



**STRENGTHENED
PARTNERSHIP DIALOGUE**

**ANNUAL
REPORT** **2023**

CAMEROON - EUROPEAN UNION COOPERATION

STRENGTHENED
PARTNERSHIP DIALOGUE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





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Glossary

11th EDF

Eleventh multi-annual financial protocol of the ACP-EU cooperation, within which the European resources allocated for the development of ACP States were programmed for the period 2014-2020. This eleventh financial protocol was the last one under the European Development Fund (EDF) mechanism.

Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

Trade agreement aimed at developing free trade with the European Union. The Cameroon-EU bilateral EPA entered into force in August 2016 and seeks to implement the EPA with the aim of eliminating 80% of customs duties for European products over a period of 13 years.

The Samoa Agreement

A legal agreement that will govern the ACP-EU partnership for the next twenty years, starting from the date of its signature in Apia (Samoa) on 15 November 2023. It shall replace the Cotonou Agreement, which has been in force since 2000.

The Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation

Diplomatic personality at the head of the National Representation (Delegation) of the European Union. The Ambassador alongside the Minister, Coordinator of the Partnership, is responsible for managing the European partnership process at national level.

EU Sector Budget Support (EU-SBS)

Procedure of intervention of the EU based on the payment to the Public Treasury of resources allocated for the implementation of development programmes / projects, mutually agreed upon with the Government.

Blending

Mechanism for mobilising additional external funding, by mixing EU grants with loans from other financial institutions and development organizations.

Support Unit to the EDF National Authorising Officer

Technical and operational entity placed under the direct authority of the Minister, Coordinator of the Partnership, whose mission is to assist and support him in the mobilisation and optimal, efficient and effective management of the resources derived from the European Cooperation.

Global Value Chain

All the productive activities carried out by companies in different geographical locations around the world to bring a product or service from the design stage to the production stage and delivery to the final consumer.

ACP Ministerial Council

Decision-making and guidance body bringing together the ACP Ministers of each member state. The Council meets twice a year: in a joint session with the EU in May / June and in an ACP budget session in November / December.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR REFORM CONTRACT

Financing agreement attached to the Sector Budget Support granted by the EU for the promotion of sustainable and inclusive development in the rural sector. Initially signed for the period 2017-2019, the operation was first extended until 2021, and then renewed in 2023, to continue through 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Funding agreement

Jointly signed cooperation document materialising the EU funding agreement for the implementation of a development project/programme agreed upon with the Government.

Cameroon - EU partnership Coordinator

In the context of disappearance of the function of EDF National Authorising Officer, the role of supervising the partnership process with the EU, devolved to MINEPAT, with reference to its governmental prerogatives of coordinating the economic and technical cooperation with Cameroon's Technical and Financial Partners.

Partnership dialogue

Information exchange process and joint monitoring activities of the partnership.

Structured Political Dialogue

Bilateral dialogue forum established by Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement for the joint monitoring of the whole European cooperation process.

Economic and Technical Dialogue

Newly agreed dialogue forum at national level aimed at strengthening the supervision and monitoring of Cameroon-EU cooperation, specifically targeting the economic and commercial sphere. The major priorities of national economic policy and the new privileged thematic orientations of European cooperation in the area of investment and trade militated in favour of the establishment of this forum.

Commitments

Resources allocated within the framework of a financing agreement, which will be disbursed for the execution of this agreement.

Team Europe

Mobilisation of the European Union, alongside its locally represented Member States and cooperation agencies, within the framework of joint development cooperation initiatives aimed at improving the effectiveness of the support packages and increasing the impact of the interventions.

Global Europe (or Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument -NDICI)

A unified European cooperation instrument that brings together for the first time most of the EU's funding streams intended for international cooperation. It is currently used to support sustainable development in countries within the EU's neighbourhood, Asia, the Americas, Africa, the Pacific and the Caribbean.

For the OACPS countries in particular, this instrument replaces the EDF, whose 11th cycle expired in 2020. For the period 2021-2027, the total budget envelope of this instrument stands at 79.5 billion euros (52,163 billion CFA francs).

Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF)

Instrument in the form of an agreement, dedicated to the funding of complementary and cross-cutting interventions of the European cooperation.

European Development Fund (EDF)

This is the main European instrument for the programming of development finance under the eleven successive cycles of ACP-EU cooperation, from 1957 to 2020.

NDICI

English acronym for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. It is the new financial instrument of European cooperation that replaces the EDF and whose mechanism applies to the 2021-2027 programme of the OACPS-EU partnership.

OACPS

Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States. This is the new name for the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) formerly established under the Georgetown Agreement of 1975. The ACP Group officially became the OACPS on 5 April 2020, following the entry into force of the revised Georgetown Agreement as approved by the Heads of State and Government. It is still made up of 79 countries including 48 from Africa, 16 from the Caribbean and 15 from the Pacific, all signatories of the Cotonou Agreement.

OACPS-EU

Multilateral cooperation relations between the 79 OACPS Member States and the EU. The Cameroon-EU bilateral partnership is derived from this multilateral cooperation.

EDF National Authorising Officer (EDF-NAO)

The national authority under the EDF regime, in charge of implementing the European cooperation resources, in the person of the Minister of the Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) who represents Cameroon in all OACPS and OACPS-EU cooperation activities.

PAGODA/Indirect management

Method of action through which the European Union confers the tasks of budgetary execution of programmes and projects to third-party countries or to international organizations or to the development agencies of the member States of the EU or to other certified organizations.

Multi-annual Indicative Programme

Framework document for cooperation with the EU under the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI). It is drawn up and concluded for each region/country and sets out the financial allocation and areas of intervention of EU development cooperation resources.

National Indicative Programme (NIP)

Framework document for bilateral cooperation with the European Union under the EDF regime, establishing the country budget allocation and the focal sectors of EU cooperation resources.

Regional Indicative Programme (RIP)

Framework document for EU cooperation at regional level, under the EDF regime.

NDS30

National Development Strategy for the 2020-2030 period. This is the new reference document of the national development policy, adopted in November 2020, and which will replace the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) which has reached the end of its decade of implementation (2010-2020).

ACP Summit

Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the ACP Group to give the main orientations of ACP functioning and of the partnership policy with the EU.

European grants

Direct donations granted to various State or non-State actors, to promote an EU policy objective via an action (action grant) or the payment of the operating costs of an organization (operating grant).

Abbreviations

AFD: French Development Agency

EPA: Economic Partnership Agreement

TA: Technical Assistant

AfDB: African Development Bank

EIB: European Investment Bank

CAON-FED: Support Unit to the EDF National Authorising Officer

EC: European Commission

FA: Funding agreement

ECCAS: Economic Community of Central African States

CEMAC: Central African Economic and Monetary Community

SC: Steering Committee

DACC: Competitiveness Support Facility for Cameroon

DEVCO: European Commission's Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development

EUD: European Union Delegation

ECOFAC: Support Programme for the Preservation of Biodiversity and Fragile Ecosystems in Central Africa

EIFORCES: International School for Security Forces

TCF: Technical Cooperation Facility

EDF: European Development Fund

FEICOM: Special Council Support Fund for Mutual Assistance

GIZ: German International Cooperation Agency responsible for development

NIS: National Institute of Statistics

MINADER: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

MINCOMMERCE: Ministry of Trade

MINDDEVEL: Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development

MINEPAT: Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development

MINEPIA: Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries

MINFI: Ministry of Finance

MINFOF: Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife

MINHDU: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

MINIMDT: Ministry of Industries, Mines and Technological Development

MINPMEESA: Ministry of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts

MINREX: Ministry of External Relations

MINTP: Ministry of Public Works

SO: Specific objectives

CSO: Civil Society Organization

AAP: Annual Action Plan

PAIRIAC: Support Programme for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa

PAGIRN: Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Programme for Central Africa

PAMFOR: EU Programme to improve governance in forest areas

MIP: Multi-annual Indicative Programme

NIP: National Indicative Programme

RIP: Regional Indicative Programme

PNDP-FED: EDF-funded National Community-driven Development Programme

PROCIVIS: Active Citizenship Strengthening Programme

PRODESV: Secondary Cities Economic and Social Development Programme

TFP: Technical and Financial Partner

AWPB: Annual Work Plan and Budget

SIGIF: Computerised Forest Information Management System

SODECOTON: Cameroon Cotton Development Corporation

PMU: Project Management Unit

EU: European Union

VCY: Yaoundé Ring Road



Foreword by the Minister, Coordinator of the Cameroon-EU Partnership



Ongoing dialogue



Alamine OUSMANE MEY

Minister of Economy,
Planning and Regional Development
Coordinator of the Partnership



In terms of current events relating to the partnership between the member states of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the European Union (EU), 2023 will bear the indelible mark of the historic turning point that ushered in a new general framework for cooperation, with the signing on 15 November of the Samoa Agreement to replace the Cotonou Agreement, which expired in 2020.

As a member state of OACPS, a long-standing partner of the EU since the inception of ACP-EU relations and a major player in the development of this cooperation, Cameroon can only but welcome this development, which reflects the shared desire and determination of all the partners to further strengthen these relations, while improving the reciprocal interests, principles and rules, terms and conditions, strategies, as well as the intervention instruments and approaches.

The advent of the Samoa Agreement, which is mainly characterised by the establishment of a new institutional architecture for the general partnership framework (a common base and three regional protocols), intervenes within an overall context of gradual implementation of the NDICI - Global Europe instrument, deployment of the Global

Gateway Strategy and strengthening of the Team Europe approach. All these happenings contribute positively towards the implementation of Cameroon's National Development Strategy (SND30), given the ongoing dialogue that constructively drives the management and monitoring of the Cameroon-European Union partnership, which culminated in 2023 with the second session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue.

In line with the joint steps regularly taken to develop the partnership process, this session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue, which took place on 18 July 2023 between Cameroon and the EU in its 'Team Europe' format, provided an opportunity to exchange views on issues of common interest, linked to the macro-economic environment, structural reforms, resilience and the financing of the NDS30. The conclusions and recommendations that emerged from that meeting laid the groundwork for a more sustained strengthening of the European partnership with Cameroon, which merits to be commended for its dense and constantly expanding active portfolio.

The entire dialogue regularly conducted in 2023 reveals a confirmed trend towards continued expansion of the portfolio of development projects and programmes financed from EU resources, with



Regional workshop to present the 'Global Europe' financial instrument and the 'Global Gateway' investment strategy Yaoundé, 31 January 2023

the addition of three new operations benefiting from an overall allocation of 40 billion CFA francs, and aimed at addressing various concerns targeting the improvement of the living conditions and well-being of the Cameroonian people.

In terms of achievements of the partnership dialogue, in addition to the progress registered in the implementation of the 2021-2027 MIP materialised by the signing of agreements relating to the new operations mentioned above, we can mention the ongoing joint dynamics aimed at concretising the Global Gateway Strategy and at actively mobilising EU Member States to support the principles and objectives of the 'Team Europe' approach.

The overall achievements in 2023 including the significant progress made in the European partnership process both at the level of OACPS and at bilateral level from the institutional, strategic and operational standpoints are a motive for looking to the future with confidence and optimism in the pursuit of this constructive dialogue.

The Government of Cameroon, which intends to spare no effort to this end, will mobilise the necessary efforts, by further encouraging CAON to provide a more active leadership by adopting a forward-looking approach.

2023

The historic turning point of a new general framework for cooperation with the European Union, marked by the signing of the Samoa Agreement.



Word of the Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation



Boldness in taking action together



H.E. Jean-Marc CHÂTAIGNER
Ambassador, Head of the European Union
Delegation



As Cameroon's long-standing partners, the European Union and its Member States stand by the Cameroonian people in times of growth and prosperity, but also in the most difficult times.

Driven by the essential concerns for improving the living conditions of Cameroonians amid the current context of the multifaceted crises they are facing, the EU, in a particular way in 2023, deployed its partnership action aimed at meeting the critical needs for resilience and well-being of these populations in keeping with the joint intervention modalities, stemming from the priority strategic orientations of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP 2021-2027) and Cameroon's National Development Strategy (NDS30).

The three funding agreements signed on the sidelines of the second session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue on the Cameroon-EU Partnership, held on 18 July 2023 in Yaoundé, attest to this option, in that they specifically address the issues of food security and sustainable agriculture, inclusive development and integrated territorial management, as well as stabilisation and social cohesion in the crisis-hit areas. The overall envelope of 40 billion CFA francs earmarked for these issues, to which must be added the

disbursement of European budgetary support amounting to 8.5 billion CFA francs under the Sector Reform Contract currently being implemented, reflects the EU's determination to continue upholding its constant commitment towards Cameroon.

Indeed, this commitment was reiterated at the above-mentioned session, at the end of which, on the basis of an overall assessment of the outlines and difficulties faced in the current macroeconomic context at various global, regional and national levels, recommendations and other guidelines were adopted with a view to responding adequately to the situation and enhancing the impact of European action, for the benefit of the populations concerned.

With this commitment in mind, the current pillars of the EU's action mainly concern the deployment of the Global Gateway Strategy aimed at creating partnerships for sustainable investment in climate, energy, transportation, digital technology, health, education and research on the one hand with the support of the private sector, and the strengthening of the 'Team Europe' approach, on the other hand, with a view to increasing the impact of interventions through a broad and more coherent mobilisation of the EU and its member states represented in Cameroon, around joint development support initiatives. It goes



Audience granted by MINEPAT to
H.E. Mr Jean Marc CHÂTAIGNER
Yaoundé, 02 November 2023

without saying that the 2021-2027 MIP, under the banner of the NDICI-Global Europe instrument, provides the framework for activating these pillars.

At the pinnacle of this strategic and operational mechanism is the Samoa Agreement signed on 15 November 2023, which replaces the Cotonou Agreement and renews the general framework of the OACPS-EU partnership. It also establishes a new global institutional architecture based on a common foundation and regional protocols, and puts in place new provisions that will govern development cooperation between the OACPS States and the EU for the next 20 years.

Within the framework of its cooperation with Cameroon, the EU, in its 'Team Europe' format, welcomes the ongoing dialogue which has always been positive and constructive, and intends to seize the opportunity provided by this set of measures to resolutely pursue its efforts to strengthen the partnership and provide ongoing support for Cameroon's development efforts. To this end, CAON is expected to step up its support to the national coordination of the partnership in the spirit of collaboration with the EU Delegation in Cameroon and mobilisation of local players who constantly operate the mechanism.

2023

The European Union and Team Europe acting alongside the Government and people of Cameroon.



Highlights of the partnership in 2023



31 January 2023

Regional workshop to present the 'Global Europe' financial instrument and the 'Global Gateway' investment strategy.

Yaoundé



22 May 2023

Official opening ceremony of the meeting of west African CAONs in Abidjan in the presence of the National EDF Authorising Officer of Côte d'Ivoire and the Head of the European Union Delegation.

Abidjan



5-6 July 2023

7th statutory meeting of the CAM-EU EPA Committee

Yaoundé

Highlights of the partnership in 2023



18 July 2023

2nd session
of the economic and technical dialogue
on the CAM-EU partnership.

Yaoundé



02 November 2023

Audience granted
by the Partnership Coordinator, MINEPAT,
to H.E. Mr Jean-Marc CHÂTAIGNER,
new Ambassador, Head of the EU
Delegation in Cameroon.

Yaoundé



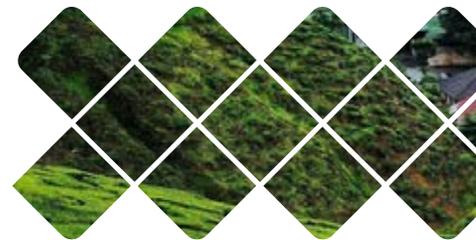
15 November 2023

Signing ceremony of the Samoa
OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement.

Apia



Summary of the report



The Cameroon-EU cooperation activities continued in 2023 in a context of progress made in the implementation of the overall post-EDF mechanism, in terms of the new tools, as well as the new action framework of the partnership.

The year 2023 witnessed the conclusion of the post-Cotonou negotiations, with the signing by the 105 OACPS and EU member states of the new Global Legal Agreement, the Samoa Agreement, which will govern the OACPS-EU partnership for the next twenty years.

The signing of the Samoa Agreement in November 2023 marked the end of the joint process of renewing the general action framework of the partnership between the OACPS and EU member States, and concluded a year of cooperation marked in Cameroon by strengthened dialogue for a greater dynamic impact of the European partnership for the benefit of the populations.

This enhanced dialogue was observed both in strategic discussions at the institutional and political level and in the joint monitoring of operational activities implemented within the cooperation programme.

At the institutional and political level, in addition to the signing of the Samoa Agreement, which symbolises the determined mobilisation of all parties for the consolidated continuation of the partnership, the involvement of high-level cooperation authorities both at the OACPS-EU level and at the Cameroon-EU bilateral level provided a strong impetus for the advancement of the European partnership process within the framework of the 'Team Europe' banner.

At the bilateral level in particular, discussions at the end of the second session of the Cameroon-EU Economic and Technical Dialogue opened the way for greater support for efforts to implement the National Development Strategy (NDS30).

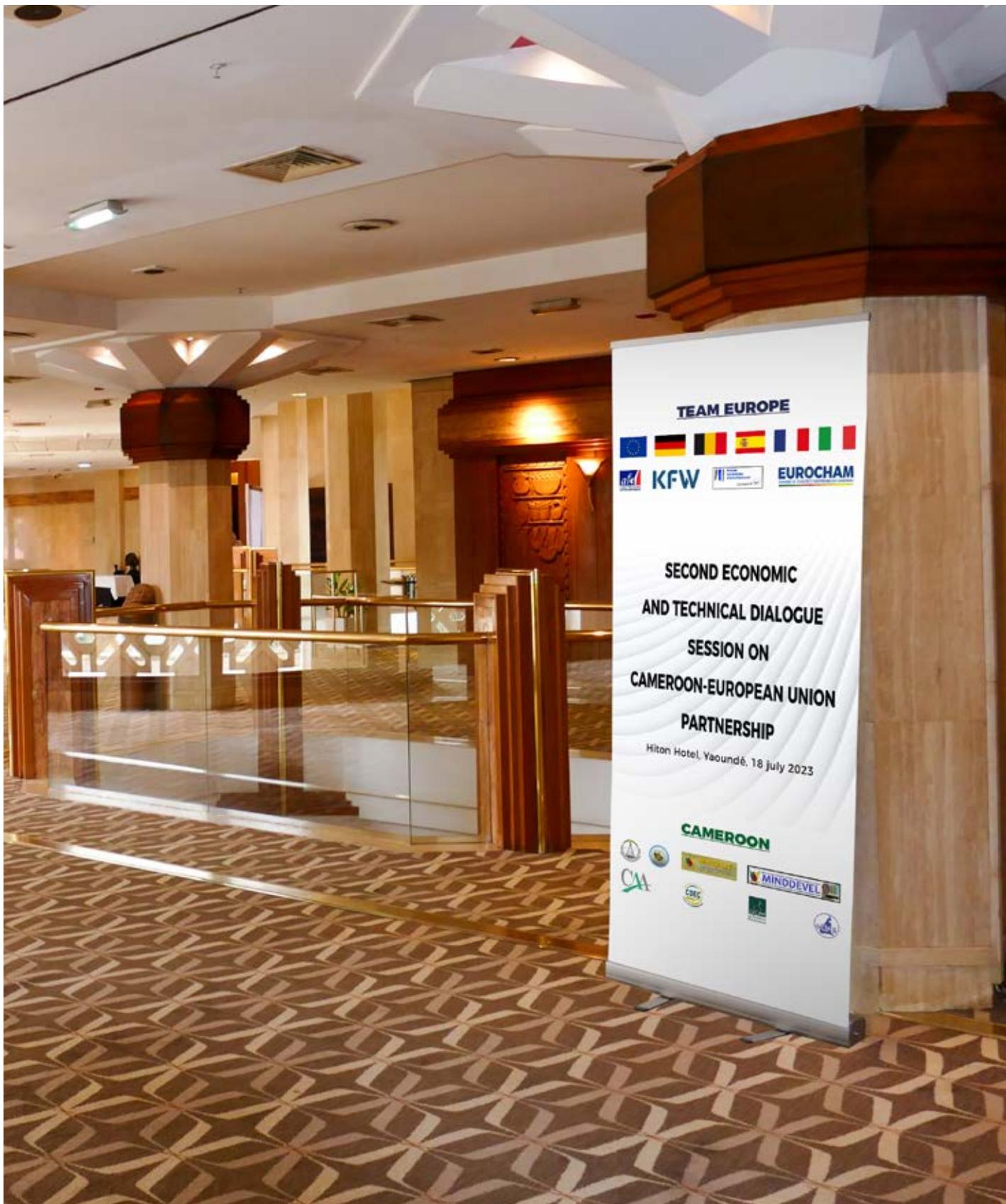
The presentation of the new European initiative known as the 'Global Gateway Strategy', which was done in a high-level regional workshop, provided an opportunity to highlight the major investment opportunities envisaged within the framework of the partnership with the EU.

From an operational standpoint, the portfolio of the cooperation with the EU has been further enriched with new programmes/projects, thanks to the joint approach of activating the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP 2021-2027) currently being implemented. The rate of mobilisation of resources allocated for the first phase 2021-2024 stands at 59%, with several operations in the pipeline at an advanced stage of programming.

Alongside the active implementation of the MIP 2021-2027, the joint monitoring of the portfolio also led to considerable progress in the implementation of the residual operations of the 11th EDF, for which the level of absorption of NIP resources at the end of the year practically stood at 99%.

On the whole, analytical data on the active Cameroon-EU cooperation portfolio reveal a positive impact of the partnership dialogue, which can be appreciated notably through (i) the importance given to the sustainable development theme in the implementation of the MIP, (ii) the strengthening of sectoral budgetary support, making it possible to pursue structural reforms in the rural development sector, (iii) the provision of multi-programme and multi-thematic support to improve regional corridors, making it possible to address the various concerns of regional road governance, (iv) the enhanced monitoring of the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in Cameroon's quest for economic competitiveness.





Introductory remarks by the National Coordinator of the Cameroon-EU Cooperation



Reinforced impetus for partnership dialogue



Aliou ABDOULLAHI

National Coordinator of the Cameroon-EU Cooperation, Head of the Support Unit to the EDF National Authorising Officer (CAON-FED)



The Cameroon-European Union cooperation process, which embarked on the implementation of the first phase of the 2021-2027 Multi-Annual Indicative Programme, running from 2021 to 2024, witnessed a significant deployment of various types of interventions in the course of 2023.

As part of the dynamics of implementation of the new 'Global Europe' instrument set up at the end of the 11th EDF, the post-Cotonou and post-11th EDF mechanism has gradually taken shape within the framework of the implementation of the NDICI.

In line with the operational launching of the activities carried out up to 2022, the dual scope of implementing the residual 11th EDF operations and the new 2021-2027 MIP operations continued.

At the institutional level, the overall legal framework of the OACPS-EU partnership, which underpins the Cameroon-EU cooperation regime, reached a historic turning point with the signing of the Samoa Agreement, which definitively marks the change of course towards a new era of restructured partnership after Cotonou.

The new European initiative known as the "Global Gateway", which promotes a substantial and more qualitative increase in development interventions in a more promising 'Team Europe' approach, has witnessed intense strategic and technical mobilisation at the regional and national levels, in view of its beneficial activation for the benefit of the various targets.

Within the framework of the monitoring of its action plan for national development, the Government of Cameroon has decided to update the EU's priority areas of intervention in Cameroon, through the organisation of the Economic and Technical Dialogue, which made it possible to review the ongoing structural reforms and joint operations.

In a nutshell, the deployment of the cooperation with the European Union in 2023 was marked by multidimensional dialogue dynamics, whose scope reveals a strong tendency towards the strengthening of the partnership.



Courtesy visit to the CAON by
H.E. the Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation
Yaoundé, 2 November 2023

It is for this reason that CAON's 2023 activities were directed towards giving greater impetus to the partnership dialogue, in particular through its very active involvement in the various articulations of the development of cooperation between Cameroon and the European Union, at the strategic and operational levels.

This activity was extended to the sharing of experiences and best practices at the meeting of the heads of Support Units to National Authorising Officers in West Africa held in Abidjan in May 2023.

This annual report, drafted under the theme of enhanced partnership dialogue, gives an account of these strengthened impetus dynamics, which can be seen in the actions deployed and the changes recorded in the appraisal and coordination of the cooperation activities carried out in terms of institutional and political dialogue on the one hand, and in terms of operational and financial monitoring on the other.

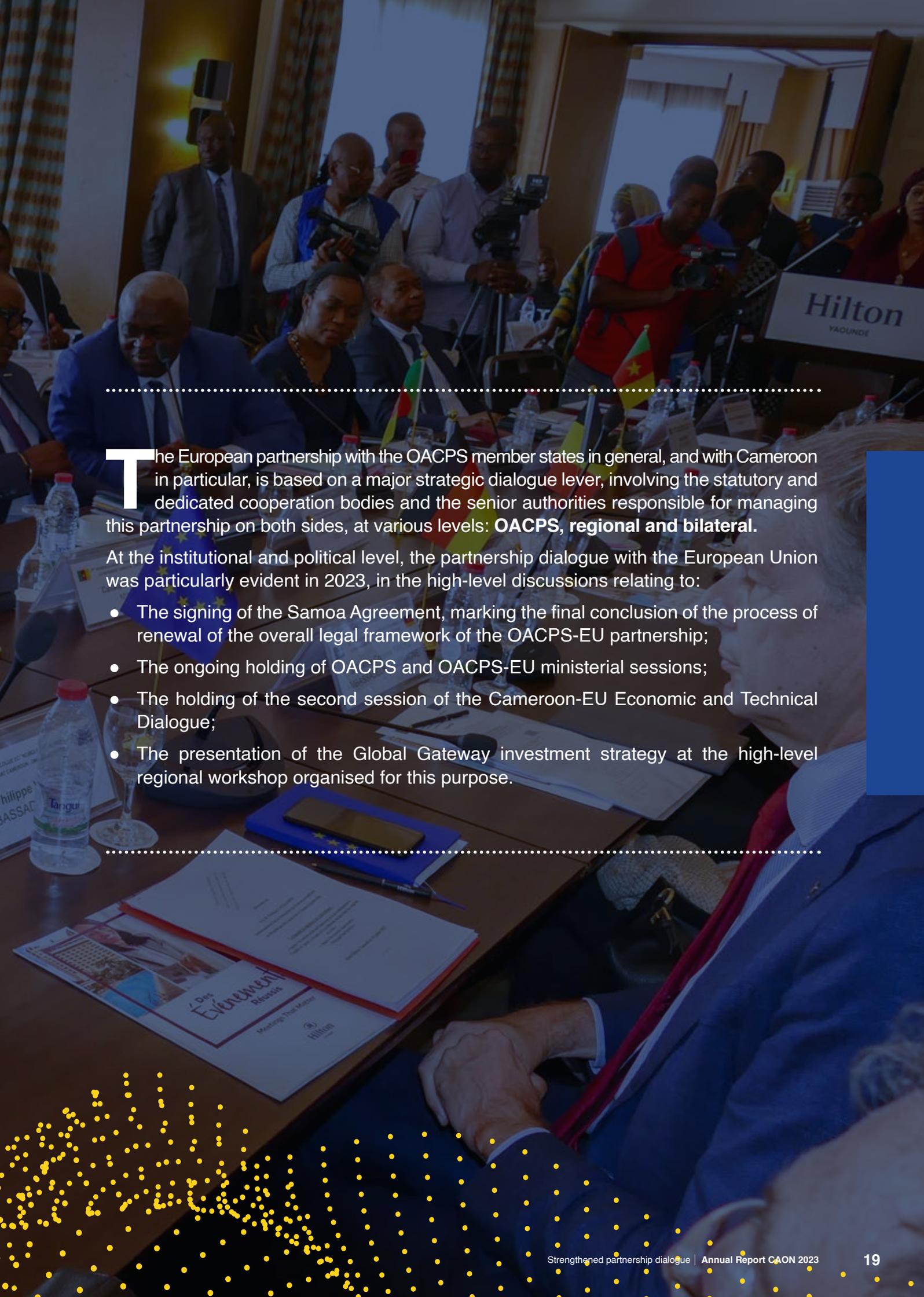
2023

The conclusive change of course towards a new era of restructured partnership after Cotonou





I. Institutional and political dialogue



The European partnership with the OACPS member states in general, and with Cameroon in particular, is based on a major strategic dialogue lever, involving the statutory and dedicated cooperation bodies and the senior authorities responsible for managing this partnership on both sides, at various levels: **OACPS, regional and bilateral.**

At the institutional and political level, the partnership dialogue with the European Union was particularly evident in 2023, in the high-level discussions relating to:

- The signing of the Samoa Agreement, marking the final conclusion of the process of renewal of the overall legal framework of the OACPS-EU partnership;
- The ongoing holding of OACPS and OACPS-EU ministerial sessions;
- The holding of the second session of the Cameroon-EU Economic and Technical Dialogue;
- The presentation of the Global Gateway investment strategy at the high-level regional workshop organised for this purpose.



This agreement will provide a modernised framework to revitalize our relations with the largest grouping of partner countries to provide a platform for dialogue and coordination to face the challenges of our times together.

Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner for International Partnerships, chief negotiator for the EU, who co-signed the agreement on behalf of the EU.

The Samoa Agreement

Successful dialogue to renew the OACPS-EU partnership framework

Post-Cotonou negotiations, which began in September 2018, culminated on 15 November 2023 in the signing in Apia (Samoa) by the 106 countries of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the European Union (EU) of the so-called Samoa Agreement which is the new global legal framework governing the OACPS-EU partnership for the next twenty years and which replaces the Cotonou Agreement.

The Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development who headed the official Cameroonian delegation that included CAON, signed on behalf of Cameroon.



A new OACPS-EU institutional architecture associated with a multi-lateral scope of the partnership

MOA AGREEMENT"

15 NOVEMBER | APIA, SAMOA



At a time when multilateralism is under threat, the fact that so many countries can come together and decide to join forces to tackle global challenges gives grounds to look to the future with optimism.

Josep Borrell, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Samoa: A new institutional architecture for the OACPS-EU partnership

The Samoa Agreement establishes a new institutional framework for the OACPS-EU partnership, consisting of a Common Base for all the member countries and three separate regional protocols for Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

A common base

The Common Base that applies to all the stakeholders, brings together the values and principles around which the OACPS and EU member States are united.

The related institutional framework involves all the stakeholders of the partnership and adopts a common approach in the strategic areas that are of a priority and interdependent nature, both in terms of OACPS-EU relations and on the international arena.

Three regional protocols

The shared vision of specific, action-oriented regional partnerships has led to the establishment, below the Common Base, of separate regional protocols aimed at addressing the specific features and needs of each region.

In the immediate aftermath of the signing of the Samoa Agreement, the regions are called upon to rapidly define their respective management structures and coordination bodies.

Samoa: A new multilateral policy vision for the OACPS-EU partnership

The OACPS-EU partnership, which was originally established in 1957 to reinforce the solidarity between Europe and the overseas countries and which today remains the largest collective cooperation agreement in the history of relations between the countries of the North and the countries of the South. links 79 OACPS States and 27 EU Member States, i.e. 106 countries spread across four continents, representing more than half of the seats at the United Nations, and bringing together more than 1.5 billion people.

In line with the dynamics of change and evolution of the pillars and strategic axes of cooperation, which have regularly marked the partnership process since the successive agreements of Yaoundé, Lomé and Cotonou, the current thematic options foster, beyond the traditional issues of support and financing for the development of OACPS States, the strategic vision of mutually beneficial cooperation, within a bilateral context of renewed interest in multilateralism, giving rise to the consideration of the new Agreement as a common advocacy tool on the international arena.

The Samoa Agreement thus carries the vision of a strategic echo of OACPS-EU cooperation in international fora, with a view to enabling this block to face global challenges together, particularly with regard to issues such as the global financial architecture, climate change and multilateralism.

OACPS and OACPS-EU Ministerial Councils

The ongoing institutional dialogue aimed at strengthening the OACPS-EU partnership

As the statutory institutional framework for partnership dialogue, the OACPS Council of Ministers on the one hand, and the joint OACPS-EU Council of Ministers on the other, meet in regular annual sessions to examine all current cooperation issues, both concerning the internal functioning of the OACPS and OACPS-EU relations.

The period under review was no exception to the rule, with the holding of regular meetings of these statutory institutional bodies.

Holding of meetings of the statutory partnership dialogue bodies

» OACPS dialogue

116th OACPS Ministerial Council

The 116th session of the OACPS Council of Ministers held from 19 to 20 July 2023 in Brussels.

The issues on the agenda of this session covered various topics relating to the functioning of the OACPS and the development of cooperation with the EU.

At the end of the session, the internal dialogue within the OACPS member states led to the adoption of several decisions and resolutions relating to the strengthening and diversification of partnerships, as well as the necessary transformation of the OACPS to adapt it to the geopolitical developments in the world.

Overall, seventeen Decisions and three Resolutions were adopted, addressing a variety of cooperation issues, including strategic partnerships, international relations, institutional changes to the partnership framework, sectoral development issues, financing of development, future policy orientations, as well as administrative and financial issues relating to the functioning of the OACPS General Secretariat.

» OACPS-EU dialogue

46th OACPS-EU Ministerial Council

The 46th session of the OACPS-EU Council of Ministers was held in Apia (Samoa) on 15 November 2023, prior to the signing of the new global legal framework for the OACPS-EU partnership, the Samoa Agreement.

During this meeting of the joint forum for dialogue, the OACPS and EU parties agreed on the name of the new Agreement, to be known as the Samoa Agreement, and exchanged views on a number of important issues to the partnership, including the implementation of the new Agreement and OACPS-EU cooperation on the international arena.

In connection with the implementation of the new Agreement, the participants discussed about the work on the rules of procedure of the future joint institutions, the terms and conditions of the partnership dialogue, and the way forward for the establishment of a common mechanism for stakeholder participation.

With regard to OACPS-EU cooperation in international fora, the Ministers discussed about the ways and means of strengthening cooperation within these fora within the framework of the Samoa Agreement, and examined future possibilities for joint positioning in the multilateral fora.



**46TH SESSION OF THE
ACP-EU COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS & SIGNING
OF THE**

**SAMOA
AGREEMENT
2023**

**14-15 NOVEMBER
APIA, SAMOA**



Cameroon-EU Economic and Technical Dialogue

Dialogue to strengthen support for the implementation of the NDS30

The second session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue between Cameroon and the European Union (in the Team Europe format) was held in Yaoundé on 18 July 2023, co-chaired by the Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development and the Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation.

At the end of this dialogue session, which included sharing of views on issues of common interest relating to the macroeconomic framework, structural reforms, resilience and the financing of Cameroon's national development strategy up to 2030, the meeting concluded with a number of key areas for strengthening the partnership under the EU's consolidated Team Europe approach.

Consolidating the “Team Europe” approach to strengthen the partnership

» NDS30

Continued support to the implementation of the NDS30 against a backdrop of strengthening the EU partnership

During the second session of the Cameroon-EU Economic and Technical Dialogue, the stakeholders agreed on the following main conclusions:

- Pursue structural reforms likely to strengthen the resilience of the Cameroonian economy;
- Align the economy and local taxation with the new requirements of decentralisation;
- Step up the promotion of the import-substitution policy to boost national production;
- Improve the investment climate and the business environment, in particular by relaunching the Public-Private Dialogue in a revamped format;
- Accelerate the implementation of the reconstruction and development plans for the North-West, South-West and Far-North regions.

These conclusions, which are in line with the implementation of the priority options of the NDS30, are directly linked to Cameroon's current development policy.

They reflect on both sides, a commitment by the EU to strengthen the partnership and a resolute determination of the Government of Cameroon to optimise the cooperation resources.

» European Union

Strengthening the European partnership against a backdrop of consolidation of the ‘Team Europe’ approach

On the sidelines of the second session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue, Cameroon and Team Europe signed three financing agreements amounting to 40 billion CFA francs (60 million Euros), reflecting the consolidation of the Team Europe approach initiated a few years ago within the framework of the partnership process with the EU.

The signing of these agreements were the outcome of the commitments taken by the Technical and Financial Partners during the deliberations to continue to increase their financial support to Cameroon in order to further assist it in implementing the NDS30.

The EU's participation in this meeting in the Team Europe format (EU Delegation - Member States and Cooperation Agencies represented in Yaoundé) is highly indicative of this promising trend towards greater and more effective mobilisation of resources to support Cameroon's development efforts.

The Team Europe approach that was inaugurated in Cameroon as part of the mobilisation to combat the covid-19 pandemic, has now definitively taken shape in the local cooperation area and is becoming even stronger over time.



2nd session of the Economic and Technical Dialogue between Cameroon and the European Union
Yaoundé, 18 July 2023



40

**billion CFA francs
(60 million euros)**

.....

Cameroon and Team Europe signed three financing agreements amounting to 40 billion CFA francs



NDS30
Strengthening the partnership
Priority to structural reforms

The Global Gateway strategy

Dialogue aimed at promoting financing/investment opportunities

Under the co-presidency of the Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Coordinator of the Partnership, and Mrs Myriam FERRAN, Deputy Director General of International Partnerships at the European Commission, Cameroon hosted the high-level regional workshop on the presentation of the 'Global Europe' financial instrument and the 'Global Gateway' investment strategy for the Central Africa region on 31 January 2023.

As an eligible country for the Global Gateway strategy, Cameroon is actively making arrangements to take advantage of the opportunities offered by this strategy by setting up an interministerial committee. CAON participates actively in the deliberations of this committee.

98,340 billion CFA francs (150 billion euros)
envisaged as intended investment mobilisation

» European Union

The Global Gateway strategy launched

The Global Gateway strategy is a European Commission initiative aimed at contributing to the development of the EU's partner countries, primarily on the African continent, by mobilising the private sector to speed up the digital, energy and ecological transitions in emerging and developing countries.

The Global Gateway strategy embodies a Team Europe approach that brings together the EU, the Member States and the European development finance institutions.

The aim is to mobilise up to 300 billion in public and private investments between 2021 and 2027, including 150 billion destined for Africa to finance high-quality, sustainable infrastructure projects.

This envelope will be mobilised through the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+), grants from the EU budget and investments from financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), the French Development Agency (AFD), the German Development Bank (KfW), etc.

» Cameroon

The Global Gateway Interministerial Committee at work

In order to seize the financing opportunities offered by the EU's Global Gateway strategy, Cameroon has set up an 'Interministerial Committee responsible for coordinating and preparing application files for regional projects in Cameroon that are eligible under the Global Gateway strategy, extended to other investors'.

The main purpose of the Interministerial Committee is to facilitate coordination at central level between the activities of the various ministries eligible for external aid from the Global Gateway initiative.

The activities of the EU's Global Gateway initiative focus primarily on :

- assisting the Government in strengthening ownership of the Global Gateway strategy by the operational entities;
- consolidating tools for identifying and prioritising eligible projects;
- repositioning and advocacy at the level of partners.

By the end of 2023, the Interministerial Committee has embarked on the drawing up of its roadmap and its 2023-2027 action plan.

Chronology of the implementation of the 'Global Gateway' strategy

Late 2021
European Commission

European Commission initiative to launch the 'Global Gateway' strategy
.....Brussels

February 2022
6th AU-EU Summit

Presentation of the 'Global Gateway' investment strategy at the level of the African continent
.....Brussels

November 2022
45th Joint OACPS-EU Ministerial Council

Programming in Cameroon of the launch of the 'Global Gateway' Strategy for the Central African Region
.....Brussels

31 January 2023
Central Africa-EU Partnership Workshops

High-level Central African regional workshop to present the 'Global Europe' financial instrument and the 'Global Gateway' investment strategy
.....Yaoundé

20 March 2023
National Cameroon-EU Partnership Coordination

Ministerial order establishing the Inter-ministerial Committee in charge of coordinating the preparation of Cameroon's regional projects eligible for the 'Global Gateway' strategy, extended to other investors (The Committee).

Ministerial decision establishing the composition of the Committee's bodies
.....Yaoundé

4 October 2023
Global Gateway Interministerial Committee

Initiation of the Committee's proceedings
.....Yaoundé

The five priority sectors of the Global Gateway strategy



Digital technology

Access to digital technology infrastructure, protective regulatory framework, skills development



Health

Security of pharmaceutical supply chains and development of local production capacity



Climate & energy

Energy networks, renewable energies and critical minerals management, sustainable agri-food systems, water/sanitation, waste management, eco-system preservation



Transportation

Railway lines, road networks, seaports and airports, logistic centres and multimodal platforms, regulatory agreements and convergence



Education and Research

Access to quality education, including vocational training, promotion of knowledge exchange and creation of academic and research networks

The Global Gateway Strategy in Cameroon :

The programmed Yaoundé Ring Road project.



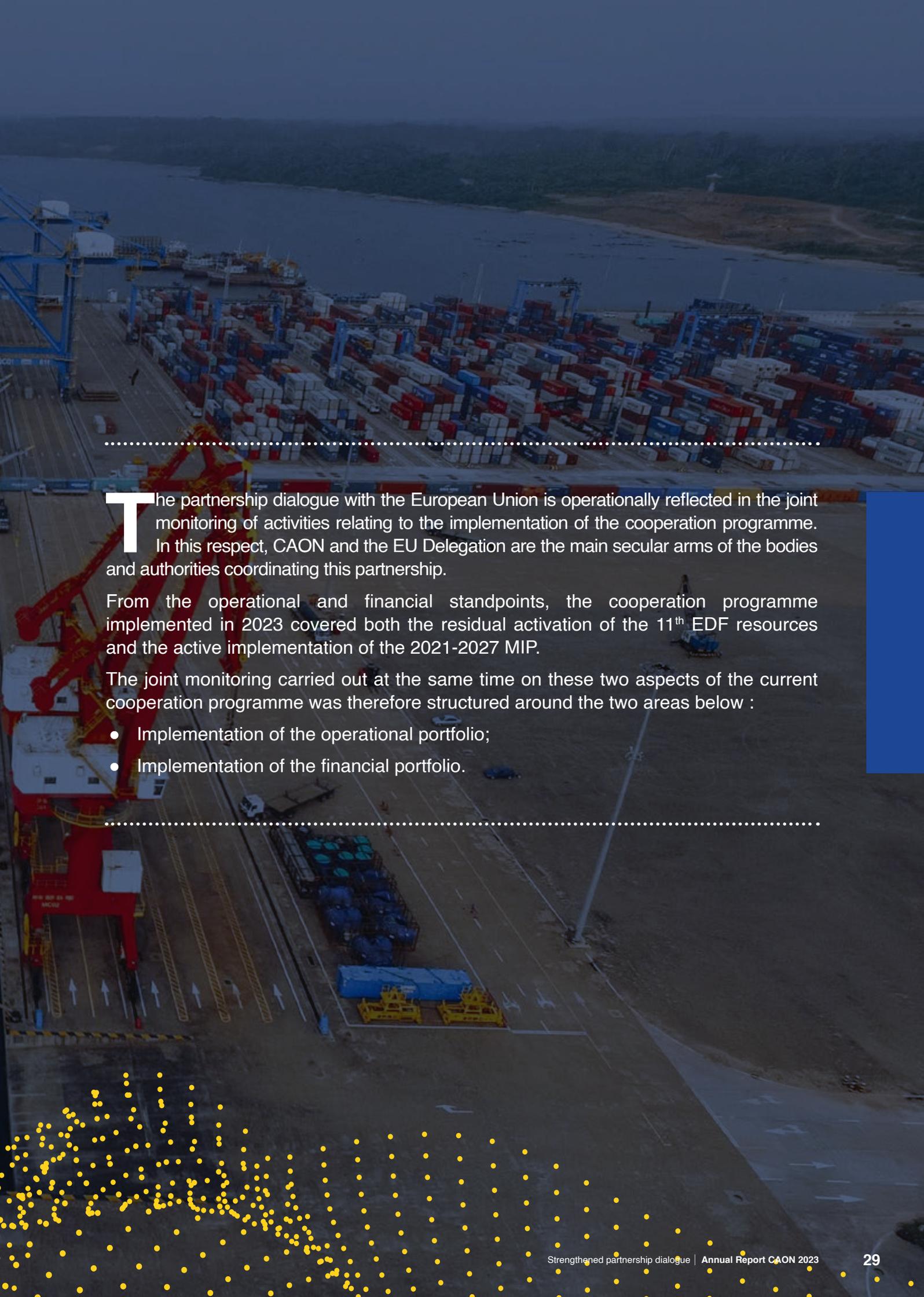
Within the framework of the programming of the Global Gateway Strategy's interventions in Cameroon for 2023, the Transport sector has been identified, following the finalisation of feasibility studies on the Yaoundé Ring Road identified on the Libreville - Kribi / Douala - N'Djamena Strategic Transport Corridor.



I.

II.

Operational and financial monitoring



The partnership dialogue with the European Union is operationally reflected in the joint monitoring of activities relating to the implementation of the cooperation programme. In this respect, CAON and the EU Delegation are the main secular arms of the bodies and authorities coordinating this partnership.

From the operational and financial standpoints, the cooperation programme implemented in 2023 covered both the residual activation of the 11th EDF resources and the active implementation of the 2021-2027 MIP.

The joint monitoring carried out at the same time on these two aspects of the current cooperation programme was therefore structured around the two areas below :

- Implementation of the operational portfolio;
- Implementation of the financial portfolio.

II.1 Joint monitoring of the operational portfolio

Cameroon-EU : 2023 active operational portfolio

	Programs/Projects	Intervention sector	Status of implementation
Active 2021-2027 MIP	Cameroon - Inclusive and sustainable green cities	Environment-Climate	Operationalization
	TEI for the Northern regions: The Green Deal and resilience of Cameroon's northern regions	Environment-Climate	Operationalization
	The Cameroon south/south-east green landscape	Environment-Climate	Operationalization
	Support to the civil society in Cameroon and to its contribution to peace and stability in conflict-hit regions through the empowerment of women and social cohesion	Civil society	Operationalization
	Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production capacity	Energy	Programming
	Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative	Competitiveness	Programming
	NaturAfrica	Environment-Climate	Programming
	RESILAC_2 Programme	Environment-Climate	Programming
	Central African Ocean Programme	Environment-Climate	Programming

In the course of 2023, the implementation of the Cameroon-EU cooperation operational portfolio was jointly monitored, particularly with regard to the current activation of the 2021-2027 MIP and the residual operationalisation of the 11th EDF.

This portfolio that is made up of about fifteen operations includes programmes/projects currently being implemented (MIP 2021-2027 and 11th EDF), as well as those currently being programmed (MIP 2021-2027).

The main points that emerged from the joint monitoring dialogue on the implementation of this portfolio include the following :

- The Environment - Climate density of the active MIP 2021-2027 portfolio;
- The ongoing mobilisation of European Union Sectoral Budget Support;
- The strengthening of multi-faceted support to regional road governance;
- Improvement of the performance of the EPA.

	Programs/Projets	Intervention sector	Status of implementation
Residual 11th EDF resources	Forest Governance Improvement Programme (PAMFOR)	Forest Governance	Operationalization
	Competitiveness Support Facility for Cameroon (DACC)	Competiveness	Operationalization
	Sector reform contract for rural - development	Rural development	Operationalization
	Programme for the economic and social development of Crisis-hit Medium Cities (PRODESV)	Infrastructure	Operationalization
	Facilitating changes in the Cotton-production Basin of Cameroon-ABC	Cotton production	Operationalization
	Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the energy sector in Cameroon	Energy	Operationalization
	Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the Industrial sector of the northern part of Cameroon	Industrialisation	Operationalisation
	Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Programme for central Africa (PAGIRN) - Cameroon	Regional infrastructures	Operationalization
	Support Programme for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa (PAIRIAC)	Regional Integration	Operationalization
	Local and sustainable production to prevent food crises in Cameroon	Food security	Opérationnalization

Implementation of the overall cooperation portfolio with the European Union

Dialogue on the joint monitoring of operations

Under the coordination of CAON, the joint monitoring of the implementation of the entire European portfolio in Cameroon gave rise in 2023 to the ongoing operational programming of the 2021-2027 MIP interventions and the operationalisation projects under the 11th EDF that are still active.

Gradual activation of the 2021-2027 MIP and residual operationalisation of the 11th EDF

» 11th EDF

Residual portfolio

The residual 11th EDF portfolio comprises the projects and programmes under the NIP and RIP currently being implemented.

Residual NIP portfolio

- Sector reform contract for rural development
- Forest Governance Improvement Programme
- Competitiveness Support Facility for Cameroon
- Support for the changes in the Cameroon Cotton Basin
- Programme for the economic and social development of Crisis-hit Medium Cities
- Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the energy sector in Cameroon
- Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the Industrial sector of the northern part of Cameroon

Residual RIP portfolio

- Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Programme for central Africa (PAGIRN) – Cameroon
- Support Programme for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa (PAIRIAC)
- Local and sustainable production to prevent food crises in Cameroon.

» MIP 2021-2027

Active portfolio

The active 2021-2027 MIP portfolio includes several programs and projects. Funding agreements have been signed for some of these projects and programmes and are being implemented, while others are still in the programming phase.

Operational MIP portfolio

- Inclusive and sustainable green cities
- Cameroon: Green and Resilient northern regions
- South/South-East Landscape
- Support to the civil society

MIP portfolio being programmed

- Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production capacities
- Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative
- NaturAfrica
- RESILAC_2 Programme
- The Central African Ocean Programme



.....Steering Committee Session of PAIRIAC



Cameroun-EU

Status of activation of the 2021-2027 MIP

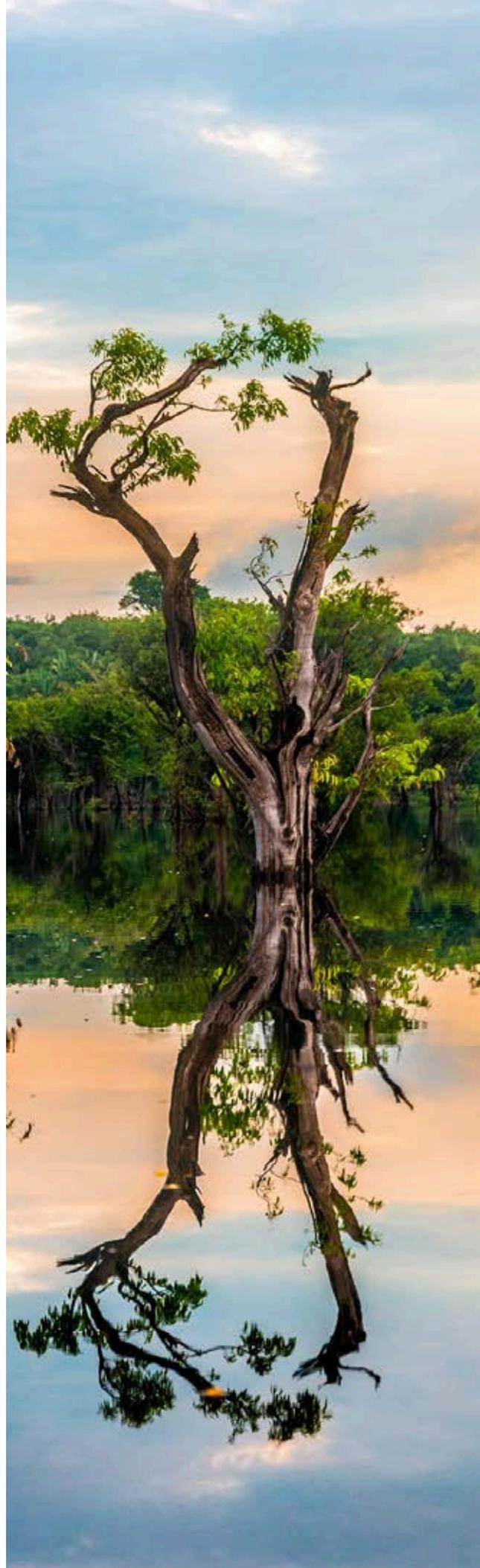
	Program/Projet	Resource/Allocation (in billions CFA francs)	Date of the agreement	Objectives	
Actions being implemented	Inclusive and sustainable green cities	MIP	15.7	04/10/2022	To improve the living environment of urban populations in Cameroon, especially women and vulnerable groups
	Cameroon: Green and Resilient northern regions	MIP/Team Europe	13.1	04/10/2022	To improve the resilience of the three northern regions in the face of demographic pressure and food crises exacerbated by insecurity and climate change
	South/South-East Landscape	MIP/Team Europe	13.5	18/07/2023	To improve the governance of territories and natural resources by decentralised stakeholders and local representatives
	Support to the civil society	MIP/Team Europe	13	18/07/2023	To promote citizen participation, improve the civic space, strengthen the contribution of women's organizations, women's rights defenders and civil society organisations.
Operations being programmed	Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production capacity	MIP	2.7	In the pipeline	Increase access of all to an electricity supply increasingly based on renewable energies in Cameroon, by focusing on two areas: Improving the capacities of the supervisory authorities and mobilising project financing from private developers
	Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative	MIP	9.8	In the pipeline	Contribute to inclusive economic development and the creation of decent jobs through the development of the private sector
	NaturAfrica	Regional MIP * Financing Agreement (FA) completed / FA under review by EU			Regional programme aimed at combating biodiversity loss by restoring and protecting a network of protected areas and valuable ecosystems and by promoting the sustainable management of surrounding landscapes
	RESILAC_2 program	Regional MIP * Project formulation completed/ Implementing partners being identified			Regional initiative aimed at reducing the impact of local conflicts in the coastal basins of Africa, including the Lake Chad Basin in Cameroon.
	Central African Ocean Program	Regional MIP * The action is currently being formulated			This is a regional initiative aimed at supporting and stimulating sustainable regional governance and the management of oceans

» Cameroun-EU

Summary table of the implementation of the 2023 operational portfolio

Value chain / Sector	Programme / Project	Implementation in 2023		
		Changes achieved	Major activities:	Impetus/monitoring provided by CAON
Forest Governance	Forest Governance Improvement Programme (PAMFOR): Objective: To promote the legal exploitation and export of timber	Revamping the implementation of the Programme following its restructuring into four components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a technical coordination and monitoring framework, known as the Coordination and Monitoring-Evaluation Mechanism (DICOSE). Holding of the first session of DICOSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of the DICOSE implementation process Institutional support for the implementation of activities
Cotton	Supporting change in the Cameroon Cotton Basin - Rural Development Support Programme - ABC-PADER Objective: To improve the socio-economic situation and incomes with a view to preserving natural resources in Cameroon's cotton-growing basin	Continuation of the operational implementation of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding of the 1st and 2nd sessions of the Steering Committee Holding of the 2nd and 3rd sessions of the Operational Monitoring Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional support for the implementation of activities Active participation in the work of the project's supervisory bodies (CoSo - COPIL) Field missions
Green Deal	South/South-East landscape Programme Objective: To improve the governance of territories and natural resources by decentralised stakeholders and local representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently signed funding agreement Activities about to start 	Mission to prepare the operational implementation phase	Coordination of preparatory mission's activities : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work of the mission Inputs from the Cameroonian side
Green Deal	Cameroon Programme: Green and Resilient northern regions Objective: To improve the resilience of the three northern regions in the face of demographic pressure and food crises exacerbated by insecurity and climate change	Programme in start-up phase	Holding of the official ceremony to launch the programme (November 2023)	Institutional support for the launching of the Programme
Cashew nuts	National Programme for the Integrated Development of Cashew Value Chains in Cameroon - PDIF-Cajou Objective: To develop cashew nut production and processing in Cameroon	Programming (Formulation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulation mission (OACPS Technical Assistant) Workshop for the presentation and validation of the deliverables produced by the formulation mission 	Coordination and supervision of the formulation process
Governance, Peace, Stabilisation	Support to the civil society in Cameroon and its contribution to gender equality, peace and social cohesion in crisis-hit regions Objective: To promote citizen participation, improve the civic space, strengthen the contribution of women's organisations, women's rights defenders and civil society organisations	Programme in start-up phase	The funding agreement for this programme has been signed	Institutional facilitation for the take-off of the Programme
Economic competitiveness	Competitiveness Support Facility for Cameroon - DACC Objective: To improve Cameroon's competitiveness by strengthening the capacities of its economic operators and promoting an institutional environment that is more conducive to business.	Activities in progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding of the 7th, 8th and 9th sessions of the Steering Committees Holding of 3 sessions of the Operational Monitoring Committee Holding of several sectoral/thematic meetings and workshops on private sector support Generalisation of the allocation of subsidies to cocoa and coffee producers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional support for the implementation of the project. Active participation in the work of supervisory bodies and various sectoral/thematic workshops
Regional integration	Support Programme for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa - PAIRIAC Objective: To strengthen sustainable growth and employment in Central Africa	Operational take-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Steering Committee Regional and national workshops Field missions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional support for the implementation of activities Active participation in the deliberations of the project's supervisory bodies (Steering Committee)
Regional infrastructures	Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Programme for central Africa - PAGIRN Objective: To improve the sustainability of investments and scale up the effectiveness of regional and national economic infrastructure in the transport, energy and information technology sectors, through strengthened governance in these sectors	Current implementation : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable management of corridors Observatory of Abnormal Practices Road Safety ICT Foresight and Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Steering Committee Regional and national workshops Field missions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional support for the implementation of the programme Various administrative and technical facilitations

2024 outlook	
Observations	Operational continuation
This programme is currently being implemented within the framework of its new operational architecture and its new management system	Continuation of the implementation, taking into account the respective deadlines for each of the Programme's operations.
The project is being successfully implemented, taking into account the recommendations of the various supervisory bodies that regularly hold their statutory sessions	Continuation of the implementation of the Programme
The project is structured around three components that will be implemented by partners whose contractualisation process is underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Contractualisation of operations ■ Start-up of the various components
The Programme is structured around three components whose implementing partners have been identified. The related institutional arrangements are being finalised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Finalisation of institutional arrangements ■ Contractualisation of operations ■ Implementation of activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Formulation of programme has been completed ■ Funding awaited 	Request for funding to be sent by the Government to the EU, with a view to financing the Cashew integrated development project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Funding agreement signed ■ Initial contractualisations underway 	Finalisation of initial contractualisation and implementation of activities
The activities of the Project are proceeding regularly in accordance with the provisions of the agreement	Operational continuation of the implementation of the Programme
Overall, the project is taking-off fully, following a late start of its activities	Continuation of the implementation process, in a more active operational phase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Signing of rider extending the OPA component until September 2024 ■ The grant for the road safety component expired in 2023 	Operational continuation of the implementation of the components funded with the current grants.



Sustainable development

Environment-Climate prioritisation of the 2021-2027 MIP implementation dialogue

An examination of the status of implementation of the 2021-2027 MIP at the end of the period under review, revealed a strong trend towards the priority programming of interventions relating to the various themes of environmental and climatic interest.

This trend is the result of the increased activation of the third area of intervention of the 2021-2027 MIP: Green Deal - Sustainable Development and Climate Action.

The 'Environment-Climate' density of the active portfolio of the 2021-2027 MIP



07

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS currently being implemented/programmed

- Inclusive and sustainable green cities
- Cameroon: Green and resilient northern regions
- South/South-East Landscape
- Support to food security
- NaturAfrica
- RESILAC_2 Programme
- Central African Ocean Programme

55.8

billion CFA francs (85 million euros)

worth of operational funding

Of the seven projects that make up the Sustainable Development portfolio of the 2021-2027 MIP, the four that have sailed through the milestone of signing financing agreements represent an already operational financial volume amounting to CFA francs 55.8 billion (85 million euros).

The continuation of dialogue on the activation of the 2021-2027 MIP will allow for an increase of this volume of funding as part of the ongoing finalisation of the programming process of the other identified projects.



15.7

billion CFA francs (24 million euros)

Inclusive and sustainable green cities

13,1

billion CFA francs (19.9 million euros)

Cameroon: Green and resilient northern regions

13.5

billion CFA francs (20.6 million euros)

South/South-East Landscape

13.5

billion CFA francs (20.6 million euros)

Support to food security



Cameroon

Sustainable development portfolio - 2021-2027 MIP

Operations being implemented



Inclusive and sustainable green cities

To improve the living environment of urban populations in Cameroon, especially women and vulnerable groups

1. Governance, decentralisation and local taxation
2. Sustainable mobility
3. Waste management
4. Inclusion and resilience in the face of climate change



South/South-East Landscape

To improve the governance of territories and natural resources by decentralised stakeholders and local representatives

1. Conservation and biodiversity
2. Green economy
3. Territorial governance



Cameroon: Green and resilient northern regions

To improve the resilience of the three northern regions in the face of demographic pressure and food crises exacerbated by insecurity and climate change

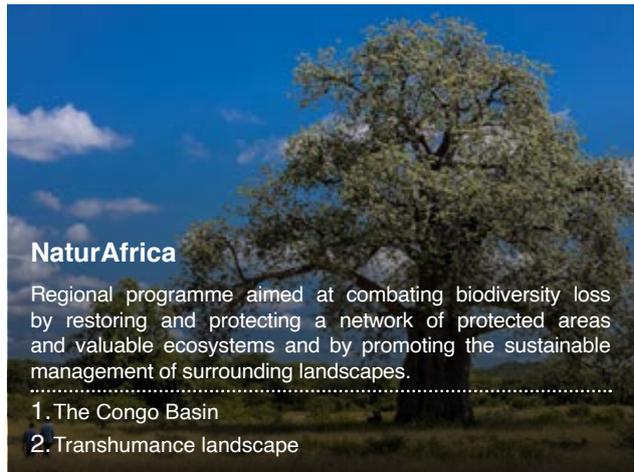
1. Support for governance and conflict prevention
2. Sustainable agricultural, forestry and pastoral production adapted to climate change
3. Management, sustainable conservation and enhancement of the protected natural heritage



Support to food security

To improve the resilience of food production systems, through the adoption of climate change adaptation measures, sustainable intensification and agro-ecological transition

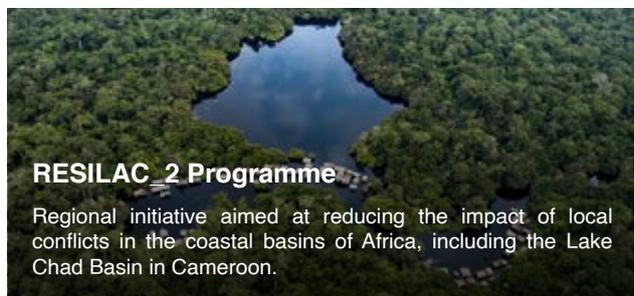
Operations being programmed



NaturAfrica

Regional programme aimed at combating biodiversity loss by restoring and protecting a network of protected areas and valuable ecosystems and by promoting the sustainable management of surrounding landscapes.

1. The Congo Basin
2. Transhumance landscape



RESILAC_2 Programme

Regional initiative aimed at reducing the impact of local conflicts in the coastal basins of Africa, including the Lake Chad Basin in Cameroon.



The Central African Ocean Programme

This is a regional initiative aimed at supporting and stimulating sustainable regional governance and the management of oceans.

Sectoral reforms - Rural development

Strengthening Sectoral Budget Support on the basis of the joint evaluation

The EU's Sector Budget Support was renewed in 2023, as part of the relaunch of the Sector Reform Contract (SRC). The initial implementation phase of Sector Budget Support began in 2017 and ended in 2021.

The joint dialogue conducted as part of the work of the Structural Reforms Monitoring Committee chaired by the Secretary General of MINEPAT resulted in the development of this new phase, marked at the end of the period under review by the disbursement of the 2023 instalments, and the current programming of the envelope allocated for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026.



Continuous mobilisation of the Sector Budget Support

» **8.5 billion CFA francs**
(13 million euros) disbursed in 2023

The success recorded in the implementation of the Sector Reform Contract (SRC) in 2023 resulted in the disbursement of fixed and variable instalments totalling CFA francs 8,527,441,000 (13 million d'euros) out of the expected amount of CFA francs 9,839,355,000 (15 million d'euros).

The disbursement gap stems from the delay recorded in releasing the main results of the 4th General Population and Housing Census.

The disbursement was made on the basis of a joint evaluation, which concluded that the conditions and associated indicators for all the other targets had been met.

» **25.6 billion CFA francs**
(39 million euros) programmed for 2024-2025-2026

In view of the appreciable performance recorded in the implementation of the Sector Reform Contract, the structural reform monitoring dialogue led to the decision to continue the European Union Budget Support (EU-BBS) relating to this contract over the next three years.

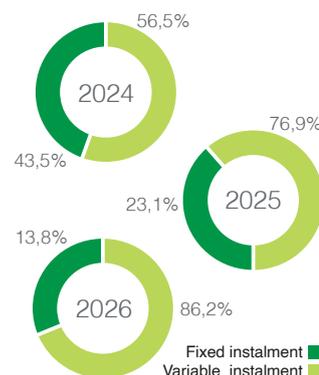
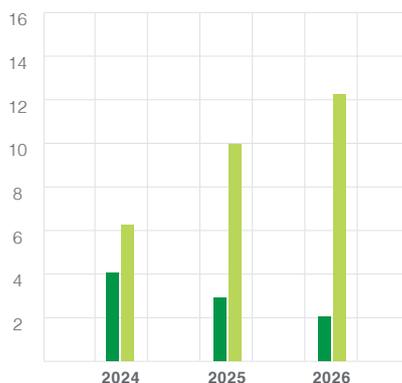
To this end, a budget support allocation of 25.6 billion CFA francs (39 million euros) has been envisaged as tentative annual breakdown.

The ongoing programming of this allocation should be completed at the beginning of 2024.

The disbursement terms and conditions for this envelope correspond to the same conditional provisions and fixed and variable instalments applied in previous financing agreements.

Summary table of ABS-CRS programming for the years 2024 - 2025 - 2026

Allocations budgétaires (million d'euros)			
	Fixed instalment	Variable instalment	Annual total
Year 2024	5	6.5	11.5
Year 2025	3	10	13
Year 2026	2	12.5	14.5
Overall total	10	29	39



Terms and conditions of disbursement



Public policy

Satisfactory progress in the implementation of the Rural Sector Development Strategy and its National Agricultural Investment Plan (RSDS/NAIP 2020-2030) at national and regional levels.



Macroeconomic stability

Maintenance of a credible and relevant macroeconomic policy geared towards stability or progress towards restoring key balances.



Public finance management

Satisfactory progress accomplished in implementing reforms to improve public finance management, including the mobilisation of domestic financial resources.



Budget transparency

Satisfactory progress in providing timely, accessible, complete and accurate budget information to the public.



Performance indicators

linked to the calculation and disbursement of variable instalments

- 1
 - ▶ The rural areas and natural resources of the pilot councils are managed by regional and council authorities in accordance with the national and regional development plans.
 - ▶ The sustainable climate finance mechanism in Regional and Local Authorities (RLAs) is operational.
- 2
 - ▶ The amount allocated to RLAs for Council Taxes Subject to Equalisation (CTSE) is predictable and implemented on time.
 - ▶ The macro-budgetary and sectoral framework documents provide a three-year forecast of the allocations to be transferred to the local authorities, accompanied by a method for the equitable distribution of these resources between the regional and local authorities.
 - ▶ The administrative and management accounts of the Regional and Local Authorities are produced and submitted to the Audit Bench on time to be examined and audited. The RLAs take the recommendations into account.

Regional Road Governance

Multi-programme dialogue to improve regional corridors

Cameroon's road transport network comprises three main regional corridors, namely the Douala-Bangui, Douala-Ndjamena and Yaoundé-Libreville corridors. In the overall context of regional cooperation with Central Africa, these three corridors benefit from a number of EU intervention projects and programmes aimed at strengthening governance and speeding up regional integration.

The road governance dialogue on improving these regional corridors was consolidated in 2023, with a new EU intervention option, relating to the inclusion of the Yaoundé Ring Road Project (VCY) in the Global Gateway Strategy's funding programme.

Strengthening of the multi-programme and multi-thematic support

» Multi-programme and multi-thematic support for improving regional corridors

Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Program for central Africa (PAGIRN)

- Its objective is to contribute to the sustainable management of the existing high-traffic regional corridors and to the harmonisation of the load control systems in the sub-region.
- To reduce obstacles and facilitate physical exchanges along the corridors, through the Observatory of Abnormal Practices.
- To strengthen the road safety capacities of stakeholder groups

Support Program for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa (PAIRIAC)

To improve the functioning and governance of the regional corridors

The Yaoundé Ring Road Project (VCY) - Project technical studies

- To reduce journey times and transport costs on corridor routes.
- To contribute to the improvement of the regional economy and integration.

The Yaoundé Ring Road Project (VCY) - Global Gateway Strategy

Implementation investment, as a strategic contribution to the improvement of the regional corridors.

» 32.84 Billion CFA francs (50 million euros) worth of investments from the Global Gateway initiative earmarked for the Yaoundé Ring Road Project

Among other major investment objectives, the 'Global Gateway' strategy aims to support the creation of strategic transport corridors and sustainable, intelligent, resilient, reliable and safe service networks, with the aim of integrating African and European multimodal transport networks in line with regional and continental frameworks, and adapting these networks to the economic potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).





Economic competitiveness

Dialogue for the improvement of the performance of the EPA

The 7th session of the Cameroon-European Union EPA Committee met in Yaoundé on 05 and 06 July 2023, under the co-chairmanship of the Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development and the Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to Cameroon.

On the sidelines of the proceedings, which included a dense agenda of technical and thematic discussions on the implementation of the EPA, the ceremony of the first edition of the 'EPA Award' was organised, with the aim of promoting the capitalisation of EPA opportunities by Cameroonian companies.

Support worth 558.4 billion CFA francs (850.9 million euros) to be used under the Development component of the EPA

» Implementation of the EPA

Holding of the 7th session of the Cameroon-EU EPA Committee

The 7th session of the Reference Committee examined Cameroon-EU trade relations from the standpoint of the EPA, culminating in the joint signing of the decision to set up a sub-committee for agriculture and rural development.

Discussions during the meeting focused in particular on:

- Exploratory discussions on the opening of negotiations to extend the scope of the EPA on the basis of the rendez-vous clauses;
- The examination of formalities for the adoption of the joint protocol on rules of origin;
- The assessment of the tariff dismantling process in Cameroon.

The overall analysis of the EPA process revealed significant progress on the trade front, contrasting positively with the tax loss estimated at a total of CFA francs 61.2 billion (93.16 million euros) since the start of the tariff dismantling process.

The Cameroonian side took the opportunity of this meeting to invite the European side to strengthen the measures prescribed in the EPA development component, in line with the guidelines of the National Strategy for the implementation of this Agreement, validated by both parties, and whose financing requirements are estimated at 558.4 billion CFA francs (850.97 million euros) for the period 2020-2030.

» Promotion of the EPA

The first edition of the 'EPA Award'

Cameroonian companies making the most of the Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union, and recognised for their contribution to economic development, were awarded prizes during the 'EPA Prize Award' ceremony organised on the sidelines of the 7th session of the Cameroon-EU EPA Committee.

The 'EPA Award' initiative is designed to reward the best Cameroonian companies benefiting from the EPA for their significant contribution to the advancement of the Cameroonian economy through international trade. The EPA Award also helps to give visibility to Cameroonian companies that have succeeded, thanks to the EPA, to export their products to the EU or to develop their activity thanks to European equipment or inputs. The aim is also to encourage as many Cameroonian companies as possible to follow their examples.

For this first edition of the EPA Award, a total of ten companies distributed into four categories of pre-defined economic operators received prizes.

In particular, the winners in the 'SME/CIG' and 'Women-led Enterprises' categories will benefit from support financed by the European Union to further increase their competitiveness and export capacity.





First edition of the EPA Award
Yaoundé, 5 July 2023

Award for economic competitiveness

Winners of the 2023 edition of the EPA Award

MARIE NÉGOCE
Women-led enterprises



Categories	Award-winning companies	Areas of activity
Export of agri-food products	1. SIC CACAOS	Processing of cocoa beans
	2. The Upper Penja Plantations (PHP)	Banana production
	3. Société de Production des Légumes PROLEG S.A.	Production and processing of vegetables
Exports of non-food products	1. Société d'Exploitation Forestière et Commerciale Camerounaise Sarl (SEFECCAM)	Export of sawn timber
	2. ALPICAM	Wood processing
	3. The Cameroon Aluminium Company ALUCAM	Aluminium industry
PME / GIC	1. UNAPAC CIG	Production and export of fruits (pineapples)
	2. TROPICAL FRUIT EXPORT CIG	Production and export of fruits (pineapples)
	3. IMPEX TEAM SARL	Office automation and printing (import)
Women-led enterprises	1. MARIE NÉGOCE	Production and processing of cassava for export

II.2 Joint monitoring of the financial portfolio

Cameroon-EU Cooperation: Summary table of the 2023 financial portfolio

	Operations	Amount mobilized	
		CFA francs	Euros
NIP of the 11 th EDF	2015-2017 Technical Cooperation Facility	1 967 871 000	3 000 000
	PNDP FED	19 678 710 000	30 000 000
	PROCIVIS: Active Citizenship Strengthening Programme	6 559 570 000	10 000 000
	PAMFOR / Forestry Governance Improvement Programme	5 247 656 000	8 000 000
	Competitiveness Support Facility for Cameroon (DACC)	6 559 570 000	10 000 000
	TCF II 2017-2021	6 789 154 950	10 350 000
	Sector reform contract for rural development	99 705 464 000	152 000 000
	Programme for the economic and social development of Crisis-hit Medium Cities (PRODESV)	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
	Facilitating changes in the Cotton-production Basin of Cameroon-ABC	6 231 591 500	9 500 000
	Technical Cooperation Facility III	1 967 871 000	3 000 000
	Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the energy sector in Cameroon	10 593 705 550	16 150 000
	Contribution to the African Investment Platform (AIP) to boost the Industrial sector of the northern part of Cameroon	6 559 570 000	10 000 000
	Total NIP under the 11th EDF	184 979 874 000	282 000 000
RIP of the 11 th EDF	Regional and National Infrastructure Governance Support Programme for central Africa (PAGIRN) - Cameroon	3 804 550 600	5 800 000
	Support Programme for Regional Integration and Investment in Central Africa (PAIRIAC)	12 617 206 295	19 234 807
	Sustainable local production to prevent food crises in Cameroon	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
	Total RIP under the 11th EDF	29 540 896 895	45 034 807
MIP 2021-2027 (Envelope for 2021-2024)	Support measures Cooperation Facility	3 279 785 000	5 000 000
	Support to the civil society in Cameroon and to its contribution to peace and stability in conflict-hit regions	11 151 269 000	17 000 000
	The Green Deal and resilience of Cameroon's northern regions / Agriculture and conservation	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
	Cameroon - Inclusive and sustainable green cities	15 742 968 000	24 000 000
	The Cameroon south/south-east green landscape programme	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
	Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production	2 623 828 000	4 000 000
	Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative	9 839 355 000	15 000 000
	Sector reform contract - local development and regional planning	0	0
	AAP2023 support measures	0	0
	Total 2021-2027 MIP	68 875 485 000	105 000 000
	OVERALL TOTAL	283 396 255 895	432 034 807

In 2023, the financial portfolio of the European cooperation in Cameroon consisted of active resources amounting to CFA francs 283.39 billion (432 million euros), comprising funds mobilised under the 11th EDF and the 2021-2027 MIP.

The resources of the 11th EDF in the residual operationalisation phase (Contractualisations-Disbursements), include the funds of the NIP (CFA francs 185 billion or 282 million euros) which have been fully committed since 2022, as well as the funds of the RIP, of which Cameroon's share that has been committed stands at CFA francs 45.03 billion (68,6 million euros).

The 2021-2027 MIP resources that are in the active operationalisation phase (Programming-Contractualisation - Disbursements), relate to the envelope allocated to the first phase of the MIP that runs from 2021 to 2024, totalling CFA francs 116.7 billion (178 million euros).

On the whole, these resources, which are being mobilised within the framework of programmes/projects, are categorised into three types of support:

Institutional support - Sector budget support - Operational support.

In a nutshell, the joint monitoring of this portfolio during the period under review shows that the activation of resources for the 2021-2027 MIP stood at 59%, while for all the resources being implemented (11th EDF and MIP), the updated cumulative amount of disbursements of about CFA francs 186.85 billion was recorded, of which CFA francs 32.63 billion (50 million euros) was disbursed in 2023.

Contracted amount		Amount paid		Remaining amount to contract		Balance to pay	
CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros
1 946 421 606	2 967 301	1 640 969 549	2 501 642	21 449 394	32 699	305 452 058	465 659
19 678 710 000	30 000 000	19 678 710 000	30 000 000	0	0	0	0
6 435 350 111	9 810 628	6 206 049 374	9 461 061	124 219 889	189 372	229 300 737	349 567
5 116 464 600	7 800 000	2 867 931 246	4 372 133	131 191 400	200 000	2 248 533 354	3 427 867
6 442 202 894	9 821 075	5 556 359 860	8 470 616	117 367 106	178 925	885 843 034	1 350 459
6 742 422 586	10 278 757	6 486 527 443	9 888 647	46 732 364	71 243	255 895 143	390 110
99 592 997 050	151 828 545	96 779 754 323	147 539 784	112 466 950	171 455	2 813 242 727	4 288 761
13 119 140 000	20 000 000	12 251 218 662	18 676 862	0	0	867 921 338	1 323 138
6 165 995 800	9 400 000	6 165 995 800	9 400 000	65 595 700	100 000	0	0
1 900 469 778	2 897 248	1 271 347 730	1 938 157	67 401 222	102 753	629 122 048	959 090
10 593 705 550	16 150 000	265 334 607	404 500	0	0	10 328 370 944	15 745 500
6 559 570 000	10 000 000	2 623 828 000	4 000 000	0	0	3 935 742 000	6 000 000
184 293 449 975	280 953 553	161 794 026 593	246 653 403	686 424 025	1 046 447	22 499 423 382	34 300 150
3 637 904 724	5 545 950	2 226 686 765	3 394 562	166 645 876	254 050	1 411 217 959	2 151 388
12 026 844 995	18 334 807	4 108 742 610	6 263 738	590 361 300	900 000	7 918 102 385	12 071 069
11 151 269 000	17 000 000	9 839 355 000	15 000 000	1 967 871 000	3 000 000	1 311 914 000	2 000 000
26 816 018 719	40 880 757	16 174 784 375	24 658 300	2 724 878 176	4 154 050	10 641 234 344	16 222 457
192 192 777	292 996	76 876 848	117 198	3 087 592 223	4 707 004	115 315 929	175 798
11 151 269 000	17 000 000	2 320 006 087	3 536 826	0	0	8 831 262 913	13 463 174
12 791 161 500	19 500 000	2 800 871 450	4 269 901	327 978 500	500 000	9 990 290 050	15 230 099
12 791 161 500	19 500 000	2 752 528 731	4 196 203	2 951 806 500	4 500 000	10 038 632 769	15 303 797
2 951 806 500	4 500 000	934 534 722	1 424 689	10 167 333 500	15 500 000	2 017 271 778	3 075 311
0	0	0	0	2 623 828 000	4 000 000	0	0
0	0	0	0	9 839 355 000	15 000 000	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39 877 591 277	60 792 996	8 884 817 840	13 544 817	28 997 893 723	44 207 004	30 992 773 439	47 248 179
250 987 059 972	382 627 306	186 853 628 808	284 856 521	32 409 195 924	49 407 501	64 133 431 164	97 770 786

Activation of EU development support resources

Dialogue on the active mobilisation of resources under the 2021-2027 MIP

Halfway through the implementation of the first 2021-2024 phase of the 2021-2027 MIP, provided with an overall budget of CFAF 116.7 billion (178 million euros), the year 2023 was marked by a major joint drive to activate the resources in this budget, with an additional mobilisation of CFAF 36.74 billion (56 million euros), giving an updated allocation rate of 59%.

59% mobilisation of the MIP envelope for 2021-2024

» **36.74 billion CFA francs (56 million euros)**
Amount mobilised in the year 2023

Resources amounting to CFAF 36.74 billion under the 2021-2024 MIP envelope were mobilised in 2023. These resources were mainly allocated to four operational supports :

- The Cameroon South/South-East Green landscape programme;
- Support to the civil society in Cameroon and to its contribution to peace and stability in conflict-hit regions through the empowerment of women and social cohesion;
- Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative;
- Support to the strengthening of the renewable electricity production capacity.

» **68.87 billion CFA francs (105 million euros)**
Cumulative amount mobilised during the period from 2021 to 2023

The year 2023 ended with an overall cumulative mobilisation (2021-2023) of CFAF 68.87 billion out of the total 2021-2024 envelope of CFAF 116.76 billion, i.e. an updated mobilisation rate of 59%.

This mobilisation covers two categories of support :

- Institutional support: 3.27 billion CFA francs
- Operational support: 65.6 billion CFA francs

95,2%

Operational support

2021-2027 MIP:

Overall mobilisation by the end of 2023

2021-2024 Envelope	Mobilisation by the end of 2023	
	Amount	Rate
178 000 000 Euros	105 000 000	59%
116 760 346 000 CFAF	68 875 485 000	

Distribution of resources mobilized as of 31 December 2023

2021-2024 Envelope	Amount	
	Euros	CFA francs
Institutional support	5 000 000	3 279 785 000
Operational support	100 000 000	65 595 700 000
TOTAL	105 000 000	68 875 485 000

4,8%

Institutional support

59%

2021-2027 MIP :

Allocations of the 2021-2024 MIP envelope as of 31 December 2023

Year	Operations	Allocated amount	
		CFA francs	Euros
2023	The Cameroon south/south-east green landscape programme	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
2023	Support to the civil society in Cameroon and to its contribution to peace and stability in conflict-hit regions through the empowerment of women and social cohesion	11 151 269 000	17 000 000
2023	Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative	9 839 355 000	15 000 000
2023	Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production	2 623 828 000	4 000 000
2022	The Green Deal and resilience of Cameroon's northern regions / Agriculture and conservation	13 119 140 000	20 000 000
2022	Cameroon - Inclusive and sustainable green cities	15 742 968 000	24 000 000
2021	Support measures Cooperation Facility	3 279 785 000	5 000 000
TOTAL		68 875 485 000	105 000 000

Operationalisation of EU development support resources

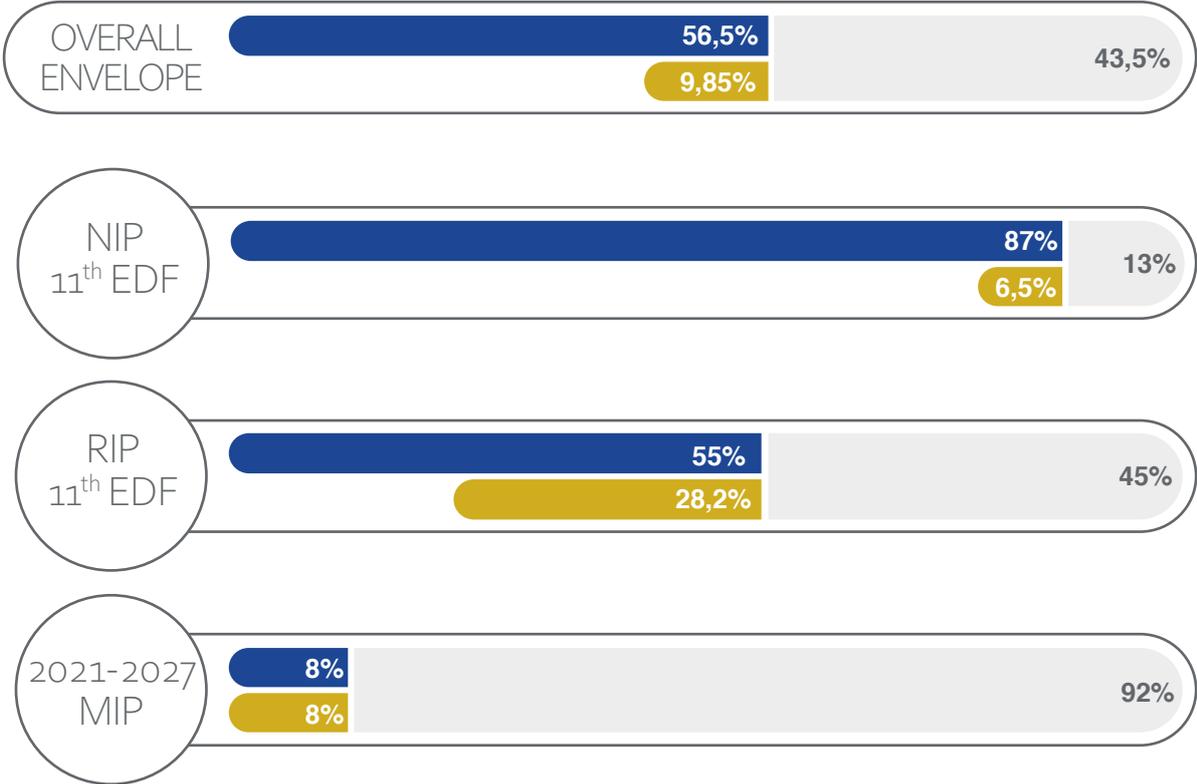
Dialogue on the operational implementation of cooperation resources

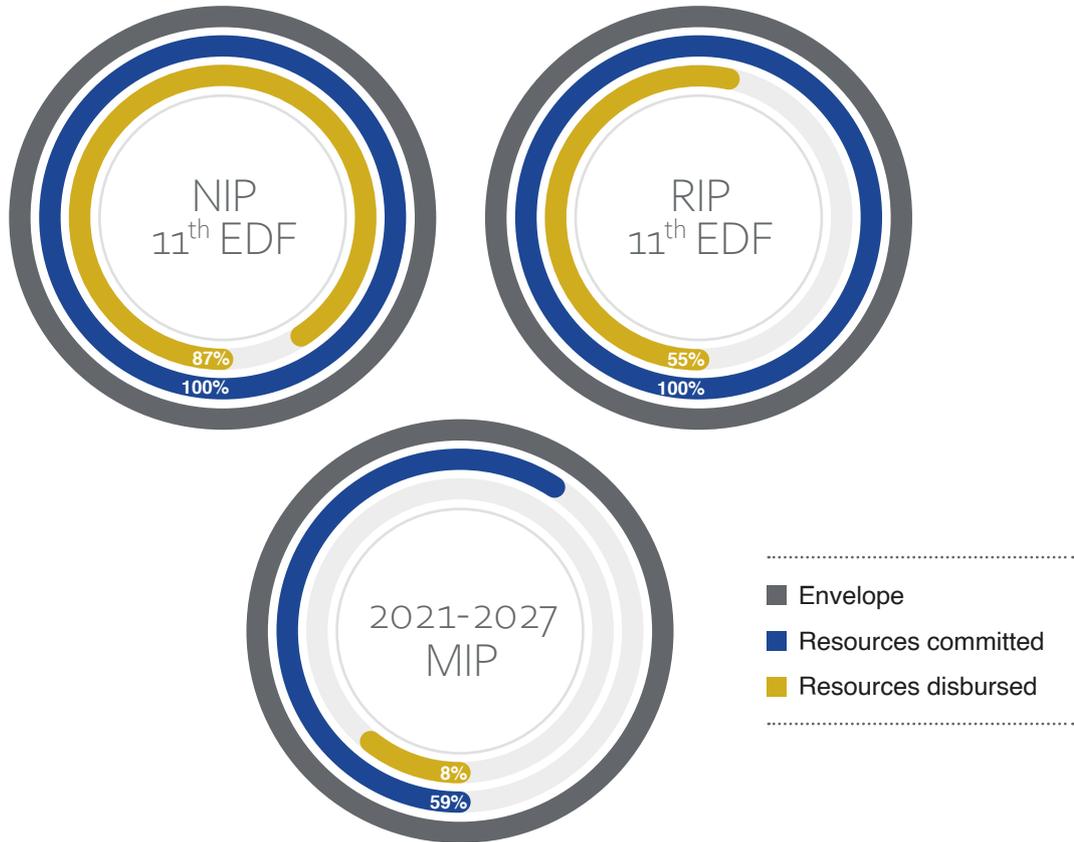
For all EU cooperation resources mobilised and being implemented in Cameroon, the financial monitoring carried out in 2023 made it possible to implement the contractualisation operations for the activities to be carried out, while making considerable progress in the corresponding disbursements.

32.63 billion CFA francs (49.75 million euros)
annual disbursement of all resources

	2023 disbursements and prospects for 2024 and beyond			
	Disbursements 2023		Remaining amounts to disburse	
	CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros
NIP - 11 th EDF	12 178 545 606	18 566 073	23 185 847 728	35 346 597
RIP - 11 th EDF	11 277 256 509	17 192 067	13 370 911 502	20 376 507
2021-2027 MIP	9 183 398 000	14 000 000	107 576 948 000	164 000 000
TOTAL	32 639 200 115	49 758 140	144 133 707 230	219 723 104

- Envelope
- Cumulative Disbursements
- Disbursements 2023
- Remaining amounts to disburse



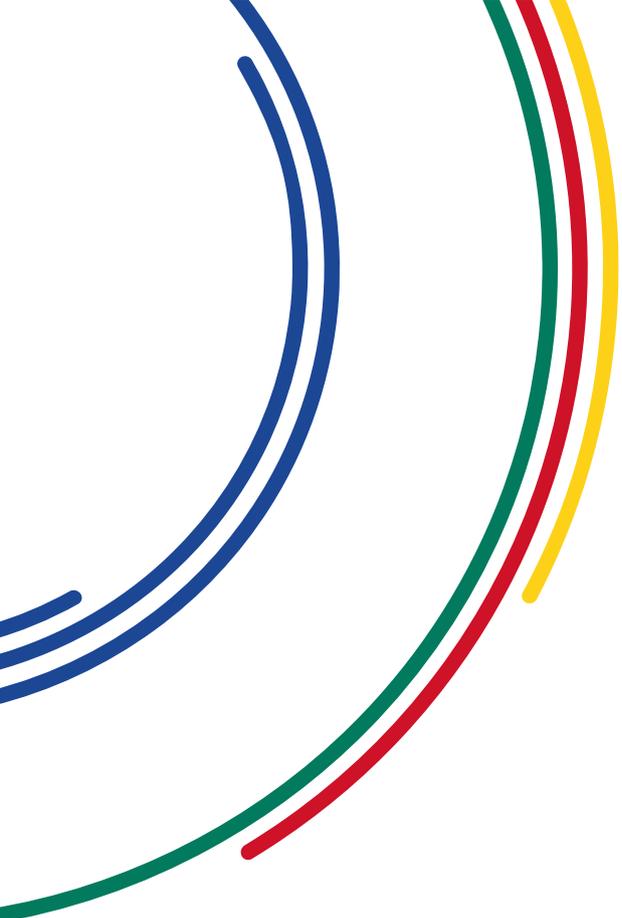


	Cumulative rate of commitments and disbursements of all active resources							
	Envelope		Resources committed		%	Resources disbursed		%
	CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros		CFA francs	Euros	
NIP-11th EDF	185 000 000 000	282 000 000	185 000 000 000	282 000 000	100%	161 794 026 272	246 653 403	87%
RIP-11th EDF	29 540 896 895	45 034 807	29 540 896 895	45 034 807	100%	16 174 784 375	24 658 300	55%
2021-2027 MIP	116 760 346 000	178 000 000	68 875 485 000	105 000 000	59%	9 183 398 000	14 000 000	8%

2021-2027 MIP:

Contractualisation of mobilised resources as of 31 December 2023

Operations	Amount mobilised		Amount contractualised	
	CFA francs	Euros	CFA francs	Euros
The Cameroon south/south-east green landscape programme	13 119 140 000	20 023 580	2 951 806 500	4 505 305
Support to the civil society in Cameroon and to its contribution to peace and stability in conflict-hit regions through the empowerment of women and social cohesion	11 151 269 000	17 020 000	11 151 269 000	17 020 000
Support for economic development through the promotion of value chains and private initiative	9 839 355 000	15 017 685	-	-
Support to the strengthening of renewable electricity production capacity	2 623 828 000	4 004 715	-	-
Team Europe Initiative for the northern part of Cameroon: The Green Deal and resilience of Cameroon's northern regions / Agriculture and conservation	13 119 140 000	20 023 580	12 791 161 500	19 522 990
Cameroon - Inclusive and sustainable green cities	15 742 968 000	24 028 295	12 791 161 500	19 522 990
Support measures: Cooperation Facility	3 279 785 000	5 005 895	192 192 777	293340
	68 875 485 000	105 123 750	39 877 591 277	60 864 625
	58%			



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