses: Its action is focused on SMEs/SMIs and it publishes a directory of professional trade unions that are members of the MEDEF. Its international branch has surveys on some markets.

CAMEROON IN BRIEF

Official name : Republic of Cameroon
Surface area : 475,442 km²
Population : 19,406,100 inhabitants
(with 64 per cent aged under 25)

Political capital : Yaounde

Economic capital : Douala

Main cities : Douala, Yaounde, Garoua, Maroua,
Bafoussam, Bamenda, Limbe,
Bertoua, N'Gaoundere, Ebolowa, Buea, Kribi.

Official languages : French and English

Currency : CFA Franc (100 CFA franc = 0.15 euros)

National Day : May 20th

Borders : Lake Chad and Chad (North),
Central African Republic (East),
Congo, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea (South)
Nigeria (West)

Peak : Mount Cameroon (4,100 m)

Longest river : Sanaga (920 km)



Administrative structure

- 10 regions, 58 divisions, 324 sub-divisions
- Milestones in the history of Cameroon
- Independence : 1st January 1960
- Unification : 1st October 1961
- Reunification : 20 may 1972
- President of the Republic : Paul Biya

Time zone and time difference : GMT + 1 hour

Telephone code : 237

Investing in a free zone in Cameroon

The entire country has been erected into a Free zone.
Information on establishment requirements is available online at www.onzfi.org.

Telephone : (237) 33 43 33 43
33 43 33 44

Fax : (237) 33 43 33 17

P. O. Box 925

Email : onzfi@camnet.cm



10 good reasons for investing in Cameroon

- The prevailing singular experience of social peace and political stability in Cameroon makes of the country a real haven of peace in the heart of an Africa continent that is torn by conflicts.
- The role of the State is focused on regulation which restores the vital place of entrepreneurs and investors in the economic system.
- The adoption by the National Assembly, in 2002, of an investment charter in Cameroon effectively puts the national economy on track with competitiveness, and establishes the market economy as mode of organization.
- Abundant natural resources, as well as sites and attractions are ranked among UNESCO heritage.
- An ever rising and diversified economic fabric with a dense network of SMEs-SMIs qualified for subcontracting and co-contracting.
- Streamlined administrative procedures with the establishment of a one-stop-shop for foreign trade operations at the Douala port and at the Investment Code Management Unit.
- A steady growth rate since 2008 that reached 5.2 per cent in 2012.
- Dynamic training institutions which place Cameroon among Sub-Saharan African countries with the highest education rates.
- A young and skilled work force.
- Modern communication and telecommunication infrastructure, including roads, seaports, railways and airports with openings to the sea, to the CEMAC and ECCAS zones, and to Nigeria.



A PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY,
PLANNING AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
B.O. 660 Yaoundé – Tel +237 22 22 09 22 Fax : +237 22 23 66 07
Web Site : www.minepat.gov.cm

September 2013

