NCSA PROJECT

INTER THEMATIC EVALUATION OF CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE RIO CONVENTIONS IN CAMEROON: BIODIVERSITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DESERTIFICATION CONTROL

By:
Rainbow Environment Consult Sarl

Consultant

P. O. Box 30137 Yaounde – Cameroon
Tél. (237) 221 51 58 / 993 64 46 / 925 93 83
E-mail: rainbowenviro@yahoo.fr

May 2007
TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABREVIATIONS 2

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY 4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 6

INTRODUCTION 8

1. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH OF THE STUDY 9
   1.1. Documentary Review 9
   1.2. Consultations of Resources Persons 10
   1.3. Technical workshop for report validation 10

2. CAMEROON’s ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE CONVENTIONS 10
   2.1. Legislative and institutional framework 11
      2.1.1. Achievements at the international level 11
      2.1.2. Achievements at the national level 11
   2.2. Programmes and projects 14

3. IDENTIFICATION OF CONSTRAINTS MATRIX OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RIO CONVENTIONS 17

4. CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OPPORTUNITES 22

5. PRIORITY (ACTIONS) AREAS OF CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THREE RIO CONVENTIONS 25
   5.1. Individual Level 25
   5.2. Institutional and legal Level 25
   5.3. Structural level 26

6. CONCLUSION 28

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES 31

APPENDICES 33

APPENDIX 1: Matrices of identification of constraints related to the implementation of each of the three Rio Conventions in Cameroon. 33
APPENDIX 2: List persons consulted 56
ABREVIATIONS

CIDA  Canadian International Development Agency
ANAFOR National Forest Development Agency
APFT Avenir de Peuple Foret
CBLT Lake Chad Basin Commission
CEMAC Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CIE Interministerial Committee on the Environment
CIPCRE International Centre for Promotion of Creation
CIS/LCD Interministerial Committee for the Follow-up and control of Desertification
CNCD National Advisory Commission on Environment and Sustainable Development
COMIFAC Commission of Central Africa Forests
CRH Hydrological Research Centre
ECOFAC Central Africa Forest Ecosystems
RSDD Rural Sector Development Strategy Document
FAO United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
EDF European Development Fund
GEF Global Environment Facility
FNEDD National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund
GHG Greenhouse Gases
GPAC Participatory Management in Central Africa
ICRAF World Agroforestry Center
IITA International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IRAD Institute of Agricultural Research for Development
IUCN The World Conservation Union
CDM Clean Development Mechanism
MINAGRI Ministry of Agriculture
MINEE Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
MINEF Ministry of Environment and Forestry
MINADER Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MINEPIA Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries
MINIFOF Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
MINEP Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection
MINPLADAT Ministry of Planning, Programming and Regional Development
MINTOUR Ministry of Tourism
NEPAD New Partnership for the Development of Africa
PAFN National Forestry Action Plan
CBFP Congo Basin Forest Partnership
PGDRN Programme for the Sustainable Development of Natural Resources
PNDP National Participatory Development Programme
NEMP National Environmental Management Plan
UNDP United Nations Development Programme
HIPC I Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative
PRGIE Regional Programme for Environmental Information Management
SNV Netherlands Development Agency
SPE Permanent Secretariat of the Environment
EU European Union
UNESCO United Nations Education, Science and culture Organization
WWF WorlWide Fund for Nature
ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

1. Engagements related to the implementation of three conventions were partially filled by Cameroun and their implementation remains confronted with constraints structural and of the economic situation.

2. The constraints related to the implementation of conventions of Rio are numerous: material and financial constraints with the implementation of the programmed actions, weak integration of all the fascinating parts (ONGs, civil company), deficit of dialogue between the public sector, the private sector and the associative world, the authorities of dialogue envisaged as well at the national level as local are not functional (CNIE…).

3. Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) set up with the support of the partners at the development, because of a lack of human, logistic and financial means does not play its role; the Web site is not functional and significant information on the implementation of conventions is not accessible to general public.

4. The frequent changes of the focal points do not make it possible to capitalize in an optimal way the assets by a harmonious follow-up of the implementation of the provisions of conventions.

5. The mechanisms of financing of implementation of conventions are limited in their capacity to mobilize the resources necessary to the benefit of the fascinating parts.

6. The number of associations in the field of the implementation of conventions of Rio remains enough limited. Some international ONG of conservation currently function in Cameroun, while nearly 150 national ONG are implied in the activities related to the environment. It is noted that the financings are firstly granted to the international ONG which use the national ONG in subcontracting.

7. Since nearly ten years, the government engaged, through the PNGE and various initiatives, in the improvement of the environmental quality of the country. Since then, the executives institutional and lawful necessary were created, but the application did not completely follow. The various programs which followed one another (PNGE, PAFN, PACCDU, PAU) are timidly implemented and the texts of application of the Outline law on the environment were promulgated only partially.

8. Among the reinforcement appropriatenesses of capacities, one can quote:
   - the existence of the inciting executives legal and institutional for a durable management of the natural resources;
   - The attack of the point of completion of the initiative PPTE which mobilized a significant number bilateral and multilateral partners being able to intervene in fields as varied as the implementation of conventions;
   - The support which the partners of development bring (the World Bank, ACDI, GEF, GTZ, CEDC, UNDP, Union European, etc)
   - possibilities of mobilizing the funds on the national level thanks to the application of the law on the principle "pollutant payer", the perception of the taxes for the environment on the games of Chance, telephony and the ecotourism;
the decentralization which envisages the transfer of a certain number of competences of the State to the decentralized local communities;

the existence of the possibilities of formation and recycling in the national university institutions;

the existence of the inciting measurements envisaged in the national administrative policy for the reclassification and the redeployment of the trained personnel and
growth and the progressive maturation of ONGs main roads and their recognition by ONGs international and the backers.

9. The following recommendations can be made:
- to better develop the provisions of conventions by integrating them within the frameworks programming sciences of the durable development,
- redynamiser and to equip in means sufficient Clearing House Mechanisms (CHM) for better information with the fascinating parts,
- to train the actors of the sectors public, private, civil and Community company in all the fields of the implementation of conventions,
- to reinforce the Etat/ONG partnership for a better participation in the international debates and the animation of drilled national.

10. The support of the partners to the development in complement of the national efforts will be necessary.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Commitments with glances to the implementation of these conventions structural are partially fulfilled and implementation is constrained by and conjuncture problems.

2. Implementation of the Rio conventions is faced with numerous problems: material and financial constraints to implementation of planned actions, low integration of stakeholders (NGOs, civil society), lack of dialogue between the stakeholders; not functional consultation and dialog authorities both national At and local levels.

3. The Clearing House Mechanism installed with donors support is facing serious human and financial resources needs to fulfil its elects; the website is not activates and significant information available one the Convention cannot public Be used by the.

4. Focal Frequent exchanges of points C not allow for has good follow up of conventions implementation in the country and capitalization one information and capacity built.

5. Financing mechanisms for conventions implementation are very limited in their capacity to mobilizes funds to the benefit of stakeholders.

6. With limited number of associations are activates in the area of Conventions implementation; there are several international NGOs involved with biodiversity conservation, whereas almost 150 room NGOs are activates in environmental activities. It is to note that the financing are firstly granted to international NGO which usually uses the national NGO in subcontracting.

7. For more than ten years the country has engaged in the improvement of the quality of the environment through the PNGE and various initiatives: institutions and regulations cuts been developed goal following implementation programs (PNGE, PAFN, PACC DU, PAU) are not efficiently implemented. Implementation texts of the 1996 law one the environment are still partially elaborated.

8. Among the capacity building opportunities, some edge Be highlighted:
   - Incentive of existence institutions and regulations for has sustainable management of natural resources;
   - Reaching the completion not of the HIPC initiative witch has mobilize has number of bilateral and multilateral partners with the capacity to intervene in various domains have the implementation of conventions;
   - The support of the partners for development (World Bank, ACDI, GEF, GTZ, CEDC, UNDP, European Union, etc.);
   - National The possibilities of fund raising by the implementation of the " Polluter To pay " principle, the collection of environmental taxes one games of hazard, telephony and ecotourism;
   - Unquestionable The decentralisation witch will enable transfer of competences from the state to local authorities;
   - Existence of training possibilities in national universities;
   - Of existence incentives measures foreseen in the national administrative politics for the regrading and redeployment of trained personal;
   - The growth and progressive maturation of national NGOs, to their recognition by the international NGOs and sponsors.
9. The following recommendations edge Be made:
   ➢ better uses of conventions provisions by including them in national sustainable development programs,
   ➢ revamp the Clearing House mechanisms for has better information of stakeholders, training of actors in the public,
   ➢ private sectors and also civil society and communities,
   ➢ strengthen the State/NGOs partnership for has better participation to the international debate and national forums.

10. The support from the donor community will significant Be needed to national supplement efforts which need improvement.
INTRODUCTION

Cameroon has adhered to most of the international legal instruments in the field of the environment:

- Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992;
- United Nations United Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992;
- United Nations Convention to combat Desertification in 1994;
- The Bamako Convention in 1990.

The Rio Summit 1992 established the international nature of the burden represented by desertification, climate change and biological diversity loss, and underscored the need for combining efforts to combat them. It is this vision which underlay the institution of three Rio conventions on the environment, in particular:

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
- the United Nations Convention to combat Desertification (UNCCD),
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Cameroon is adhered to these three instruments, which gives her some advantages as well as obligations as party country. This adherence of Cameroon to some extent obliges it to subscribe to the objective of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). This objective consists in encouraging countries to determine by autoevaluation their needs and priorities as regards building and strengthening the capacities required for global environmental protection, by taking into account the three world conventions on biological diversity, climate change and desertification/soil degradation. These national autoevaluations must define the capacities to be built or strengthened as a priority to protect the global environment; this exercise should be undertaken within the framework of a process of dialogue or consultation on the initiative of the country. The specific objectives are in particular as follows:

- identify, confirm or examine priority actions of biological diversity, climate change and desertification/soil degradation sectors respectively;
- examine related capacities to step up sector and intersector plans;
- initiate targeted and co-ordinated actions and consequent external request for financing and assistance; and
- link measures taken by countries in their national framework of environmental management and sustainable development.

An evaluation of national implementation strategies of the three conventions taken individually at the level of Cameroon revealed at the synergic level that low capacities constitutes a major obstacle in the implementation of the aforesaid conventions.

The objective of this contribution consists inter alia, in presenting the achievements of Cameroon after signing the three conventions (biological diversity, climate change and desertification), the methodological process of identifying constraints related to the implementation of these conventions, the timeliness of building capacities and priority needs assessment of capacity strengthening in Cameroon.
Cameroon is endowed with significant biodiversity and this is explained by the latitudinal expanse of the country which includes several phytogeographical areas coupled with basin slopes (Letouzey 1985) which are of various types, from the forest to the sahelian steppes. Its position between West Africa and the East Africa, the presence of high and well marked out massifs and a maritime coast stretching for almost 420 km long. This country is thus often described as "Africa in miniature", because of the high diversity of ecosystems which it shelters (MINEF, 1999).

1. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH OF THE STUDY

The methodological approach used within the framework of consultations on the inter-thematic evaluation of capacity building in the implementation of the three Rio conventions consisted in exploiting documentation relating to the three conventions and examining their implementation at the national level and thematic autoevaluation reports. Semi-directing interviews and working sessions were organized with resources persons identified on the basis of their experience and competences. A technical validation workshop on the report was organized thereafter, to collect observations of various stakeholders (administrations, research institutes, national and international NGOs) in order to improve the quality of the final document.

Two types of data were thus collected: primary data collected from identified resource persons and secondary data drawn from documents consulted.

1.1. Documentation review

The documentation review consisted in collecting documents required for carrying out this evaluation, by taking as main background documents, the three thematic evaluation reports drawn up for each Rio convention (biological diversity, combating desertification and climate change). These documents made it possible to inventory Cameroon’s achievements in the implementation of the three conventions, produce the identification matrix of constraints and part of capacity strengthening opportunities. Other documents enabled to enrich and supplement this information and present all actions undertaken by Cameroon within the framework of the implementation of these conventions in a synergic way.

From the achievements and capacity strengthening opportunities of Cameroon presented in each thematic report, we extracted those related to each theme, but likely to influence the implementation of one or another convention.

From each thematic evaluation report, we produced an identification matrix of constraints structured by level (individual, institutional and structural) and taking into account the priority issues, constraints as regards capacities and strengthening possibilities. From these matrices, we extracted a problem matrix synergic to the three conventions structured in the same manner.

On the basis of analysis of achievements, capacity strengthening opportunities and constraints related to the implementation of the three conventions, priority domains or capacity building or strengthening actions were identified.

A sheet comprising the synergic constraints as regards capacity strengthening in the implementation of the three conventions and priority domains or actions was designed and submitted to the appraisal of identified resource persons.
1.2. Consultation of resource persons

Discussions on the basis of synergic constraints sheets as regards capacity strengthening and priority domains or actions were organized with resources persons listed in the administration, funding bodies, international organizations, research institutes and NGO. The objective of this consultation was to improve the content of the work and to make sure that all information required for the inter-thematic evaluation of capacities to be strengthened in the implementation of the three Rio conventions in Cameroon was taken into account. A synthesis of observations was carried out to take into account proposals and recommendations of all stakeholders in the report.

1.3. Technical validation workshop of the report

A technical workshop organized in the conference room of the FOE building in Yaounde, on 26 Avril 2007 allowed the various participants coming from administrations, research institutes, national and international NGO to make their observations and amendments on the provisional report which was submitted to them. Taking into account their proposals was useful for the production of the final report of the consultation.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS OF CAMEROON IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE CONVENTIONS

Cameroon took a number of measures to ensure the sustainable management of the environment, before, during and after the ratification of the three Rio conventions [ the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (ratified on 29/08/1994), the United Nations Convention to combat Desertification (ratified on 08/08/1995), and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (ratified on 19/10/1994) ] These measures are of a legal, institutional nature, or related to programmes and projects. Thus texts and conventions were adopted or signed and actions were undertaken in the field.

2.1. Legislative and institutional framework

2.1.1. Achievements at the international level

At the international level, Cameroon has signed and ratified several instruments as follows (Tientcheu Avana M. L, 2007; Ngandjui Germain, 2007; Save the Nature, 2007):

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992 (ratified on 19/10/1994) and the Kyoto Protocol (adherence in 2002),
- United Nations Convention to combat Desertification in 1994 ratified on 29/5/1997),
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered wild fauna and flora Species (adherence on 5 June, 1981),
- Bonn Convention on wild migratory species (ratified on 07/09/1981),
- International Convention on civil liability as regards damages caused by pollution, Brussels and that of 1971 for the creation of an international compensation fund (ratified on 17/05/1984),
- International agreement on tropical timber of 18 November, 1983 (signed on 15/04/1985),
- United Nations Convention on the Laws of the sea adopted in 1982 at Mondego Bay,
Abidjan Convention relating to co-operation in the area of protection and development of the coastal zone of West and Central Africa, and its protocols (ratified on 01/03/1983),
Montreal Montreal on ozone layer protection (adherence on 30/08/1989),
Basle Convention (adherence on 2002),
Adherence to the RAMSAR Convention (2005).

Cameroon’s joining of regional and sub regional initiatives relating to sustainable management of the environment and natural resources in general is marked by its involvement in:

- the NEPAD
- the Convergence Plan /COMIFAC and PASR-AC
- the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)
- the Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT)
- the Conservation and rational use of Central Africa forest Ecosystems (ECOFAC)
- the Niger Basin Authority (ABN).

2.1.2. Achievements at the national level

At the national level, Cameroon took initiatives to ensure a sustainable management of the environment (MINEF, 2002; MINEF, 2003 COMIFAC, 2005).

- The creation of MINEF in 1992, in preparation for participation at the Rio Summit held the same year, with a Permanent Secretariat of the Environment (MINEF was split in 2004 into MINOF and MINEP);
- The creation of a National Advisory Commission on Environment and Sustainable Development (CNCEDD) placed under the authority of the Prime Minister. It is organized by decree N° 94/259/PM of 31 May 1994 and has the role of ensuring the participation of all stakeholders and the application of environmental management policies and strategies and the fulfilment of Government’s commitments within the framework of Agenda 21 (MINEP, 2005)
- The establishment of an Interministerial Committee on the Environment (CIE) organized by decree N° 2001/718/PM of 03 Septembre 2001. It is charged with ensuring the participation of all ministries in the sustainable management of resources, directing the updating of the NEMP and giving its opinion on some environmental impact assessments (MINEP, 2005)
- The designation of convention national focal points and the representatives of MINEP within experts committees;
- The creation of the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund (FNEDD) charged with centralizing and coordinating all financing within the framework of environmental management;
- Creation of a forest and environment coordination at the Institute of Agricultural Research for Development (IRAD);
- The creation of a national risks observatory which is responsible for:
  - the revision of regulation and legislation in force;
- drawing up a national intervention action plan;
- developing a training scheme for staff and structures in charge of civil protection;
- carrying out research on risks, natural and technological disasters;
- study on the transport sector component as regards prevention and management of catastrophes;
- health component and national awarenees programme;
- drawing up of a national transmission plan as regards prevention and management of catastrophes.

• The creation of protected areas which today account for 15% of the national territory out of 30% envisaged by the law. A perspective study for defining of protected marine area is being envisaged;

• The creation of a Meteorology Department attached to the Ministry of Transport;

• The designation of the National Authority responsible for facilitating and promoting projects within the framework of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol which is operational;

• Introduction of environmental education in school curricula since the Estate General of education held in 2005;

• The creation of the Special Forestry and Piscicultural Fund in 1970;
• The creation of the National Forestry Fund in 1973;
• The creation of the Provincial Committee to Fight Drought in 1975;
• The creation of CENADEFOR with the land zoning plan;
• The creation of the National Forest Regeneration Office in 1982 (became ANAFOR in 2002);
• The creation of the National Forests Development Agency in 1990;
• The creation of the Hydrological Research Centre;
• The creation of the Special Forests Development Fund in 1997;
• Creation of the Environmental Documentation and Information Centre (CIDE);
• Creation of the Special Wildlife Fund.

The purpose of these institutional mechanisms put in place is to revitalize and render more operational structures in charge of the follow-up and implementation of conventions with a view to an effective and co-ordinated action. It is still because of this concern for effectiveness, better contribution of the Cameroon government to major global concerns of environmental protection, economic development and sustainable development, that MINEF was split in 2004 into two ministries: the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEP) and the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF). In addition to these two ministries, other sectoral ministries whose activities and programmes contribute to the natural and environmental resources management are also involved in the implementation of governmental policy as regards the environment. They also take into account problems of desertification control, climate change and the protection of biological diversity: The implementation of the environmental policy is also strengthened by some parastatal institutions, decentralized territorial communities, the private sector, NGOs and within the framework of some programmes and projects.

The Cameroon legal framework was enriched by a whole gamut of sufficiently incentive laws and instruments for the implementation of Rio conventions. They include:
• Framework law N° 96/12 of 5 August 1996 relating to environmental management which deals with the protection of soils, subsoil and lands against erosion, the prevention of pollution and environmental protection. This law also establishes the participation of every citizen to rights and duties as regards environmental protection as a fundamental principle (Chap. III, Article 9 (E)).

• Law N° 98/005 of 14 April, 1998 to lay down the water regime in Cameroon.

• Decree N° 2001/161/PM of 8 May 2001 to create a special allocation account for the financing of sustainable development projects in the area of water and sanitation (Article 1, 2, 3 pages 75-76).

• The mining Code of 2004 which treats measures to be taken to limit the negative impact of mining on land.

• Decree n° 2005/0577/PM of 23 February 2005 to lay down the methods of carrying out environmental impact assessments.

• Order n° 0069 / MINEP of 8 March 2005 to set the various categories of operations whose realization is subject to an environmental impact assessment.

• Decree n° 76/166/PM of 27 Avril 1976 to lay down the methods of management of the national estate.

• Decree n° 78/263/PM of 3 July 1978 to lay down the methods of settling pastoral disputes or litigations.

• Decree n° 2001/546/PM of 30 July 2001, modifying and completing certain provisions of decree n° 95/413/PM of 20 June 1995 to lay down the conditions of application of the fishing regime.

• Finance laws voted each year, which sets a comprehensive allocation framework of financial resources, as well as budget revenue sources of the state per sector including ministries in charge of the implementation and coordination of implementation actions of the Rio conventions.

• The 1994 Forestry law (law N° 94/001 of 20 January, 1994) to lay down Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries regulations, matched with implementation instruments in its provisions relating to biodiversity and nature protection.

Since the beginning of the 90s the political and economic context of Cameroon was also marked by a liberalization dynamics which brought, inter alia, the confirmation of pluralism within associations. From the legislative point of view, associations are regulated by various laws (law N° 90/OS3 of December 19, 1990 on freedom of association; law n° 92/1006 of August 14, 1992 concerning co-operative societies and the Common Initiative Groups; law of 1993 on economic interest groups...).

Also, a number of laws were adopted and published to regulate or control and supervise activities related to environmental protection:
- Law N° 83/016 of July 1983 regulating the activities of port or harbour police force,
- Law N° 90/013 of 10 August, 1990 on phytosanitary protection,
- Law N° 98/015 of 14 July, 1998 on establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or inconvenient,
- Law N° 99/014 of 22 December, 1999 on NGOs,
- Law N° 99/ of 13 December 1999 on the petroleum code,
- Law on protection against X-rays,
- Law on the shipyard code,
- Law on the habitat code,

2.2. Programmes and projects

Several programmes and projects were developed by Cameroon within the framework of policies and strategies of the implementation of the three conventions.

- The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

This document piloted by MINPLADAT was adopted into 2003 with the main objective of promoting sustainable socio-economic development through poverty reduction and the implementation of the Millenium Development Goals. Natural resource management and environmental protection constitute a significant aspect of priority intervention areas of the PRSP.

- The National Environmental Management Plan (NEMP)

It was adopted in 1996 and translates the guidelines of the Rio Summit as regards Sustainable Développement. It aims to ensure a sustainable development through environmental protection and the rational development of natural resources thanks to policies, strategies and actions while taking into account the socio-economic situation of the country. The NEMP is presently in the process of being updated in order to make it more operational. Among its intervention areas, those which take directly into account the problems of desertification are: sustainable agriculture and soil protection; management of pastures and livestock production, forest resources management, the wood sector, management of water resources and the taking into account of the gender approach.

- The Rural Sector Development Strategy Document (DSDSR)

This document which falls within the framework of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) aims at the improvement of productivity and agricultural production, the modernization of exploitations and seeking for national and international outlets for agricultural and forest produce. Natural resource management constitutes one of its five priority areas and aims at: (i) reconciling the improvement of production and sustainable management of natural resources, (ii) encouraging all initiatives to promote sustainable development.

- The National Participatory Development Programme (NPDP)

The NPDP aims to promote an equitable, effective and sustainable development within rural populations through mechanisms that make grassroots and decentralized communities aware of their responsibilities. The strengthening of capacities at the local level constitutes one of its four components. It aims at giving to local communities the means to become actors of their own development.
- **The Forest and Environment Sector Programme (FESP)**

The FESP is the Forests Environment Sector Programme. It is multipartner and open to contributions from the civil society and NGOs. It aims at a coherent and integrated development of the forest, wildlife and environmental sector of Cameroon by horizon 2012. Reforestation and the sustainable management of the resources timber/firewood constitute one of its major areas of intervention which will be implemented through the National Forest Development Agency (ANAFOR) and the firewood supply master plans of urban centres. Within the framework of the fight against desertification, reforestation and forest resources development actions are envisaged.

- **National Energy Action Plan for Poverty Reduction (PANERP)**

The PANERP is based on the close link which exist between access to modern energy services and the reduction of pressure on the biomass in particular in the northern zones, as well as the link between poverty and pressure on natural resources to optimize the use of the biomass, develop research-development and promote alternative energies.

Some key measures taken for the protection and conservation of the natural resources are dealt with in sectoral programmes such as the FESP, the NFAP (National Forestry Action Plan), the Rural Sector Development Strategy Document (DSDSR), the National Energy Action Plan for Poverty Reduction (PANERP). Within the framework of the NFAP which was part of the NEMP, more than 82 projects in the area of sustainable management of resources and forest biodiversity were drawn up of which forty were carried out. One of the main natural resources protection measures strongly promoted by Cameroon’s environmental policy is the strengthening of the network of protected areas (up to 30% of the national territory).

- **Others**

Cameroon also took measures aiming at studying the functioning of basins slopes or watersheds to better fight against desertification, and indirectly against climate change. Which made it possible to set up structures in charge forest regeneration programmes:

- Launching in 1977, of the operation "Green Sahel ". This operation consisted in reforesting vast stretches of land with the assistance of the populations and pupils or students sensitized for this purpose on environmental protection. From 1977 to 1988, more than 100 ha of plantations were established. From 1988 to date, 600 ha of plantations were established. Unfortunately, this programme did not bear the expected fruits and the trees planted are today undergoing extensive destruction by the populations;
- In 1997, starting of the silvicultural, village agroforestry extension programme with the objective of setting up a silvicultural programme in the Adamawa and Far North provinces.

The execution of several public awareness campaigns aiming at making known the objectives of Conventions before the starting of the drawing up the national action plan (organization of national sensitization day).
Each year, Cameroon commemorates 5 June, World Environment Day, 22 March Biodiversity Day and Water Day, etc... Important occasions for gathering the interested parties and sensitizing them on the management of the environment.

Actions are undertaken by International NGOs (WWF, SNV, CARE, IUCN, CIPCRE...), of Developments Partners (UNDP, UNESCO, GTZ, FAO, UE, ACDI the World Bank, FME...) research institutes (IITA, CEDC, IRAD, ICRAF, CRH, National Herberium) and national NGOs in the various projects which contribute to strengthening capacities in the implementation of Rio conventions. Programmes which contribute to attain the objectives of the Rio conventions are also being developed in Cameroonian Universities and Training Schools.

3. IDENTIFICATION MATRIX OF CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIO CONVENTIONS

The identification matrix of constraints related to the implementation of the three Rio conventions in Cameroon is presented below.
Matrix of cross-cutting issues in the three Rio conventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual level</td>
<td>The populations exert strong pressure on natural resources</td>
<td>• Precariousness of living conditions of populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• improve the living conditions of populations in zones affected by desertification; draw up development and natural resources management plans that are reliable and adapted to socio-cultural realities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Funds resulting from the Heavily Indebted Poor Country initiative should be allocated to poverty reduction measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitization of populations on natural resource</td>
<td>insufficiency of sensitization of populations on the sustainable management of natural resources</td>
<td>• develop sensitization techniques and tools adapted to socio-cultural realities of each area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>management</td>
<td></td>
<td>• step up means of information of the public and communications on the three conventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popularization and valorization of research findings</td>
<td>Weak capitalization and dissemination of research findings at the national and international level and local know-how on sustainable management techniques of natural resources</td>
<td>• create a bank of data, popularize and develop research results and local know-how on sustainable management techniques of natural resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and local know-how</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Capitalization of experiences (local know-how, research results, technical innovation) in the form of didactic materials, popularization manual, pedagogical kit that are easily accessible to main actors of environmental management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability and use of human resources</td>
<td>Human resources available in environment-related fields are poorly known, under-used and there is a lack of specialists in highly specialized and priority scientific sectors</td>
<td>• strengthen institutional capacities to constitute a national network of national competences and expertise relating to environmental management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• ensure the training of specialists in issues related to the environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity constraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Institutional level</strong></td>
<td>Legal gaps and the insufficient implementation instruments of some laws</td>
<td>• strengthen institutional capacities in the implementation of regulatory and legislative instruments on environment and water resource management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In spite of an overall legislative incentive framework, insufficient popularization, the absence of implementation instruments of some laws as well as the absence of effective control institutions make fragmentary the application of texts and limit their contribution to the implementation of conventions.</td>
<td>• strengthen institutional capacities in the formulation of application instruments of various laws related to the environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Advisory Commission on Environment and Sustainable Development (CNCDD)</strong></td>
<td>- the National Advisory Commission on Environment and Sustainable Development (CNCDD) is a nonoperational structure and there are few initiatives for his revitalisation;</td>
<td>Operationalize the CNCDD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Interministerial Committee on Environment (CIE)** | Interministerial Committee on the Environment (CIE) is facing a qualitative human capacities deficit or gap, insufficient material and financial resources and instability of members | Reinforce the human, material and financial capacities of the Interministerial Committee on the Environment  
Appoint its members with fixed mandate and specific terms and conditions. |
| **Good governance**             | • deficit of Governance, ignorance of rights, duties and legal texts by the populations;  
• increase and diversification of corruption;  
• low access to information.  | • Revitalize interministerial anti-corruption committees;  
• The National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC) should effectively play its role;  
• translate laws into simplified guides to be popularized to within the populations;  
• reinforce civic education of populations. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Institutional level (continuation)      | - absence of a funding mechanism specific to activities relating to the three conventions;  
- difficulties of mobilization of financial resources;  
- Low capacity of drawing up eligible projects to various financing  
- the insufficiency of budget allocations results in difficulties of setting up conventions and the continuous degradation of resources | - develop self-financing mechanisms,  
- develop bilateral and multilateral co-operation,  
- strengthen capacities of actors in formulating reliable projects,  
- encourage the private sector to finance projects in the field of the environment, |
| Funding                                 |                                                                                        |                                                                                        |
| Functioning of focal points             | Instability and dispersion of focal points do not make it possible to capitalize achievements in an optimal way by a harmonious follow-up of the implementation of the provisions of conventions.  
                                                                                        | - strengthen human and technical capacities of focal points;  
                                                                                        | - clarify and stabilize their mandates  
<pre><code>                                                                                    | - create a dialogue framework for focal points of Rio conventions |                                                                                        |
</code></pre>
<p>| Funding mechanism                       | - the absence of adequate funding mechanisms and difficulties of mobilizing national counterpart funds slow down the effective implementation of Rio conventions in Cameroon | - Operationalize counterpart funds and develop national mechanisms for the financing of projects. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structural level</td>
<td>A resource or documentation centre</td>
<td>the absence of resource centre enormously slows down popularization and implementation of the three conventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation of populations</td>
<td>difficulties of carrying out community-based actions; insufficient appropriate joint decision framework; The difficulty in an administrative hierarchical set up to change mentality and understand that participation must function as an expert system; insufficient professional competences</td>
<td>Strengthen the capacities of local populations to organize itself in Community interest groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non operationalization of the FNEDD</td>
<td>The National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund created for financing studies, research and environmental activities is not operational</td>
<td>Speed up the setting up of the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund and develop the financing mechanism of this fund. One can cite for example the possible taxes to be paid by natural resources exploitation companies (water, mines, forests...), the gambling and telephony sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The private sector</td>
<td>Low capacity of actors to mobilize funds and mitigated interest of the private sector for the financing of environmental management actions</td>
<td>sensitize companies on environmental management activities which present profitable investment opportunities for them and advantageous for local communities; sensitize the private sector on opportunities offered by the CDM for the financing of activities in conformity with their needs or requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OPPORTUNITIES

Cameroon can be delighted in having well trained human resources potentials. Human resources are thus available for strengthening capacity for purposes of the implementation of conventions at the national level. However, competences are sometimes lacking in certain fields related to the environment and biodiversity management. Fortunately, some of our development partners can give a helping hand to government in order to assist us to deal with them.

Development partners

Cameroon has many development partners, direct and indirect, in the environment sector. A great number of indirect partners intervene through private bodies like NGOs and Associations which invest in the environment. As regards direct partners, they intervene through the government. Reaching the completion point of the HIPC initiative provides a great opportunity for Cameroon because this has mobilized a significant number of bilateral and multilateral partners that can intervene in fields as varied as the implementation of conventions. The principal sustainable development partners in the environment sector are:

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA): it supports planning and sustainable management of forest resources measures through technical support and financing of projects in the area of capacity strengthening of public and civil society actors, CIDA provided financial support, through the FESP, of approximately 500 million CFAF for reforestation and fire wood in the North of the country.

The World Bank intervenes mainly through the Forest Environment Sector Programme, FESP, with IDA and GEF funds. It is an institutional capacity strengthening programme.

The German Development Co-operation (GTZ): it assists MINFOF and MINEP in planning, implementation and monitoring-evaluation of the Environmental Policy and contributes to the strengthening of capacities of civil society actors (grassroots associations, nongovernmental organizations, etc). It intervenes through the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Programme (PGDRN).

The Netherlands Co-operation supports conservation, eco development, research and training projects in environmental management (CEDC),

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): it provides technical and financial assistance to environmental planning, the strengthening of institutional capacities, the promotion and development of environmental information systems. Within the framework of its assistance to MINEP and through its mandate of executing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Africa 2000 network, it finances and provides technical assistance to grassroots groups for the implementation of ecologically sustainable micro-projects.

European Union: it can provide technical and financial support to the drawing up and implementation of programmes on the rational and sustainable management natural resources. It intervenes in the following main fields: biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest exploitation or logging, regional dialogue, environmental information, integration of the human factor in forest development, etc. Support of the European Union in environment sector in Cameroon can be considered within the framework of projects in various forms of financing (Stabex, budgetary
headings) or of a programme approach in the form of budgetary supports and institutional supports to the Government.

The African Development Bank (ADB) which already has a representation in Cameroon and which is interested in financing environmental programmes in addition to the PAFRA.

The CARPE which developed a programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) called “Small Grants” intended to facilitate access to GEF funding.

Along side these partners, opportunities resulting from actions of Cameroon government for the development of coherence and synergy processes between the three Rio conventions are numerous.
- the existence of an institutional framework of environmental management reinforced (MINEP, MINFOF...);

- Decentralization which provides for the transfer of a number of competences of the State to decentralized local communities. In addition to these fundamental principles, Cameroon’s policy and strategy framework is marked by an arsenal of plans and programmes globally directed towards sustainable development and the fight against poverty;

- national possibilities of mobilizing funds for the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund (FNEEDD) thanks to the application of the law on “polluter pays” principle, collection of environmental taxes and on games of chance, the telephony and the exploitation of tourist sites;

- possibilities of mobilizing funds from development organisations, funding bodies and donors for financing the implementation of the three conventions thanks to the formulation of reliable projects;

- exploitation of existing of environmental communication structures for the popularization of the three conventions, sensitization and environmental information of populations (ECOVOX, the voice of the farmer/peasant, Radio Environment, community/local radios);

- the sound management and planning of forest resource which allows the payment of forest royalties to local communities to support development and improve the living conditions of populations of zones prone to forest exploitation or logging;

- the existence of incentive measures provided for in the national administrative policy for the reclassification and redeployment of trained personnel;

- Existence of the possibilities of training and retraining in national university institutions. The training schemes offer courses either entirely or partly on environmental concerns or related fields. These programmes include:
  - Agroforestry (University of Dschang, University of Yaounde I, University of Ngaoundere),
  - Water management (University of Dschang, University of Yaounde I),
  - Forest management, woody resource management, wood trade, reforestation (University of Dschang, University of Yaounde I, Mbalmayo Forestry School, CRESA Foret-Bois),
  - Environment (University of Dschang, University of Yaounde I),
- Climatology, hydrology and hydrogeology (Departments of Geography and Geology of State Universities),
- Characterization and Conservatory Management of soils (University of Dschang),
- Agriculture (University of Dschang, Regional Agricultural Colleges, Technical Schools of Agriculture),
- Seed technology and industries (University of Yaounde I),
- Inventory, Characterization, Management of fauna and flora (Garoua Wildlife School, FASA –Dschang, University of Yaounde I, Mbalmayo Forestry School),
- Agricultural extension (University of Dschang),
- Information and communication (Advanced School of Mass Communication ASMAC),
- Human and financial resources management (Higher School of Economic Sciences and Management),

- many other capacity development possibilities exist through short or long duration training courses abroad offered with the support of government (Support to MINSUP and MINRESI for certificate courses to their senior staff or officials) and international organisations;

- the disposal of the Government to integrate environmental education in the school syllabuses and contribute to strengthening the capacities of nongovernmental institutions;

- the availability, commitment, enthusiasm and will of actors to combine their efforts and collaborate within dialogue frameworks for the implementation of activities relating to environmental management (networks, forums, working groups, etc.)

- the use of new communication and information technologies in the sustainable management of the environment (obtaining more reliable results, popularization of data through Web sites, monitoring of pollution, controls movements of wild animals, etc.)

- the setting up and operation of meeting and dialogue frameworks for funding bodies: dialogue cercle for partners of MINFOF;

- the integration of the gender approach in environmental management policies which encourages the participation of women in the sustainable management of natural resources;

- growth and progressive maturation of national NGOs and their recognition by international NGOs and funding bodies;

- The purpose of the existence of sub-regional and regional initiatives such as the Network of Information for Sustainable Development in Central Africa (RIDDAC) is to contribute to the implementation of sustainable development in Central Africa, by putting in place a permanent platform of information dissemination, and by supporting exchange and sharing dynamics, so as to arouse interest, facilitate and encourage constructive debates or discussions between the various actors (States and public administrations, local communities, private sector, research institutions, associations and the civil society). Along side RIDDAC, we can cite other networks such as the REFADD (Network of African Women for Sustainable Development), the RIFFEAC (Network of Forest and Environmental Training Institutions of Central Africa) and the REPAR (Network of Members of Parliament of Central Africa) which also work for the production and the dissemination of information as regards Sustainable Développement in the sub-region.
5. PRIORITY FIELDS (ACTIONS) OF CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE RIO CONVENTIONS

5.1. Individual level

1. Take into account the needs of populations in defining implementation actions of conventions (food security, energy, promotion of employment, and improvement of living conditions);

2. Step up the involvement of populations in the restoration of degraded ecosystems and reforestation (include the restoration of degraded lands, protection and securing of wooded and retimbered/replanted land in dry or arid regions);

3. Develop around protected areas, economically profitable microprojes for local populations, as compensation for their user or customary rights lost through the protection of the zone;

4. Inventory human resources in fields related to the implementation of the conventions and use them through an action plan of relevant ministries;

5. Arouse interest of the private sector and civil society to regard environmental management as a development tool (Mobilize the private sector and civil society for the implementation of conventions, encourage the private sector to recover its waste...);

6. Constitute a national network of national competences and expertises relating to the management of the environment;

7. Train human competences in fund mobilization mechanisms

5.2. Institutional and legal level


9. Strengthen the capacities of the administration in charge of environment and nature protection or conservancy (Human resources, organisational and monitoring level);

10. Support MINEP in the operationalisation of the Annual work Programme (PTA) intended to ensure the implementation and follow-up of conventions on the environment and the realization of national action plans of some conventions;

11. Strengthen the capacities of MINEP in the collection of information for drawing up of the environment sector master plan;

12. Clarify the missions and points of convergence of each ministry involved in the implementation of conventions (MINEP, MININFO, MINRESI, MINADER, MINEE, etc...) and instill sense of collaboration and the will to work together;

13. Adopt application instruments of laws at the national level, by taking into account obligations of the three Rio conventions;
14. Translate the objectives and missions of conventions into concrete actions (such as pilot projects on indigenous people for example) to show the importance of environmental management to communities;

15. Integrate the actions taken into account in the PAN/LCD during the drawing up of national action plans of other conventions;

16. Promote environmental education at all levels (environmental training schemes in primary, secondary, and higher education, didactic manuals...);

17. Equip convention focal points with means necessary to carry out their actions;

18. Translate legal texts into simplified guides (flyers) to popularize them within the populations;

19. Propose application instruments of the framework law of 96 and supplement the legal gaps noted;

20. Step up the application of regulatory texts related to the management of the environment;

21. Apply the provisions of laws allowing the industrial structures to integrate the concept of sustainable management of the environment in their activities, to be exempted from the payment of certain taxes;

22. Popularize and develop results of scientific research in the field of the environment;

23. Encourage the involvement of women, young people and the old in natural resource management;

24. Create a regulatory framework enabling or facilitating the "fund raising" mechanisms

5.3. Structural level

25. Disseminate the contents (objectives and missions) of the three conventions to actors (communities, NGOs, private sector, administration and development organisations);

26. Revitalize communication structures;

27. Revitalize dialogue and coordination structures between the various actors involved in the implementation of conventions (various ministries, development partners, researchers, field projects, NGOs, local authorities and populations);

28. Operationalize the CIDE (Environment Information Documentation Centre) to ensure data collection relating to knowledge in natural resources (wildlife or fauna population count, flora inventories, modes of river, etc), the analysis and targeted dissemination of environmental information;

29. Set up performance of indicators which give the state of the environment at the level of the CIDE.
30. Support the use of new information and communication technologies in the sustainable management of the environment;

31. Revamp and equip the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) with sufficient means for better information of stakeholders;

32. Develop local know-how on sustainable management techniques of natural resources;

33. Operationalize the FNEDD;

34. Restore and operationalize meteorological centres;

35. Involve MINADER and MINFOF through forest posts and agricultural posts, in the collection of weather information on the whole national territory.
6. CONCLUSION

Cameroon joined the three Rio conventions on biodiversity, climate change and to combat desertification and land degradation, as well as new international development guidelines resulting from the Johannesburg Conference (Rio + 10) (Save Nature 2006, Avana T 2007, Nagndjui 2007). Many indicators make it possible to confirm the will of the authorities to implement these three conventions at Cameroon. These indicators which can be regarded as achievements for the country are of several types.

Many initiatives were taken by the Cameroonian government in order to set up an enabling legislative and institutional framework to the implementation of the three Rio conventions.

At the international level, Cameroon signed and ratified several conventions and protocols which shows the will of the authorities to respect the obligations related to the three conventions (the Bonn Convention on the trade in endangered specie, International agreement on tropical timber, the Montreal Protocol on the protection of the ozone layer, the Basle convention, Adhérence to the RAMSAR Convention, etc).

At the national level, many initiatives were taken to ensure a sustainable management of the environment. Among these actions, it is worth noting the creation of technical ministries in order to promote sustainable management of biodiversity (MINFOF, MINEP), the creation of CNCEDD, CIE, FNEDD, of a national risks observatory, approximately 15 % of the national territory has been set up as protected areas, the National Authority charged with facilitating and promoting projects within the framework of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol is operational.

The Cameroon legal framework was enriched by a gamut of sufficiently incentive or enabling laws and insruments for the implementation of the Rio conventions

The purpose of these institutional mechanisms and actions taken are to revamp and make more operational the structures in charge of the follow-up and implementation of conventions with a view to an effective and co-ordinated action. In the same vein, many programmes and projects were developed by Cameroon within the framework of implementation policies and strategies of the three conventions.

A detailed analysis of the various evaluation reports of the implementation of these three conventions in Cameroon however brings out a number of constraints both at the individual and institutional levels.

At the individual level:

High pressure exerted by the populations on natural resources by accentuating the effects of desertification, draught and a tendency for the aridification of climate, particularly in the zones with low and irregular rainfall, degradation of the plant cover and biodiversity;

Insufficient sensitization of populations on the sustainable management of natural resources;

Weak capitalization and dissemination of research findings at the national and international level and of local know-how on the sustainable management of natural resources;

Human resources available in the field are poorly known, under used and there is a deficit of specialists in specialized scientific and priority sectors.

At the institutional level:

Insufficient popularization, absence of implementation instruments of some laws as well as the absence of effective control institutions render fragmentary the application of texts and restrict their contribution to the implementation of conventions;

The National Advisory Commission on the Environment and Sustainable Development (CNCDD) is a nonoperational structure and few initiatives are taken to revamp it;
The Interministerial Committee on the Environment (CIE) has a qualitative human capacity gap, insufficient material and financial resources and instability of members; the insufficiency of budget appropriations entails difficulties in putting in place conventions and continuos degradation of resources; the absence of adequate funding mechanisms and the difficulties of mobilizing national counterpart funds slows down effective implementation of Rio conventions in Cameroon; the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund created for the financing of studies, research and environmental activities is not operational; This is a nonexhaustive list of constraints which impede the implementation of the three Rio conventions (on biodiversity, climate change and combating desertification and soil degradation) in Cameroon.

These constraints in the implementation of conventions call for strengthening of capacities. This capacity strengthening can be done through many development partners of Cameroon. Among these partners, it is worth citing some of them including: The Canadian International Development Agency, the World Bank, the German Development Co-operation (GTZ), the Netherlands Co-operation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union, etc.

At the national level, there are also other capacity strengthening opportunities which can be exploited to support the coherent and synergetic implementation of Rio conventions.

Among these opportunities, one can cite the existence of an institutional framework of reinforced environment management (MINEP, MINFOF...), a legal framework marked by several laws regulating the rational use and sustainable management of natural resources and environmental protection, exploitation of existing environmental communication structures for the popularization of the three conventions, raising awareness and environmental information of the populations, sound management and forest resource planning which allows the payment of the forest royalty to local communities to foster development and improve the living conditions of populations of zones prone to forest exploitation, the existence of incentive measures provided for in the national administrative policy on upgrading and redeployment of trained personnel, the existence of training and retraining possibilities in national university institutions. The training schemes offered treat either entirely or partly environmental concerns or related fields.

The constraints observed in the implementation of the three conventions in Cameroon necessarily call for strengthening the capacities in a number of fields which are at various levels. At the individual level, it is important and urgent that a certain number of actions be taken. Among which to:

- Arouse interest of the private sector and civil society regarding environmental management as a development tool
- Constitute a national network of national competence and expertise relating to the management of the environment;
- Train human competences in fund mobilization mechanisms,
- Further involve the populations in all the processes of natural resource and ecosystem management.

At the institutional and legal level, it is necessary inter alia to:

- Strengthen the capacities of the administration in charge of the environment and nature protection (Human resources, organisational and monitoring level);
- Clarify the missions and points of convergence of each ministry involved in the implementation of conventions (MINEP, MINFOF, MINRESI, MINADER, MINEE, etc...) and encourage spirit of collaboration and the will to work together;
- Translate the obligations of the three conventions into laws at the national level;
✓ Set up a joint action plan for the three conventions;
✓ Equip the convention focal points with the means necessary to carry out their actions;
✓ Propose implementation instruments of the framework law of 96 and supplement the legal gaps noted;
✓ etc...

At the structural level, it is necessary to:

✓ Disseminate the contents (objectives and missions) of the three conventions to actors;
✓ Revamp all structures involved in the implementation of conventions;
✓ Set up at the level of the CIDE performance indicators which gives the State of the environment;
✓ Encourage the use of new information and communication technologies in the sustainable management of the environment;
✓ Revamp and equip the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) with sufficient means to better inform stakeholders;
✓ Develop local know-how on the sustainable management of natural resources.
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


COMIFAC, 2005, Plan de convergence sous régional pour la gestion concertée des écosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique Centrale.


APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Identification matrices of implementation constraints of each of the three Rio conventions in Cameroon.
APPENDIX 1: A). Identification matrix of implementation constraints of the UNCBD in Cameroon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNCBD</td>
<td>Individual level</td>
<td>Precariousness of the living conditions of the populations</td>
<td>• the problem of poverty and the inequity in sharing the benefits to populations living within the periphery of protected areas in comparison with those close to FMUs leads to an increase in the pressure on biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of available human resources</td>
<td>• low use of qualified and available human resources in the environmental field</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Train staff qualified to work in the various fields</td>
<td>• Insufficiency of national technical staff qualified in in-situ and ex-situ conservation, Protected Areas planning, participatory management, integrated land management, scientific research and popularization of results, Environmental Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| UNCBD (continued) | Individual level (continued) | Sensitizing stakeholders | • insufficient sensitization of stakeholders;  
• lack of appropriation of the initiatives by the local populations which leads to a deficit in participation of local and indigenous communities in the development and implementation of forest management plans. This constitutes a barrier to the implementation of the action plan on protected areas and the CDB;  
• current delimitations of PAs does not take into account traditional land use practices by indigenous bordering populations;  
• The definition of restrictive measures in reserves which are imposed on the local populations;  
• Lack of integration of PAs in a global land use process and development of bordering populations of PAs whose living conditions are generally precarious. | • develop sensitization techniques adapted to socio-cultural realities of each area;  
• political decision makers and PA managers should focus on the revision of PA management policies and development plans in order to take into account forest use by local and indigenous communities. This objective must be attained through total and effective participation of local and indigenous communities in defining the policies and practices in the area of APs. |
| Capitalization of research results and local know-how on sustainable management techniques of natural resources | | • the problem of transfer of technologies  
• limited capacity in scientific research, the valorization and popularization of research results. | • strengthen institutional capacities and financial means of division of popularization of MINRESI;  
• develop research programmes, popularize and develop results obtained. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNCBD (continued)</td>
<td>Individual level (cont’d)</td>
<td>• the lack of collaboration between administrative services concerned with natural resource management and between various actors/stakeholders;</td>
<td>• reinforce collaboration between the administration and other natural resource management actors;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relation between administration – actors of the biodiversity management sector</td>
<td>• The motivation of administrative services does not always match the stakes, which results sometimes in significant delays,</td>
<td>• set up motivating career profiles for civils servant working in biodiversity management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• the unsustainable use of resources around PAs by others actors/stakeholders such as forest exploiters or loggers, agro-industrialists, professional hunting guides</td>
<td>• Strict application of and regulations on the management of biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Problem of leadership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• stakes and tensions within local societies for access to power and land ownership with the ascendancy of new elites and local leaders, the stepping up of feudal powers in the North and the fast changing acephalous or headless societies of the South, render difficult the establishment of partnership based on local democratic practice. Problems of native people who carry out their activities on very vast and very difficult to determine lands</td>
<td>• strengthen the capacities of local communities around the stakes of the sustainable management of biodiversity;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• develop management mechanisms adapted to socio-cultural realities of areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional level</td>
<td>Synergy between ministries</td>
<td>• Insufficient synergy between the various ministries concerned with biodiversity management</td>
<td>• reinforce the interministerial authority for the coordination implementation actions of conventions;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• improve the processes and relations between institutions, the level sensitization and understanding of the CBD by the government and the public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| UNCBD (cont’d)        | Institutional level (cont’d)                                                      | - financing mechanisms of the implementation of conventions are limited in their capacity to mobilize the resources required for the stakeholders or actors.  
- Administrative heaviness in the releasing of financings | - Operationalize counterpart funds and develop national mechanisms for financing projects;  
- facilitate access to funds anticipated for the implementation of projects in the field of biodiversity management. |
|                       | Financing mechanism                                                              |                                                                                      |                                                                                                  |
|                       | Knowledge and application of legislative and regulatory texts                    | - poor knowledge of laws by stakeholders/partners  
- inadequate application of some legislative texts in the field | - popularize the legislative and regulatory texts relating to biodiversity management;  
- strengthen institutional and civil capacities in the respect of legislative and regulatory texts relating to biodiversity. |
|                       | Insufficient national legislative and regulatory framework                       | - Failure of taking into account local specificities in legislative and regulatory national texts;  
- Non harmonization of national legislations as regards natural resource management in the sub-region  
- the law authorizes sales of standing volume. The volume of the sales as well as their duration makes sustainable management more uncertain. Moreover, the law does not require a management plan for these lands.  
- The fine system is not very dissuasive, and not much applied; | The legislative framework will have to be revised in order to integrate other aspects of the CBD (for example the equitable sharing of benefits, the 1994 law insists much more on the exploitation of forest resources and mentions only the conservation of these resources...) which is not yet being taken into account in the existing legislative texts. |
<p>|                       | Operational budget of the focal point                                           | Inexistence of an operational budget for the Focal Point of convention                | - equip the focal point with an adequate budget for the implementation of activities relating to conventions |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity contraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| UNCBD (cont’d)     | Institutional level (cont’d) Fulfil or honour commitments made with the signing of the CDB | • Cameroon has not yet taken, at the national level, measures recommended in the Convention and decisions of the Conference of Parties to ensure the respect, safeguarding and maintaining of knowledge, innovations and practices of native and local communities which incarnate traditional ways of life which is of interest to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;  
• The absence of action plans directly related to the implementation of the CDB | - Thanks to the support of bilateral and multilateral partners, it is essential, even a priority, to strengthen institutional capacities for the effective implementation and follow-up of all the commitments made during the signing of the CNUDB;  
- train actors of the public, private sector, the civil society and the community in all fields of implementation of the actions and objectives of the convention;  
- Support to the follow-up of the implementation of conventions on the environment;  
- Operationalize the Annual Work Programme (PTA) of MINEP for the implementation of the conventions. |
|                    | Issuance of licences for the exploitation of biodiversity The circulation of biological/genetic material is not well organized. In fact, MINFOF issues export licences, certificates of origin and CITES without regard to the opinion of a scientific authority, a role which the HNC could play with regard to flora | associate scientific authorities in the procedure for granting licences for the exploitation of biodiversity.                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                    | Administrative heaviness and high costs of exploitation licences and research permits | • administrative heavinesses and the high cost of research/prospecting permits slow down activities in the implementation of conventions;  
• Administrative slowness has made it possible for forest industrialists or loggers to continue exploiting concessions without management plans for 6 years, whereas these plans are obligatory after maximum three years of their attribution; | • Simplify the procedures of attributing research permits and adapt their costs to the type of research;  
• accelerate the procedure of validation of management plans of FMUs;  
• strengthen institutional and civil capacities in the observance of regulations in force and the application of sanctions envisaged. |
Administrative slownesses and heavinesses limit the application sanctions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity contraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNCBD (cont’d)</td>
<td>Institutional level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Collaboration between the administration and co-operation</td>
<td>• reinforce collaboration between the technical assistants and officials of MINFOF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centralization of authority</td>
<td>• Absence of management authority for officials of the Ministry in charge of Forestry</td>
<td>• strengthen capacities in the implementation of administrative decentralization and the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and Wildlife because of the imposing presence of Technical Assistance</td>
<td>decentralization of natural resource management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biodiversity monitoring</td>
<td>• the institutional mechanisms are not always adequate and are always impregnated</td>
<td>• develop projects relating to biodiversity management on the whole national territory;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural level</td>
<td></td>
<td>with a centralized culture,</td>
<td>• develop reliable monitoring mechanisms of these projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stakeholders (NGOs, funding bodies, associations</td>
<td>• lack of coverage of the national territory by actions / projects / biological</td>
<td>• train actors of the public, private sector, civil society and the community in all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and the public sector) and monitoring or follow-up</td>
<td>diversity management programmes;</td>
<td>fields of the implementation of the conventions;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of activities</td>
<td>• unsustainable exploitation of biological and genetic resources;</td>
<td>• reinforce the State / funding bodies/NGOs partnership for better participation in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Lack of periodic biodiversity monitoring</td>
<td>international debates/discussions and the organisation of national forums;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• develop reliable monitoring /evaluation mechanisms of actions carried out in the field.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

38
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CNUDB (suite)</td>
<td>Structural level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Lack of coherence: the network of protected areas represents only partially the biodiversity of the country and moreover, it takes little account of socio-economic aspects in some areas.</td>
<td>Take into account all ecosystems in the definition of protected areas such as flooded plains at the level of Lake Chad, forest-savannah transition zone, crater lakes, mangroves...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transborder collaboration</td>
<td>• Insufficient transboundary collaboration as regards the creation (establishing of), management and development of PAs</td>
<td>strengthen the human, material and financial capacities of PA management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Availability of financial, human and materials resources for the management of PAs</td>
<td>Insufficient financial resources allocated by the national budget in PAs and insufficient personnel in charge of monitoring and the technical staff specialized in management of fauna and setting up of protected areas as well as the insufficient logistical resources</td>
<td>strengthen human, material and financial capacities of PA management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Herbarium of Cameroon (NHC)</td>
<td>The cramped accommodation of the NHC which can no longer take in new samples and lacks financial resources to set up a botanical garden restricts knowledge on the genetic diversity of Cameroon</td>
<td>Increase the reception capacity of the NHC and equip it with financial resources required for setting up an associated botanical garden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of the revenue derived from the exploitation of biodiversity resources</td>
<td>• A significant gap between the royalties collected and the investments undertaken indicates the existence of non-negligent level of embezzlement; • The use made of these resources by the council authorities is not being sufficiently followed-up, and from information gathered it is not satisfactory</td>
<td>• develop monitoring/evaluation mechanisms for the management of revenue from natural resource management by the council authorities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCBD (cont’d)</td>
<td>Structural level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Management of community forests</td>
<td>the legal definition of &quot;community&quot; is still vague. There is often confusion between a social entity and a company made up of people who join it. The tendency (and risks) that these community forests are, in fact, exploited according to the same mode as sales of standing volume, i.e. without environmental sustainability, and the fact that the benefits of this exploitation are collected for the profit of some individual interests, has been manifested for some time now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The « Clearing House Mechanism » (CHM)</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) set up with the support of development partners, due to lack of human, logistic and financial means does not play its role: the Web site is not functional and important information on the implementation of conventions is not accessible to the general public</td>
<td>Revamp and equip with sufficient means the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) for better information of stakeholders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX 1 : B). Identification matrix of implementation constraints of the UNCCD in Cameroon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD</td>
<td>Individual level: Precariousness of the living conditions of populations</td>
<td>• the populations exert high pressure on natural resources by accentuating the effects of desertification, drought and a tendency for aridification of the climate, particularly in the zones with rare and irregular rainfall, degradation of the plant cover and biodiversity</td>
<td>• improve the living conditions of the populations in the zones affected by desertification;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• conflicts and competition between actors for the use of natural resources</td>
<td>• develop natural resources management and development plans that are reliable and adapted to sociocultural realities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sensitization of the populations of the areas concerned with desertification</td>
<td>• Insufficient sensitization of the populations on desertification</td>
<td>• Strengthen the capacities of actors on the stakes of sustainable use of natural resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Popularization and valorization of research results and local know-how</td>
<td>• Weak capitalization and dissemination of research results at the national and international level and local knowledge or know-how on sustainable management techniques of natural resources</td>
<td>• develop sensitization techniques that are adapted to sociocultural realities of each area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• increase the capacity of information and communications means.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• create a data bank on desertification control, popularize research results and local know-how on sustainable management technique of natural resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Capitalization of achievements or assets (local know-how, research results, technical innovation) in the form of didactic materials, popularization manuals, pedagogic kit easily accessible to the main actors of desertification control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity constraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD (cont’d)</td>
<td><strong>Individual level (cont’d)</strong></td>
<td>• low use of qualified and available human resources in the environmental field</td>
<td>• create a network of experts in the field of the environment and more precisely in the area of desertification;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The use of human resources available</td>
<td></td>
<td>• set up the national order of environmentalists;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• entrust specific tasks to appropriate experts;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• appoint qualified officials to technical positions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Training of staff capable or qualified to work in the various fields</td>
<td>• qualitative and quantitative shortage of human resources in the field of desertification control</td>
<td>• develop training schemes adapted to the real needs of the country in the environmental field;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• strengthen the capacities of teachers through training courses, trainings and retrainings;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• improve the existing training schemes by adapting their contents to the real needs of the country on environmental issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacities to formulate projects</td>
<td>• low capacity of actors to formulate eligible projects for the various sources of financing</td>
<td>• develop mechanisms for the formulation and promotion of eligible projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity constraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD (cont’d) Institutional level</td>
<td>Difficulties of the application of the legislative framework put in place</td>
<td>➢ insufficient popularization of laws, absence of texts of application of some laws and absence of effective control institutions &lt;br&gt; ➢ the forest law is ill-adapted to the ecological and social context of areas exposed to desertification</td>
<td>Strengthen institutional capacities in the implementation of regulatory and legislative instruments related to desertification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordination and putting in place policies as regards desertification control</td>
<td>➢ Several structures and institutions put in place to support the attainment of the objectives of the UNCCD remained non functional since their creation. It is the case for example with the Interministerial Follow-up Committee to Fight Drought (CIS/LCD), the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund. This also blocks the Evaluation of the scope of actions undertaken by bilateral financing.</td>
<td>➢ gradually put in place and within a reasonable time limit the various institutions according to their importance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Instability of focal points</td>
<td>➢ Since the ratification of the UNCCD by Cameroon, several (6) focal points have already been changed</td>
<td>➢ strengthen the human and technical capacities the focal point; &lt;br&gt; ➢ clarify and stabilize their mandate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specificity of laws</td>
<td>➢ Absence of specific and explicit laws directed towards desertification control</td>
<td>➢ vote specific and sufficiently explicit laws for each field, improve the existing regulatory framework sign implementation decrees for some provisions of the framework law of 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD (cont’d)</td>
<td>Institutional level (cont’d)</td>
<td>The NAP/CD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ the NAP/CD</td>
<td>➢ develop and integrate prevention and management measures of situations of drought in the NAP/CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ weakness of prevention and management actions of drought situations as envisaged in article 10 of the convention</td>
<td>➢ considering delays experienced by countries with respect to commitments since the ratification of the convention, the operationalisation of the NAP/CD should quickly be implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ the operationalisation of the NAP/CD as validated depends on a detailed analysis of commitments at the level of stakeholders as recommended in article 10 (2) of the convention.</td>
<td>➢ evaluate the implementation budget of the NAP/CD and develop potential financing mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ The NAP/CD of Cameroon has not yet been evaluated in terms of the implementation budget as well as potential financing resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ precise guidelines of budgets allocated to government departments</td>
<td>➢ Properly specify the guidelines of budgetary headings allocated to ministries as regards desertification control activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ the main source of financing allocated to desertification control is still the national budget through the envelopes of various ministries. However, the financing granted to these ministries does not specify the guidelines relating to desertification control activities and in general one notes a discrepancy between the objectives in view and the available and mobilizable means for their realization.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ the private sector</td>
<td>➢ sensitize these companies on desertification control activities which presents profitable investment opportunities for them and advantageous for local communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>➢ low capacity of actors to mobilize funds and mitigated interest of the private sector for financing desertification control actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convention</strong></td>
<td><strong>Priority issues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Co Capacity constraints</strong></td>
<td><strong>Strengthening possibilities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| UNCCD (cont’d)  | Institutional level (cont’d)                                                      | ➢ insufficient associations, the upsurge of internal conflicts, disparity between their objectives and their means, a quantitative and qualitative weakness of their human resources and dependency on external financing make their interventions specific and limited  
 ➢ Several actions are being undertaken by national and international NGOs to promote and improve infrastructures, promote income generating activities and strengthen the organisational capacities of local structures. However, their actions are generally very targeted and not coordinated and finally reach only a very restricted proportion of the target population. | ➢ Various NGOs working in the field should set up a coordination and orientation authority for their activities  
 ➢ See to the quality of human resources and develop financing mechanisms                                                                 |
<p>|                 | ➢ NGOs and the coordination of their activities                                   | ➢ absence of adequate financing mechanisms and difficulties in making available counterpart funds slow down the effective implementation of the CCD both in Cameroon and many African countries | ➢ Operationalize counterpart funds and develop national financing mechanisms of projects. |
|                 | ➢ Financing mechanism                                                             | ➢ the practices of corruption affects both the priority zones and other parts of the country and restricts the effective implementation of policy guidelines as regards sustainable development. | ➢ set up an effective system to fight corruption in desertification control projects |
|                 | ➢ Poor governance                                                                 | ➢ the active participation of Cameroon in subregional initiatives is however blighted by the non respect of some agreements and commitment entered into with other partners and donors does not make it possible to adapt sub-regional guidelines into national policy programmes. | ➢ make an effort to respect sub-regional agreements and commitments entered into with development partners to improve the conditions of desertification control and the sustainable management of natural resources. |
|                 | ➢ agreements and commitments entered into at the subregional level and with other partners and donors |                                                                                  |                                                                                  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD (cont’d)</td>
<td>Structural level</td>
<td>✓ operationalisation and strengthening of institutions or platforms of coordination, dialogue and joint decision</td>
<td>✓ Absence of an institutional framework of effective coordination, decentralization of resource management has rather created a social environment favourable for conflicts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ policies and laws</td>
<td>✓ policies/laws on environmental protection are not very popular and difficult to implement because of insufficient popularization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ infrastructures and materials means</td>
<td>✓ insufficiency of infrastructures and material means and the budget of sector ministries leads to a limited presence in the field and low technical supervision of actors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Sustainable Development Fund</td>
<td>✓ the concept of a national fund for desertification control is still theoretical. The internal financing mechanism the National Sustainable Development Fund is not yet functional.</td>
<td>✓ Operationalize the FNEDD ✓ develop financing mechanism for this fund. One can cite for example possible taxes to be paid by natural resource exploitation companies (water, mines, forests...), the gambling and telephony sector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ an incentive mechanism for the private sector</td>
<td>✓ absence of an incentive mechanism for the private sector for financing desertification control actions</td>
<td>✓ Creation of an incentive framework for the private sector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ANNEX 1: Identification matrix of implementation constraints of the UNFCCC in Cameroon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity constraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>Individual level</td>
<td>In spite of enormous potentials in terms of new and renewable energies which Cameroon is endowed with, the use of woody energy is topical, with more than 80% of households consuming firewood as the main source of domestic energy, thus reducing GHG wells and by developing sources.</td>
<td>- strengthening of civil and institutional capacities for the promotion, popularization and sensitization in the use of new and renewable energies as alternatives to firewood and fossil fuels (use of fuelwood such as torrefied wood for the production of electricity, domestic biogas, photothermal energy, hydrogen kitchen, ethyllic ethanol such as biofuel for cars, use of cow dung as source of energy) by the implementation of projects in these fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GHG reduction strategies</td>
<td>Apart from ozone, no strategy of the reduction of GHG emissions is being implemented in Cameroon and one records high increase in GHG emissions.</td>
<td>Put in place a real national strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions, that is binding for producers of these gases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management of water resources</td>
<td>In the wetlands as in arid regions, the management of water resources poses problems of public health and even the survival of species, both human and faunal and flora. Climatic distortions observed and modes of use (irrigation methods...) accelerate the reduction of these resources.</td>
<td>Strengthen the capacities of the personnel of NGOs, projects, networks and groups by the development, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of training programmes for: - rational management of water resources for domestic and industrial needs; - preserving woody resources which contribute to the regulation of rainfall; - use of the drop by drop irrigation instead of gravitational irrigation; - construction of water points for wild fauna; - water treatment using solar energy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC (cont’d)</td>
<td>Individual level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Mechanization of agriculture</td>
<td>The non-mechanization of agriculture and farming methods used (slash and burn agriculture) constitute a major factor of destruction of wells and production of GHG sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consumption of CO₂ and atmospheric nitrogen</td>
<td></td>
<td>The gradual destruction of forest which constitutes one of the most important GHG wells and repetitive bush fires contribute to increasing these gases in the atmosphere and global warming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breeding techniques</td>
<td>Breeding techniques that are not concerned with biodiversity practised in Cameroon (extensive breeding and transhumance) are the cause of erosion and soil degradation, loss of the vegetative cover of which greenhouse gas wells, increase in albedo and drought</td>
<td>- deploy an awareness programme for the use of controlled intensive techniques of breeding (fence breeding); - strengthening of institutional and civil capacities for the mastery transhumance control in the highlands of the Far North, North-West, West, Centre and East Provinces - strengthen the institutional and civil capacities for the control of bush fires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Control elephant populations</td>
<td>The uncontrolled increase in the population of elephants is a major handicap for the sustainability of the vegetative cover and certain flora species</td>
<td>Strengthen capacities in the field of control of elephant populations, for the preservation of the vegetative cover, GHG wells.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNFCCC (cont’d)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Individual level (cont’d)</strong></td>
<td>Carbon dioxide Sequestration dissolved by the oceans</td>
<td>The ocean is an important reservoir of dissolved carbon dioxide, at the level of the Equator, it releases a significant quantity of this gas into the atmosphere and contributes to its enrichment in GHG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Institutional level</strong></td>
<td><strong>Insignificant budget of MINEP</strong></td>
<td>Insufficient of means available to MINEP to meet multiple challenges which it faces</td>
<td>Revision on the increase of the budget of MINEP to enable it to carry out its missions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Difficulties of implementation of policies as regards the control of climate change</strong></td>
<td>Regulatory and legislative texts put in place to fight desertification and management of water resources are not implemented</td>
<td>Strengthen institutional capacities in the implementation of regulatory and legislative instruments as regards desertification control and management of water resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Absence legislative and regulatory texts specific to climate change</strong></td>
<td>Legislative and regulatory texts specific to climate change have not yet been elaborated in Cameroon</td>
<td>Strengthen capacities for the development of legislative and regulatory instruments relating to the convention. Regulatory and legislative texts specific to climate change must be put in place to fight against GHG emissions by industries and the agricultural and forestry sectors. Draw up repressive texts to make effective the “polluter pays” principle. Take tax incentive measures to develop treatment units for industrial or communal effluents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Difficulty of carrying out national GHG inventories</strong></td>
<td>National assessments of emissions by anthropic activities and absorption by GHG wells not regulated by the Montreal Protocol are not carried out, updated periodically, published and made available to the Conference of Parties</td>
<td>Strengthen institutional capacities for the control, evaluation of GHG in the atmosphere, methods of inventory of the sources of emission and GHG wells; update these inventories periodically, publish them and make them available to the Conference of Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| UNFCCC (cont’d) | Institutional level (cont’d) | Realization and implementation of programmes aiming at mitigating climate change | Cameroon has difficulties in establishing, implementing, publishing and regularly updating national or regional programmes containing measures aiming at mitigating climate change. | - periodically establish implement, update national or regional programmes containing measures aiming at mitigating climate change;  
- design and develop appropriate and integrated plans for the management of coastal zones, for water resources and agriculture, and for the protection and restoring zones affected by drought, desertification and floods;  
- develop GHG reduction strategies in the fields of waste management (biogas recovery, composting, methanisation in reactor and support to research), of agriculture, energy, industry... |
<p>| Control, prevention and reduction of non-regulated GHG emissions | Good practices which make it possible to reduce, prevent or control emissions and reinforce GHG wells are not encouraged and supported in all the relevant sectors | Promote rational management, encourage and support by co-operation, conservation or the reinforcement of wells and resevoirs of all greenhouse gases not regulated by the Montrel Protocol, in particular biomass, forests, oceans as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity contraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| UNFCCC (cont’d)     | Institutional level (cont’d)                                 | Cameroon does not implement the obligations of convention which are inter alia:  
- prepare, in co-operation, adaptations to the impact of climate change, design and develop suitable and integrated plans for the management of coastal zones, water resources and agriculture, and for the protection and restoration of zones affected by drought, desertification and floods  
- take into account of considerations related to climate change in policies and economic, environmental and social actions;  
- encourage and support through co-operation, scientific research, technological, technical, socio-economic works, the systematic observation and constitution of records of data on the climatic system and the free and prompt exchange of these data  
- encourage and support through co-operation education, training and sensitization of the public in the field of climate change and encourage the broadest participation in this process, in particular that of NGOs  
- communicate to the Conference of Parties information concerning the application, in accordance with article 12 of the convention | - Thanks to the support of bilateral and multilateral partners, it is essential, even a priority to strengthen institutional capacities for the effective implementation and follow up of all the commitments entered into during the signing of the UNFCCC;  
- train actors of the public, private sectors, the civil society and the community in all the fields of implementation of the actions and objectives of conventions;  
- Support to the follow-up of the implementation of conventions on the environment;  
- Operationalize the Annual Work Programme (AWP) of MINEP for the implementation of conventions.                                                                                                                                                        |
<p>|                     | Fulfill the commitments made by the ratification of the convention |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Availability and use of human resources | Human resources available in the field are not well known, under-used and there is a lack of specialists in the specialized scientific and priority sectors | Strengthen institutional capacities to constitute a national network of national competences and expertise relating to the follow-up of climate change to ensure the training of specialists in issues related to climate change |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity contraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC (cont’d)</td>
<td>Institutional level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Operation of the National Coordination Office of the implementation of the UNCCD</td>
<td>Difficulties in developing activities of the National Coordination Office (NCO) of the implementation of the United Nations convention to combat desertification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non operationalization of the NESDF</td>
<td>The National Environmental and Sustainable Development Fund created for financing studies, research and the environmental activities is not operational</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluation of the quantity of CO₂ absorbed by the forest</td>
<td>The implementation of TIGER project in order to assess the quantity of CO₂ absorbed by the forest is taking long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation of the exploitation and the use of fire wood</td>
<td>The implementation of the forest code which highlights the management and exploitation of forests and its resources in semi-arid zone is not effective</td>
<td>Strengthening of the institutional capacities is essential for popularization and sensitization in the use of new and renewable energies,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interministerial consultation or dialogue</td>
<td>Interministerial consultations on major projects, economic, social and environmental programmes are lacking in Cameroon</td>
<td>Set up an interministerial framework of dialogue to examine economic, social and environmental programmes and projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Action Plan (NAP) still being awaited</td>
<td>The synthesis of regional Plans which will enable the realization of National Action Plan is not yet completed</td>
<td>Release the means required for developing the synthesis of regional plans which will allow the development of the awaited NAP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Put in place regulatory and legislative mechanisms relating to climate change</td>
<td>Regulatory and legislative measures related to the implementation of the UNFCCC C considered in the initial national communication have not yet been worked out by Cameroon</td>
<td>Train officials of MINEP and other ministries such as agriculture, water and energy, livestock breeding, fisheries and animal industries, industry and others in the drafting of the appropriate texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>Priority issues</td>
<td>Capacity contraints</td>
<td>Strengthening possibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC (cont’d)</td>
<td>Institutional level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Fight against release elements of climate change</td>
<td>Strengthen the capacities of the institutional system to react to constraints generated by problems related to climate change such as the CDM and the production of national communications; strengthening of capacities to transform the UNFCCC into a development tool, by seizing opportunities of the CDM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                     | Identification and study of zones that are sensitive to impacts of climate change | The putting in place of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) through a portfolio of national projects and the production of the second national communication constitute priority actions but which to date have not yet started | Develop adaptation strategies for sensitive zones. For coastal zones:  
- delimitation of peripheral zones of mangroves;  
- reinforcement of the legislation on fishing;  
- development of aquaculture;  
- reduction of pollution;  
- integrated management of coastal zones.  
For sudano-sahelian zones:  
- Build-up of cereal and natural resource security stocks  
- Improvement of cultivation methods  
- Control of plant cover and promotion of reforestation,  
- Creation of protected areas, sustainable management of forest resources;  
- Promotion of a sound management of water resources |


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Priority issues</th>
<th>Capacity contraints</th>
<th>Strengthening possibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC (cont’d) Institutional level (cont’d)</td>
<td>Availability of the meteorological data</td>
<td>A lack of tools for projection such as new climatic maps and a national rational and standardized covering of meteorological or weather stations has been observed</td>
<td>Strengthen institutional capacities of technical Ministries or institutions concerned with the drawing of a new official national map which takes into account climate change; maintain existing meteorological or weather stations; set up, equip and operationalize stations in areas where they do not exist to refine climatic simulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamics of water courses</td>
<td>In spite of the importance of water resource for the population and biodiversity, actions carried out by the State are insufficient to ensure the follow-up and dynamics in time and space, which causes a reduction in the provision of hydroelectric power for example</td>
<td>Strengthen the capacities of research institutions in the mastery of the dynamics of water courses. Given that water resources are very sensitive to climate change, studies must be carried out to estimate the flow of water courses likely to accommodate hydro-electric or hydro-agricultural dams for the production of electricity and irrigation of large industrial or other plantations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Structural level | Follow-up of the implementation of the UNFCCC in Cameroon | The absence of a national body responsible for follow up and coordination at the national level of the implementation of conventions and the instability of officials of stations in charge of the follow-up of an activity contributing directly or indirectly to the implementation of the convention does not allow the tracing of results of these structures. | - Creation of a Cameroon National Climate Change Observatory (CNCCO) which will be charged with making an inventory of regulatory and legislative instruments which deal with climate change, coordinating and following up activities which are deployed in all sectors and which have a positive or negative impact on the climate or in the implementation of conventions which affect climate change or the UNFCCC. It would also deal with ensuring the fulfilment of Cameroon’s commitment with respect to the convention.  
- follow up implementation and internalise resolutions of major international forums which deal with the climate and have a positive impact on climate change, propose to the Minister Environment, draft national regulatory and legislative texts for the effective implementation of these resolutions  
- Creation of provincial pilot centres of production and distribution of new and renewable energies attached to the CNCCO |
# ANNEX 2: List of person consulted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name and Surname</th>
<th>Function/institution</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AMOUGOU Joseph</td>
<td>Focal Point CCNUCC /MINEP</td>
<td>990 32 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>WASSOUNI</td>
<td>Focal Point CNULCD /MINEP</td>
<td>975 14 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MAFOR TANGALA Alphonse</td>
<td>CCPP/MINFOF ; PSFE</td>
<td>762 52 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dr ASSOUMOU EBO Etienne</td>
<td>SDCPB / MINEP</td>
<td>736 89 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>NANTCHOU Justin</td>
<td>NCSA Project / MINEP</td>
<td>991 94 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>NGALA Israel</td>
<td>SDPRN / MINEP</td>
<td>992 60 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>FAH Jacques</td>
<td>CSDD / MINEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>NGUESSEU André</td>
<td>MINEE</td>
<td>976 63 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>MBARGA Narcisse</td>
<td>ANAFORE</td>
<td>990 91 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>EBANGA NDANG Didier</td>
<td>ANAFORE</td>
<td>776 68 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>ONDOUA Serge</td>
<td>MINEP</td>
<td>999 40 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Consultants in thematic evaluations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name and Surname</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>NGANDJUI Germain</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>470 92 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dr. TCHATAT Gabriel</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>797 75 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>AVANA T. Marie Louise</td>
<td>Desertification control</td>
<td>765 32 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NGOs + Resource Persons**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name and Surname</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dr BETTI Jean Lagarde</td>
<td>MINOF</td>
<td>730 32 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>TABE TANDJONG</td>
<td>WWF (Policy Officer)</td>
<td>750 00 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Martin ZEH Nlo</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>FONDJO Thomas</td>
<td>IUCN</td>
<td>762 35 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>TANDJEU Jean Baptiste</td>
<td>Director Enviro-Protect</td>
<td>987 13 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>DEMGNE Marlyse</td>
<td>Enviro-Protect</td>
<td>948 83 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>NDAM Nouhou</td>
<td>Living Earth Foundation</td>
<td>514 17 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>DKAMELA Guy Patrice</td>
<td>CARPE</td>
<td>747 58 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Jean Blanc TAKOU</td>
<td>NGO/ Millénaire</td>
<td>943 32 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N°</td>
<td>Name and Surname</td>
<td>Function/institution</td>
<td>Contacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pr. KAMGANG KABEYENE</td>
<td>ENS/Université de Yaoundé I</td>
<td>704 50 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>FOAHOM Bernard</td>
<td>IRAD</td>
<td>751 99 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Zac TCHOUNDJEU</td>
<td>ICRAF</td>
<td>770 75 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>OWONA Jean Michel</td>
<td>National Herberium</td>
<td>974 38 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>NIA Paul</td>
<td>CRH / IRGM</td>
<td>759 47 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>