



# REGIONAL STABILIZATION FACILITY FOR LAKE CHAD BASIN

Cameroon National Window

May 2021

## FOREWORD



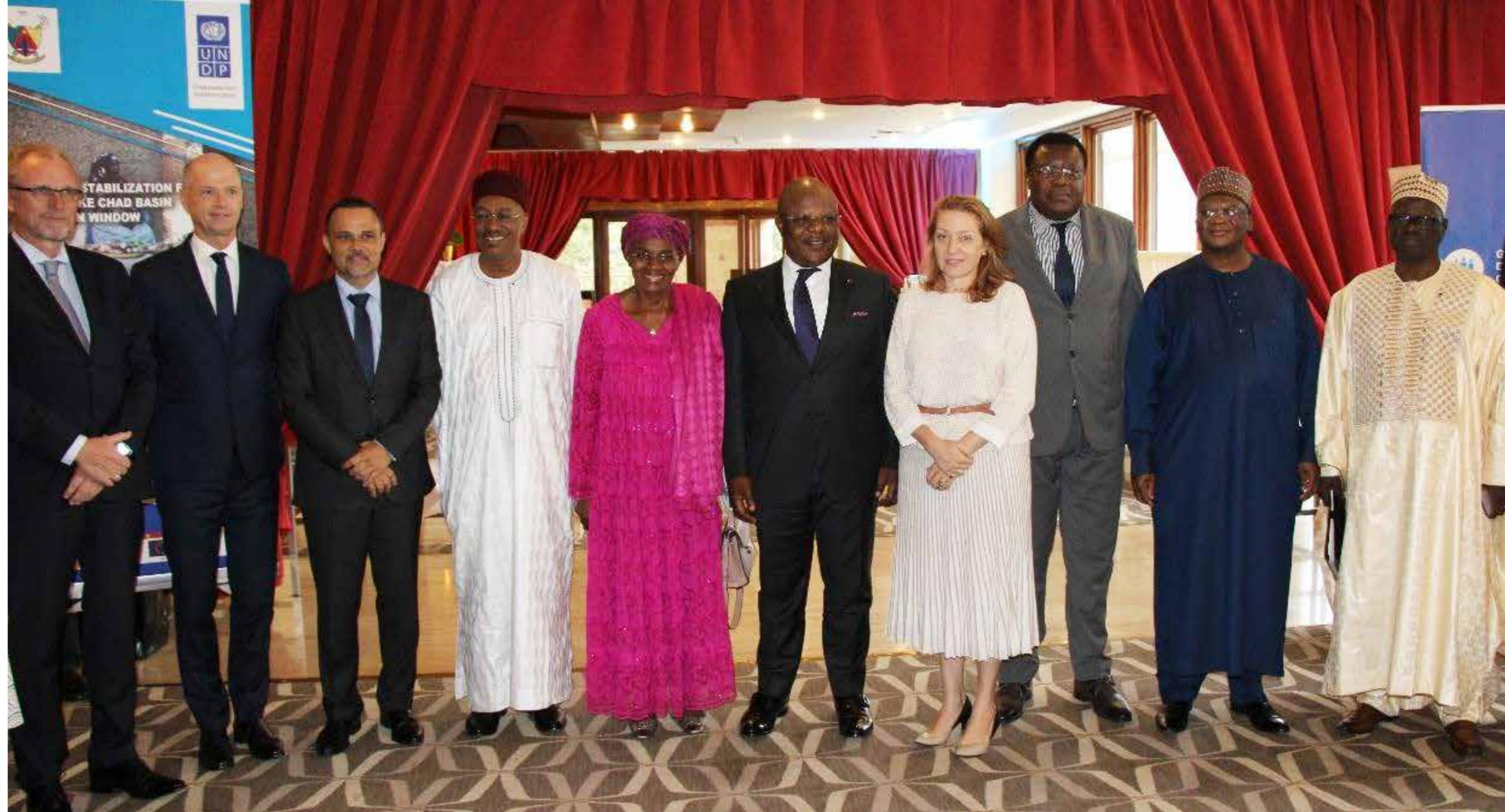
Over the past decade, about 10.7 million people have been affected by Boko Haram insurgency in the four countries around the Lake Chad basin: Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. This crisis has inflicted unprecedented suffering on the people, aggravated insecurity, slowed down economic activities and destroyed livelihoods. To address the crisis, UNDP has established the Regional Stabilization Facility that serves four countries and UNDP Cameroon, in partnership with the government and donors, is implementing the Cameroon Stabilization window.

The program aims at achieving three key objectives: (1) improve community safety and security; (2) restore essential infrastructure and basic services; and (3) provide livelihood opportunities for affected communities. To this end, UNDP has developed a comprehensive multi-sectoral approach coupled with a robust fast-track delivery mechanism and capacity, to deliver quick results on the ground, in areas liberated by multi-national military operations.

This brochure captures the results of the initial phase as proof of concept, which UNDP, in partnership with the government and donors, intend to scale-up in a comprehensive manner. Overall, Stabilization is an instrumental and strategic offer that provides the necessary conditions for a return to normalcy, rebuild the social contract and improve peoples' livelihood in a crisis-situation.

We express our gratitude and appreciations for the excellent partnership and support to the government of Cameroon, our donors (Germany, European Union, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, France and Sweden).

Jean Luc STALON  
*Resident Representative*





## OUTCOMES

*reach on April 2021*



**04**  
validated joint  
action plans



**156 654**  
populations of the  
intervention areas



**8 342**  
populations returned and  
temporary arrivals

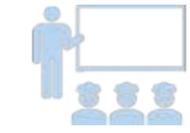
### Security and rule of law



**270**  
security forces deployed  
and strengthened



**800**  
human rights actors and  
security forces strengthened



**157**  
judicial police officers  
strengthened



**05**  
peace and stabilization  
committees established

### Infrastructures and basic services



**38**  
public infrastructures  
constructed



**31**  
kilometers of road  
rehabilitated



**20**  
kilowatts of electricity  
produced



**37**  
drinkable water  
supply points

### Livelihood opportunities



**1 885**  
farmers and breeders  
strengthened



**1 825**  
beneficiaries of economic  
opportunities



**1 300**  
beneficiaries of CFW  
activities



**20 000**  
trees planted

## THE IMPACT OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The protracted conflict with Boko Haram (BH/JAS) and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) creates a general context of endemic insecurity, ineffective and discriminatory justice and security institutions, and continued disregard for people's rights. In Cameroon's Far Northern Region Departments of Mayo Sava, Mayo Moskota and Logone-et-Chari, entire communities are suffering from the violent and unjust consequences of the breakdown in the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Similarly, the rise of transnational organized crime poses a serious challenge to national authorities. The weak State presence has been largely unable to address these structural, behavioral, and cultural issues: issues which can actually have a lasting, negative impact on peoples' trust in rule of law and state institutions.

The lack of protection of effective justice systems contribute to the destruction of livelihoods. The conflict has affected economic growth and the provision of basic services to the population. This has led to an increase of internal displaced persons and refugee flows, as people seek ways and means to improve livelihoods for themselves and their families.





## STABILIZATION APPROACH

The National Window is set-up as a multi-donor project, establishing a pooled funding mechanism to achieve the necessary scale and flexibility of response required for stabilization and to make way for a transition towards longer-term development in the Far Northern Region. The Cameroon National Window is designed to provide stabilization support in targeted localities of that region, focusing on two major objectives:

- Immediate stabilization of specific areas, cleared of BH/JAS and ISWAP control, but where communities remain vulnerable to continued attack; and
- Initiate community driven activities along the corridor in coordination with the security forces and local authorities to maintain the return process.



These objectives are realized in synergy with other United Nations agencies (UNICEF, IOM, OCHA and UNWomen) through the achievement of three major results:

- Result 1: Community safety and security improvement in target areas
- Result 2: Essential infrastructures & basic services in place and functioning in the target localities; and
- Result 3: Livelihood opportunities available in the intervention areas

## RESULT 1: IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNITY SECURITY

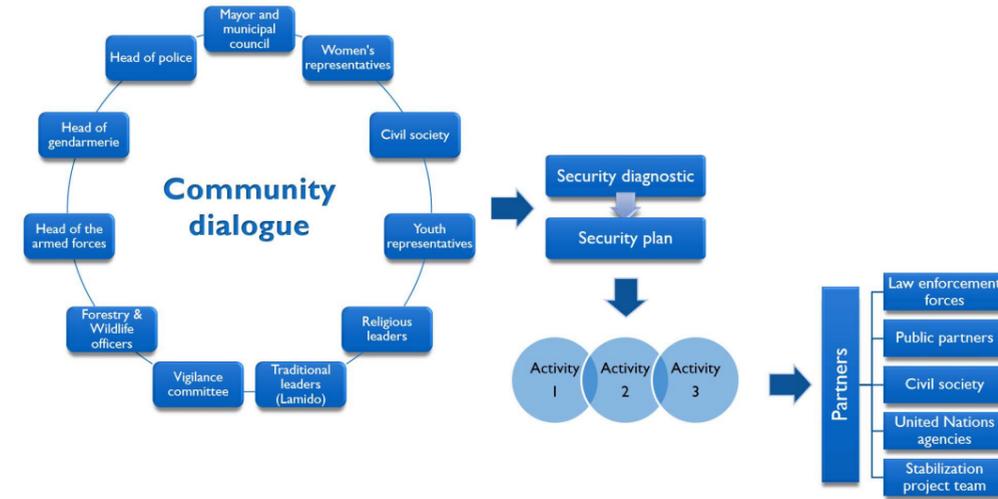
Establishing public confidence in the security sector is a prerequisite for the Cameroon Window. The Civil-Military Coordination intends to achieve an integrated approach between relevant actors to establish a transition from military to civilian control in the selected target areas. Through the provision of training, technical advice and logistical support, the National Window also supports the deployment of the civilian law enforcement umbrella and builds the capacity of communities to provide an early warning system against infiltration and attack by armed groups.

As the success of police deployment depends on parallel advances in the overall judicial system, the Cameroon Window supports the prosecutor's office and judicial police, to enable a more fair and equitable justice system. Once a basic level of security is achieved, other interventions can follow which aim to contribute to rebuilding the social contract, between the Cameroonian authorities and the communities, by regaining mutual trust.



## LOCAL SECURITY GOVERNANCE

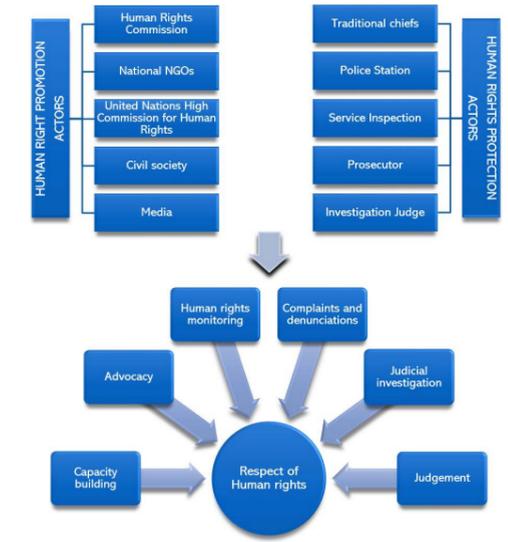
The Cameroon Window employs a community-driven approach, ensuring that marginalized persons, women and youth are actively involved in the planning, monitoring and execution of security services (inspired by community policing best practices). During community dialogues with security forces and local authorities, members participate in security diagnostics, elaborate action plans, define objectives and provide quantifiable indicators for future measurement of progress.



## HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights violations by security agents impede the overall effort to both rebuild the social contract and to isolate and defeat insurgency. Stabilization efforts are made to ensure that all security providers – military, police, Gendarmerie, customs and vigilante groups, operate to the highest possible standards of behavior in respect to the local population.

The National Window is working with human rights organizations to conduct field monitoring among target populations and providing human rights training to security forces (including judicial training for the judicial police officers). The National Window is also building capacities and establishing partnership with inspection units and the prosecutor's offices, to investigate human rights violations.





## RESULT 2: PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURES AND BASIC SERVICES

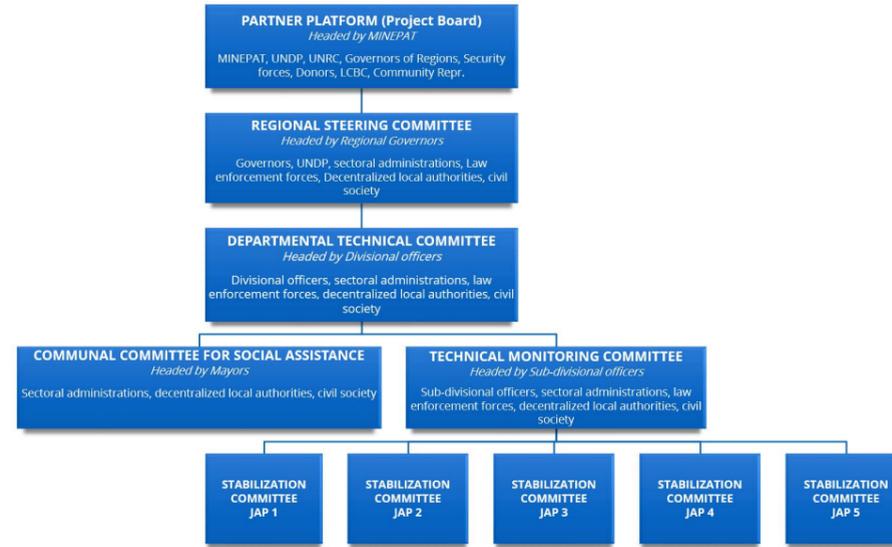
The armed conflict with BH/JAS and ISWAP has destroyed basic infrastructure in a region already suffering from high levels of poverty prior to that conflict. The vulnerability of its population has increased. Some villages and towns have become deserted due to attacks, further reducing the presence of the State and the delivery of basic services for those communities which remain.

Priority is given to re-establishing the presence and authority of the State through the provision of essential infrastructures and basic services. This is a challenge that requires Government efforts in security of construction sites, construction monitoring and deployment of state actors. It also requires sustained community engagement and full accountability and transparency of private companies working, for example in construction.



## NATIONAL OWNERSHIP

The founding principle of the Regional Stabilization Facility is the importance of ownership and partnership. The National Window is conceived around the principle of national ownership, from its design and funding through to its implementation.



## SOCIAL CONTRACT

Stabilization is essentially implemented by the different entities of the State. The various activities foster the relationship between the local Administration and the targeted beneficiaries, strengthening a community's trust in local institutions to address the basic needs of their citizens. The construction of public infrastructure has also enabled the return of several State structures as a provider of social services.

- Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT)*
- Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT)*
- Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development (MINDDEVEL)*
- Ministry of Justice (MINJUSTICE)*
- Ministry of Defense (MINDEF)*
- General Delegation for National Security (DGSN)*
- Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MINFOF)*
- Ministry of Water and Energy (MINEE)*
- Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEPDED)*
- Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Family (MINPROFF)*
- Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA)*
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER)*
- Ministry of Public Health (MINSANTE)*
- Cameroon National Youth Council (CNJC)*
- Governor, Prefets and Sous-Prefets*
- Municipalities*
- National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (CNDHL)*
- Police Inspections*
- National Office of Civil Registration of Cameroon (BUNEC)*



### RESULT 3: AVAILABILITY OF LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES

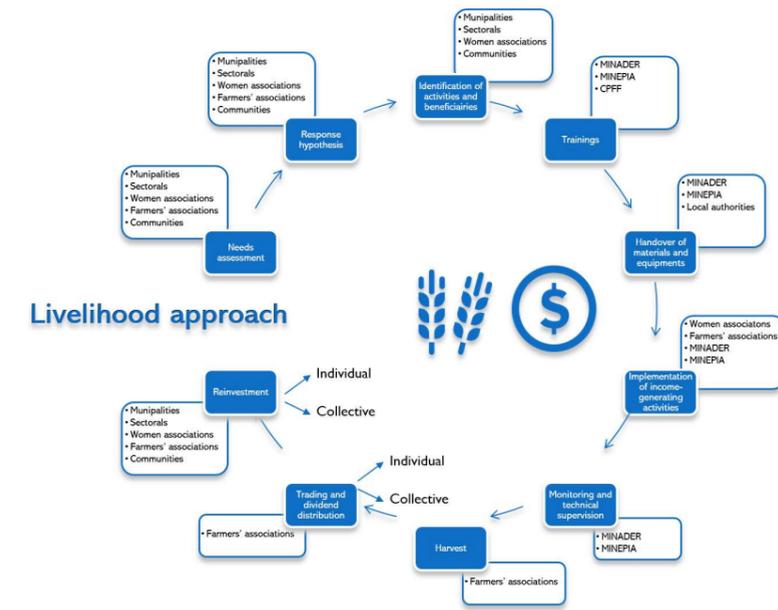
To consolidate peace, people need to be able produce and generate income to sustain themselves in their areas: making the areas viable for economic activity builds on the peace attained through security and encourages returnees and a broadening of economic activity and investment. The National Window aims to support households in the target area to develop livelihood opportunities, to address acute poverty, to combat radicalization and recruitment of extremist groups and to kick-start recovery of the local economy.



## LIVELIHOOD VALUE CHAIN

The Livelihood strategy is essentially based on a participatory diagnosis of household needs and economic opportunity studies in each intervention area. It is implemented through two main activities. The Cash for Work (CFW), which provides temporary employment to young people who have been selected through an inclusive consultative process and which enables them to carry out their projects with the guidance of the sectoral and the Cameroon National Youth Council (CNJC).

The other activity concerns training, the provision of production materials to various members of the farming, stockbreeder and fishermen's groups. With the support of the sectoral administrations and the municipality, this also includes technical supervision of their activities from production to reinvestment.





## SIGN OF PROGRESS

The Cameroon Window for immediate stabilization is designed to support communities affected by violent extremism. While the project is in its early stages, signs of progress are already noticeable. Thanks to a combination of activities related to employment, the strengthening of security, the involvement of state authorities and cross-border trade, life is gradually returning to our first intervention areas. Abandoned areas see the return of IDPs but also of other people who come temporarily to seek a secure viable place to live close to their former homes and places of livelihood.

As the first results will be evaluated at the end of 2021, the challenges are still numerous. The Facility will continue to ensure those who were forced to flee are able to return and stay in the area, making them productive citizens once again. Through national ownership, such as the inclusion of some stabilization activities in communal budgets, the facility should support state actors to provide services to populations in dire need. It is a long process that requires the involvement of all, in order to restore trust and rebuild the social contract.



DYNAMIC MAPPING : [WWW.RSF-CM.TK](http://WWW.RSF-CM.TK)



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