

# ***Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)***

**Country: Cameroon**

**Revision date: September 2012**



**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)**

**United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD)**

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#### RPP summary

R-PP preparation dates	June 2011 – July 2012
Projected duration of R-PP implementation	January 2013 – December 2015
Total estimated budget:	USD 28.911 million for the construction of the strategy USD 60 million for the pilot projects
Anticipated sources of funding:	FCPF: USD 3.6 million Contribution from the National Government: USD 1.135 million PSFE: USD 0.32 million IUCN: USD 0.225 million Sub-regional REDD programme: USD 0.350 million MRV / FAO – CBFF Project: USD 0.500 million
Planned government signatory of the R-PP grant request	Dr. WASSOUNI National REDD+ Coordinator MINEPEDD
Principal results expected from the R-PP implementation process:	Result 1) The national and local institutions are set up and operational. Result 2) The tools for managing the REDD+ mechanism are in place (reference scenario, MRV, environmental and social safeguards) and their implementation is defined. Result 3) The components of the strategy have been identified (strategy options, benefit-sharing mechanism, fund management, legislation, etc.). Result 4) The national REDD+ strategy is adopted.

## Executive summary

Cameroon is a forested country. However, these forests are suffering severe degradation and in certain locations are tending to disappear. The direct causes of this degradation and disappearance are the expansion of non-sustainable farming practices, the use of fuel wood as source of energy, logging operations and the development of activities linked with mining operations. To these direct causes, we can add the indirect causes of deforestation such as demographic pressure, economic pressure and the weakness of certain governance-related aspect.

Aware of these problems and of the potential negative impacts of deforestation and forest degradation, Cameroon has been engaged in the REDD+ process since its emergence at the international level. A number of steps have been taken up until now. The first step was the validation of the country's R-PIN in 2008 and the implementation of the REDD pilot project. Since then, REDD+ initiatives and projects have emerged in Cameroon. To these initiatives and projects we can add the development of activities aimed at sharing information, raising awareness and training all the stakeholders in the process. Drafting of the R-PP began in June 2011.

This R-PP is therefore the result of editorial work that began in June 2011. It is the fruit of a number of consultations carried out at all levels (national, regional and local) and in all the agro-ecological zones. The consultations allowed the participation, to various degrees, of all categories of stakeholders, namely civil society, the central and decentralized administrations, the decentralized territorial communities, the media, the research and higher education institutions, the private sector, elected representatives, etc. More than 3,000 people were informed and consulted during these different workshops organized by civil society, by the technical partners for development and by the government. During these workshops, the participation of civil society was very strong (estimated at over 60%). The participation of women is estimated at 25%, that of Indigenous Peoples at 7% and that of the private sector at 1%. Admittedly, this representation is inadequate, but it is being corrected. Various activities during the preparation phase will make it possible to improve the representation of the different categories of stakeholders: they are scheduled in the communication plan and in the consultation plan. The results achieved during these consultations are included in this document. They constitute the initial orientations slated for further development during the preparation phase.

**For Cameroon, REDD+ is a development tool** that must help the country achieve the sustainable development objective that the government set for itself in the Document de Stratégie pour la Croissance et l'Emploi [Growth and Employment Strategy Paper](DSCE) and Cameroon Vision 2035.

Cameroon's REDD mechanisms will adopt a multi-sector in integrated and partnership approach emphasizing all the sectors of development and based on a participatory and inclusive process that encourages the involvement of all the stakeholders during construction and implementation of the REDD+ strategy. In fact, for Cameroon, the Government will take the place of facilitator so that the implementation takes place through and to the benefit of all the stakeholders, including primarily the most vulnerable groups – the local communities and the indigenous peoples, women, etc.

The REDD+ process will be managed by an established decision-making body (the Steering Committee). This committee includes several categories of stakeholders, namely government services, civil society, indigenous peoples, the private sector and elected representatives. An operational body has been identified: this is the Technical Secretariat. This Technical Secretariat will be decentralized (the regional coordination structures) and deconcentrated (the departmental technical committees).

To put in place a participatory and inclusive process, Cameroon proposes to establish a strong consultation and participation plan. This plan will be supported by a communication plan identifying the objectives, the targets and the actions to be carried out for each category of stakeholder. The scheduled consultations will be coupled with the dissemination of information. They are scheduled during the entire preparation phase. These consultations are theme-based and will touch on all the elements making up the future strategy. They will thus concern, among other things, the identification of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation and the identification of the

actions necessary to effectively reduce them, the identification of the potential pilot projects that will give concrete expression to the REDD+ mechanism, the governance issues (all sectors included), the benefit-sharing mechanisms, the construction of the reference scenario, of the MRV, etc.

A preliminary analysis of the direct and indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation led to the identification of the strategy options making it possible to reduce them. The national strategy will thus seek to provide responses to these causes of deforestation, which differ depending on the agro-ecological zones considered. Studies will be conducted to better define the categories of causes of deforestation and degradation in the agro-ecological zones.

The additional studies to be conducted and the reflection to be done to construct the REDD+ strategy will involve the active participation of the stakeholders. These stakeholders, will be called on throughout the process depending on their relevance. Added to this will be the establishment of REDD+ pilot projects that aim to reduce GHG emissions, the development of concrete activities and experience capitalization that will offer food for thought concerning the construction of the strategy. The establishment of these projects responds to Cameroon's choice to adopt an infranational approach.

Tools such as the Evaluation Environnementale et Sociale Stratégique [Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment] (EESS) and the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRV) will be used. The EESS, along with the CGES that will result from it, is an approach that allows Cameroon to reduce the potential negative impacts of the process and enhance the positive impacts. The EESS will reflect the national context and will respect the international guidelines in force.

The construction of Cameroon's national strategy requires 28.911 million dollars, and the establishment of pilot projects in all the agro-ecological zones requires 60 million dollars. In addition to the 3.4 million requested from the FCPF, Cameroon will have to find other sources of funding. The common fund of the PSFE and the IUCN (through the initiatives funded by DANIDA, the Fonds Forestiers du Bassin du Congo, OIBT, ACDI, etc.) have already declared their support for the implementation of the R-PP. The same is true for the Government, even if the amount dedicated to the process is not yet known. There are also funding opportunities in the COMIFAC Regional REDD Project, which has just been launched.

## Acronyms

<b>AAC :</b>	Assiette Annuelle de Coupe [Annual Felling Area]
<b>ABN :</b>	Africa Biodiversity Network ( <i>Réseau pour la Biodiversité en Afrique</i> )
<b>CIDA :</b>	Canadian International Development Agency
<b>ACP-FLEGT:</b>	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
<b>AEB :</b>	Autorisation d'enlèvement de bois [Timber removal pass]
<b>ANAFOR :</b>	Agence Nationale D'appui Au Développement Forestier [National Support Agency for Forestry Development]
<b>VPA/FLEGT :</b>	Voluntary Partnership Agreement/Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
<b>ARB :</b>	Autorisation de Récupération des Bois [Timber Salvage Permit]
<b>ASB-CIFOR:</b>	Alternative Slash and Burn – World Agroforestry Center
<b>ADB:</b>	<b>African Development Bank</b>
<b>CAPAM :</b>	Cadre d'appui et de promotion de l'artisanat minier [Support and promotion framework for small-scale mining]
<b>CARPE :</b>	Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (USAID)
<b>CBLT :</b>	Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad [Lake Chad Basin Commission]
<b>CBFF :</b>	Congo Basin Forest Fund
<b>CC :</b>	Climate Change
<b>CCBA :</b>	<i>Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance</i>
<b>UNFCCC:</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>CCPM :</b>	Cercle de Concertation des Partenaires du MINFOF/MINEPDED) [Dialogue Circle of the Partners of the MINFOF/MINEPDED]
<b>CED :</b>	Centre pour l'Environnement et le Développement [Center for Environment and Development]
<b>CETELCAF :</b>	Centre de Télédétection et de Cartographie Forestière [Center for Remote Detection and Forest Cartography]
<b>CGES :</b>	Cadre de Gestion Environnementale et Sociale [Environmental and Social Management Framework]
<b>CICOS :</b>	Commission Internationale du Bassin Congo-Oubangui-Sanga [International Congo-Oubangui-Sanga Basin Commission]
<b>CI :</b>	Conservation International
<b>CIFOR :</b>	Centre International de Recherche sur les Forêts [International Center for Forest Research]
<b>FPIC:</b>	Free, prior, informed consent of indigenous peoples
<b>CNES :</b>	Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales [National Center for Space Studies]
<b>CO<sub>2</sub>:</b>	Carbon dioxide
<b>COMIFAC :</b>	Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale [Central Africa Forest Commission]
<b>DANIDA :</b>	Danish International Development Agency
<b>DFNP :</b>	Domaine Forestier Non Permanent [Non-Permanent Forest Estate]
<b>DFP :</b>	Domaine Forestier Permanent [Permanent Forest Estate]
<b>DSCE :</b>	Document de Stratégie pour la Croissance et l'Emploi [Growth and Employment Strategy Paper]
<b>EESS :</b>	Evaluation Environnementale et Sociale Stratégique [Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation]
<b>EFIR :</b>	Exploitation forestière à faible impact [Reduced impact logging]
<b>EIA:</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>EPA :</b>	Etablissement Public à Caractère Administratif [Administrative public body]
<b>ESMF:</b>	Environmental and Social Management Framework
<b>FAO :</b>	United Nations food and Agriculture Organization
<b>FCPF:</b>	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
<b>FEICOM :</b>	Fond Spécial d'Équipement et d'Intervention Intercommunale [Special Intercommunal Intervention and Equipment Fund]
<b>FLEGT :</b>	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

<b>FSC :</b>	Forest Stewardship Council
<b>GEO FCT :</b>	Group on Earth Observation Forest Carbon Tracking
<b>GHG:</b>	Greenhouse gas
<b>GIC :</b>	InterCommunal Group
<b>IPCC:</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>GIZ :</b>	Deutsche <i>Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i>
<b>IIASA :</b>	The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
<b>IITA:</b>	International Institute Tropical Agricultural
<b>IEC :</b>	Information, Education and Communication
<b>INADES :</b>	<b>Institut Africain pour le Développement Economique et Social</b> [African Institute for Economic and Social Development]
<b>INC :</b>	Institut National de Cartographie [National Institute of Cartography]
<b>INPE :</b>	Institut national brésilien de recherche spatiale [Brazilian national institute of space research]
<b>INS :</b>	Institut National de la Statistique [National Institute of Statistics]
<b>IRAD :</b>	Institut de Recherche Agricole pour le Développement [Agricultural Research Institute for Development]
<b>MAPAPPY :</b>	Méthodologie d'Approche Participative des Populations Pygmées [Participatory approach to the investigation of Pygmy people]
<b>MBOSCUDA:</b>	Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association
<b>MDP :</b>	Mécanisme pour un Développement Propre [Clean Development Mechanism]
<b>MINADER :</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
<b>MINATD :</b>	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization
<b>MINAS :</b>	Ministry of Social Affairs
<b>MINCOM :</b>	Ministry of Communication
<b>MINDCAF :</b>	Ministry of State-owned property, the Land Register and Land Affairs
<b>MINEE :</b>	Ministry of Water and Energy
<b>MINEPAT :</b>	Minister of Economy, Land Planning and Land Use
<b>MINEPIA :</b>	Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Livestock Industries
<b>MINEPDED:</b>	Ministry of the Environment, the Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development
<b>MINESUP :</b>	Ministry of Higher Education
<b>MINFI :</b>	Ministry of Finance
<b>MINFOF :</b>	Ministry of Forests and Wildlife
<b>MINIMIDT :</b>	Ministry of Industry, Mining and Technological Development
<b>MINJEUN :</b>	Ministry of Youth
<b>MINPROFF :</b>	Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Family
<b>MINRESI :</b>	Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation
<b>MRV:</b>	Measurement, Reporting and Verification System
<b>NBSAP:</b>	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
<b>RL:</b>	Reference Level
<b>ERL:</b>	Emissions Reference Level
<b>OFAC :</b>	Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa
<b>IO:</b>	Independent observer
<b>ITTO:</b>	International Tropical Timber Organization
<b>ONACC :</b>	Observatoire National sur les Changements Climatiques [National Observatory on Climate Change]
<b>ONADEF :</b>	Office National de Développement des Forêts [National Office of Forest Development]
<b>NGO:</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>UN-REDD:</b>	UN-REDD programme
<b>SCO:</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>IP:</b>	Indigenous Peoples
<b>PAN-LCD :</b>	Plan d'Action National de Lutte Contre la Désertification [National Action Plan to Fight Desertification]
<b>PFBC :</b>	Partenariat pour les Forêts du Bassin du Congo [Partnership for the Forests of the Congo Basin]

<b>PFNL :</b>	Produit forestier non ligneux [Non-wood forest products]
<b>GDP:</b>	Produit Intérieur Brut [Gross Domestic Product]
<b>PNACC :</b>	Programme National d'Adaptation aux changements climatiques [National Program for Adaptation to Climate Change]
<b>PNGE :</b>	Plan National de Gestion de l'Environnement [National Environmental Management Plan]
<b>PSE :</b>	Paiements pour services environnementaux [Payments for environmental services]
<b>PSFE :</b>	Programme Sectoriel Forêt-Environnement [Forest-Environment Sector Program]
<b>RACOPIY :</b>	Réseau Recherches Actions Concertées Pygmées [Research Network for concerted actions for Pygmy People]
<b>RAFM :</b>	Réseau Africain des Forêts Modèles [African Model Forest Network]
<b>RCA:</b>	Central African Republic
<b>RFA :</b>	Redevance Forestière Annuelle [Annual Forestry Royalty]
<b>RFC :</b>	Réseau des Forêts Communautaires [Community Forests Network]
<b>REDD :</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation
<b>REDD+ :</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation including Forest Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks
<b>REFACOF :</b>	Réseau des Femmes Africaines pour la Gestion Communautaire des Forêts [African Women's Network for the Community Management of Forests]
<b>REFADD :</b>	Réseau des Femmes Africaines pour le Développement Durable [African Women's Network for Sustainable Development]
<b>RIFFEAC :</b>	Réseau des Institutions de Formation Forestière et Environnement d'Afrique Centrale [Network of Forestry and Environmental Training of Central Africa]
<b>RL/REL :</b>	Reference Level/ Reference Emission Level
<b>R-PIN :</b>	Readiness Plan Idea Note
<b>R-PP:</b>	Readiness Preparation Proposal
<b>SDAU :</b>	Schémas Directeurs d'Aménagement et d'Urbanisme [Land Use Plan]
<b>SESA:</b>	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
<b>EIS:</b>	Environmental Information System
<b>SIGIF :</b>	Systèmes Informatique de Gestion d'Informations Forestières [Computerized Forest Information Management System]
<b>SPOT :</b>	Satellite d'observation de la Terre [Earth Observation Satellite]
<b>ToR:</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>TNS :</b>	Tri-National de la Sangha [Sangha Trinational]
<b>TRI-DOM :</b>	Tri-National Dja-Odzala-Minkebe [Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Trinational]
<b>UFA :</b>	Unité Forestière d'Aménagement [Forest Development Unit]
<b>IUCN :</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>WCS:</b>	Wildlife Conservation Society
<b>WEDO :</b>	Women's Environment & Development Organization
<b>WHRC :</b>	Wood Hole Research Center
<b>WWF :</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature
<b>ZOA-REDD+ :</b>	REDD+ zone of optimal action
<b>ZOMO-REDD+ :</b>	REDD+ zones of implementation

## Component 1: Organization and consultation

### 1a. National readiness management arrangements

**Standard 1a be complied with in the text of the R-PP to satisfy the provisions of this component :**

**National readiness management arrangements**

Considering the cross-cutting nature of the design and operation of the national readiness management arrangements for REDD+, it is necessary to involve the stakeholders concerned, the competent public agencies, excluding the forestry services, as well as other sectors in REDD+ readiness planning and implementation. Capacity-building activities must be included in the work plan of each component if the development of the R-PP results, to a large extent, from the involvement of outside technical experts.

For effective management of the REDD+ process, Cameroon must set up an appropriate and operational institutional framework. Most of the institutions that will be in charge of the REDD+ process will be created for this purpose. Other existing institutions will be strengthened in order to better contribute to the process. The Government of Cameroon has delegated the coordination of REDD+ to the MINEPDED. The MINEPDED is working in close cooperation with the Prime Minister's office, the National Assembly and the other sectoral ministries in order to integrate the process in the country's development strategy.

The institutional management structure of the REDD+ process in Cameroon consists of a decision-making body at the national level (the steering committee) and an operational body (the Technical Secretariat). The Technical Secretariat handles the implementation of the REDD+ process through its branches at the regional and departmental level.

#### ***1. Creation of the REDD+ process and of the institutions in charge of the process***

##### **a. Creation of the process**

Cameroon has been highly involved in the development of the REDD+ process since its emergence at the international level in 2005 and particularly at the sub-regional level (COMIFAC). The development of a national REDD+ process for the country is thus merely the logical continuation of the efforts made to date.

To do this, Cameroon demonstrated its interest through the following main steps:

- the launch of the REDD Pilot Project in February 2008,
- the presentation and validation of the R-PIN to the FCPF in July 2008,
- the informational and awareness raising workshops and consultation of the stakeholders since 2010,
- the launch of the drafting of the R-PP in June 2011,
- the creation of the Civil Society National REDD & CC Platform in July 2011,
- the official creation of the Steering Committee for the REDD+ process in June 2012,
- the national R-PP validation workshop in July 2012,
- the submission of this document to the FCPF in August 2012.

Since the validation of the R-PIN, several REDD+ projects and initiatives have been developed and implemented by SCOs and the technical partners of the MINEPDED. An inventory drawn up by the IUCN in 2011 lists 31, all distributed in the different agro-ecological zones of the country. The first was the "REDD pilot project" whose results are significant not only in terms of carbon accounting, but also in terms of institutional management and

consideration of the social and governance aspects related to REDD+. In fact, the creation of the REDD+ Steering Committee was prompted by this project. Joint-action structures concerning REDD+ exist at the national level (Interministerial Committee), at the donor and NGO level, particularly the CCPM (Cercle de Concertation des Partenaires du MINFOF/MINEPDED) which contains a REDD+ sub-group, and Civil Society’s National REDD and Climate Change (REDD & CC) Platform.

Cameroon’s REDD+ process has, admittedly, experienced some “delay,” however that has made it possible to carry out awareness raising, training, information and consultation campaigns and to capitalize on the results of the REDD+ projects and initiatives implemented by the SCOs and the technical partners of the MINEPDED.

**b. Institution in charge of drafting the R-PP in Cameroon**

Within the Government, the MINEPDED provides the leadership for the process as Political and Operational Focal Point of the UNFCCC, in collaboration with the MINFOF. A national coordination has been set up to manage the REDD+ process, and this entity is made up of members from both the MINEPDED and the MINFOF. The draft of the R-PP was developed with the technical and financial support of the Government, the WB through the FCPF funds, the IUCN, the GIZ and Civil Society. Thus, with the objective of the early mobilization of the different sectors in Cameroon’s REDD+ process, several sectoral ministries began the thought processes for drafting the R-PP well before the order making the establishment and the implementation of the REDD+ process Steering Committee official was signed.

**1. The institutions in charge of implementation of the R-PP**

The MINEP is the structure officially designated by the Government of Cameroon to implement the UNFCCC and therefore for the REDD+ process. The national institutions described below will be responsible for the construction of the future REDD+ strategy, with the support of the local institutions.

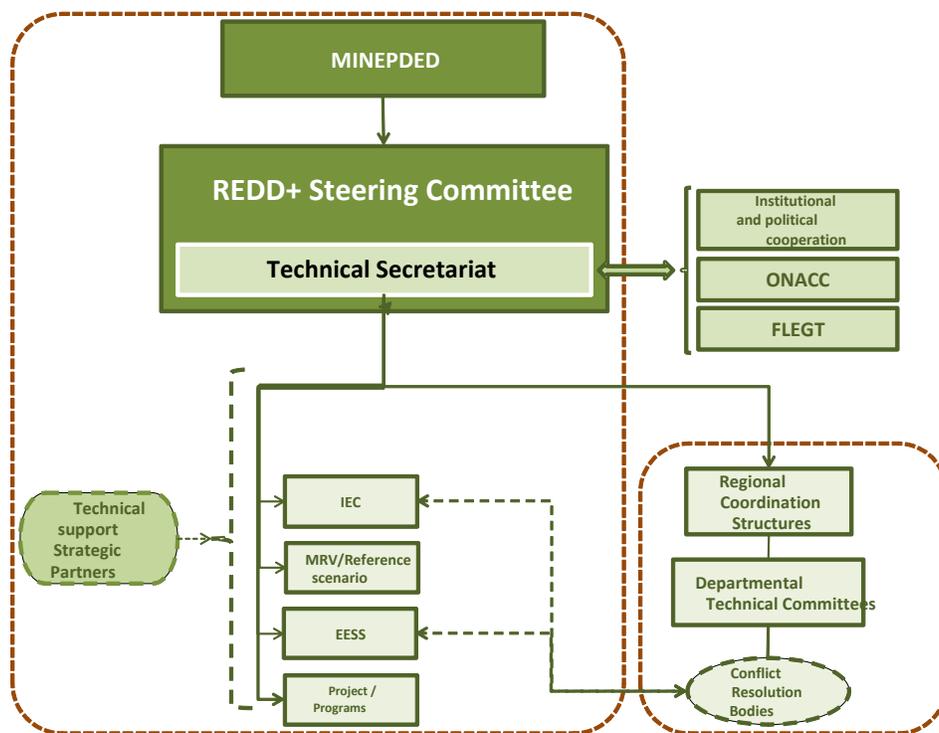


Figure 1 : Organizational chart of the REDD+ process management institutions

#### **a. Steering Committee**

The REDD Steering Committee is the decision-making body for the REDD+ process. This Steering Committee was established by order No. 103/CAB/PM of June 13, 2012 concerning the creation, organization and operation of the steering committee for the activities for reducing emissions from deforestation and land degradation, including conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks “REDD+” signed by the Prime Minister. This order is the result of a collaborative effort between the MINEPDED, the other ministries, the development partners and Civil Society as part of a participatory exercise.

According to this order, the REDD+ steering committee is responsible for:

- making policy and strategy proposals concerning REDD+ initiatives;
- issuing reasoned opinions concerning the strategies for implementing the REDD+ mechanism;
- developing project selection criteria for submission to the Minister of the Environment for validation;
- evaluating and submitting for the approval of the Minister of the Environment the project ideas proposed by the promoters;
- promoting the REDD+ activities;
- validating the work and approving the action plan of the Technical Secretariat.

The REDD+ Steering Committee consists of 21 members from the government, including the MINEPDED, MINFOF, MINEPAT, MINADER, MINFI, MINEPIA, MINEE, MINRESI and MINAS, Civil Society (through the Civil Society REDD & CC Platform), the Indigenous Peoples, the Private Sector and Elected Representatives (see article 3 of the order concerning the makeup of the steering committee in annex 1a-1). This Committee is multisectoral. The Chairman of the Committee may, if necessary, invite any “person,” including the national and international technical and financial partners of the MINEP, because of his expertise or his experience concerning the questions to be examined (article 2, paragraph 3). The organization and operating method of this committee is detailed in annex 1a of this document.

Requests were sent by the MINEPDED to the different ministries involved in the process, to civil society, to the private sector, to the organizations of indigenous peoples and to the association of local elected representatives to set up the Steering Committee and get it up and running as quickly as possible. Each entity is in effect responsible for appointing its representative to the Steering Committee. The procedures for appointing the members of this committee are underway. For certain ministries, the members of the future Technical Committee have already been identified, and the decisions appointing the representatives of these ministries have already been sent to the MINEPDED. It should be noted that these different individuals are already involved in the different thought processes underway for the drafting of the R-PP.

The Steering Committee has a Technical Secretariat.

According to order No. 103/CAB/PM of June 13, 2012 creating the REDD+ Steering Committee, the Technical Secretariat is composed of the UNFCCC Focal Point, the National Coordinator and a representative of the Minister of Forests. It is currently placed under the coordination of the Director of Monitoring of the Conservation and Promotion of Natural Resources of the MINEPDED (art. 7).

The Technical Secretariat’s mission is to:

- prepare the committee meetings;
- send notices of meetings to the members;
- prepare the meeting documents;
- draft the meeting reports;
- store the archives and the documentation;
- monitor the REDD+ activities carried out in the country;

- analyze the REDD+ projects and initiatives on behalf of the committee;
- monitor and evaluate the implementation of the REDD+ projects and initiatives;
- implement the committee's directives;
- prepare the semi-annual and annual activity reports;
- carry out any other mission entrusted to it by the committee.

(art. 6)

If a higher level of process coordination is required during the process implementation phase, the content of the order may be amended. The same is true for the organization of the different entities whose **setup**, role and operation may evolve.

#### **b. Technical Secretariat**

The Technical Secretariat coordinates the activities of the REDD+ process. It is placed under the coordination of the Director of Monitoring of the Conservation and Promotion of Natural Resources of the MINEPDED

The Technical Secretariat is the operational body of the REDD+ in Cameroon. Its composition will be the same as when the R-PP is drafted. The mandate of the Technical Secretariat is to construct Cameroon's REDD+ strategy and represent the process management structure to the sectoral ministries and all the stakeholders (institutional cooperation function). To construct the REDD+ strategy, the Technical Secretariat has units that will be responsible for developing the technical tools necessary to implement the strategy.

##### ✓ **Composition of the Technical Secretariat**

The Technical Secretariat includes the following individuals: The UNFCCC Focal Point, the National REDD Coordinator and a representative of the MINFOF.

In order to develop the technical tools necessary to implement the REDD+, the Technical Secretariat will be made up of four (4) units:

- The IEC (information, Education and Communication) unit) responsible for the aspects relating to communication but also to support the Technical Secretariat in preparing the documents connected with strategic interministerial and institutional relations;
- The EESS (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment) unit responsible for setting up the EESS tool and for constructing the CGES (Environmental and Social Framework) for the REDD+ ;
- The reference scenario and MRV unit responsible for constructing the national reference scenario, the MRV system and for managing the register that will be the carbon stocks management tool. It will work in collaboration with the ONACC;
- The unit responsible for setting up the REDD+ projects and programs as well as for supervising their implementation and exploiting the results of these projects / programs in order to provide food for thought for the construction of the strategy.

The composition of the teams of the 4 units will be as follows:

- For the IEC unit, 2 people will be responsible for the activities to be undertaken. These people will be experts in communication / education and social marketing (or similar disciplines);
- The MRV unit will be composed of 3 experts: an expert in SIG / cartography, an expert in Carbon accounting and an expert in social sciences (or similar disciplines);
- The EESS unit will be composed of 3 experts, one will be an environmentalist, one will be an expert in social sciences and a last expert in environmental impact assessments (or similar disciplines);
- The Project / Program unit will be composed of 2 experts including one in project and/or program setup / management and one in monitoring and evaluation.

To carry out the missions assigned to him successfully, the National Coordinator will also be supported by a pool of interdisciplinary experts, in addition to those of the units, whose competencies cover the institutional and legal issues, planning, development and socio-economic and/or participatory development. The Technical Secretariat will also be assisted by support personnel in charge of administrative and financial management.

A technical monitoring committee will be set up in the “EESS unit.” This committee will be responsible for the implementation of the EESS. This committee will be multidisciplinary but also composed of representatives of the stakeholders (so multipartite, incorporating the diverse sensibilities such as indigenous peoples and women). It will be mobilized during the strategy construction process.

The experts of the Technical Secretariat will initially be external to the ministry, since this ministry does not possess the necessary human resources to construct the strategy. The ToR of these experts will be strengthened (see the outlines in annexes 1a – 2) and the experts will be identified before the start of the process. **These experts will be recruited through requests for proposals open to all people possessing the required experience.** In the future, the objective would be for the Technical Secretariat to be composed of civil servants who will have acquired the knowledge through transfers of skills, among other ways, from the experts responsible for constructing the REDD+ strategy, from the international experts who will be mobilized for clearly determined sets of topics, or from training that will be dispensed to them. These civil servants will then be assigned full-time to the REDD+ mechanism.

✓ **Institutions that cooperate closely with the Technical Secretariat**

The role of the Technical Secretariat will be both technical and strategic. For the technical aspects, it will be responsible for the construction of the strategy. It will therefore work together with the ONACC, which will be responsible for checking the carbon accounting results, in accordance with its missions, and with the FLEGT unit in the MINFOF. For the strategic aspects, the Technical Secretariat will be the body in charge of promoting institutional and political cooperation, since REDD+ will be a multisectoral partnership process.

ONACC

The ONACC will be called on for the construction of the REDD+ strategy and the monitoring of the activities developed in the REDD+ mechanism due to its assigned role and its prerogatives concerning carbon monitoring in Cameroon. The ONACC will thus intervene at the level of the Technical Secretariat for certain technical aspects relating to the REDD+ mechanism including emissions accounting / GHG absorption. The ONACC will therefore be an operational instrument for the REDD+ process.

**Inset 1: the missions of the ONACC**

Established by decree No. 2009/410 of December 10, 2009 creating the ONACC (National Observatory on Climate change), the ONACC is an administrative public body (EPA). The ONACC is placed under the technical oversight of the Ministry of the Environment and under the financial oversight of the Ministry of Finance. Its mission is to monitor and evaluate the socio-economic and environmental impacts of the measures to prevent, mitigate and/or adapt to the harmful effects and risks tied to climate change. It is responsible, among other things, for initiating and promoting studies concerning the demonstration of the indicators, impacts and risks linked to climate change; for collecting, analyzing and making available to public and private decision makers, as well as to the different national and international agencies, the reference information concerning climate change in Cameroon; for serving as operational instrument in connection with the other activities to reduce greenhouse gasses, as well as the measures for mitigating and/or adapting to the harmful effects and risks tied to climate

change; for facilitating obtaining the compensation owed for the climate services provided by forests through the development, conservation and restoration of ecosystems.

#### Institutional and political cooperation

Since it is a multisectoral partnership process, REDD+ will require cooperation with the sectoral ministries and public services. The Technical Secretariat will thus be in charge of coordinating the meetings and exchanges/reflection concerning REDD+ conducted with the different ministries (MINEPDED, MINFOF, MINDCAF, MINADER, MINEPIA, MINIMDT, MINEPAT, MINAS, MINPROFF, MINEE, MINFI, MINRESI, etc.) and the public services (such as ANAFOR, INC, INS, IRAD, etc.) that will be involved in the REDD+ process. These exchanges will take place in thematic reflection Groups. Beyond these attributions, in the future, the sectoral administrations will be mobilized for the implementation of Cameroon's future REDD+ strategy.

#### FLEGT unit in the MINFOF

The Technical Secretariat will work closely with the FLEGT unit in the MINFOF to develop coherence and synergy between the REDD+ activities with the FLEGT process and the activities associated with it. FLEGT constitutes one of the bases of forest governance on which REDD+ will rely.

#### ✓ **Technical support and strategic partnerships to be mobilized**

##### Technical support

All the units of the Technical Secretariat will benefit from outside expertise since the MINEPDED does not currently have sufficient human resources to construct the strategy. This expert assistance will be need-based (refer to the establishment of the units of the Technical Secretariat). However, the MINEPDED will have to assign part of its staff to the REDD+ process in order to make it a Government-run process. A technical assistant could be assigned permanently to the National Coordinator to support the advancement of the process.

The technical support may be occasional (need for experts to carry out specific studies) or spread out over time (support for performing the tasks incumbent on the units of the Technical Secretariat). This support may be provided individually (support of a national or international consultant to assist and support the REDD+ process or to respond to a specific set of problems) or in a group format (group training dispensed by a specialized trainer).

##### Strategic partnerships

The Technical Secretariat will set up several technical partnerships depending on needs to construct the national strategy. They will include:

- Technical partners of the MINEPDED and the MINFOF, but also of other sectoral ministries engaged in the process;
- NGOs;
- The private sector;
- Research institutions and colleges and universities.

#### **c. Decentralized and deconcentrated structures**

Decentralized and deconcentrated structures will be associated with the construction of the strategy and for its implementation and deployment. These structures will be the guarantors of a participatory and inclusive "bottom-up" process that takes into account the aspirations of the local communities and of all the stakeholders, but also "top-down" for the necessary transfers of information, knowledge and resources. They will be anchored in the decentralized and deconcentrated institutions in place in order to facilitate their deployment in Cameroon. The setup of these structures in the agro-ecological zones will be progressive and adaptive.

✓ **Regional coordination structures**

The Regional Coordination Structures will facilitate the link between the Technical Secretariat and the Departmental Technical Committees, **in line with decentralization**. The Governor, through his role connected with decentralization, will be in charge of leading the process in collaboration with the regional representatives of the MINEPDED and the MINFOF, as well as all the other stakeholders.

✓ **Departmental technical committees**

The departmental technical committees will be in charge of managing the REDD+ activities at the local level. Under the coordination of the Prefect, the departmental technical committees will be composed of departmental representatives of the MINEPDED and the MINFOF, as well as of all the other stakeholders.

The attributions of the departmental technical committees include:

- monitoring the implementation of the REDD+ activities at the local level;
- collecting and providing information at the local level during discussions, exchanges and reflection with all the stakeholders to support the construction of the national strategy;
- facilitating consultations to identify the local REDD+ activities.

The activities to be carried out at the level of these departmental technical committees will involve all the stakeholders in their areas of intervention. The following groups will be mobilized by the departmental technical committee according to their relevance in a determined area : the municipality (or association of municipalities) the elected representatives of the people and the local elected officials, the local communities, the indigenous peoples, the decentralized branches of the Civil Society National REDD & CC Platform, the private sector, the traditional chiefs (or the representatives of the association of traditional chiefs), the religious leaders, the representatives of the ICGs and farmers' organizations, etc.

**These structures will be established progressively, as the priority intervention areas for the process are identified. For the first year of implementation of the R-PP, the ToR of these deconcentrated and decentralized structures will be clarified.**

✓ **Conflict resolution bodies**

The local conflict management mechanisms are the most appropriate for resolving conflicts, given the proximity to and the mastery of the local context. As part of the REDD+ process, conflict management bodies within the existing departmental structures are planned. However, a higher level is also planned in order to manage conflicts at a higher level. The local conflict management bodies will be composed of traditional chiefs, the sectoral public services involved in the conflict (the representative of the services may vary depending on the type of conflict to be resolved) and representatives of civil society. If necessary and based on the seriousness of the conflicts, resolution of the conflict will first be sent to the higher authorities, then to the competent courts if the conflict persists.

These local conflict management structures will be in contact with the Technical Secretariat primarily through its IEC unit and its EESS unit. One person will be in charge of coordinating this aspect relating to the management of the appeal and complaint management mechanism with the EESS unit and for acting as respondent to the Technical Secretariat<sup>1</sup>. The EESS unit will provide the IEC unit with information and will be responsible for keeping the database concerning the conflict. This database will be used to set up the EESS and the CGES, implement it and support the thought processes concerning the social and environmental aspects of the process.

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<sup>1</sup> A central appeal and hearing system is currently under evaluation and study at the Technical Secretariat in order to respond to this concern relating to the conflict management mechanism.

## **2. Place of the key players (other than the administration) in Cameroon's process**

### **a. Place of civil society**

The participation of civil society in the REDD+ process will be gradual in Cameroon. It will be materialized by the establishment of the Civil Society National REDD & CC Platform. It is currently considered Civil Society's principal contact at the MINEPDED for the REDD+ process.

#### **Inset 2: History of the creation of the National REDD & CC Platform**

The National REDD & CC Platform was created on July 23, 2011 (Charter in January 2012). It is considered as being the interface between the civil society organizations and the entities involved in the REDD+ and climate change process in Cameroon. It is therefore a space of dialogue, consultation and innovative exchanges of experience, proposals and orientation. It aims for the efficient and effective participation of all of civil society in all the discussions related to REDD and to climate change in general both at the local level and at the regional, national and international levels.

The platform brings together close to 20 networks of organizations and social movements of the national Civil Society – national and local networks working in the forest / environment and social sector (including the Forest platform set up for the VPA/FLEGT of Cameroon). All the organizations, associations, groups and resource people working to promote sustainable development and wishing to contribute to the REDD process may take part in the activities and in the Platforms' national, regional and municipal activities and meetings.

The platform has branches at the regional and municipal levels (being set up) and thematic groups and intervention niches. It has identified nine groups of actors as targets of its actions: (i) its own members; (ii) women; (iii) Indigenous peoples; (iv) the local communities; (v) the traditional chiefs, (vi) the Mayors and other elected representatives of the people and local elected officials; (vii) youths; (viii) the other field partners (State technical personnel, small craftsmen/users of the wood/wood-energy sector, other actors of the private sector, etc.) and (ix) the project promoters.

Civil society will be represented at all levels of the REDD+ process. It is an integral part of the Steering Committee and will be present in the decentralized and deconcentrated structures. It will participate in the activities carried out to construct the strategy and will be a key participant in implementing the REDD+ activities at the local level.

### **b. Special case of indigenous peoples**

Considering the importance of the indigenous issue in connection with REDD+, the existence of several vulnerable groups and Cameroon's choice to develop a REDD+ mechanism targeting the development of vulnerable groups primarily include indigenous populations, this group will be given a special place so that it can participate not only in making decisions concerning the process and concerning the development of the future strategy, but also and above all in the implementation of the future strategy and the monitoring of the social and environmental impacts of the strategy.

The indigenous peoples will participate through different organizations for managing forest peoples (Baka, Bagyéli, Bakola, Bedzang) and pastoralist peoples (Mbororo). They will also participate through the organizations of the REDD & CC Platform that manage and supervise these peoples, through technical partnerships and through other agencies that are not yet aligned with these existing structures. The indigenous peoples represent themselves in the branches of the national REDD & CC Platform.

In addition to their official presence on the Steering Committee, the regional coordination structures and the Departmental Committees, the indigenous peoples will participate during various discussions and in decision making concerning the strategic options to be adopted, according to the consultation plan that will be developed in 1C (particularly for FPIC). They will also participate through REDD+ projects / programs that will take the problems of these groups into consideration in their favor.

**c. Special case of women**

Women are represented on the Steering Committee of the REDD+ process through the REDD & CC Platform (one of the national coordination managers is a woman). As for the case of indigenous peoples, women (through the existing networks, but also the REDD & CC Platform of which they are a part) will participate in the different activities developed by the Technical Secretariat in order to fully integrate the issue of gender, which will cut across the future strategy. Furthermore, a roadmap for integrating gender in the REDD+ process has been developed and will be enhanced as part of the development of the strategy.

**d. Place of the private sector**

The actors of the private sector will be an integral part of the REDD+ process in Cameroon. The private sector is represented on the Steering Committee but also on the different decentralized and deconcentrated process management bodies. Its role is especially important in implementing the strategic options since the private sector, not only logging, but also mining and petroleum, agriculture, etc., may seize the REDD+ as a business opportunity, particularly for the promotion of microcredits in order to stimulate the investments of the local communities in agriculture, for example, in the development of clean technologies (improved stoves, improved adapted stoves, promotion of clean energies) or in forest plantation.

**e. Place of research institutions and education**

The research institutions and institutions of higher education will participate in the REDD+ process through consultations carried out based on topics determined in order to promote theme-based reflection and provide scientific support for the decisions made. These institutions will be mobilized by the Technical Secretariat to explore particular avenues of reflection requiring their expertise and for the capacity-building to be carried out throughout the process.

***3. Capacity building for the REDD process***

The REDD+ process requires capacity building at all levels (national, regional and departmental) during the preparation phase and the implementation phase for REDD+. This involves capacity building not only of the governmental bodies and of the members of the Technical Secretariat, but also of all the stakeholders so that they are truly able to appropriate REDD+. Training will be scheduled throughout the process. It will be intensive during the first year of strategy construction so that it can be operational quickly.

The training will first be geared toward the members of the Steering Committee, the Technical Secretariat (and its units) and the key personnel of the sectoral ministries that will be mobilized in the process. A transfer of skills will take place between the experts mobilized during the preparation phase and the national experts (those of the administration included) so that Cameroon can then function autonomously in managing its REDD+ process and mechanism. It will then focus on all the stakeholders of the process, not only at the central level, but also and above all at the decentralized and deconcentrated level.

The training will concern:

- the concepts of climate change and more particularly REDD+ so that the people trained (all the stakeholders) can have the necessary knowledge concerning REDD+ issues;
- the political economy of REDD+;
- the role of forests in mitigating climate change;
- the MRV, the social and environmental safeguards, the co-benefits, etc.;
- and the specific themes in relation with REDD+.

Then, specialized expertise at the international level like for the carbon market, payments for environmental services, international negotiations, etc., will be mobilized in connection with capacity building. This training will be coordinated by the Technical Secretariat, which will be in charge, through the IEC unit, of setting up the training modules with specific experts. The technical partners who are already been highly involved concerning the topic and who have experience in terms of REDD+ training will also be mobilized for this purpose.

The capacity building offered to civil society and to the organizations of indigenous peoples is to be planned so that they improve their expertise and acquire the professionalism necessary to play their role as development participants fully.

### Timeline

The order signed to create the steering committee took effect on June 13, 2012. Since the REDD+ process is participatory, it did not wait for this order to be signed to include the stakeholders in the exchanges concerning the process, particularly during the drafting of the R-PP. The experts who will be working in the Technical Secretariat will be identified gradually. The plan is for the Technical Secretariat to be operational by early 2013.

The establishment of the Regional Coordination Structures and of the Departmental Technical Committees will be progressive and will depend on the availability of the human, financial and technical resources. The challenge will be to set up all the local institutions within two years following the start of the process. This will make it possible to involve all of the stakeholders of Cameroon in the construction of the REDD+ strategy.

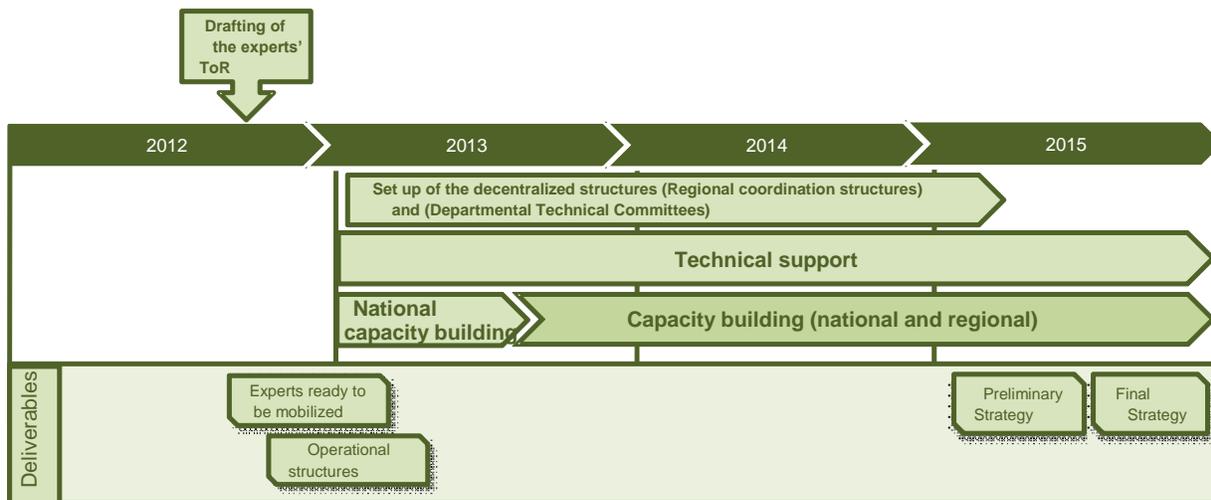


Figure 2: Timeline for getting the structures for the implementation of the REDD+ mechanism up and running

Below are the details of the activities to be carried out with their schedules

**Table 1: Activities planned and detailed timeline for component 1a.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Definition of the roles of each stakeholder and of each institution							
Establishment of the branches (regional and municipal) of the civil society Platform							
Meeting of the steering committees							
Recruitment of experts to set up the Technical Secretariat							
Training of the experts of the Technical Secretariat							
Establishment of the regional Coordination structures							
Training of the members of the regional coordination structures							
Establishment of the departmental Technical Committees							
Training of the members of the departmental technical committees							
Training in specialized domains (carbon market, international negotiations, etc.)							
Establishment of the conflict management bodies							
International representation							

Table 1a: Summary of National Readiness Management Arrangements Activities and Budget						
Main Activity	Sub-Activity	Estimated Cost (in thousands of US\$)				
		2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Operation of the national and regional institutions	Equipment		697			697
	Personnel		622	572	572	1,767
	Operation (national and regional)		329	429	519	1,276
	Dispute management institution		100	200	290	590
Training	Specialized training of institution members		183	110	73	365
	Stakeholder training		70	45	45	160
Exchange	Participation in international negotiations		60	60	60	180
	Participation in exchanges between countries		80	80	80	240
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,140.5</b>	<b>1496</b>	<b>1,638.5</b>	<b>5,275</b>
Government						
FCPF			500	500	500	1500

## 1b. Information sharing and early dialogue with key stakeholder groups

**Standard 1b is to be complied with in the text of the R-PP to satisfy the provision of this component:**

**Information sharing and early dialogue with key stakeholder groups**

The R-PP must provide proof that the government has attempted to identify the principal stakeholders in REDD+ and that it has launched a credible information sharing and awareness raising campaign for the key stakeholders at the national level. The primary objective of this campaign will be to establish a dialogue concerning the REDD+ concept and the development process for the R-PP as quickly as possible in order to lay the foundation for the consultations that will take place during the execution of the R-PP work plan. To the extent possible, the action undertaken at this stage must reach the networks and national and local representatives of the forest-dependent indigenous peoples, the human groups living in the forests and the other communities who depend on them. The R-PP will provide proof that an appropriate range of stakeholders has been identified, that the vulnerable groups are beginning to make themselves heard and that the necessary time and efforts have been invested to raise the awareness of the greatest number concerning the basic concepts and the REDD+ process, particularly the EESS.

### ***1. Cameroon's experiences in terms of participation***

The use of the participatory approach in managing natural resources is not new in Cameroon. REDD+ will build on the lessons learned from previous experience to make it a truly participatory and inclusive process.

✓ **The 1994 Forestry Law**

The participation of civil society was barely nascent when the 1994 Forestry Law was passed. One of the innovations of this law in terms of local participation and involvement of local partners is community forestry. As per the law, a community forest is a space – not exceeding 5,000 ha – that is subject to a management agreement between a village community and the authorities; this agreement confers its management on this community with the assistance of the authorities. The community forest process in Cameroon established the practice of consultation meetings to delimit the spaces and decide how to manage and exploit forest resources. The mixed results of the acquisition process, community management and the stimulation of local development are useful lessons for the REDD+ process.

The 1994 Forestry Law is currently undergoing revision in a context that stresses participation and consensus seeking, particularly in favor of the local communities that were the main “forgotten” entities of the previous movement. This revision highlights the positions of the indigenous peoples, women, development partners, Civil Society and the private sector. Currently, all the stakeholders of the forestry sector occupy an important place on the technical committees and in the think tank groups.

✓ **1996 Framework Law on Environmental Management**

The framework law provides for impact studies in which consultations and public hearings are opportunities for stakeholder involvement; This is effective at present. The revision process for this framework law is underway and involves all of the stakeholders (state and local elected representatives, the ministries, civil society, the local communities, etc.).

✓ **The FLEGT process**

One of the actions proposed by the 2003 AFLEG Ministerial Conference consisted in encouraging the decentralized application of the laws by the populations and local authorities. With this aim, the negotiation of the VPA between Cameroon and the European Union gave special weight to greater stakeholder participation. During the two years of negotiations (2007-2009), the team from Cameroon included representatives of the different Ministries and Parliament as well as representatives of the private sector and civil society. Cameroon's proposals were developed within the framework of a multipartite platform involving 7 different Ministries, 5 different wood industry federations/unions representing the interests of the private sector, 29 different non-governmental organizations and communities, 2 National Assembly members and two international organizations. The dialogue made it possible to identify proposals based on the realities of the challenges that the forestry sector must face. As the institutions for implementing the VPA are being set up, Cameroon has indicated its intention to continue to depend on civil society and to invite its participation.

✓ **Concerted cross-border management**

As part of the implementation of the COMIFA convergence plan, Cameroon is involved in the process of the cross-border management of shared ecosystems. Cameroon has subscribed to a number of initiatives including the TNS, TRIDOM, CBLT, CICOS, ABN, the Gulf of Guinea, BSB Yamoussa, etc. These experiences have permitted resource use planning that ensures the integration of conservation activities and extractive commercial activities (logging and mining operations) in those of the local and indigenous communities. This planning relies on a process in which the stakeholders – local community members, researchers, government, NGO and traditional chiefs – are involved in a discussion of the different uses or resources – micro zoning.

The Technical Secretariat will approach the different individuals responsible for the different processes underway, particularly of the MINFOF FLEGT Unit, to capitalize on the teachings of these processes and to develop them in the REDD+ process.

## ***2. Importance of the engagement of forest-dependent communities in REDD+***

Cameroon wants to establish a participatory and inclusive REDD+ process that responds to the development problems affecting the country. To do this, Cameroon wants the opinions of all of the stakeholders, at different levels (from local to central) to be taken into consideration in constructing the REDD+ strategy and for the future effects of REDD+ to benefit these groups to the greatest extent possible.

In Cameroon, over 80% of the local community is dependent on natural and forest resources for their farming activities and for the collection of energy wood<sup>2</sup> (65% of the local community uses fuel wood as primary source of household energy<sup>3</sup>). These local communities can both manage forest resources sustainably (through community forestry or other tools such as communal forests or the payment for environmental services mechanism) or increase the pressure on them (through the adoption of agricultural practices that are not resource-friendly, such as slash and burn farming in forest areas or brush fires in order to renew pastureland in savannah areas).

This dependence on the use of resources is even more important for indigenous peoples and women. These groups are thus highly dependent on the state of the natural resources located there. Women, for their part, due to the structure of the local society, only rarely have access to jobs. They play an important role in cultivating the family parcels and collecting forest products (PFNL) in order to improve the well-being of the household. If the resources dwindle and become scarce due various pressures and, more recently, changes in climate rhythm and therefore the disruption of the cycle of seasons, these groups (the local communities and, primarily the indigenous peoples and women) would be impacted the most.

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<sup>2</sup> FAO, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> SIE, 2010.

The engagement of these different groups in the process is necessary during the construction of the strategy so that their interests are truly taken into consideration and so that they benefit from the effects of the process. **A strategy for involving these groups will be developed during the first year of implementation of the R-PP.** In fact, these groups are in more of a position to clearly identify their needs in order to respond to the Government's concern for making REDD+ a lever of development. To do this, awareness raising and broad informational campaigns will be carried out at the local level to reach these groups directly. These awareness raising activities will be intensive during the first year of strategy construction (2013). They will then be accompanied by consultations (including FPIC) at the local level (beginning in mid-2013 until the end of 2015).

### ***3. Information sharing, training and consultations carried out in connection with the REDD+ process***

#### **a. The communications and consultations initiated in the REDD+ process**

Cameroon began communicating about the REDD+ process well before the R-PIN was launched. This communication involved the ongoing supply of information to the Government concerning the status of the issue during the negotiations concerning climate change. The consultations continued during the development of the R-PIN and the terms of reference of the R-PP, which were all validated by all of the stakeholders.

In all, more than forty awareness raising, information sharing, training and consultation workshops have taken place since 2008. These workshops saw the participation of different stakeholders such as the local and indigenous populations, civil society, women, youths, the deconcentrated administrative bodies, elected representatives, the traditional chiefs, communicators, etc. The information concerning these workshops (objectives, participants, location and date of these workshops) is appended to this document (See Annex 1b). **However, these awareness raising workshops and consultations are not going to stop at this stage. The REDD+ process is continuous and participatory. It requires the continuation of the informational, training, awareness raising and consultation activities.**

**This approach will be used in the activities that will accompany Cameroon's preparation for the REDD+ mechanism and particularly in the development of the future strategy (for more details, refer to component 1c).**

#### **b. The communication tools available**

The MINEPDED, its technical partners and civil society have produced different informational tools and media allowing them to disseminate information about climate change and REDD+. These tools (brochures, posters, policy memoranda, magazines, video, etc.) have been made available to the local communities, not only during informational workshops, but also by using the different information dissemination channels, especially the mass channels (radio, television, Internet site, print journalism, etc.) and personalized in relation with the activities of these technical partners (including markets, women's groups, traditional chieftainships, churches, decentralized administrations, decentralized territorial communities, community-based radio, consultation pool, etc.).

#### **c. Communication workshops prior to the regional consultations to finalize the R-PP**

From December 2011 to March 2012, the MINEPDED REDD+ Coordination team organized awareness raising and informational workshops for the representatives of the local administrative bodies and communities. The overall objective of these workshops was to inform, raise awareness and refine the identification of the local stakeholders of REDD+ in Cameroon, the ultimate purpose being to encourage effective participation by all the stakeholders likely to contribute to the development of the REDD+ mechanism.

These workshops were organized in three of the five agro-ecological zones: Buéa, Kribi and Limbé for the coastal zones, Ngaoundéré and Ngaoundal for the Guinea Savanna zone, Garoua, Lagdo, Maroua, Kaélé and Kousséri for the Sudano-sahelian savanna zones. These workshops are additional to the communication / information

activities carried out by the technical partners of the MINEPDED and civil society, since the areas of intervention of these technical partners are located primarily in the forest zone and the mountain zone (see the list of all the workshops and the main results of these workshops in Annex 1b of this document).

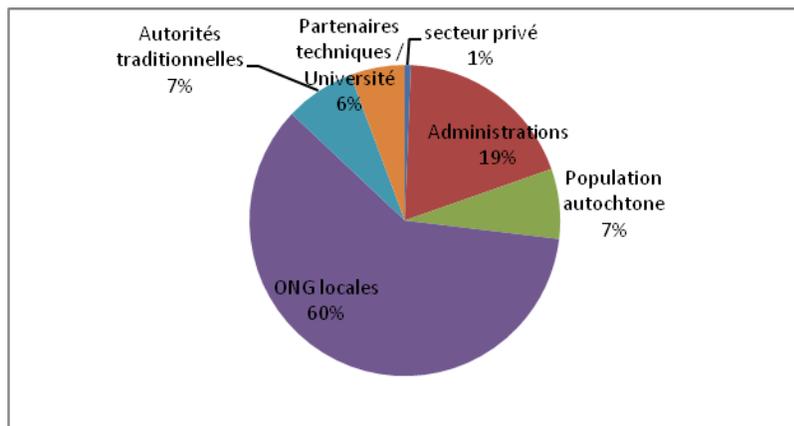
**d. The regional and national consultations for consolidation and validation of the R-PP**

Since the REDD+ approach adopted by Cameroon is based on agro-ecological zones, the consultations carried out in connection with the process cover all the existing agro-ecological zones. The regional consultations were also carried out in the 5 agro-ecological zones: Bamenda for the high plateaus zone, Ebolowa for the bimodal forest zone, Douala for the monomodal forest zone, Maroua for the Sudano-sahelian zone and Ngaoundéré for the high savanna zones.

These regional workshops were rounded out by regular meetings (the “writing workshops”) of the R-PP team with the REDD+ stakeholders. They allowed the different participants to contribute by passing on their ideas and expectations concerning the process in the R-PP. Meetings were also held with the sectoral ministries (MINADER, MINFOF, etc.), the private sector (mining and forestry primarily), the technical partners and civil society in order to amend and finalize the R-PP.

✓ **The different categories of participants in the regional and national workshops**

The vast majority of the participants in the regional and national workshops had already participated previously in informational and training workshops organized by the MINEPDED. They represented the vast majority of stakeholders with, nevertheless, weak participation on the part of the private sector. However, the informational meetings that took place in 2012 saw more private sector involvement, thus correcting this weakness.



**Figure 3: makeup of the regional consultation participants**

[Traditional authorities 7%; Technical partners / University 6%; private sector 1%; Administrative agencies 19%; Indigenous population 7%; Local NGO 60%]

The participation of indigenous peoples and of women in the regional and national consultation workshops is estimated at 7% and at 25% respectively. The local workshop participants were represented by the members of the communities themselves (traditional chiefs, religious leaders, etc.) but also members of the civil society Platform (NGO, association, local media, etc.), local decentralized and deconcentrated administrative agencies (regional and departmental agricultural representatives, etc.), elected representatives, research centers and universities.

**e. Results of the consultation workshops**

The objective of the consultation workshops was to review the content of the draft R-PP prepared by the national consultants. Some information was completed like the causes of deforestation by agro-ecological zone, the identification of the pilot projects (zone of implementation and nature of the pilot projects) based on local

community needs and the social concerns of the dependent communities to be taken into consideration during construction of the EESS.

✓ **Audience and number of people reached**

With a participation that varied by workshop, situated at between 30 and 200 people, the awareness raising, information sharing and training work carried out by civil society, the technical partners and the administrative agencies will have directly reached at least 4,000 people. Considering that locally, information is disseminated through osmosis by the NGOs making up civil society but also by the people already trained and informed, no fewer than 100,000 people have been informed about the REDD+ process. Added to this are the impacts of the media coverage by the local television stations, the radio stations (national and community), the newspaper articles and the different Internet sites that deliver information about REDD+ and the advancement of the process. By basing ourselves on the audiences of the media coverage of the different events and the statistics of the technical partners' web sites, we can estimate the number of people informed at more than one million.

✓ **Mapping of the stakeholders**

The stakeholders in the REDD+ process in Cameroon can be classified into seven (7) main categories, which are:

- civil society:
  - the local communities, the indigenous peoples, the traditional authorities, the opinion leaders, whether they are men or women, senior citizens or youths, PFLN gatherers, livestock farmers or farmers;
  - the local, national or international organizations made up of NGOs, associations, religious congregations, etc.;
- the private sector made up of logging, mining and oil operators, small-scale logging and mining operators, wood manufacturers, carriers and wood trade merchants, PFLN or agricultural products operators, operators of the wood energy sector, professional groups, etc.;
- the following government agencies: MINEPDED, MINFOF, MINEPAT, MINATD<sup>4</sup>, MINMIDT, MINEE, MINAS, MINDCAF, MINADER, MINEPIA, MINPROFF, MINFI, MINCOM, MINJUSTICE, MINERESI, MINESUP, the President's Office, the Prime Minister's Office, etc. ;
- elected representatives:
  - elected representatives and members of parliament;
  - decentralized local authorities;
- research institutions and universities;
- sponsors and development partners;
- the media.

These categories are present in all the agro-ecological zones of Cameroon, but at different degrees, depending on the specificity of these zones (see annex 1b for the details concerning the stakeholders by agro-ecological zone). **This mapping of the stakeholders is not permanent. It will be strengthened and reworked if necessary during construction of the strategy.**<sup>5</sup>

✓ **Concerns, needs and questions for the future REDD+ strategy**

Previous studies have helped identify a certain number of concerns that have also been raised during consultation, informational and communication workshops. They include:

- the causes of deforestation and forest degradation in the different agro-ecological zones considering the specific aspects of each zone;

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<sup>4</sup> The traditional authorities are official bodies coming under the MINATD.

<sup>5</sup> **Discussions are currently underway in the MINAS to identify the typology of the stakeholders depending on their vulnerability. This typology will be taken into consideration during the construction of the strategy.**

- the initial information concerning the strategic options to be developed in each of the agro-ecological zones and the concrete activities that need to be developed there in order to effectively combat the causes of deforestation and forest degradation;
- the concerns of the local communities that must be taken into consideration in the strategic options but also and first and foremost by the EESS;
- the needs for capacity building at all levels, not only for the local communities (indigenous peoples, women, etc.) and civil society, but also for the local government agencies.

The main questions and concerns that frequently emerge during the different consultation workshops and that need to be taken into consideration during the construction of Cameroon's future strategy concern:

- the participation of the stakeholders, and especially civil society and the local and indigenous communities in the REDD+ process. This specifically concerns the place of civil society in the different decision-making bodies including the Steering Committee and the Technical Secretariat, as well as their roles in these bodies. This raises the question of setting up a truly "bottom up" process as well as the transfer of information from the bottom to the decision-making bodies;
- the consideration of distinctive local aspects for the construction of the national strategy and for the selection of the REDD+ activities to be undertaken;
- making REDD+ a reality: how to make it an instrument of rapid development allowing the local and indigenous communities to benefit from the economic effects of REDD+ long before the 3 years necessary to construct the future strategy?
- The establishment of a fair benefit-sharing mechanism: the local communities propose that the shares going to them in connection with the REDD+ process should be higher than those set forth in the split in the RFA. Effectively, the local communities feel that since they are the main players in the fight against deforestation and forest degradation in the process and since they are responsible for implementing the activities that will make it possible to actually reduce the deforestation and degradation rates, a much larger share must be devoted to them. The concerns of the local and indigenous communities also include the mechanism for managing the funds coming from REDD+.
- the necessity of taking action concerning the aspects of governance: the laws and technical measures for curbing the attacks on forest resources exist in Cameroon. However, these resources still continue to deteriorate. Support measures will thus be necessary to truly achieve the objectives targeted.

The main expectations of the stakeholders recorded during workshops concern the aspects that must be given particular attention during the construction of the strategy. They include:

- the participation of the stakeholders at the local level through the reinforcement of information sharing and consultations;
- the training of the stakeholders of civil society;
- the consideration of the rights of the communities (especially those dependent on natural and forest resources);
- access to and equitable sharing of the benefits and the size of the share of the benefits that will go to the community that has supplied the efforts to reduce GHG emissions;
- the development of the REDD+ legal and regulatory framework recognizing the different rights of the resource-dependent communities, primarily the indigenous peoples;
- the strengthening of the technical and material capacities of the stakeholders, especially civil society, so that it can be a full-fledged player and participate fully in the process;
- the expansion of the communication strategy to all the stakeholders, with the appropriate methods and tools;
- the necessity of taking into consideration the risks that may affect the stakeholders and hinder the success of the REDD+ mechanism;

- the mobilization of all the local institutions in setting up the strategy and in implementing it (including the local government agencies);
- the consideration of farmer's logic and local knowledge;
- the involvement of the private sector in setting up the REDD+ projects and the possibility of fully enjoying the benefits of REDD+ considering the efforts that they will make.

To optimize these workshops conducted as part of the process, the information resulting from the consultation and dialogue workshops already conducted will be analyzed.

**Table 2: Activities planned and detailed timeline for component 1b.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Collection of all the information to capitalize on it							
Development of the strategy for integrating women and indigenous peoples							
Creation of the REDD+ information database							
Analysis of the data collected to identify the weaknesses to be overcome							
Availability of the information concerning the awareness raising, training and consultation activities							
Reinforcement of the information in the database							
Information monitoring							

**Table 1b: Summary of the activities and of the budget related to information sharing and early dialogue with key stakeholder groups**

Principal activities	Secondary activities	Estimated cost (in thousands)				
		2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Consultations	Consultation for the R-PP	500				500
	Identification of the stakeholders	45	15			60
Information capitalization and analysis	Information analysis		15			15
	Strategy for involving women and IP		80	80		160
	Creation and operation of a database		42	22	22	86
Capacity building			50	50	50	150
<b>Total</b>		<b>545</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>971</b>
<b>Government</b>		235				235
<b>FCPF</b>		145				145
<b>PSFE</b>		120				120
<b>IUCN</b>			25	25	25	75

## 1c. Consultation and participation process

### Standard 1c to be complied with in the text of the R-PP to satisfy the provisions of this component :

#### Consultation and participation process:

The adherence of the government and of the stakeholders concerned to the R-PP, its transparency, its dissemination and the holding of effective consultations allowing the informed participation of the key parties involved will be evaluated based on the information and/or the documentation presented in the R-PP concerning the following aspects: i) the consultation and participation process already begun to develop the R-PP; ii) the degree of adherence of the public authorities and the stakeholders at the national level; iii) the consultation and participation plan for the implementation phase of the R-PP; iv) the concerns and the recommendations of the stakeholders concerned and the process allowing for their consideration and/or the follow-up given to them in the R-PP; and, v) the appeal mechanism in case of complaints concerning the REDD+ consultation and participation process, and the dispute settlement and injury reparation procedures.

### **1. Objectives**

The participation process aims to ensure the participation of all the stakeholders in order to obtain a consensual REDD+ strategy document that includes all the concerns. The participatory process will also make it possible to ensure transparency in decision-making, improve the empowerment of the players, involve them in making decisions and in the implementation and monitoring-evaluation of the actions, thus making it possible to have a truly inclusive “bottom-up” process. Special emphasis will be placed on the consultation to be conducted with the indigenous populations, women, youths and, more broadly, the forest-dwelling communities dependent on forest and natural resources.

### **2. Means of communication and information available**

Cameroon will have to put in place a robust and effective consultation plan and communication plan. These plans are meant to be complementary in order to achieve the objectives set by the REDD+ process as well as Cameroon’s vision of REDD+.<sup>6</sup> At present, the information sharing process with the stakeholders is progressive and should improve with the support of the technical partners and civil society, which play a recognized role in this area. However, these efforts are still not sufficient because they do not yet reach the entire territory of Cameroon. Improved communication must involve the availability of human, financial and technical resources as well as capacity building.

The consultation and participation plan presented here will make it possible to identify Cameroon’s needs for human, financial and technical resources as well as for capacity building.

### **3. The different consultation steps**

#### **a. Identification of the stakeholders**

In order to be able to inform, train and make the stakeholders full-fledged participants in the REDD+ process, it is necessary to map the stakeholders. This map must show the different stakeholders who use the natural and

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<sup>6</sup>For Cameroon, REDD+ is a development tool that must help it achieve the sustainable development objective that the country set for itself as part of the DSCE and Cameroon Vision 2035.

forest resources that may be involved in the REDD+ process in order to have a participatory and inclusive process. An initial identification of the categories of stakeholders was provided in preceding component 1b. It will be reinforced during the strategy preparation phase.

**b. Development of tools and materials for the preparation and implementation of a communication plan**

Various adapted tools and equipment must be constructed in order to provide the stakeholders with relevant information concerning climate change and REDD+. These tools will contribute to the effective implementation of a communication plan that will be developed in order to construct Cameroon's REDD+ strategy in a participatory and inclusive manner (see the detailed communication plan in annex 1c).

A preliminary study to complete the existing appropriate and adapted tools will be carried out during the 3 months following the start of the process in order to be able to set up the information and communication tools within the first 6 months. Actually, tools developed by different technical partners of the MINEPDED and civil society are already available, in common use and enhanced in the process.

The communication media / channels must be adapted to the targets (see the categories in component 1b). They must therefore be as simple as possible, colorful and translated into local languages. These media will be updated regularly (every 6 months) in order to include the changes made during construction of the strategy and in order to better adapt them to the needs of the targets. On the other hand, the dissemination of information will be continuous and will cover the entire duration of the preparation phase. It will continue beyond this phase, since the future strategy must also be widely disseminated throughout Cameroon.

The communication plan will rely on a number of channels, depending on the objectives and the target groups, in order to pass along the information to the stakeholders. It will also take into account the communication needs of the local and indigenous communities identified during the work of the Platform through its branches. Particular attention will be given to the channels making it possible to reach the communities dependent on natural and forest resources and the most vulnerable communities, namely the indigenous peoples, women and the local communities. Institutional communication will also target the sectoral administrative agencies involved for improved participation. The communication channels that can be exploited and that must be adapted based on the targets are (1) modern media, (2) audiovisual media, (3) written media, (4) mixed media: web site (the Government web site is under construction), banners and posters, stickers, leaflets, (5) group channels, (6) interactive individual channels (such as the traditional authorities), (7) gadgets, (8) traditional media, (9) personalized channels.

The IEC unit of the Technical Secretariat will be responsible for managing the activities related to the development of communication tools and materials. It will be in charge of mobilizing the means necessary to disseminate the information to the target groups, with special emphasis on the local communities and indigenous peoples and women. The REDD & CC Platform and the technical partners will play a determining role in the dissemination of information and will thus routinely be tapped by the IEC unit given their proximity to the groups targeted by REDD.

Communication and the transfer of information will take place throughout the process. Indeed, the transparency as well as the success of the process will depend on this. To do this, and in order to manage the different environmental risks, the construction of the communication plan and its implementation will be evaluated by the EESS tool.

**c. Consultations**

The consultation objectives differ depending on the target groups, even if the general objective is identical. The objectives by type of stakeholder presented below result from the compilation of the data collected during consultations conducted to draft the R-PP. They are not exhaustive. They will be better defined during the construction of the consultation plan, which will be done during the first half of 2013.

### **Inset 3: The consultation objectives by type of stakeholder**

#### Objectives for the Government and the State

- Strong multisectoral and intersectoral integration
- To make sure that concrete measures for reducing emissions are adopted in a participatory manner and implemented
- To play its role as facilitator for the development of the activities and to coordinate the process
- To make sure that the actual concerns of the communities are taken into consideration and that they are appropriate to the process

#### Objectives for the local communities

- Clarification of their role in achieving the deforestation reduction objectives
- Comprehension of the stakes of REDD+ (opportunities and risks) in order to facilitate their FPIC
- Participatory identification of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
- Identification of the strategic options making it possible to achieve development while complying with the land use policies and strategies
- Identification of the forms and institutions for managing conflicts concerning land use and exploitation of the results as part of the REDD+ process
- FPIC completed and opinions of the indigenous peoples respected

#### Objectives for the private sector

- To understand the changes in land use and their potential contributions in terms of GHG emissions
- To develop common measures with the forest-dependent communities to effectively fight against the causes of deforestation and degradation
- To develop potential projects for an implementation of the national strategy
- To identify the potential conflicts that may arise and identify good conflict management practices

#### Objectives for civil society

- To capitalize on experience and raise the awareness of the local communities for rational management of forest resources
- To encourage the adoption of reduced impact farming and other practices to achieve local development

#### Objective for the traditional chieftainships

- Facilitation of the consultation of the communities and conflict management (particularly land-related conflicts)
- Clarification of their roles in the process

#### Objective for elected representatives

- To ensure their participation and their support in the legislation process,
- To ensure that information is relayed from the bottom to the top and from the top to the bottom

#### Objective for the decentralized authorities

- To ensure the adequate identification of the local REDD+ projects
- To facilitate the implementation of the local REDD+ project

A cross-cutting objective is also the prior identification of potential conflicts in order to prevent them and manage them appropriately as part of the process.

The consultations will be conducted as the thought processes concerning the strategy and the results of the studies carried out to fuel this reflection advance. They will make it possible to complete and at times even correct the results of the studies carried out previously and to better adapt the results to the characteristics of the different agro-ecological zones. The consultations will be conducted with all the stakeholders. Emphasis will be placed on the vulnerable groups (indigenous peoples, women in rural areas, women in underprivileged areas, youths, the unemployed, etc.) to which REDD+ must offer concrete solutions. If certain categories (like the private sector and certain sectoral administrative agencies) were not sufficiently involved in the process, they will be targeted by awareness-raising initiatives.

The consultations will be participatory and must cover all the agro-ecological zones **in order to build on the distinctive characteristics (social, economic, ecological, etc.) of these zones**. Reflection will take place not only at the national level but also at the local level. Workshops will be organized for this purpose with the collaboration of the departmental committees, the civil society platform (and local and regional branches of this platform), the development partners and the national REDD+ consultants who will be trained exclusively to carry out these tasks.

The consultations will be implemented either by civil society or by a technical partner with experience in the subject dealt with and concerning consultation organizations. The institution that will be responsible for implementing the consultation will be chosen based on the topics to be dealt with, the consultation objectives and above all the target groups. It should be noted that organization of the consultations will be coordinated by the IEC unit of the Technical Secretariat.

The following information necessary to construct the future REDD+ strategy or making it possible to construct it (and developed in parts 2a and 2b) must be addressed during consultations:

- the management institutions for the REDD+ process (see component 1a);
- the institutions responsible for implementing the appeal and conflict management mechanisms as well as their setup and their operation (see components 1a and 1c);
- the risks and opportunities of REDD+, with the aim of informing the forest-dependent communities and obtaining their consent (primarily the indigenous peoples and the local, forest-dependent communities). A consultation plan specific to the indigenous peoples will also be developed with the goal of obtaining their consent (in connection with FPIC);
- the causes of deforestation and forest degradation (see component 2a);
- the analysis of deforestation and forest degradation related policy and governance;
- the identification and selection of the pilot projects and programs to be set up in the different agro-ecological zones (see component 2b);
- the identification of the strategic options making up the future REDD+ strategy and allowing real local development of the most vulnerable groups (see component 2b);
- the benefit-sharing mechanism and the different rights that must be taken into consideration to construct the mechanism (including carbon rights, land rights, user rights, etc.) (see component 2c);
- the mechanism for managing revenues from REDD+ (see component 2c);
- the EESS (see component 2d);
- the construction of the reference Scenario (see component 3);
- the construction of the MRV mechanism including the co-benefits (see component 4);
- and the national REDD strategy itself (see component 2b).

**The consultations will take place based on the progress of the reflection conducted as part of the REDD+ process. They will be scheduled based on the priorities in terms of reflection to be conducted (see figure 6 p. 32 for the timeline of the preliminary phase.**

For Cameroon, the consultations will not be conducted at the national level alone, but also at the level of the agro-ecological zones and the action zones so that the characteristics and distinctive aspects of these zones can be fully integrated. This approach is consistent with the approaches chosen for the construction of a truly participatory and inclusive “bottom-up” strategy. Particular importance will be given to the indigenous peoples with consultations that will be conducted according to an appropriate methodology. The principle is to obtain the free and prior consent of the stakeholders using participatory-focused planning methods that encourage listening and the integration of local knowledge allowing the local communities to be active participants and not passive beneficiaries.

✓ **For obtaining the Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) of indigenous peoples**

At present, FPIC, is not yet widely applied in Cameroon. No consultation has actually been conducted with the indigenous peoples to get their consent in connection with REDD+. Since REDD+ must give full consideration to the case of the indigenous peoples, Cameroon will develop its mechanism, **which will be specific to it and will take the characteristics of the country into account.** Consultations will be carried out with the indigenous peoples to get their consent by using the appropriate tools, such as MAPAPPY. This consent will not only be obtained for the construction of the REDD+ strategy (for the sharing of revenues resulting from REDD+, for the identification of the REDD+ intervention and project implementation zones, etc.), but also for the implementation of the REDD+ activities, projects and programs to be developed in the territory occupied by the indigenous peoples. To do this, dissemination tools specific to the indigenous peoples will be developed. These tools will be developed by the CSOs, the training centers and the technical partners who are working on promoting the rights of the indigenous peoples.

Information (with the provision of tools and informational materials) and awareness raising sessions will be conducted with these indigenous peoples so that they can understand the stakes and the risks involved in implementing REDD+ in their territory. A mechanism making it possible to obtain the consent of the indigenous peoples will then be developed from the perspective of the understanding these groups will have of REDD+. The form and content of the acceptance (agreement for consent) will be the focus of a special preliminary study, since no standard form currently exists. Additionally, this consent must be given in accordance with local practices and according to a methodology approved by the indigenous peoples. Although the process for obtaining the consent of indigenous peoples is lengthy, it would be advisable to obtain it before the national strategy is finalized.

For the complete implementation of FPIC, the EES (see 2d) will define the markers that must be put in place by identifying the different criteria and indicators that are to be given special attention.

**Inset 4: MAPAPPY, a useful tool for indigenous peoples consultation**

The Méthodologie d’Approche participative des Populations Pygmée [Participatory Approach to the Investigation of Pygmy People] or MAPAPPY is the product of more than fifteen years’ experience supported by INADES Formation Cameroun. It is a research-action-training approach. MAPAPPY consists of the knowledge of, respect for and consideration of the fundamental values of IP in order to reduce their marginalization by increasing their autonomy and real communication with IP.

MAPAPPY is a path to follow made up of seven steps that promote the adherence and the success of a development campaign in Pygmy areas or in any area of indigenous populations (IP). These steps are: the analysis of the overall environment, near and far, and of its interactions in the life of the IP, the analysis of the possible solutions and the changes necessary to improve the situation deemed to have priority, the analysis of the external information influencing the campaign, the identification of the material and human resources necessary to the campaign, the organization of the campaign, the deployment of the campaign and the assessment of the progress made. The communication tools used, namely tales, imagery, proverbs, illustrations,

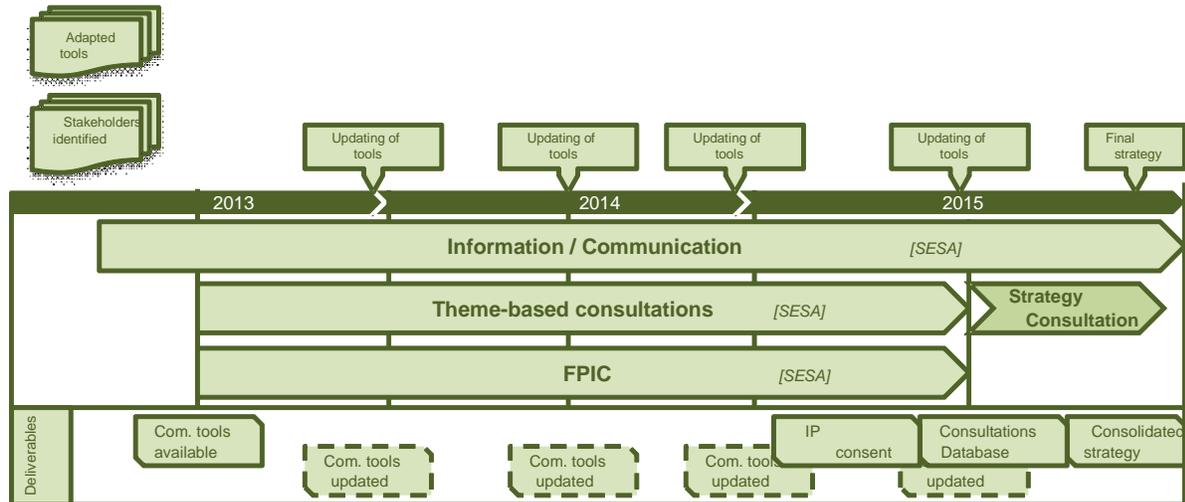
miming and songs are adapted and appropriate to the target for better comprehension of the message conveyed. MAPAPPY is thus a consultation method based on respect for the FPIC principles.  
(source: Personal communication, MBENDA Rosette married name LEUNKEU, INADES Formation/RACOPY)

Consultation scheduling

As mentioned previously, the consultations will be theme-based and will be conducted as the thought processes progress. The theme-based consultations will be conducted until June 2015. The consultations concerning the national strategy will, on the other hand, be conducted during the second half of 2015. These consultations will be accompanied by prior training / informational sessions (to foster the complementarity between the informational sessions and the consultations) in order to provide the target groups with the information in a suitable and adapted form.

Capacity building will be necessary during the preliminary phase of the REDD+ mechanism. A capacity building plan will be developed, identifying the needs of each group (Ex.: civil society to better play the role of interface between the base and the national committee; implementation of FPIC; use of methodological tools like MAPAPPY, etc.)

A detailed consultation and participation plan will be developed, defining the activities, the periods and the methods to be used with the stakeholders.



**Figure 4: Timetable for the consultation plan**

The EESS will take into account the concerns of the different participants that have been and that will be identified during the consultations. It will also be applied systematically to all the consultations to be conducted in connection with the process in order to verify whether all the social and environmental aspects have actually been taken into consideration. These include the aspects regarding the participation and representativeness of the REDD+ stakeholders. This application of the EESS in connection with the communication and consultation plan will make it possible to then correct the deficiencies observed and to take them into consideration in future planning.

**d. Establishment of a permanent framework for information dissemination**

The results of the consultations (local, regional and national) but also of the studies and the reflection carried out in connection with the process, will be centralized with the IEC unit of the Technical Secretariat. This unit will be responsible for updating the information dissemination tools, thus taking into account the results of the consultations conducted. The communication and information tools will be distributed and made available to all the stakeholders through various communication channels (such as Internet sites, etc.) for a transparent REDD+

process. A permanent management and information transfer framework will be developed for this purpose with a database that will be open to the public, inspired by the experiences of the different programs and processes (VPA-FLEGT, etc.) or specialized institutions (EIS of the MINEP, COMIFAC, etc.).

According to the preliminary phase, the future REDD+ strategy of Cameroon must be widely disseminated at the national level **but also at the sub-regional level**. The dissemination of this strategy will be the subject of a new communication plan referring to and using the assets of the communication plan set in place. This new communication plan will be established during construction of the strategy and will be an integral part of the strategy mentioned.

**Table 3: Activities planned and detailed timeline for component 1c.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Fragmentation of the REDD & CC Platform at the municipal level							
Complete the mapping of the stakeholders by agro-ecological zone							
Construction of the consultation plan							
Identification of the roles of each participant in implementing the consultation plan and the communication plan							
Preparation of the communication tools							
Construction of the details of the communication plan							
Implementation of the communication plan							
Awareness raising of the sectoral authorities for their involvement in REDD+							
Training of the groups that will carry out the awareness raising, training and consultation sessions							
Awareness raising of the stakeholders (civil society, private sector, etc.)							
Construction of the tools necessary for FPIC							
Training for the implementation of FPIC							
Implementation of FPIC							
Conducting of theme-based consultations (see below for the details)							
Continuous dissemination / information sharing							
<b>Theme-based consultations</b>							
REDD+ process management institutions							
Appeal mechanism: setup, operation							
REDD+ risks and opportunities / evaluation of potential conflicts							
Causes of deforestation and forest degradation							
Analysis of sectoral policies / governance							
Concerted identification of pilot projects at the local level (identification of the implementation zones and of the types of adapted projects)							
Construction of the reference scenario							
Construction of the MRV							

Clarification of the rights to be considered in the benefit sharing mechanism (carbon rights, user rights, rights of the local and indigenous communities, etc.)							
Benefit sharing mechanism							
Benefit management mechanism							
Identification of the strategic options							
EESS							
National strategy							

This component is one of the main expense items of the REDD+ process. The cost of setting up the consultation and participation process is admittedly high, but it guarantees the real participation of all of the stakeholders in the process. The consultation plan that must be constructed at the start of the process will schedule the priority activities to be carried out and the [TN: text ends here]

Principal activity	Secondary activity	Estimated costs (in thousands of dollars)				
		2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Production of tools for the IEC	Setup of the tools		103	6	6	115
	Duplication of the tools		100	175	175	450
	Dissemination (dissemination network / web server web) / Watch		445	425	425	1,295
Awareness raising	Awareness raising / training of the stakeholders		450	450	450	1,350
	CS Forum	40				40
Consultation	National, regional and local consultations		1,692	1 908	1 525	5,125
FPIC	Design of the mechanism		25			25
	Personnel training		10	10		20
	Implementation		200	200	200	600
<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>3,024</b>	<b>3,175</b>	<b>2 781</b>	<b>9,020</b>
<b>FCPF</b>			<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>PSFE Common fund</b>			<b>200</b>			<b>200</b>
<b>IUCN</b>			<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>50</b>

## Component 2: Preparation of the REDD+ strategy

### 2a: Assessment of land use, forest policy and governance

**Standard 2a to be complied with in the text of the R-PP to satisfy the provisions of this component:**

**Assessment of land use, forest policy and governance:**

Presentation of a complete assessment of the following aspects: definition of the main land use trends; assessment of the direct and indirect factors of deforestation and forest degradation in the sectors most relevant to the REDD+ context; recognition of the main land rights, rights to natural resources and governance problems and shortcomings; description of past failures and successes in implementing policies and measures to combat the factors of deforestation and forest degradation; enumeration of the principal stakes, opportunities for progress and gaps in the REDD+ context and creation of the conditions required so that the national REDD+ strategy can directly tackle the causes of changes in land use.

Cameroon belongs to the forest massif of the Congo Basin. 41.3% of its territory is covered with forests, or 19.1 million hectares of dense forest divided into 18.6 million hectares of dense moist forest, 227,818 ha of mangroves, 194,638 ha of transition forests and 28,396 ha of mountain forests. To these are added dry woodland (1.3 million hectares), 12 million hectares of savanna woodland, 2.6 million hectares of shrub savanna and 2.6 million hectares of savanna mosaics (EdF 2010). The forests of Cameroon thus stock at least 5 Gt of Carbon (EdF 2010).

#### 1. The agro-ecological zones, deforestation and forest degradation

##### a. Delimitation of the agro-ecological zones

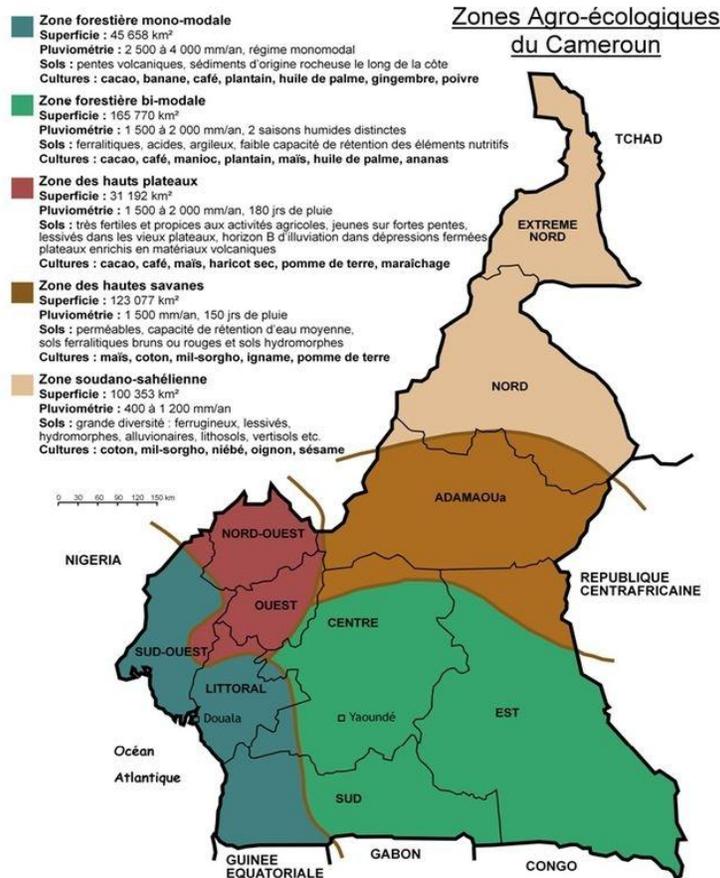
The five agro-ecological zones of Cameroon are defined based on their ecological, climatic and edaphic characteristics (FAO, 2008) (see Annex 2a-1) for the characteristics of the different agro-ecological zones).

**Table 4: Area of the agro-ecological zones**

Agro-ecological zone	Regions	Areas (km <sup>2</sup> )
Sudano sahelian	North and Far North	100,353
Guinea high savanna	Adamaoua and the departments of Le Mbam and Le Lom and Djerem	123,077
High plateaus	West and Northwest	31,192
Moist forests with monomodal rainfall	Coast and Southwest	45,658
Forests with bimodal rainfall	Center, South and East	165,770

Source: Adapted from the statistical yearbook of Cameroon (2000)

These agro-ecological zones are broken down in the following manner:



**[Agro-ecological zones of Cameroon**

**Monomodal forest zone**

Area: 45,658 square kilometers  
 Rainfall: 2,500 to 4,000 mm/year, monomodal region  
 Soil: volcanic, rocky sediment along the coast  
 Crops: cacao, bananas, coffee, plantain, palm oil, ginger, pepper

**Bimodal forest zone**

Area: 165,770 square kilometers  
 Rainfall: 1,500 to 2,000 mm/year, 2 separate rainy seasons  
 Soil: ferrallitic, acidic, clayey, low capacity to retain nutrients  
 Crops: cacao, coffee, cassava, plantain, corn, palm oil, pineapple

**High plateaus zone**

Area: 31,192 square kilometers  
 Rainfall: 1,500 to 2,000 mm/year, 180 days of rain  
 Soil: very fertile and favorable to farming activities, immature on steep slopes, leached in the old plateaus, B illuvial horizon in closed depressions, plateaus enriched with volcanic material  
 Crops: cacao, coffee, corn, dry beans, potatoes, truck farming

**High savanna zone**

Area: 123,077 square kilometers  
 Rainfall: 1,500 mm/year, 150 days of rain  
 Soil: permeable, average water retention capacity, brown and red ferrallitic soil and hydromorphic soil  
 Crops: corn, cotton, sorghum, yams, potatoes

**Sudo-sahelian zone**

Area: 100,353 square kilometers  
 Rainfall: 400 to 1,200 mm/year  
 Soil: great diversity: ferruginous, leached, hydromorphic, alluvial, lithosol, vertisol, etc.  
 Crops: cotton, sorghum, black-eyed pea, onion, sesame]

**Map 1: Location of the different agro-ecological zones**

## **b. The deforestation and forest degradation rate in Cameroon**

Estimating the rate of deforestation and forest degradation in Cameroon is complicated given the diversity of the agro-ecological zones. Certain regional sources like the État des Forêts du Congo (EdF 2010) estimate the rate of deforestation and degradation at 0.08% and 0.06% between 1990 and 2000. Duvellier et al. (2008) situate Cameroon's net deforestation rate at 0.14 % and the degradation rate at 0.01% (for a period running from 1990 to 2000). On the other hand, the FAO study (FRA 2005 and FRA 2010) estimates the deforestation rates at around 1% annually (FAO and OIBT, 2011). There are several reasons for these data disparities: the scale of the sampling, the zone studied, the type of vegetation chosen, the calculation method, etc. Furthermore, most of the data on deforestation and degradation come from studies carried out in the southern forest zone and at the sub-regional scale. Studies on deforestation and degradation in the dry zones are very rare, even non-existent.

In order to construct the reference scenario and set Cameroon's objectives in terms of deforestation and degradation reduction, Cameroon needs to gain greater mastery of its national deforestation and degradation rate by taking the different characteristics of the agro-ecological zones into consideration.

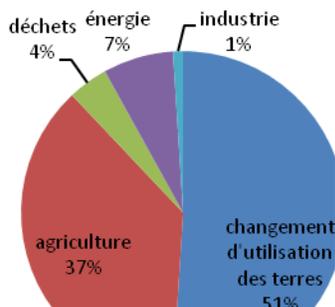
## **2. *The causes of deforestation and forest degradation***

Deforestation and forest degradation in Cameroon are the result of direct causes and underlying factors. The causes of deforestation and degradation developed in this document are data taken primarily from the bibliography (see the bibliography list in annex 2a - 3) and the consultations conducted in the different agro-ecological zones. A more in-depth study of the causes (direct and indirect) of deforestation and degradation covering the different agro-ecological zones will be carried out during the preparation phase. Consultations will be planned to reinforce the results of this study.

### **Inset 5: Breakdown of GHG emissions in Cameroon**

(source: MINEF, 2001)

GHG emissions in Cameroon break down as follows:



[ Waste 4% energy 7% industry 1% agriculture 37% land use change 51%]

As part of the national communication effort, it was not possible to separate emissions due to permanent changes in land use (like agroindustry, etc.) and those due to a temporary change in land (subsistence farming, etc.). The distinction between these sources of GHG emissions will be made during the study on the causes of deforestation and forest degradation.

## **a. Directs causes**

Four factors are considered in Cameroon as being direct causes of deforestation and degradation. If these causes are present in all the agro-ecological zones, their impacts on the state of resources can vary depending on their characteristics (climate, edaphic factors) and the activities developed in these zones. Therefore it is not possible to prioritize the causes of deforestation for the national territory given the distinctive characteristics of the agro-ecological zones and the choice of the approach adopted by Cameroon.

✓ **The conversion of forests into cultivation zones coupled with low agricultural productivity**

Cameroon is a country that has enormous agricultural potential. Cameroon's arable land covers an area of some 7.2 million ha plus close to 2 million ha of pastureland. Three types of farming are practiced in Cameroon: extensive substance farming, cash crop farming and agro-industry.

One of the main causes of deforestation, and the one cited most often, is the practice of slash and burn subsistence farming<sup>7</sup> (close to 80% of rural households in Cameroon practice it (Cerruti *et al.*, 2010)). The surface areas used for slash and burn farming<sup>8</sup> are abandoned when the soil becomes infertile, and secondary vegetation takes hold. These areas are of interest to REDD+ since the regeneration of vegetation has considerable carbon sequestration potential. Indeed, losses of vegetation cover are not irreversible due to fallow land regeneration, however carbon losses during burning are considerable.

Slash and burn farming can, of course, cause deforestation, however when estimating the losses in forested area, the distinction between permanent loss and temporary loss of forest cover must be taken into consideration through the practice of fallowing land. This aspect demonstrates the complexity of the forest dynamic in Cameroon, a dynamic that is not being emphasized in most cases.

The establishment of cash crop farming such as cacao cultivation and coffee cultivation in the forest zones also contributes significantly to deforestation and degradation. These traditional cash crops are planted on parcels formerly covered by forest. They currently occupy 914,609 ha in the country, and are primarily located in the forest regions (MINEP and FAO 2007). Peanut cultivation in the northern region of Cameroon occupies a total area of 140,000 ha, and cotton farming around 130,000 ha (Bourou *et al.*, 2010).<sup>9</sup>

To this we must add the agro-industrial plantations that play an important role in forest conversion in several regions of Cameroon with climatic and edaphic conditions favorable to cultivation (essentially the Central, Southwest and Coastal regions) (Biki *et al.*, 2000). Furthermore, subsistence plantations have developed around these large agroindustrial operations. In 2008, oil palm crops occupied 136,180 ha<sup>10</sup> in formerly forested land (Lebailly and Tentchou, 2008). Demands for larger areas for palm groves continue at present, putting real pressure on the forests.<sup>11</sup>

In terms of livestock farming, Cameroon is a livestock farming country par excellence with 6 million cattle, 7 million small ruminants, more than 50 million fowl and 2 million pigs, and the pastoral land covers more than 30%

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<sup>7</sup> The average biomass stock in the dense evergreen lowland forests has been estimated at 326.12 tC / ha (GFA, 2010). With the practice of slash and burn farming, the average carbon stock can drop to less than 25tC / ha (Nasi *et al.*, 2009).

<sup>8</sup> According to Dounias (2001), slash and burn farming includes several phases (i) clearing of a portion of forest (brush removal and/or felling; (ii) burning of the plant debris; (iii) cultivation of the land for a generally brief period ; (iv) leaving the land fallow for a generally long period of time. Slash and burn farming alternates between a period of cultivation and a period of forest regeneration. So this is not a form of permanent farming.

<sup>9</sup> It must be noted that the establishment of cash crop farming is an important risk for deforestation due to the fluctuation of the international market price of raw materials. When the global market price of raw materials increases, the increase in the purchase prices of these products for rural households can encourage them to expand the surface area of their parcels to the detriment of the forest.

<sup>10</sup> With an annual production of 145,000 tons of palm oil.

<sup>11</sup> Refer to the Sime Darby palm grove application in the southwestern region of Cameroon or to the "Hevea Project" planned for the eastern and southern regions of Cameroon.

of the national territory; including more than 14 million hectares of pasturable land. Not all livestock farms are sources of deforestation and degradation, however, those requiring pastureland need particular consideration.

#### **Inset 6: The case of brush fires and wildfires as causes of deforestation and forest degradation**

Forest fires are important sources of deforestation and degradation. They can be set for the needs of farming, livestock and cynegetic activities, but not exclusively.

The brush fires observed primarily in the northern region of the country are not as destructive, since in most cases they are controlled. In fact, of the 487,000 ha of forest burned annually, 83% of the fires are controlled (FAO, 2011). However, these fires are destructive in the mountain zones where fire is necessary for pasture renewal. They actually have negative impacts on the stabilization of drainage basins given the slumping and soil quality degradation problems and therefore the impacts on the state of the vegetation and the biodiversity that develop there.

#### **✓ Low energy efficiency and the problem of energy wood**

Energy wood remains one of the most used forms of energy in Cameroon (MINEP, 2008; Sonwa et al., 2011; Dkamela, 2011; De Wasseige, 2009). The use of fuel wood as source of energy in households is widespread, not only in rural areas but also in urban areas. Close to 53% of the population uses solid fuels and is almost totally located in rural areas (94%) (EIS, 2010, PNUD, 2008). Less than 40% of the population has access to electricity; this rate barely reaches 10% in rural areas where around 3, 000 villages out of 18,000 have electric power.

Final energy consumption in Cameroon is 65% dependent on traditional energy sources (wood, charcoal, etc.), which satisfies at least 95% of the cooking needs of the poorest households, particularly in rural areas (EIS, 2010). More than 7.4 million people living in rural areas do not have access to modern energy services, and barely 3% of rural households have access to gas for domestic use (Bikidik, 2010).

Around 9.8 million cubic meters of fuel wood are collected annually, according to an FAO estimate (2009<sup>12</sup>) and more than 76% of this fuel wood is collected in the forest zones (Topa et al., 2010).<sup>13</sup> However, the MINFOF estimates the quantity collected at close to 12 million cubic meters per year and the MINEE estimates it at 11.9 million cubic meters for the year 2009 (EIS, 2010). In the coastal zone, the collection of mangrove wood for its heating properties has also contributed to the loss of 40% of the area occupied by mangroves in the country. Mangrove wood is used especially in smokehouses to dry fish and to supply the populations of the coastal zone with fuel wood. However, reliable data is not really currently available for fuel wood, because it is difficult to track the changes in its consumption throughout the country.

The use of fuel wood as source of energy is dependent on its price and its availability. In the absence of any products that might compete with it (electrical power, gas, etc.), especially at competitive prices, rural and even urban households have no other recourse. If we consider both the country's population growth and the needs for energy wood and the availability of forest resources, the consumption of fuel wood could increase in the coming years. Indeed, given the low efficiency of the carbonization methods used and low energy performance of the non-economical stoves used by the households, but also the excessive prices of the alternative energies available, the use of energy wood should increase.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> See <http://faostat.fao.org/>

<sup>13</sup> All collections in the different ecoregions are taken into consideration in this estimate.

<sup>14</sup> For example, a bottle of gas costs FCFA 21,000 FCFA and a refill is FCFA 6,000. Households do not have the money to allow them to pay for this substitution product in one payment, especially in rural areas. The choice of other sources of renewable energy (including solar energy and wind energy) is not even an issue given the cost of the investment necessary to install them.

To give an idea of the magnitude of the problem, fuel wood consumption alone in the cities of Maroua and Garoua represents the equivalent of around 580 hectares per year of mature forest in full production in 2000 (Massing, 2002, IUCN 2012).

The problems of access to energy depend on the zones considered:

- the supply of fuel wood in metropolitan areas for the northern region;
- the degradation of mangroves due to their anarchical exploitation for drying fish and to supply firewood for the coastal regions; low energy efficiency and the waste of forest products for energy purposes for the southern forest regions.

✓ **Non-compliance with the development plan in forest concessions and anarchic exploitation of timber**

Logging is one of the main sources of forest degradation in Cameroon, whether this involves small traditional operations (legal or illegal) or large forest concessions (the UFA), especially when timber removal does not comply with the requirements of the development plan. Of the 3 million cubic meters of wood logged annually, 25 to 30% is removed illegally to supply the domestic market (Topa *et al.*, 2010). The losses of forest area caused by logging stem mostly from the opening of skid trails (development of the road infrastructure), the creation of timber yards, site facilities and even migrations. Migrations represent an additional pressure on forest resources: to provide for their needs, the migrants develop farming in the forest zones and practice poaching. In the Sangha Trinational (TNS) and the Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Trinational (TRIDOM) alone, 170 ha of forest are converted every year into farming parcels due to the establishment of UFA in these regions (IUCN, 2010). The causes of deforestation related to logging are thus more tied to its impacts than to the activity itself.

A study conducted by the CIFOR put forth the figure of 715,000 m<sup>3</sup> of products from informal sawing operations, for surveys carried out primarily in Yaoundé, Douala, Bertoua and in the southwestern region. In 65% of cases, these woods come from zones that are highly impacted by anthropogenic activities, reinforcing the pressure on the forests. This exploitation thus represents constant pressure on the forests of the non-permanent forest estate (Cerruti *et al.*, 2011). The existence of this illegal traditional sawing is not only damaging for the state of the forests, but also results in losses for the public treasury.

✓ **Mining operations in forest zones**

Cameroon has considerable mining (iron, bauxite, etc.) and oil resources. These resources are not all exploited, even if many deposits have been identified. However, the current operations, most of which are small-scale, are already causing considerable damage in terms of deforestation and degradation.

The impact of mining operations on forests is two-fold: locally, open-pit mining is a source of deforestation; more widely, the establishment of these mining operations is accompanied by the construction of service routes (roads, railroads) in order to be able to export the production and a migration to meet labor needs. The construction of these service routes is an additional cause of deforestation. As for migration, when families settle in, they develop subsistence farming activities that are harmful to the forest. The number of people involved full-time and whose activities have negative impacts on the environment, particularly on the condition of the soil and the vegetation, is estimated at 15,000.

✓ **Development of infrastructures**

Cameroon has close to 50,000 km of roads. The system of rural asphalt roads is dense and growing constantly. The development of road infrastructures is a support to economic and social development. The master plan and the sectoral strategy developed aim to double the percentage of the asphalt road system from its current 10% to 19% by the year 2020 (the current asphaltting rate is 200 km per year for a projected 450km/year by the year 2020). The construction of a new railroad system is planned as of 2013 that would connect Mbalam to the Kribi bulk ore-carrier port (602.6 Km) for the evacuation of iron. Although this development would facilitate transport, it will have significant impacts on the forest cover that will be destroyed along the route.

The table below summarizes the importance of the causes of deforestation by agro-ecological zone

**Table 5: Importance of the direct causes of deforestation and forest degradation by agro-ecological zone**

Causes	Moist bimodal rainfall forest zone	Moist monomodal rainfall forest zone	High plateaus zone	Guinea high savanna zone	Sudano-Sahelian
Agro-industry	++	+++		+	+
Subsistence farming	++	++	+++	+	+
Cash crop farming	+++	+++	+	+	+
Livestock farming			++	+++	++
Logging	+++	++	+		
Energy wood	+	++	+++	++	+++
Infrastructures	++	+++	+	+	+
Mines	+++	+		+	+

+ to +++: from least important to most important

Source: Compilation of the results of the regional consultations

#### **b. Underlying factors**

##### **✓ Anthropogenic pressure due to population growth**

In Cameroon, 80% of the population, especially the poorest, live at the expense of forest resources (Bele et al., 2011). This pressure on the forest and on the natural resources is growing since the country's annual growth rate is 2.6%, (INS, 2008) and is even reaching 2.8% in certain rural areas.

The pressure on natural and forest resources is considerable in the supply areas of large cities, since the wood is used as main source of energy by around 90% of households (EIS, 2010) and since the cities' demands for wood (service lumber, construction lumber, etc.) are constant. If the problems relating to all forms of wood removal can be resolved, those relating to the cultural value of the forest are difficult to resolve. In fact, the cultural customs of rural households and particularly the indigenous peoples, are dependent on forest resources.

##### **✓ Economic factors**

Cameroon's planned development is based on the rural world, but also on the expansion of industrialization. This industrialization does not take place only through intermediary of the agri-food and agro-industrial industries but also through the intermediary of the mining industries, the various processing industries, etc. It's consequence is the intensification of urbanization and thus results in pressure on the natural and forest resources, which are found primarily in the supply basins of metropolitan areas.

##### **✓ Political and institutional factors**

###### Insufficient forest monitoring and governance in the forest sector

Despite the existence of a number of institutions responsible for forest monitoring and with the intervention of the ONACC, the Independent Observatory, the service in charge of forest monitoring and the decentralized district forest monitoring services, the illegal exploitation of forest products (ligneous and non-ligneous) causes losses for the State. These losses are not only ecological but also financial.

The monitoring capabilities of the ministry in charge of Forests and Wildlife are still relatively weak considering the violations observed. Despite the systematic reports made by the Independent Observer, the current

government mechanisms do not make it possible to truly track these disputes and apply the sanctions (Topa et al., 2010). The illegal products are above all intended to supply the local and regional market.

#### Difficulties encountered in applying the laws

The laws are not adequately applied for various reasons. The most important is the absence of any regulations and the insufficient capacities of the human and financial resources.

#### Lack of coordination between the different land use strategies and policies

The lack of interministerial communication and coordination, **as well as the absence of a land use plan**, have had noticeable consequences in the award of operating permits to private companies (mines, forests, agriculture, protected areas) (Schwartz et al., 2012). One of the perceptible consequences is the award of 28 mining and oil permits inside 12 protected areas over the last seven years.

#### Land use

The land tenure system in Cameroon is governed by Order No. 74-1 of July 6, 1974 on land and state land tenure and the expropriation procedures for public utility. It was completed by law No. 85-09 of July 4, 1985 and decree 76-165 of April 27, 1976, concerning the conditions for obtaining land titles.

Decree No. 2005/481 of December 16, 2005 amended the order of July 6, 1974 and made it possible to strengthen the securitization of land rights. Land ownership is thus generalized: it must be registered, which guarantees individual land rights. The same is true for all the customary laws, which must be “modernized” and transformed into written law. However, 35 years after the unification of the land systems, the number of land titles issued for a potential of close to 3,000,000 parcels is estimated at 150,000, and barely 2% of the territory carries a title (BAD, 2009).

The State has thus created a national estate on all the lands not appropriated in the name of the general interest, but that, traditionally, belong to a traditional community. Two parallel rights result from this: a traditional right, taking local practices into account, applied by the population, and a modern right imposed by the State. This situation constitutes a check to the effective application of land rights.

The land regulations currently in force are strongly criticized, particularly because of their inadequacy with respect to the rights practiced by the local communities (land use rights). Its application is thus uncertain, and the conflicts involving disputes between traditional practices and the regulations are increasing continually.

To this we must add the problems encountered at the local level whose impacts are felt by rural households:

- monopolizing of land by the elite;
- purchase of land by the most influential family members to the detriment of the other family members who are most often present locally;
- inheritance creating the breaking up of cultivable land for each farming household;
- administrative red tape and slowness for property registration applications;
- high cost of land registration (direct cost and indirect cost).

Thus, land is at the heart of the debates concerning the inconsistencies of the possible uses of space. The use of forest space is governed by forest zoning. The mining code is, for its part, operational and awards mining permits without necessarily referring to the other existing sectors. The same is true for the farming code and the farming policy, which have their own ambitions, unrelated to the other uses of space.

According to the forest zoning covering 14,000,000 ha of southern forest,<sup>15</sup> the forests of Cameroon are composed of the permanent forest estate (DPF) and the non-permanent forest estate (DFNP).

- according to the forest law, the permanent forest estate consists of lands permanently assigned to the forest and/or to wildlife habitat. The permanent estate represents close to 60% of the 14 million hectares that have been subject to land use. However, the permanent estate estimates for the entire forest territory in 2010 are 12.65 million ha or 27% of the national territory and it consists of (i) protected areas (3.7 million ha) (ii) 114 production forests or UFA (7,079,712 ha) (iii) close to 20 officially classified communal forests (around 500,840 ha);
- the non-permanent forest estate is a multiple-use estate and consists of forest lands that can be assigned to uses other than forestry uses. The non-permanent forest estate is multi-purpose. However, the community forests (around 1,502,348 ha), are subject to conservation management and are thus subject to the implementation of a simple management plan and an environmental impact assessment.

Apart from the dense forest zone, the other agro-ecological zones are not part of any zoning plan.

### ***3. Previous policy and strategy efforts that have impacted the use of forest resources***

Environmental and forest management in Cameroon is governed by the 1994 Forestry Law and the 1996 framework law relating to environmental management. These laws meet the needs of the stakeholders but have not, up to now, been able to achieve the hoped for results. They also respond to the international concerns subscribed to by Cameroon. The creation, in 2004, of a Ministry of the Environment (MINEP) whose missions were strengthened in 2011 through the incorporation of the sustainable development dimension, marks a new step in the government's commitment to work to achieve sustainable development objectives and to strengthen the incorporation of the environment in sectoral policies.

#### **✓ International conventions**

Cameroon has signed a number of international and regional conventions and agreements relating to environmental protection (see the list of laws in 2a-2). The implementation of most of these conventions, as well as their integration in the national laws and regulations, is, nevertheless, still limited and lacks cooperation.

#### **✓ Sub-regional and national initiatives**

Cameroon, like all the countries of the COMIFAC area, adhered to the Convergence Plan whose objectives are consistent with those of REDD+ at the national level. It is also a member of the Partnership for the Forests of the Congo Basin (PFBC), as well as of several other transnational initiatives such as TNS, TRIDOM, CBLT, CICOS, ABN, the Guinea Current, etc.

#### **✓ National policies**

##### Forest policy

The current laws in force result from a policy marked by widespread reform, dating from 1994. In fact, Cameroon, after having ratified the master convention on biological diversity, agreed to adopt strategies that target the sustainable management of its natural resources. Furthermore, according to the requirements of the structure adjustment plan to which it has been subject since 1988 and considering the projections of its national forest action plan developed in 1995, the country has indicated its interest in moving forward with a reform of its forest policy. These efforts led to the re-engineering of the institutional, legislative and regulatory framework

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<sup>15</sup> Note that the dense moist forests of Cameroon are mostly located in the southern part of the country.

codified by law No. 94/01 of January 20, 1994 concerning the forest, wildlife and fishing regime commonly called the Forestry Law and implementing decrees No. 95/531/PM of August 23, 1995 setting the terms and conditions of application of the forest regime (amended by decree No. 2000/092/PM of March 27, 2000) and No. 95/466/PM of July 20, 1995 setting the terms and conditions of application of the wildlife regime and by the establishment of the PSFE. The affirmed objective of this new forest law was to “perpetuate and develop the economic, ecological and social functions of the forests within the framework of integrated and participatory management capable of sustainably and durably ensuring the conservation and the use of the resources of the forest ecosystems” (IUCN, 2011).

#### Environmental policy

The environmental policy is defined by the Constitution, the National Environmental Management Plan (PNGE) and the accompanying law, in this case the 1996 framework law relating to environmental management. These tools aim for improved integration of the environment and of the concept of sustainable development in sectoral policies. These strategic documents and many others like the National Plan to Combat Desertification (PAN-LCD), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the National Program for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNACC) under development, the National Action Plan for the Coastal Zone (PAN), etc., express the government’s desire to include environmental issues and the sustainable development of natural resources in the development plans and programs.

Environmental management in Cameroon is governed by law No. 96/12 of August 5, 1996, which defines the principles governing the rules in environmental matters in Cameroon: precaution, preventive and corrective action, payment for resulting pollution, liability, participation and subsidiarity. Furthermore, it develops the coordination and financing of the environmental policies.

#### Agricultural policy

The rural and agricultural sector occupies a fundamental place in the DSCE. Cameroon’s agricultural policy seeks to “ensure the food security of the populations and establish the bases for the launch of the agricultural revolution” (MINADER et al., 2005). This objective will be achieved through the establishment of different programs targeting food security for all the agro-ecological zones (through improved productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural industries, through the modernization of the infrastructures of the rural world and of production), the production of surpluses, which will be enhanced by the development of the agro-industry, the creation of jobs, especially for youths, and institutional development as well as capacity building.

The modernization of the production system is the only means for achieving the desire to bring new dynamism to the rural world. It requires facilitating access to the production factors, namely land, water, farm inputs, the promotion of technological innovations through the strengthening of the research/extension link, and the stimulation of competitiveness in the production chains.<sup>16</sup>

#### Mining policy

The objectives pursued in the sector aim to foster and encourage the exploration for, mining and processing of the mineral resources necessary to the country’s economic and social development (DSCE).

The mining sector is currently made up of a small-scale sector and a still embryonic industrial sector. In order to optimize the impact of the activities, the Government set up a Support and Promotion Framework for Small-Scale Mining (CAPAM) whose mission is to manage the small-scale miners from a technical standpoint, channel their production toward the formal circuits and develop the support activities. The industrial mining sector is currently in full expansion. In the future, Cameroon intends to explore, mine and process cobalt, nickel, iron, manganese, bauxite and even diamond deposits in the different zones of the country. To optimize and better regulate mining operations, the Government wants to foster the synergy between the different agencies involved in the

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<sup>16</sup> <http://www.spm.gov.cm/actualites/actualite/article/nouvelle-politique-agricole-le-gouvernement-lance-la-mise-en-place-dune-usine-de-production-deng.html> (consulted on June 26, 2012)

development of the extractive industries and coordinate their interventions. This will involve finding a balance between the mining activities, sustainable forest development and the participation of the populations.

#### Land policy

Cameroon land tenure is characterized by the co-existence of two systems, namely the customary system, whose lack of security creates numerous estate-related conflicts (farmers-livestock farmers conflicts) and the modern system of land ownership, which provides public security. The existence of this dualism stems from the absence of any coherent land policy adapted to economic and social development: the agro-land pressure noticeable in the regions where the population density is quite high, the practice of slash and burn farming and extensive livestock breeding have as corollary the decrease in soil fertility and the appearance of pockets of desertification. However, the laws governing land issues are clear: the laws take precedence over customary right. Given these inadequacies, the Government initiated a revision of land legislation.

#### Energy policy

Cameroon's energy policy seeks to guarantee access for the population to energy services while reducing the impact of energy on the natural, socio-economic and cultural environment. To improve the access of the populations to modern energy services in the priority sectors and help reduce poverty, particularly in rural areas, the Government developed a National Energy Action Plan for the Reduction of Poverty (PANERP). A rural energy fund is also being considered in order to promote infrastructures for the supply of energy services to the populations, particularly in rural areas. Aware that the firewood used according to the current inefficient consumption models can increase the environmental annoyances, particularly in fragile ecology zones, Cameroon wishes to emphasize the promotion of renewable energies and rationalize the consumption of firewood, as well develop energy efficiency.

An analysis of these different policies will be conducted during the preparatory phase in order to identify clearly the impacts of the establishment of these sectoral policies on the state of the forest resources.

### **4. Analysis of governance**

The forests and the environment of Cameroon are governed by laws specific to them. Other laws may, nevertheless, create impacts on the state of the forests and the environment. However, these laws are not totally applied, and thus damage to the natural and forest resources is possible. Even with efforts to improve the situation, more particularly through the revision of forest and environmental laws, governance encounters problems that are not at all insurmountable. Given this finding, it is not out of the question that REDD+ may encounter governance problems, particularly a weak synergy between the **sectors (agriculture, forests, mines, etc.)** and the malfunctions with implementing the laws and policies.

The table below shows the different actions undertaken, the actions announced and the lessons learned for different sectors to be taken into consideration for improved governance.

**Table 6: Actions by sector having impacts on governance**

Actions by sector having an impact on governance		Lessons learned
Actions undertaken	Actions announced	
<b>Administrative organization</b>		
*Beginning of decentralization		*The State must exercise its governing powers more. *There is a need for capacity building for the municipalities and regions and for a transfer of sufficient resources.
<b>Forest sector</b>		

*Establishment of forest resource management instruments	*Reform of the forestry law *Implementation of the VPA/FLEGT	*Independent observation plays an important role in the transparency of forestry operations. *The traceability of wood is a condition for combating illegal forest practices
<b>Environment</b>		
*Adoption of a framework law on environmental management	*Reform of the framework law on environmental management *Establishment of the Observatory on Climate Change	*There is a need to adapt the law (particularly the EIE) to the context of the major natural resources infrastructure and exploitation projects *The void persists concerning an operational instrument in connection with greenhouse gas reduction activities
<b>Energy and water</b>		
*Development plan for the Electricity sector		*The development of new dams and electrical power plants underscores the need to harmonize land use
<b>Mines and hydrocarbons</b>		
*Adoption of a mining code * Adoption of an oil code * Forestry and mining forum		*Need for harmonization and coherence with other sectors, particularly concerning land use *The forestry and mining forum is a dialogue platform whose results are important for initiating coherence and harmonization
<b>Agriculture</b>		
	*Announcement of an agricultural revolution *Land/agrarian reform	*There are no zoning plans in any of the agro-ecological zones of Cameroon *The new needs for farmland involve greater coordination for land use
<b>Land development</b>		
	*Reforms of the legal and institutional arsenal governing State land use, property and heritage matters	
<b>Land use planning</b>		
*Adoption of a policy act for land use planning and sustainable development	*Implementing decrees for the law.	*It is urgent to tackle the questions of coherence and coordination in land use matters

As previously, a more in-depth analysis of the issues relating to governance will be conducted during the preparation phase in order to offer adequate responses to the indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation.

### **5. The future uses of natural and forest resources and future causes of deforestation and forest degradation**

Considering the objectives that Cameroon has set for itself in terms of development, the future activities will impact the state of the forests if no prior measures are taken. The change in land use in Cameroon will depend on its sectoral development objectives.

In the agricultural field:

- the expansion of agro-industrial plantations (African oil palms, bananas, para rubber trees, etc.) in the low and medium altitude evergreen forest zones (Coastal and Southwestern Regions) and in the semi-deciduous forest zones (Central and Southern regions);
- the expansion of cotton farming in the Sudano-sahelian zones and in the Sudano-Guinean zones;
- the intensification of perennial crops (cacao cultivation, African oil palms) in the semi-deciduous dense forest zone (Central and Southern Southwestern regions);
- the expansion of subsistence farming in the high plateaus of the West and Northwest;

- the increase in livestock and thus the expansion of pastureland areas in the Sudano-Guinean and Sudano-Sahelian zones;
- etc.

In the energy field:

- the dam and power transmission lines construction projects (Lom Pangar, Nachtigal, Song Mbengue, Memve'ele, MEkin, Kikot, Menchum, Bini Awarak, Njock, Colomine, etc.);
- the removal of firewood;
- etc.

In the mining sector:

- the expansion of mining operations particularly in the southern forest zones;
- the construction of service infrastructures to transport the mining products (railroad, etc.);
- etc.

In the other sectors:

- the expansion of cities, even if the urbanization rate should slow down and be maintained at 57% by the year 2020;
- the increase in migrations in the northern Region (Sudano-Sahelian zone) and the major industrial regions like the coast, the southwest and the center (dense moist forest zone with monomodal and bimodal rainfall);
- etc.

**Table 7: Probable future causes of deforestation and forest degradation by agro-ecological zone**

Future land use	Moist forest with bimodal rainfall	Moist forest with monomodal rainfall	High Plateaus zone	High Guinea savanna zone	Sudano-Sahelian zone
<b>Agriculture</b>					
Expansion of the agro-industrial plantations	+++	+++		+	+
Expansion of cash crop farming	+++	++	+		
Expansion of subsistence farming	++	++	+++	+	+
Extension of grazing land				+++	++
Brush fires			+++	+++	++
<b>Energy</b>					
Removal of fuel wood		++	+++	++	+++
Major electrification projects	+++	++			
<b>Mining operations</b>					
Expansion of mining operations	+++	++		++	+
Service routes	++	+++	+		+
<b>Logging</b>					
Non-sustainable operation	+++	++	+	+	

Other					
Expansion of cities	+++	+++	++	++	++
Migration	+++	+++	++	++	++

+ to +++: from least important to most important

#### ✓ Needs

The following studies will be necessary to understand the contexts of the different agro-ecological zones. They will concern:

- the identification of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation in the agro-ecological zones;
- the determination of the rates of deforestation and forest degradation (national) taking into consideration the different agro-ecological zones. This will result from the definition of forest that will be taken into consideration for the country, considering the different characteristics of the agro-ecological zones (see component 3);
- the analysis of experience concerning policy and strategy making it possible to impact deforestation and forest degradation;
- the analysis of overlapping sectoral policies with the objective of harmonizing them and making them coherent);
- the analysis of the land management system;
- the state of governance, REDD+ and the risks of corruption;
- the political economy of REDD+.

The studies will first be based on the results of the research work (of the research institutions, institutions of higher education, the national and international technical partners for development, etc.) that has been done. They will also build on the knowledge gained from the pilot experiments. They lead, in fact, to a need for harmonization of the methodology to be adopted for the different agro-ecological zones and to the necessity of refining the work, while expanding it over the territory of Cameroon.

The studies will be carried out by teams made up of international consultants and national consultants with the active participation of civil society. International requests for proposals will be launched for each study.

**Table 8: Activities to be undertaken and detailed timeline for component 2a**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Identification of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation by agro-ecological zone							
Identification of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation by sector							
Evaluation of the rates of deforestation and forest degradation by agro-ecological zone							
Identification and forward-looking assessment of the future causes of deforestation and degradation by agro-ecological zone							
Analysis of governance around the use of forest resources							
Analysis of the sector policies / laws having impacts on the state of the forests							
Analysis of the coordination problems between the different sector policies							
Analysis of the risks of corruption							

Inventory and analysis of the REDD+ initiatives / pilot projects developed by civil society and the development partners							
Political economy of REDD+							
Consultations (to be conducted at the same time as the studies and analyses to be carried out / continuously) pm (refer to component 1C)							

<b>Table 2a: Summary of the assessment of land use, forest policy and governance and the related budget</b>						
<b>Principal activity</b>	<b>Secondary activities</b>	<b>Estimated cost (in thousands of dollars)</b>				
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Total</b>
Inventory / Analysis of past experience	Causes of deforestation and degradation		250.0	0.0		250
	Political Economy			250.0		250
	Governance		187.5	62.5		250
	Sectoral policy analysis		187.5	62.5		250
	Risks and opportunities of REDD+		93.75	31		125
Watch	Building on what has been learned (REDD initiatives and projects REDD)		40			40
<b>Total</b>			<b>758.8</b>	<b>406.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,165</b>
<b>FCPF</b>			250	250		500
<b>IUCN</b>			25	25		50

## 2b. REDD+ strategy options

### **Standard 2b to be complied with in the text of the R-PP to satisfy the provisions of this component : REDD+ strategy options**

The R-PP must include: an alignment of the REDD+ strategy proposed with the defined causes of deforestation and forest degradation and with the national and sector strategies; an analysis of the emerging REDD+ strategy as it is determined today, as well as the analytical work proposed (and, optionally, the mandates) for the assessment of the different REDD+ strategy options. This summary must include how the country provides a response to the factors of deforestation and degradation in its REDD+ strategy; a plan estimating the costs and the advantages of the emerging REDD+ strategy, particularly in terms of rural means of subsistence, conservation of biodiversity and other aspects of development; the socioeconomic, political and institutional feasibility of the emerging REDD+ strategy; the consideration of the environmental and social aspects and risks; the principal synergies between the planned REDD+ strategy and the sector strategies in the forest, agricultural, transport and other sectors and a plan for assessing the risks of internal leakage of the benefits related to greenhouse gases. The assessments of the R-PP must ultimately produce a more complete, more detailed and more in-depth REDD strategy.

The construction of Cameroon's future REDD+ strategy will begin in January 2013 and will continue for 3 years. The future strategy will be widely disseminated in order to receive the contributions of all the stakeholders during consultations at the national level. It is to be available in December 2015 in order to allow Cameroon to officially enter the investment phase.<sup>17</sup>

### **1. The vision and principle of the future REDD+ strategy of Cameroon**

Cameroon's ambition is to become an emerging country by 2013. To do this it has implemented a number of programs and initiated several processes including the REDD+ mechanism.

Cameroon's future REDD+ strategy has two main objectives:

- reduce GHG emissions and especially CO<sub>2</sub> resulting from deforestation and forest degradation by:
  - fighting the direct and indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation;
  - increasing and strengthening its carbon stock in Cameroon;
- contribute to achieving the development objective responding to the DSCE.

The reduction of emissions will be assessed objectively with the establishment of the MRV (see component 4).

Cameroon has opted for an infranational approach coupled with a national approach in conformity with the COMIFAC, considering its 5 agro-ecological zones for the construction of its strategy. In fact, the REDD+ process is considered an opportunity to implement steady, coherent, legitimate and sustainable development in compliance with the specific social, economic and environmental requirements of each of its agro-ecological zones. It promotes the construction of a strategy with an inclusive approach based on the participation of all of the stakeholders.

### **2. Presentation of the strategy options to fight the direct and indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation**

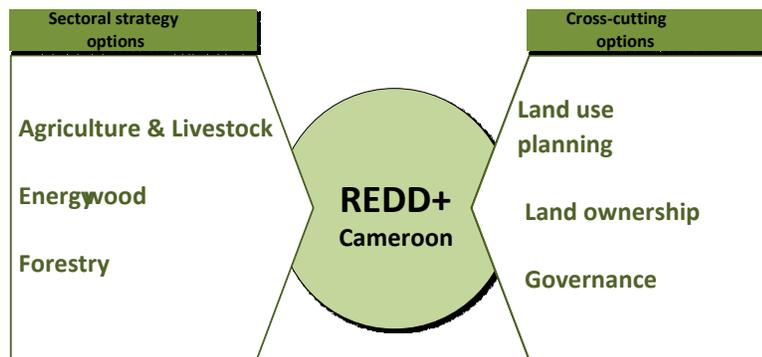
The strategy option proposals take into account the needs of all of the agro-ecological zones. However, they are not exhaustive and will be fleshed out further during construction of the strategy. Thus, they are merely avenues

<sup>17</sup> It should be noted that the future strategy will be deployed progressively, well before its availability, in order to be able to anticipate the results in terms of emissions reductions. This deployment will take place through REDD programs and projects set up in the different agro-ecological zones.

for exploring the existing information. These proposals stem from reflections conducted during consultation workshops and studies conducted by the technical partners and the research institutions. No order of priority has been assigned to the strategy options proposed.

Two categories of options have been identified for fighting the direct and indirect causes of deforestation and degradation:

- the investment options (sectoral);
- the cross-cutting options.



**Figure 5: Complementarity between the different strategy options and the link with the deployment in Cameroon of the future REDD+ strategy (adapted from IUCN, 2012)**

The strategy options presented below are classified according to categories responding to the content of Cameroon's development strategy documents. This categorization is still preliminary. It will evolve over the course of reflective exploration during the preparation phase.

**a. The investment options**

The different options presented below will be developed in the non-permanent forest estate likely to suffer the impacts of the development activities.

✓ **Agriculture and livestock farming**

The elements to be developed in this part are consistent with the agricultural policy currently in force. REDD+ will thus make it possible to boost the dynamic initiated by the MINADER and the MINEPIA by seeking in particular to curb the actions that produce negative impacts on the forest.

**Agriculture**

To effectively reduce the emissions resulting from agricultural activities, two groups of actions are necessary:

- the purely technical actions (whose objective is agricultural intensification and diversification),
- the capacitation actions.

In terms of direct action on farming techniques, it is important to increase agricultural productivity while at the same time reducing the expansion of farming areas (agricultural intensification). To do this, the following activities will be undertaken:

- fertilization through the development of ecological farming techniques, particularly the development of agroforestry, composting, cover cropping methods/ systems (dead or living, not only beneficial to the farmers but also to livestock farmers), etc.;
- promotion of crop rotation and reclamation of fallow land particularly in connection with integrated management of drainage basins and the production of forage plants for livestock farming;

- introduction and wide-spread use of improved seed;
- introduction of small farm machinery suited to the farm acreage of rural households and to the terrain (for the mountainous regions of the West and the Northwest);
- water control, more broadly the development of irrigation and the establishment of irrigation areas primarily in the dry areas;
- diversification of the agricultural activities (crop diversification, intensification of beekeeping, fish farming, small flocks, etc.);
- development of plantations with a direct link to afforestation (carbon sequestration).

Note that the different agricultural options to be adopted will depend on the agro-ecological zones. More in-depth studies concerning the needs of the different agro-ecological zones will be conducted first.

In terms of capacitation actions, action in the following domains is essential:

- processing / conservation of agricultural products (to increase their value added);
- organization of the producers and of the industries to develop agricultural and livestock farming production (to both reduce the intermediate costs and increase the profits of the rural households);
- search for outlets for farming and livestock products;
- establishment of a platform for dialogue between farmers and livestock farmers to manage the potential conflicts between the two entities;
- access to loans for the promotion of agricultural and livestock farming investments;
- education, training of youths (especially by providing them with technical training);
- capacity building at all levels (not only the growers, but also the decision makers, etc.) concerning the operational management methods, etc.;
- strengthening of agricultural research (concerning the operation and improvement of cultivation systems integrating agriculture and livestock farming): distribution and promotion of the research results through farming-related awareness raising and extension;
- land securitization for small growers;
- agricultural extension (dissemination of different ecological farming techniques, etc.);
- zoning (taking into consideration the land needs of the communities, and the different present and future uses of the land - forestry, agriculture, mining, etc.);
- promotion for the consumption of local farm and livestock products (promotion of the complementarity between livestock farming and farming).

### **Livestock Farming**

Issues related to livestock farming are in particular seen in the mountain, savanna and arid ecoregions (the North). Actions will involve:

- the management of livestock migration areas (materialization of livestock paths, compliance with regulation, etc.) ;
- the management of pasture areas / installation of fencing;
- the stabilization of livestock migration to pasture areas outside of agricultural zones (zoning);
  - o management of fodder,
  - o installation of watering holes,
  - o development of agricultural byproducts through livestock farming,
- the integration of livestock farming and cultivation systems on the same land (to encourage their complementarity);
- the improvement of animal health;
- insemination in order to improve breeds;
- the development of fish farming, shrimp farming, beekeeping, etc.

The promotion of livestock farming by-products for the production of biogas (as at Maroua) will be planned for community use (production of energy in order to reduce the use of firewood). It is, however, necessary to manage the risk of competition that could arise between the production of biogas and organic fertilization for agriculture.

It must be noted that livestock farming may be a viable alternative to allow the diversification of activities of households living in forested regions and along the coast. For this purposes, awareness and dissemination must be promoted in this regard.

These activities intended to improve livestock farming must be put into place with increased involvement on the part of rural households of civil society, but also, and in particular, NGOs and local non-profits. They must also benefit from the same cross-functional actions as agriculture referenced above.

The activities to be carried out and the quantitative goals will be evaluated in advance, in the context of the analysis of REDD+ potential in Cameroon. This will be valid for all strategic options that will be developed thereafter.

#### ✓ **Energy-related Issues**

The use of wood for heating is a major cause of deforestation and forest degradation. Change in the energy sector is unavoidable in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Activities may be categorized in function of the terms within which the expected impacts may be achieved:

- Actions regarding energy efficiency in the short term;
- Planting for energy purposes around large settlements and in arid regions for the medium and long term as well as the promotion of other forms of energy.

In terms of improving energy efficiency, actions will involve:

- the production, popularization, dissemination of improved hearths throughout national territory (improved stoves for coastal zones will, for example, reduce by 50% the use of heating wood and waste related to the degradation of forests);
- the improvement of carbonization techniques (improved haystack for carbon production)/

These actions could be the most efficient given that the costs of implementation are not very high and the results obtained are significant. In terms of improvements in reducing emissions, the use of an improved smoke chamber will reportedly allow GHG emissions of to be decreased by between 18.71 and 34.16 tCO<sub>2</sub>e annually (Feka et al., 2009).

In terms of the implementation and promotion of clean energy, these actions are targeting the short as well as the long term. They will depend on the needs of each agro-ecological zone. They will involve:

- the development of biogas production to generate electricity, by the recycling of agricultural and livestock farming byproducts. This option is to be developed especially in the mountain regions and the arid regions of the North;
- the development of renewable energies and alternative energies: Solar in the North and the Northwest of the country (not in the South, which has a significant sunshine deficit), Aeolian power in coastal regions, cogeneration in regions were there are forestry operators (for the production of electricity and heat for drying and treating the wood), with the awareness that the cost of these new technologies is high;
- the production of hydroelectric power by the deployment of small production units (hydroelectric dams as built in Northwestern Cameroon) and improvement of electricity distribution networks in order to reduce the pressure on the use of wood (as in zones where supplying wood is difficult: Northwest and in the Northern regions of Cameroon);
- the promotion of alternative energies such as cogeneration for the recycling of the byproducts of forestry and forestry product transformations (for financing reasons, because the initial investments are significant), establishing cooperators or small forestry operations and small transformation units, in order to reuse their byproducts. The benefits are two-fold: the generation of electrical power as well as heat to quickly dry the wood;
- the development of plantations / reforestations for energy purposes (in particular in the arid regions (in the wood for energy supply basins for large developments, with the participation of the primary users of

these sources of energy. Specific emphasis must be placed on the Northern Cameroon region, given its climate and the problems of heating wood that are found there.

For the rational management of natural resources, it will be necessary to prepare and respect the dead wood harvesting rations and possibly those of cold timber in the Wood Energy supply basins, in community forests, communal forests, private plantations, etc.

The primary constraint on the development of these technologies is the high initial investments required. **Feasibility and profitability studies and cost/benefit analyses will be conducted for each technically sustainable option.** The REDD+ mechanism could thus assist with making these investments, the benefits of which are immediate in terms of the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Participation by the private sector is significant, in particular for the implementation of these new technologies, but also for their management, as necessary.

Cross-functional actions must be considered because the success of this strategic option is depended upon them. They are conditioned. This involves organization of the heating wood / carbon supply chain with reinforcement of the role of women in the production and sale of heating wood, access to microloans to be able to acquire improved hearths and smoke chambers, training, promotion of awareness, popularization and improvement of legislation related to the use of energy wood and improved carbonization.

It must be noted that the issue of energy may be linked to other strategic options such as logging but also agriculture and livestock farming for energy purposes is a necessity. This would thus trigger more sustainable management of resources and a reduction of greenhouse gases in the long-term.

#### ✓ **The Forestry Aspect**

The objective of Cameroon is to put in place the sustainable management of natural and forest resources through the classification, forestry management, the adoption of enhanced forestry techniques, etc., but also through governance actions. Activities and measures relative to the strengthening of forest conservation will be carried out primarily in the permanent forestry domain, and those allowing their development in the temporary forestry domain, in all agro-ecological zones, i.e.:

- strengthening the regulatory framework for forestry in order to adapt it to all agro-ecological zones and to all ecosystems including mangroves (adaptation of the law, of strategies, preparation of manuals suited to specific zones, preparation of technical standards, etc.);
- the classification of forests – strengthening the permanent forestry domain. In this context, systems of monetary incentives, such as Payments for Environmental Services (PSEs), could be anticipated. Incentives allocated within the context of the REDD+ mechanism could also be a function of the classified and conserved surface area;
- For the management of logging:
  - o strengthening of the management and sustainable management of production forests (UFA) and communal forests;
  - o strengthening of Reduced Impact Logging (EFIR) on the ecosystems and the climate;
  - o the strict control and reduction of cutting sales (in the temporary logging domain);
  - o the improvement of the control of Timber Salvage Permits (ARBs) as with cutting sales, with the collaboration of MINADER, MINTP and MINEE ;
- the development of the second and third timber transformation / improvement of techniques to increase transformation yields (increase in material yield);
- the development of forestry by-products for energy purposes: cogeneration, recovery of rebus [sic] for carbon production, etc.;
- strengthening the efficacy of management of protected areas by adjustment of the actions of the mining, agricultural, energy, forestry and AP management. Aps could be developed in the context of the development of ecotourism. REDD+ will in this context be a lever for promoting the green economy. This option will allow the co-benefits related to the conservation of biodiversity to be strengthened;

- reforestation, restoration and replanting for the sequestration of carbon and the recycling of wood for various purposes in function of the agro-ecological zone (timber, wood for heating, lumber, etc.), in accordance with the directives of the National Logging Plantation Development Plan (currently being revised) and the implementation of the National Plan to Combat Desertification;
- the organization of the wood production chain for better supply of the local market (timber, firewood, etc.);
- the strengthening of logging and environmental controls to combat illegal logging (support for traceability of products in the context of the APV/FLEGT, monitoring of the “tree-killing” collection of firewood, strengthening of human and physical resources of control crews, etc.);
- the development of community forests and “green community production enterprises” or ecological enterprises.

Several activities may also be developed in the context of forestry allowing products related to the forest to be developed. These activities include:

- the development of Non-wood Forest Products (this activity primarily involves women and its development will allow the generation of benefits for these groups),
- ecotourism, in particular for the development of protected areas,
- the implementation of Payments for Environmental Services (PSE) in zones experiencing low levels of disruption,
- planning for fragile ecosystems such as mangroves, other wetlands, arid forests, highland zones, etc.

Forestry must also occur within the framework of the environmental impacts of mining activity. One of the options that will be taken into consideration will be strengthening the application of the management plan and related measures during their implementation. Mining operations must be subjected to certain measures such as the restoration of previously worked sites and the implementation of the zone for the “forest / biodiversity offset.”

Community forests and communal forests will be given serious consideration and specific actions may be dedicated to them. These actions may include, for example:

- strengthening the management of community forests: implementation of simple plans for management and recycling of environmental products and services);
- integration of agricultural / forestry / energy-related activities;
- identification of the conditions (regulatory, social, etc.) in which communal forests could guarantee over time a reduction of deforestation and degradation.

Within this framework, decentralized territorial authorities must integrate communal and community forests into their local development plan. The involvement of the private sector in this forestry aspect is unavoidable. However these activities must take into consideration the participation of riparian communities in these forestry operations, in particular the autochthonous peoples and the local communities that are dependent on these forests.

It must be noted that other mechanisms such as the FLEGT and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) could contribute to the objectives established in regards to the forestry aspect. These mechanisms are considered to be the benefits for Cameroon, given that the FLEGT has already been ratified by the country and certain Forest Development Units (FSCs) have already been certified.

The co-benefits related to the implementation of the forestry option are not lesser: the activities undertaken will have a positive impact on soil quality and the protection of waterways, the contribution in regards to biological diversity, the creation of jobs and the standard of living of local communities, etc.

**Table 9: Summary of strategic options by agro-ecological zone**

	Rainforest zone with bimodal precipitation	Rainforest zone with monomodal	High Plateau Zone	Guinean High Savannah Zone	Sudan-Saharan Zone
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		precipitation			
<b>Agriculture</b>					
- green agriculture (agroforestry, composting, etc.)	+++		+++		++
- integration of agriculture / livestock farming	+	++	+++	+++	+++
- monitoring measures (microloans, training, etc.)	+	++	+	+	+++
<b>Energy</b>					
- Improved furnaces / hearths	+	++	+++	+++	+++
- planting for energy purposes		+	+	+++	+++
- alternative energy	+	++	++	++	+++
<b>Forestry</b>					
- Reduced Impact Logging (EFIR)	+++	++			
- Improvement of Material Yield	+++	+++			
- Strengthening of the management of protected areas	++	+	+	+++	++
- Afforestation, reforestation	+	++	+++	++	+++
- Control of forestry	+++	++	+	+	++

+ to +++ : from least significant to most significant

#### **b. Cross-functional options, conditions for the success of the REDD+ mechanism**

Cross-functional options are related to the property, the management of the land and governance-related matters. It should be noted that the “genre” and “communities rights” approach will be taken into consideration in all strategic sector-based and cross-functional options, because it ensures their effective participation.

##### ✓ **Land**

The challenge of the issue of land in Cameroon is that of the recognition of the customary right of the local and autochthonous communities that have been present on the land for a long time.

A review of land legislation in Cameroon has been undertaken by the Ministry of State-owned Property, the Land Register and Land Affairs (MINDCAF). However the latter is only at the point of launching the process. Given that the issue of land is a necessary element for the implementation of the REDD+ activities, the process must take this aspect into consideration. In order to do this, in regards to the future land reform and the stakes of the consideration of this aspect in the REDD+ mechanism, the REDD+ process, during its preparatory phase, could contribute to the expedited advancement of this reform, while contributing to the expedited advancement of discussions and providing MINDCAF with the resources to best carry out its prerogatives.

The guidelines for this land reform are not yet known, but the needs expressed by local and autochthonous communities point in the direction of harmonization between modern land law and customary land law in order to take into consideration the concerns and needs of local and autochthonous communities. This involves:

- facilitation of the granting of property titles to the most at-risk groups and primarily to the autochthonous peoples and women;
- simplification of procedures allowing these households to acquire land titles. More flexible procedures (reduction of tax burdens, reduction of the cost of obtaining land titles, etc.) could be developed to

benefit these groups, more specifically the autochthonous peoples, women, the young to promote agricultural investment, for example, and more broadly rural households;

- the creation and granting of community land titles recognizing the “community-based domain.”

The role of the *Centre National d’Appui au Développement* and the participation of the Ministry of Youth (MINJEUN) could be strengthened for the implementation of certain activities related to land.

The various contributions of the REDD+ to the land reform that is currently being undertaken by MINDCAF must be the subject of an advance study in order to reduce, among other items, the risks of the monopolization of land by the private sector, but also local elites, to the detriment of the riparian and forest-dependent communities.

#### ✓ **Land Planning**

REDD+ will not be opposed to the development projections for Cameroon. It has been affirmed as a lever for development. To promote land planning benefits returns to the development of a decision-making tool and allowing the “rational” management of space.

Its success is dependent on better management of all REDD+ and development activities within national territory, without there being any overlap (in terms of the current and future use of space) among the various development sectors. Thus there is a multisectoral character to land planning, that necessarily requires the participation of all sectors in its construction. Pursuant to Law No. 2011/008 dated May 6, 2011 containing guidelines for the sustainable development and planning of land, “the sustainable development and planning of land consists of the implementation of physical planning that corrects natural disparities or those related to development by seeking out a judicious and balanced division that is as integrated as possible among individuals, production activities, infrastructures and equipment throughout the country” (Article 3).

The process of land management is the responsibility of MINEPAT. This is done in collaboration with other agencies. It receives technical and financial support from the Forest-Environment Sector Program (PSFE). This process will allow an improvement in the consistency between development activities and the use of space, and it will contribute to reducing the direct and indirect causes of deforestation.

Land planning must take into consideration the anticipated development projections for several sectors, including:

- agricultural development in the context of the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (DSCE);
- the development of forest plantings / reforestation (national reforestation program, combating desertification and the Green Sahara Program);
- the development of mines and expansion of mining operations;
- demographic expansion (with the implementation of various infrastructures).

A national outline and regional outlines for land development and planning will thus be put into place in Cameroon, in accordance with the provisions of law. The 1990 regional land planning outlines (even though they are provisional in 7 regions of the country) will be considered from this point of view. The same is the case for the various existing delimitations and zonings, such as the forestry zoning (covering the Southern zone of national territory and currently being extended toward the Northern regions of Cameroon), the mining register, etc. For rural zones, participatory cartography will be developed to allow the consideration of gender aspects and the rights of local and autochthonous communities. Beyond the rural zone, certain settlements have Urban Development and Planning Outlines (SDAUs) delimiting green spaces and green belts (Yaoundé and Douala for example).

The various institutions in place, such as the Mining/Forestry Forum (between the 2 corresponding ministries) and the Interministerial Committee will also be mobilized in this regard.

The Technical Secretariat will approach MINEPAT for the development of the REDD+ strategy. The latter will be made available to MINEPAT in order to prepare the national planning outline.

Currently, the funds for development of the national land planning outline have not yet been identified. The REDD+ mechanism may thus contribute its support in regards to the significance of this planning outline vis-à-vis the strategic options and activities envisaged in the context of the process and the need not have a plan that allows the optimal use of space within national territory.

✓ **Provide concrete answers to weak governance**

This may be accomplished in three ways:

- by making current sector legislation consistent, considering the issues of climate change as a unifying component;
- through the efforts for application of current legislation and by strengthening forest controls;
- by improving the principle of participation among the stakeholders.

Strengthening capacity at all levels (governments, decentralized territorial municipalities, CSOs, local and autochthonous communities, etc.) will be indispensable for attaining convincing results.

Given that the APV/FLEGT mechanism adopted by Cameroon also is operating in matters of governance relative to forest logging, the activities to be carried out will be conducted in a manner supplemental to the FLEGT process, bringing the participation of the stakeholders in this process (including the FLEGT cell of MINFOF and the Independent Observer, due to their involvement in the FLEGT process and the mechanism for monitoring governance that is in place) but also by using the tools developed by the process within the context of the traceability of forest products.

At the current stage of Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), information regarding responses to sectoral governance problems are not detailed (allocation of lands for agroindustries, awarding of mining exploration and operations permits, etc.). Studies are planned to fill in these gaps during the development of the strategy.

Conformity to current legislation

This will be accomplished in parallel with the land planning process. The search for conformity may necessitate sectoral reforms. Measures will take into account the dynamics already undertaken within the framework of the revision of the forestry law, the revision of the environmental framework law, land reform and the establishment of the national outline for land planning.

This alignment will be related to various sectoral policies, including agriculture, livestock farming, mines and energy, etc., given that these sectors contribute directly or indirectly to the deforestation or degradation of forests.

This alignment of legislation may last. During the construction of the strategy, if the dynamic for review of legislation has not yet been launched, the REDD+ may aid in analyzing the policies in force, evaluating their efficacy and their effectiveness, and proposing, if necessary, any modifications. An analysis of the sectoral policies that may have impacts on the condition of the environment is envisaged by the REDD+ process.

Application of legislation and strengthening forestry control

One of the challenges for the REDD+ process is reportedly the application of legislations that are in force. Several activities will be scheduled:

- dissemination and popularization of legislative texts: translation into local languages, preparation of various media, popular dissemination of laws, etc. A dissemination plan will be developed for this purpose;
- needs for strengthening capacities of governments; various trainings will be provided;
- need for improvement of technical resources (infrastructures, work tools, etc.) for field agents charged with interventions, including forestry crews. This will allow, among other things, the production and dissemination of good quality information.

Technically, it is necessary to:

- share technical and legislative data (procedures, etc.);
- promote community management of natural resources. The tools (simple management plan, etc.) currently in force must be broadly distributed;
- strengthen human and physical resources of decentralized governments;
- training the stakeholders regarding crimes against forest resources (such as illegal logging of lumber);
- implement and/or strengthen mechanisms for appeals/local mediation;
- strengthen forestry and environmental controls along our borders.

For the mining sector, compliance with plans for use and a concrete implementation of measures to attenuate the effects of mining operations on the environment are necessary (restoration of former mining exploitation zones, etc.) (Cf. actions planned in the “forestry” option).

The National Climate Change Observatory (ONACC) must participate at this stage. The Independent Observer (IO) will also be mobilized in order to strengthen the various controls.

#### Strengthening of participation in decision making

In order to promote transparency in decision-making, in the administration of funds, etc., the participatory approach seems to be the most appropriate. Cameroon will in particular ensure compliance with this principal of participation at all levels of decision making and implementation of planned activities. The following actions will ensure this:

- strengthening of the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders (of construction of the strategy until its implementation) including civil society through the REDD platform and CC and its regional and local units and the private sector, etc.;
- the strengthening of actions of the observatories to promote transparency;
- the participation of all the stakeholders in the development and implementation of the Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EESS). Although participation by civil society is obtained in the development and implementation of the EESS, that of the private sector (forestry, agricultural, mining, etc.) is still only partial.

The following table shows that certain causes of deforestation can be treated by the cross-function strategic options.

**Table 10: Matching of causes of deforestation and cross-functional strategic options**

Causes of deforestation and degradation of forests	Cross-functional strategic options		
	Land	Land Management	Governance
Agriculture	++	+++	+
Unregulated forest logging	+	+++	+++
Wood for energy	++	+++	+
Mining operation	+	+++	+++
Demographic pressure Expansion of towns / Infrastructures Migration	++	+++	+
Weakness of governance	++	+++	+++

+ to +++: from lowest to highest

Sources: Discussions during regional consultation meetings

### **3. Implementation of the future REDD+ strategy**

The implementation of the future REDD+ strategy will be carried out by the sector ministers and by governmental agencies, in function of their specialties. In contrast, all sectors, as well as specialized agencies (CONAC, etc.) will be affected by the implementation of actions allowing the state of governance to be improved.

During the preparatory phase, Cameroon will not be limited to constructing its strategy. Cameroon will implement REDD+ pilot projects to make the REDD+ concept reality, in order to draw information from concrete actions, the basis for the implementation of the strategy.

**a. From ZOMO-REDD+ to ZOA-REDD+, moving towards a national deployment of the REDD+ strategy**

The future REDD+ strategy in Cameroon intends to implement two concepts: The REDD+ Implementation Zone (*Zone de Mise en Oeuvre de la REDD+ (ZOMO-REDD+)*) for the infranational level and the REDD+ Optimal Action Zone (*Zone d'action optimale de la REDD+ (ZOA-REDD+)*) for the subnational level in order to illustrate the consideration of the specific natures of the various agroecological zones in the implementation and deployment of the REDD+ strategy.

The ZOMO-REDD+ is considered the smallest REDD+ implementation unit. It may thus coincide with the natural resource management tools and instruments in force, such as community forests, parks, forest reserves, private forests, etc. These ZOMO-REDD+ areas also correspond to zones where the deforestation rate and the forest degradation rate are the most worrisome and where measures must be urgently taken in order to mitigate the problems of deforestation and degradation.

The ZOA-REDD+ may in contrast be considered a zone where a set of REDD+ or ZOMO-REDD+ initiatives as well as the activities related to these activities may be developed due to the solidarity and/or territorial and socio-cultural interaction. These activities will cover a wider scale than ZOMO-REDD+. The scope of the activities will therefore allow the agroecological zone to be covered even if the scale of intervention for ZOA-REDD+ does not coincide at times with the agroecological zones or the landscapes (such as TNS, TRIDOM, etc.).

The REDD+ pilot projects will be developed in the ZOMO-REDD+ areas. The deployment of the strategy will thus be carried out gradually, with prioritization of the ZOMO-REDD+ areas for the first concrete REDD+ actions to be undertaken (infranational approach).

The identification of the limits of these ZOMO-REDD+ and ZOA-REDD+ areas will be one of the activities to be undertaken during the first year of implementation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). This identification guarantees the proper location of the pilot projects and the REDD+ activities to be put in place.

**b. Pilot Projects**

Several pilot projects and initiatives have already been started in Cameroon according to a survey conducted by the IUCN (2011) (See list attached in Appendix 2b – 1), however they must be strengthened. In addition, during consultation workshops, ideas for pilot projects (reforestation, microdams, biogas, agroforestry, etc.) were raised by the participants. This survey must be continued and it must take into consideration the new REDD+ programs and projects that Cameroon's technical and financial partners have initiated. The Technical Secretariat will continue to feed this survey which will be necessary to capitalize on the early REDD+ experiences in order to better exploit their information in order to prepare a national REDD+ strategy that reflects the specific nature of agroecological zones.

The objectives of the pilot projects are:

- to feed the construction of the strategy with information regarding concrete activities conducted in the field and regarding discussions by local actors as well as testing REDD+ options in order to learn lessons in order to refine the national strategy;
- to conduct concrete activities for better appropriation of REDD+ and to produce the first tangible reduction in the emission of GHGs. Carbon units will be evaluated in order to allow the promoters and actors to benefit quickly from the consequences of REDD+;
- to serve as a practical base of action for REDD+ in the various agroecological zones in national territory.

The pilot projects must comply with certain criteria, namely:

- contribution to a real reduction in forest degradation and deforestation, thus responding to the causes of deforestation and degradation of forests which have been clearly determined;
- contribution to local development;
- experimentation with the tools for carbon accounting at the sites;
- experimentation regarding the functionality of the national register and of the REDD+ activities approval system ;
- production of the various co-benefits (thus responding to concerns relative to the implementation of the Strategic Environmental and Ecological Evaluation (EESS): social, environmental and even related to governance);
- technical capacities (experience with REDD+ initiatives and projects) and financial capacities (cofinancing capacities) of the project sponsors.

These criteria will be strengthened and submitted for validation by the Steering Committee after consultation with the stakeholders.

In order to ensure compliance on the part of activities undertaken in the pilot projects, the latter must cover all sectoral aspects allowing quantifiable impacts for REDD+. This involves projects that are referred to as “integrated.” However, if it is not possible for the pilot projects to cover all sectoral aspects of REDD+, given their size and the available volume of financing, the pilot projects must align with the political vision presented in the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (DSCE) and the future strategic options established by the Steering Committee.

The Technical Secretariat, with the support of specialized national institutions (universities, IRAD, INC, ANAFOR, etc.) and international institutions with known expertise in this field will conduct oversight to identify the REDD+ implementation zones in order to establish the pilot projects there during the preparatory phase. Due to the inability to deploy at the same time throughout all national territory, an infra-national approach covering at least a portion of each agroecological zone is necessary. Other projects will be deployed later on larger scales during the investment phase in order to make REDD+ an instrument of national development.

The potential pilot projects presented below (incomplete list) come from the discussions with stakeholders during regional consultations. They cover all agroecological zones. They allow a reduction of pressure on resources and thus on GHG emissions.

**Table 11: Identification of pilot projects by agroecological zone**

Agroecological Zone	Targeted causes of deforestation and of degradation	Project objects	Urgent intervention zones
High Plateau Zone	Extension of agricultural and livestock farming zones	Agroforestry	Sites to be identified (in the Northwest and West)
	Logging for wood for energy	Biogas (XXX units)	
		Hydro-electricity (XXX micro-dams)	
Rainforest zone with bimodal precipitation	Anarchic forestry logging	UFA Conservation	Ngoyla Mintom
	Forest logging	Community forests and communal forests: 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup> transformation unit	
	Slash and burn agriculture	Improvement in agricultural productivity and agricultural diversification	Forest zone: around zones with high anthropic pressure
Rainforest zone with	Taking of fire wood	Improved hearths	Coastal region from Douala to

monomodal precipitation			Kribi
		Planning for mangrove areas	Douala Edea Reserve
	Oil expansion / agroindustry expansion	Conservation site: status to be determined (AMP)	Rio Del Rey site (RAMSAR site)
Guinean high savannah zone	Taking of fire wood	Improved hearths	Ngaoundere and Garoua watershed
		Forest planting	Reforestation in these watersheds
		Alternative energy (biogas, solar)	
Sudan-Saharan Zone	Taking of fire wood	Improved hearths	Urban perimeters in the Extreme Northern Region
		Forest planting	Urban perimeters in the Extreme Northern Region
		Alternative energy (biogas, solar)	Urban perimeters in the Extreme Northern Region

Source : Compilation of results from consultation discussions.

The administration will serve as regulator and facilitator. It may however establish demonstration projects. The pilot projects will be implemented by civil society (by CSOs and local structures of the REDD and CC Platform), by the private sector and by the technical partners of MINEPDED and MINFOF.

Participatory and consensual identification of the pilot projects will be carried out through promotion of awareness and discussions at the local level. This identification will be carried out with the participation of all the REDD+ stakeholders, and in particular the potential managers of projects and activities to be conducted in the field.

All REDD+ projects must align with the paths of strategic options identified in this document. In order to do this, all the projects must provide a database to the Technical Secretariat in order to evaluate their results and thus allow exchanges of experiences and data. The projects must also feed into the national carbon accounting register (Aspect 4) and the construction of the reference scenario (See Section 3).

### **c. Large-scale programs to effectively reduce deforestation and forest degradation**

Programs to be developed will allow Cameroon to put large-scale concrete REDD+ activities in place that will take into consideration the specific characteristics of the agroecological zones. These programs will go beyond the preparatory phase of the REDD+ process. These programs will last longer than the pilot projects in relation to the activities to be scheduled.

The programs will be chosen in function of the strategic options identified. Nevertheless, in regards to the needs felt by local communities and conveyed during the various discussions, these programs may involve:

- improvement of agricultural productivity in the context of development of biological agriculture;
- the development of wood and non-wood fodder plantings;
- strengthening of accompanying measures for the various resource management tools (including development of protected areas): In order to do this, agriculture is one of the most often requested measures;
- availability of fire wood, strengthening energy effectiveness and the development of alternative energies;
- development of plantings for forest and energy purposes;
- development of second and third transformation units;

- facilitation of the award of land titles to local communities and to the most at-risk groups, including autochthonous populations and women;
- development of the plan to allocate land and to comply with current legislation.

The REDD+ programs may be grafted onto sector strategies in order to gradually integrate into them the issues of deforestation. These programs may also be “integrated,” covering a broader range (department or region or agroecological zone).

#### **4. Various stages and responsibilities**

The national strategy will be built under the supervision of the Technical Secretariat. In order to do this, the latter will have direction from the Steering Committee, contributions from all the stakeholders and tools prepared by the technical cells. The technical partners of MINEPDED as well as research centers will contribute at each stage of development of the strategy.

In advance, an analysis of investment strategies and sectoral policies will be conducted by (international and national) experts with significant involvement of the stakeholders. Discussions by thematic groups are planned as well as consultations at the level of the various agroecological zones. These thematic groups will cover the various sectors of activity and the subjects covered by the strategy. This analysis will allow significant connection between interactions of the REDD+ and the sectoral strategies, while being aligned with the Cameroon 2035 Vision and the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (DSCE).

##### **Box 7: Thematic discussion groups for constructing the REDD+ strategy**

Thematic Groups are discussion groups created in order to encourage synergies and discussion dynamics, but also to respond to specific concerns to construct the national strategy (reference scenario, MRV System, technical options of the strategy, IEC). They will comprise representatives of all the stakeholders in the process (sectoral administrations, CSOs, research institutions, technical partners, financial partners, the private sector, local communities, civil society, etc.).

Thematic groups have already been formed during the launch of the drafting of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). They will be strengthened and will continue their discussions during the preparatory phase. The participation of the stakeholders in the thematic groups will ensure the cohesion of the REDD+ strategy with the sectoral strategies in force. Other thematic groups may be created based on the needs for development of the national strategy.

Pilot projects and REDD+ programs will be identified in a participatory manner, while taking into consideration sectoral strategies and the needs of their potential beneficiaries. The involvement of stakeholders will thus be requested in the context of the various considerations and discussions that are to be conducted. The urgent interventions will be chosen in function of their feasibility (involvement of participants) and their effectiveness (impact on the reduction of emissions).

The results of the studies will be the subject of consultation at the level of the agroecological zones, restoration and an exchange in order to strengthen their content and validate them. These consultations will be necessary for a participative, inclusive and bottom-up approach.

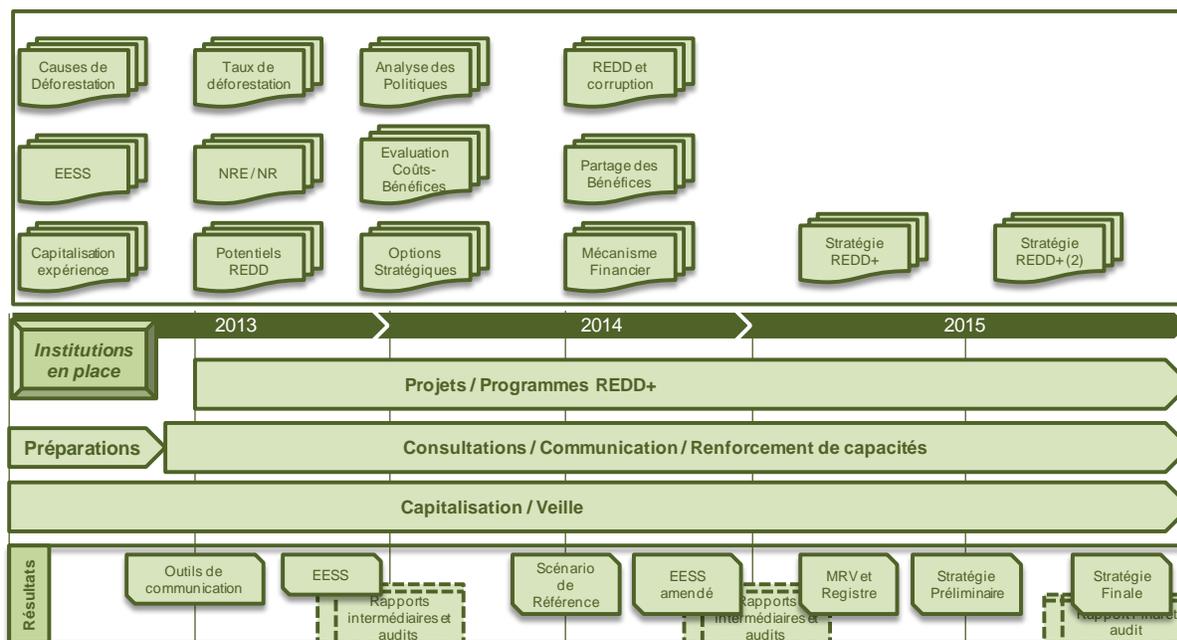
All REDD+ programs / studies and projects must feed considerations for development of the future strategy. Monitoring will be conducted by the IEC cell of the Technical Secretariat. Capitalization of the results of the studies and consultations carried out within the process will also be conducted by the Technical Secretariat (through the IEC cell). The various elements that will be an integral part of the strategy, including the mechanism for sharing benefits and the fiduciary management mechanism of the REDD+, legal aspects, standardization aspects and project registration will be developed in Stage 2C.

The REDD+ strategic options for Cameroon will be submitted to the Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EES) in order to evaluate and anticipate potential negative risks, evaluate positive contributions by REDD+ in order to develop a Environmental and Social Management Framework (CGES). The implementation of the EES will be carried out in 2014 before adoption of the REDD+ strategy.

The monitoring and evaluation activities will be conducted in an ongoing manner in order to evaluate the progress of the process and to verify the level of performance of scheduled activities. The various procedures and the monitoring and evaluation tools (frequency, audits, etc.) are detailed in Section 6 of this document.

### Stages for the development of the REDD+ strategy

Studies and discussions that feed the strategy will take into consideration the strategic paths and options cited above and that result from the consultations conducted with the stakeholders in the context of preparation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). These studies will be conducted during the first two years of the preparatory phase. The criteria for prioritization of said studies will be determined through participatory means. This will not prevent the development and implementation of concrete REDD+ pilot projects that will allow quick results to be achieved in terms of the reduction of emissions as well as capitalizing the results of these projects for the strategy (“learning by doing”). Consultations will be conducted as discussions take place. Continuous dissemination and monitoring of information will be conducted by the IEC cell of the Technical Secretariat.



**Figure 6: Stages for development of the REDD+ national strategy**

The studies cited below (partial list) supplement those specified in Section 2a, in particular:

- identification of zones for implementation and optimal action for the development of REDD+ programs / projects;
- economic and social potential of REDD+ (with consideration of fiscal aspects);
- the potential for reduction of GHG emissions for each sector that may participate in the context of REDD+ ;
- evaluation of the efficiency of each strategic option by agroecological zone;
- analysis of the costs and benefits of REDD+;
- analysis of the costs of the mechanism to be implemented;
- etc.

These studies will be strengthened by the discussions of the thematic groups and consultations.

**Box 8: Needs for estimating costs and benefits of strategic options**

An analysis of the costs and benefits of each strategic option will be conducted after identification of the causes of deforestation and degradation of forests and the various options allowing the causes of deforestation to be combated. This analysis allows evaluation of the viability of the strategic options identified during the construction of the strategy and to direct the policy choices of the Government. This analysis must take into consideration co-benefits, development strategies, intermediary costs that at times are hidden but that are determining factors in the evaluation of the efficiency of activities to be developed.

Another comparative analysis will also be necessary in order to prioritize actions to be carried out. It involves an analysis of the costs of opportunity of each strategic option, in comparison to the other development options, i.e.:

- the implementation of agroindustrial plantings (responsible for the large-scale transformation of land use);
- the expansion of activities related to forest logging;
- the expansion of mining operations.

This analysis will thus assist in decision making for adopting strategic options to allow an effective reduction in GHG emissions coming from deforestation and degradation.

**Table 12: Activities and detailed timeline for Component 2b.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
<b>Preliminary Studies</b>							
Evaluation of potential for reduction of GHG emissions							
Evaluation of economic and sociological potential of REDD+							
<b>For the "early" deployment of the future strategy</b>							
Identification of the zones for implementation (and REDD+ projects) by agroecological zone Consultation at the local level (Cf. Consultation 1C)							
Compilation of REDD+ projects							
Search for financing for pilot projects / negotiations							
Implementation of pilot projects							
Evaluation and assessment of early results of pilot projects							
Identification of REDD+ programs with sectors							
Compilation of REDD+ programs with the sectors and stakeholders							
Search for financing for programs / negotiations							
Implementation of REDD+ programs							
<b>For development of the strategy</b>							
Participative identification of strategic options							
- Work by thematic groups							
- Consultation at the regional and local level (for report: Cf. 1C)							
Feasibility study of strategic options:							
Evaluation of the efficiency of each							

strategic option							
Analysis of the involvement of actors in the implementation of strategic options							
Evaluation of costs of mechanisms to be implemented							
Evaluation of costs and benefits of REDD+							
Construction of the strategy							
Correction / amendment of the strategy							
Final strategy developed							
Monitoring of information							

All consultations for this section are identified and detailed in Section 1C. They are not included in this table.

Result (Primary activity)	Participant organizations	Primary or secondary activities	Budget allocation in thousands of dollars (estimated cost in thousands of dollars)				
			2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Output 1.1 REDD+ strategy developed	Government, research institutions, technical partners, CSOs	1.1.1 Preliminary studies		400	700		1 100
		1.1.2 Identification of strategic options		125	125		250
		Logistics and materials		10	10	10	30
		Discussion groups		50	50	50	150
Output 1.2 REDD+ strategy deployed in advance throughout national territory	Government with all stakeholders	1.2.1 Preparation and management of projects / programs					0
		Identification of projects		50			50
		Support for project preparation		50	50		100
		Management of projects / framing / monitoring-evaluation		30	60	60	150
<b>Total</b>				<b>715</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1 830</b>

## 2c. Framework for REDD+ implementation

**Standard 2c that must be respected in the text of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)  
in order to comply with the provisions of this component:  
Framework for REDD+ implementation:**

Describes the activities (and possibly the attached mandate) and produces a work plan for specifying the institutional devices and aspects applicable to REDD+ according to the national context. Determines the primary aspects for implementation of REDD+ and examines the potential related devices; proposes a work plan that allows their evaluation and integration into the final preparatory dossier. The primary aspects will probably be: the ownership of land and the rights to issue potential strategic REDD+ activities; the primary governance problems related to REDD+; the institutional devices necessary to engage and monitor REDD+ activities and transactions.

The framework for implementation of REDD+ will respond to the following concerns:

- the implementation of institutions that will lead the construction and implementation of the REDD+ strategy: this involves the Steering Committee as a policy guidance entity and the Technical Secretariat as an operational entity.
- the development of legislation allowing determination of the legality and conformity of the REDD+ process with current legislation.
- the development of a communications strategy to facilitate the awareness of the stakeholders (See 1c).
- the preparation of a consultation plan (See 1c).
- the implementation of transparent management structures for conflicts that may arise from implementation of the REDD+.
- the development of a system allowing the accounting and monitoring of reduced or non-emitted carbon units (See Section 4).
- the development of an equitable sharing system for revenue that will come from REDD+ and a mechanism for the management of the funds.

### **1. Deployment of REDD+ in national territory**

The REDD+ strategy, even though it is national, will be based on the results obtained at the infranational level. In order to do this, the Departmental Committees will work together with all the stakeholders that are present at the local level, including the Platform of civil society.

#### **d. Making institutional structures permanent**

To date, the steering committee and its Technical Secretariat (Decree No. 103/CAB/PM dated June 13, 2012 regarding the creation, organization and operation of the steering committee for activities to reduce emissions from deforestation, degradation, sustainable management and conservation of forests, "REDD+"), the REDD & CC Platform (map adopted) and the administrative services have official mandates for the management of the REDD+ process.

Given the size of said process and the expected consequences of the mechanism, the institutions to be created shall be governed by the corresponding legislation. That is, among others, the technical cells of the Technical Secretariat, the Regional Coordination Structures and the Departmental Technical Committees, the institution in charge of approval of projects and the register, etc.

#### **e. Legislation regarding the REDD+ process**

There is as yet no exclusive regulatory framework for the operational implementation of the REDD+ in Cameroon. The texts that may relate to and determine the legality of the REDD+ mechanism, in addition to that regarding the creation of the REDD+ steering committee, related in particular to forest and environmental domains. Forestry and environmental laws, provisions regarding reforestation, as well as the institutions created such as the CNCEDD and the ONACC may be evaluated in the context of the REDD+ even if they are not exclusive, while awaiting for the REDD+ regulations being put in place during the phase launching the preparation of the Cameroon strategy.

This legislation will be identified and prepared during the preparatory phase. They will be implemented gradually, even beyond said phase. These texts may cover the following aspects:

- Process management instances;
- the procedure for participation in programs;
- the official procedures for approval / authorization of REDD+ programs / projects;
- carbon rights (rights and obligation);
- the distribution of benefits;
- the management of financing related to the consequences arising from implementation of the REDD+;
- the management of conflicts;
- monitoring (REDD+ register).

The REDD+ mechanism must be included in the sectoral legislation and policies and must encourage their harmonization. Current revisions to the framework law regarding the environment and forestry law are an opportunity to make REDD+ into a preferred instrument and to grant it a regulatory basis. **In the current context of the revision of the forestry law, the integration of the REDD+ is not a question given that the need to consider the issue of climate change in forestry legislation and the emergence of the REDD+ process for several years are one of the elements justifying this revision of the law.**

The revisions to legislation (updates or reforms) will rather be carried out in the context of land planning, in order to bring legislation and sectoral policy into alignment. The REDD+ will provide its support to these various processes. **The Technical Secretariat will approach sectors that started after their revision (including real estate and land planning) for his technical support.**

#### **f. Tools for implementation of REDD+**

Given that the REDD+ is a results-based mechanism, tools will be developed to this end. This involves among other items payments for environmental services (PSEs). This instrument is currently being tested at the local level. The results of these pilot projects will be asserted by REDD+. These results target several primary aspects for REDD+ including local governance, the concept of revenue sharing, local management of REDD+ funds, participation by all social groups in decision making, carbon accounting methods. The PSE tool has great potential for the deployment of REDD+ in national territory. Studies are currently underway to be able to extend the tool over several regions of the country using similar approaches.

Rewards in the form of community projects and activities also allowing a reduction in deforestation and degradation of forests are also envisaged vis-à-vis requests from local communities. These ideas were cited during regional cooperation workshops. They involve putting into place projects that are specific to the various agroecological zones.

Other forms of economic incentives will be developed, in function of local needs and concerns. These incentives must be identified in a concerted and participatory manner with CSOs, other institutional participants and the technical partners of MINEPDED.

It must be noted that although the process for preparation has not fully progressed, several REDD+ initiatives and projects are currently underway. These projects will contribute fully to the REDD+ process and will aid in the construction and implementation of the strategy.

**g. The mechanism for appeals and management of potential conflicts**

The mechanism for appeals and conflict management will, among other items, deal with:

- conflicts regarding relationships between the potential use of land and the sharing of benefits from REDD+;
- conflicts between sectoral administrations for the use of land;
- conflicts regarding the use of land between the various participants (local community, autochthonous peoples, private sector, decentralized territorial municipality, sectoral administrations, etc.);
- the management of REDD+ funds and allocation of benefits at various levels: Link between the national register and local participants.
- Etc.

The instances for management of these potential conflicts will be put in place at the level of the Departmental Technical Committees pursuant to the relocation of the management of the REDD+ process in Cameroon. It may thus serve as a cell to be established in place through these Departmental Technical Committees. These cells will be connected to the Technical Secretariat, through the IEC and Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EESS). The mechanism for bringing back information to the central level will be carried out according to the communications plan that is developed in Section 1C of this document.

These local instances will be based on the various existing conflict management mechanisms, such as:

- platforms for dialog at the local level (like those that exist between farmers and livestock farmers in the Northwest of Cameroon, in Adamaoua and in the North);
- the consideration of certain related regulatory provisions, following the example of the presidential decree regarding the settlement of agro-pastoral disagreements;
- Traditional modes of conflict (with intervention by local traditional authorities);
- The mechanisms for conflict management among technical partners present in the field, via mediation conducted;
- the rural-forest committees (responsible for management of conflicts between the local communities and the UFAs);
- the cooperation pools of the stakeholders;
- the alternative conflict management approaches related to the management of forest resources (See Appendix 2c – 1);
- Etc.

Furthermore, at the local level there are conflict management and mediation mechanisms conducted by neighborhood chiefs and traditional chiefs.

The last institution for appeal and management of conflicts is the Ministry of Justice through the local and national courts. Strengthening of the capacity of justices regarding the REDD+ subject and any conflicts that may place REDD+ in the framework of this problematic “conflict management and resource management mechanism” is thus necessary.

Studies will be necessary to clearly identify the correct level of implementation of conflict management entities, the forms, operation and the various stages to be followed for the implementation of an efficient and effective mechanism for management of disagreements. They will be carried out during the first six-month period of the preparatory phase. This appeals mechanism, at least at the central level, must be operational no later than the second six-month period of the preparatory phase. Its deployment at the level of the Departmental Committees will be carried out gradually, in function of the operational implementation of these local structures.

The EESS cell will be charged with the centralization of data regarding conflicts **in order to evaluate them during the construction of the CGES.** It will work in close relationship with the IEC cell in order to be able to perform monitoring of these conflicts and in particular carry out communication related to this mechanism.

## **2. Sharing of benefits arising from REDD+**

The success of the REDD+ mechanism will depend on the implementation of an effective and equitable system for sharing benefits arising from the REDD+. It will be an integral part of the strategy.

The mechanism for sharing benefits will allow the managers and users of spaces, the stakeholders, and more specifically the communities taxing forest resources, to enjoy the effects of the REDD+.

Two levels will be considered:

- the redistribution of benefits between the international level and the national and local levels;
- the sharing of revenue among the communities dependent on the resources, managers and users of lands, as well as the REDD+ stakeholders.

This mechanism must take into consideration several parameters, including carbon right, land right, the right to use natural resources. It will be based on the experience of other revenue sharing mechanisms currently in place in Cameroon, specifically:

- at the national level, the mechanism for sharing RFA in the context of forest logging (Decree No. 076/MINATD/MINFI/MINFOF dated June 26, 2012 establishing the procedures for planning, implementation and monitoring the management of revenue coming from the exploitation of forest and fauna resources, intended for the municipalities and riverside village communities), **the mechanisms for sharing fauna fees**, by considering strengths and weaknesses of the mechanisms in force during discussions that must be undertaken,
- **and at the local level the benefit sharing mechanism arising from the planting of Prunus in the Buea region (See Appendix 2c-2 the details regarding the two mechanisms), PSEs, etc.**
- however also revenue sharing mechanisms in other sectors (mining, for example).

In the context of national solidarity, a system for adjustment<sup>18</sup> may be put into place, thus allowing the regions not urgently affected by REDD+ activities to benefit from the effects of the mechanism, in order to make the REDD+ strategy a true national strategy. **This system could at the same time help to reduce the risks of a leak between the various zones delimited in the context of the implementation of REDD+ activities by holding all the local communities responsible.**

The principles to be respected for Cameroon are::

- contribute to attaining the objectives of the MDO, DSCE, the 2035 Vision through the socio-economic development of the country;
- local communities dependent on forest resources of the REDD+ mechanism must benefit;
- the international company must benefit from environmental services.

Several challenge paths to be overcome are identified in relation to the discussions in progress for the mechanism for sharing profits. These are, among other items, matters relative to monopolizing profits by the elite, transparency in the management of funds, consideration of at-risk groups such as autochthonous peoples, women and youth, clarification of the rights of these various groups, and more broadly the stakeholders in the process (land law, usage law, etc.). These risks will be considered by the Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EESS).

- ✓ **The parameters to be taken into consideration in the context of the equitable sharing of profits**

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<sup>18</sup> Principle already adopted for RFA and allowing non-forest towns to benefit from the effects of the development of forestry products at the national level.

### ***Charcoal law***

No text currently governs carbon law in Cameroon. So, in the context of REDD+, it is important to focus on this aspect, given that the sharing of profits from the REDD+ will depend in part on this parameter. First of all, carbon in Cameroon belongs to the State, which is its manager.

The ownership of two very distinct categories of carbon will be evaluated for Cameroon:

- Existing carbon (the inventory of carbon)
- Charcoal units that will result from actions allowing a reduction of emissions and that will be the subject of distribution in the context of the sharing of revenue in the future.

Furthermore, evaluations regarding current carbon law refer to real estate law and the law for the use of forests (therefore relative to real estate law and forestry law). It is thus necessary to perform a study to clarify this notion of ownership and carbon law in order to construct the realistic mechanism for sharing benefits.

### ***Real estate law***

Forestry law returns questions regarding ownership of forests to real estate legislation (Order No. 74-1 dated July 6, 1974 regarding the real estate and government regime and the procedures for expropriation for public interest). According to Article 6 of the Forestry Law, “the regime of ownership of forests and water institutions is defined by real estate and government legislation, and by the provisions of this law.” Forestry law is thus closely related to real estate law. Although carbon law is related to forestry law, it is also related to real estate legislation which will define the right of its ownership in part.

### ***The right to use natural and forest resources / forestry law***

The right of use considered to this end is related to the Cameroon Forestry Act of 1994. According to Article 8 of this forestry law, “the law of use or custom is (...), that acknowledged to riparian populations to exploit all forest, fauna and fishing resources except for protected species for personal use.”

A more in-depth analysis of these various rights and their potential impacts on the mechanism for equitable sharing of benefits will be conducted during the construction of the future strategy for Cameroon. This analysis will take into consideration the various considerations already carried out in this regard by various technical partners and in particular the considerations brought up by civil society through the REDD and CC Platform. An analysis of the existing legal framework (public finances, taxation, etc.) will also be conducted in order to evaluate the options that may be chosen during preparation of this mechanism for revenue sharing.

Before the adoption of the profit sharing mechanism in the context of the strategy, this mechanism, once developed, will be the subject of an Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EESS) thus allowing it to be determined whether the risks incurred by the mechanism were taken into consideration and whether the corresponding mitigating measures were adopted. **And as mentioned above, the mechanism for profit sharing will be the subject of legislation that will secure the benefits that will revert to each stakeholder.**

#### **✓ Potential beneficiaries of the REDD+ mechanism**

The REDD+ mechanism must **primarily** benefit the communities that are dependent on natural resources, including local and autochthonous communities but also the stakeholders in the process (private sector, etc.). At first, the beneficiaries will be the groups that will actually reduce their GHG emissions by implementing concrete activities. However, given that the REDD+ strategy will be national, a mechanism will be gradually developed to have national consequences.

### ***3. REDD+ funds management mechanism***

The management mechanism for profits from the REDD+ program will allow revenue to be transferred to local communities. In order to do this, a mechanism allowing the transfer of revenues must be built.

Questions related to the form and functionality of any future management mechanism for revenue resulting from the REDD+ were brought up during regional and national discussions held within the process. The construction of the mechanism will require consideration. It will take into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of the mechanisms in progress such as FEICOM.

**Box 9: FEICOM**

Created by Communal Law No. 74/23 dated December 5, 1974, the Special Equipment and Inter-municipality Intervention Fund (FEICOM) has been operational since 1977. In regards to Article 4 of Decree No. 2000/365, the duties of FEICOM include but are not limited to:

- Mutual assistance between municipalities through solidarity contributions and treasury advances
- Financing of municipal or inter-municipality investment works;
- The centralization and redistribution of additional municipal centimes;
- Coverage of expenses relative to training municipal personnel and Vital Records personnel;
- Institutional support for municipalities;
- Assistance / consulting for decentralized territorial authorities.

FEICOM resources include:

- Contributions by municipalities at a rate of 10% of the income from the full discharge tax, the product of patents, licenses and the tax on livestock;
- 50% of the parking tax;
- 50% of the livestock migration tax;
- 50% livestock transport tax;
- 20% of the additional municipal centimes;
- the subsidies and returns granted by the State;
- loans;
- RFAs intended for the municipalities (per Decree No. 076 MINATD/MINFI/MINFOF dated June 26, 2012 establishing the procedures for planning, use and monitoring of the management of revenue from the exploitation of forest and fauna resources).

The first elements arising from the consultations and that must be taken into consideration during the preparation of the mechanism are as follows:

- The State will play an essential role in the management of carbon credits at the national level, given that the quantity of the carbon credit that will be generated will be recorded in the national accounting register. Without accurate information regarding the owner of the carbon at the national level, the management of the same will revert to the state;
- However, to encourage the various stakeholders in REDD+ (primarily civil society and the private sector) to invest in REDD+ activities or projects, the management of carbon credits may be more flexible and may integrate this parameter;
- The mechanism for management of REDD+ funds must be based on existing mechanisms and must take into consideration the lessons learned from these mechanisms;
- Proceeding with a direct transaction between the international level and the pilot projects will not be excluded if the national funds management mechanism is not yet available;
- The participation of stakeholders in decision-making is indispensable.

The REDD+ funds management mechanism will be built in conjunction with the national carbon oversight system.

Several studies and consultations (via discussions) will be held to identify the legislation that needs to be implemented, the forms of appeal mechanisms, the mechanism for sharing revenue and the funds management mechanism. These various mechanisms will be an integral part of the future REDD+ strategy.

**Table 13: Activities and detailed timeline for Component 2c.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Implementation of national structures for management of the REDD							
Identification of actors at the decentralized and devolved level							
Implementation of regional and departmental structures for management of the REDD+ mechanism							
Study regarding legislation necessary for the operational implementation of the REDD+							
Gradual implementation of legislation (in function of the progress of the process and the time necessary for its adoption)							
<b>Mechanism for appeal and conflict management</b>							
Studies and discussion regarding the appeal and conflict management mechanism (+ consultation – see Section 1C)							
Implementation of conflict management entities (at the departmental level)							
Test of appeal mechanisms envisaged + adjustment							
Operational implementation of conflict management entities							
Centralization of data regarding conflicts							
Monitoring and delivery of data for decentralized entities to evaluate past experiences							
<b>Mechanism for revenue sharing</b>							
Survey of national and international experiences regarding funds management mechanisms (not only forest-related)							
Analysis of prior and current experiences							
Construction of the mechanism for revenue sharing for the REDD+ process							
<b>Mechanism for management of profits resulting from the REDD+</b>							
Survey of national and international experiences regarding funds management mechanisms (not only forest-related)							
Analysis of prior and current experiences							
Construction of the revenue sharing mechanism for the REDD+ mechanism							

<b>Table 2c: Summary of activities for the REDD+ budget and implementation framework</b>						
<b>Primary activity</b>	<b>Secondary activities</b>	<b>Estimated costs (in thousands of dollars)</b>				
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Total</b>
Implementation of regulations	Identification and drafting of legislation		20	20	20	60
Development of an appeal mechanism	Study		50	50		100
	Implementation of entities		97	97	96	290
	Operation of entities		348	348	348	1 044
Development of a revenue sharing mechanism	Studies		188	163	100	450
	Institutionalization of the mechanism				50	50
	Consultations (p/m see 1C)					0
Development of a funds management mechanism	Studies			50	50	100
	Consultations (p/m see 1C)					0
<b>Total</b>			<b>703</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>2 094</b>
<b>FCPF</b>			100			100
<b>UICN</b>			25	25		50

## 2d. Social and environmental impacts of the REDD+ preparation process and its implementation

**Standard 2d that must be respected in the text of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to satisfy the provisions of this component:**

**Social and environmental impacts of the REDD+ preparation process and its implementation:**

The proposal includes a program of reasonable diligence measures taking the form of an evaluation of environmental and social risk and impacts carried out in accordance with the Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EESS) process. It furthermore describes the problems of relevant guarantees in the context of the efforts for preparation of the country. For the countries of the FCPF, a simple work plan was presented regarding the progress of the EESS process, referencing, as applicable, other components of the R-PP, and for preparation of the CGES.

The various types of forest in the agroecological zones of Cameroon provide environmental products and services (wood and non-wood forest products, soil protection and catchment basins, water quality preservation, cultural services such as the presence of sacred forests, ritual sites, etc.) that are considerable for the communities that are dependent on the forest.

During the preparation of the R-PP, Cameroon conducted an expedited analysis of the direct and indirect causes of deforestation. The results of this analysis are presented in Section 2a and the first discussions regarding the strategic options that permit them to be contained and for the forest to generate more positive impacts on the climate in Section 2b of this document. REDD+ creates enormous potential that may contribute significant benefits to the communities dependent on forest resources and provide development.

The REDD+ is thus considered by Cameroon to be an instrument that allows development objectives to be achieved, by mobilizing the various production sectors. But the Government is also aware that REDD+, through the activities that it may conduct, may cause negative impacts not only for the communities but also for the environment. From this perspective, it is important to create synergies in an inclusive manner to respond in advance to the potential negative social and environmental impacts of the REDD+.

The EESS will allow the actual consideration of these social and environmental aspects to be guaranteed during the preparation of the strategy and to identify the potential negative impacts of the REDD+ in order to attenuate them. This consideration of the social and environmental aspects is all the more important given that a vast majority of local communities exist at the expense of Cameroon's forests.

The EESS will thus be prepared based on the concerns of all the stakeholders, primarily the communities that are dependent on natural and forest resources. IT will be based on local experiences in terms of the evaluation of social and environmental impacts.

### ***1. Early information regarding components that must be considered during preparation of the EESS***

The components that could be considered in the EESS were, in part, the subject of discussion at the national and regional workshops regarding the issues corresponding to the EESS or during exchanges regarding the causes of deforestation and degradation and the early strategic options allowing them to be reduced. The items cite below summarize the content of these workshops and discussions. Several aspects must be considered by the EESS:

Questions regarding the equitable sharing of benefits:

- how to make sure that the grassroots communities are the true beneficiaries of the REDD+ mechanism, by avoiding monopolies of benefits by the elites;
- the sharing of benefits among project/program implementation zones and the rest of national territory;
- the place of local traditional and government authorities.

Questions regarding land and land use:

- risks of conflicts between farmers and livestock farmers regarding land use matters;
- anthropic pressures on forests and natural resources due to the use of lands;
- the place of major agricultural operations in relation to REDD+;
- aspects relative to the strengthening of borders to limit escapes to neighboring countries.

Questions relative to participation/governance:

- the relational gap between the communities and the government (because the government must provide its support for communities and act as a facilitator in all its actions);
- the impacts of the implementation of projects that will be driven by the private sector regarding the well-being of the communities that are dependent on the natural and forest resources;
- the participation of forest-dependent communities to be an complete part of the REDD+ activities and to thus obtain the compensation of REDD+;
- the weakness of governance and of the capacities of the stakeholders to confront it.

On the environmental level, the development of certain technical options may lead to pressure on natural habitats, in particular in the area of access to energy resources or if measures accompanying certain projects and initiatives are not put in place on time, thus increasing escapes.

This list is not all-inclusive. Discussions at the local level merit being conducted in order to supplement it. An analysis of the reports from workshops conducted to date must also be conducted in order to leverage information that may be used by the EESS.

## ***2. The Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EES)***

In regards to the elements cited above, the EESS will allow environmental and social considerations to be taken into account during the preparatory phase of the REDD+ while considering safeguards not only during this preparatory period but also during the implementation of the strategy.

The EESS is the approach that allows Cameroon to reduce as much as possible or to eliminate the possible social and environmental impacts, in particular regarding at-risk groups, during the construction and during the implementation of the REDD+ strategy or to offset them. It will also identify the strengths of the REDD+ process in environmental and social terms in order to evaluate them for the preparation of the future Social and Environmental Management Framework (CGES) and more broadly in order for the positive impacts of REDD+ to be strengthened based on the vision of Cameroon that intends to make REDD+ a development tool. It will define the intermediate waypoints and the changes to be made, in regard to the participation of the CLIP, among other factors. This consideration of environmental and social aspects would thus allow the Government to identify the strategic options that are the most compatible with the concerns and the expectations of the communities dependent on the forests (local and autochthonous communities) and the imperatives for protection of natural and forest resources.

Preparation of the EESS will be participatory. The involvement of MINAS and MINFOF as well as all the stakeholders is necessary to prepare an EESS that reflects reality.

Following the preparation and the application of the EESS, Cameroon will be able to identify its environmental and social management framework, which will be a framework for the sustainable management of resources and the attenuation of environmental and social risks and the impacts on future investments associated with the implementation of REDD+ (projects, activities and/or policies and regulations). This CGES will thus be an integral part of the REDD+ strategy. It will thus allow the definition of plans to attenuate the impacts of activities and strategies during the implementation of the REDD+.

The EESS is a new procedure in Cameroon and its application is not framed in any legal provision as being a part of the strategic directions in regards to policies, plans and programs in force in the country. The implementation of the EESS in Cameroon will be based on guiding principles and it will respect the stages of the traditional procedure generally adopted for the environmental analysis of programs. The process will thus be national in scope. It is based on the specific properties of Cameroon (respecting the approach based on agroecological zone) taking into consideration the various policies, programs and in particular the local (national) practices and the various tools available (such as environmental impact studies) at first, and must respect at a later time the international directives related to the EESS.

The EESS in Cameroon will specifically take into consideration the groups for which the implementation of the REDD+ could impact their standards of living. These groups are primarily the communities that are dependent on forests, the autochthonous populations, women and youth.

First, Cameroon affirms its agreement with the various international standards and principles. The principles that will drive the EESS in Cameroon will, among other items, involve:

- compliance with the rights of communities dependent on natural and forest resources;
- compliance with the cultures of the stakeholders (compliance with traditional culture);
- the actual inclusion and participation for preparation and implementation of the REDD+ strategy;
- the consideration of the actual conditions to build a realistic and effective mechanism.

The EESS in Cameroon will thus take into consideration the specific provisions and requirements, i.e.:

- conformity with the requirements of the national legislative framework;
- conformity with the national and international context that is increasingly favorable to equality between men and women vis-à-vis advances made in this regard (reforms of the family code, nationality, national gender equality policies, the fight against violence directed at women, institutional positive discrimination, protection of Baka Baka, Bagyeli, Bedjang, Bakola and Mbororos autochthonous populations, etc.);
- conformity with international directives in regards to environmental and social evaluation, in particular:
  - conformity with the common approach of the FCPF and the ONU-REDD regarding social and environmental safeguards;
  - conformity to SES standards regarding REDD+ put in place by CCBA.

### **3. The context for development of the EESS in Cameroon**

#### **✓ Environmental Impact Study (EIE)**

The country adopted an extensive set of legislative texts in favor of the protection and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources and forests in general, and environmental evaluations in particular. Texts regarding the EIEs confirm this. Decree No. 2005/0577/PM dated February 23, 2005 establishing the procedures for conducting an Environmental Impact Study regarding the environment (in review), Decrees No. 0069/MINEP dated March 8, 2005 establishing the various categories of operations, the conduct of which is subject to an impact study, and No. 0070/MINEP dated April 22, 2005 establishing the various categories of operations the conduct of which is subject to an environmental impact study currently regulate these environmental impact studies. According to the decree, "the developer or the contractor of any project, work, supply of equipment or installation that risks, based on its scope, its nature or the effects of the activities

conducted therein on the natural environment, to affect the environment, must conduct, in accordance with the requirements of the specifications, an impact study allowing evaluation of the direct or indirect consequences of said project on the ecological balance of the implementation zone or any other region, the framework and the quality of life of the communities and effects on the environment in general.”

Within the jurisdiction of the MINEPDED, the EIE is applied only to projects to modify installations that were the subject of a detailed study, the social and economic infrastructures and production sectors (such as agriculture, livestock farming, forestry and fishing / aquaculture), hazardous, unhealthy or inconvenient Institutions, sports, and community infrastructures and other civil engineering works, mining activities, tourism and various categories of industries. Nevertheless, we arrive at the observation that the provisions of this text regarding the EIEs are clearly insufficient to frame and govern the Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluations in the REDD+ process because it only involves projects for which specific activities are clearly defined, so that it is possible to evaluate the impacts of each of these activities on the receiving environment. This type of evaluation is not possible for strategies further defining the orientations, and not specific activities. It is only the strategic evaluation that is appropriated.

First, the EIE does not allow consideration of all the social and environmental concerns that may arise after the implementation of the REDD. Furthermore, the EIE is currently “deficient.” In order to bridge this gap, Cameroon will implement its EESS which will be more in conformity with the concerns of the REDD+.

Cameroon has not yet developed this EESS. It will be prepared beginning in early 2013 by identifying the activities to be undertaken (strengthening of the Terms of Reference) before the end of 2012. The EESS will be prepared by the EESS cell of the Technical Secretariat with a multidisciplinary team. This technical cell will be assisted by independent experts that have the competencies required in social and environmental management, in particular for collecting information. The involvement of the stakeholders, and primarily of civil society, must be strong during the preparation of the EESS in order for it to actually respond to the concerns of the communities that are dependent on the forest and natural resources.

#### ✓ **The various stages for preparation of the EESS**

The EESS must be prepared no later than September 2013. The detailed Terms of Reference for the preparation of the EESS will be available by late 2012 (see the outline attached in Appendix 2d). The EESS will be available in June 2014. The team in charge of the preparation of the EESS will work closely with civil society and the technical partners of the MINEPDED that have expertise in the consideration of concerns of the local and autochthonous communities. The EESS cell team will therefore be supported by consultants.

Data for preparation of the EESS will be gathered by various means:

- by processing information available in the reports on workshops conducted within national territory by MINEPDED, by the technical partners of the MINEPDED and by civil society;
- through regional and national discussion and cooperation workshops allowing the criteria and indicators to be considered in the EESS to be collected, while taking into account the various concerns of the stakeholders;
- through field visits of a joint mission of experts charged with preparation of the EESS and the representatives of the stakeholders, for discussions with local communities, primarily the autochthonous peoples, women and youth.

The preparation of the EESS will be accompanied by consultations conducted in the context of identification of the causes of deforestation and the degradation of forests. The indicators that will be taken into consideration in the EESS and for Part 4b will be based on the indicators identified in other frameworks. This involves, for example, criteria and indicators for governance developed in the context of the APV/FLEGT process, criteria and indicators put in place to monitor forest governance (referring to the work carried out by the Independent Observer) and the criteria and indicators developed by the conservation projects / programs put in place by the technical and financial partners of MINEP and MINFOF.

Consultations and cooperation at the local and regional levels will be conducted for this purpose to adapt the EESS to all situations observed in the 5 agroecological zones of Cameroon, with the participation of the regional and communal branches of the REDD and CC Platform. The EESS must find strength in the framework of a robust participation and consultation process.

An early implementation of the EESS through a community will be conducted in order to verify whether the EESS complies with actual situations and takes into consideration all local concerns. All the experiments of the EESS tool will be conducted with the participation of the communities that are dependent on the resources and of civil society.

✓ **Implementation of the EESS for various components of the national REDD strategy**

The implementation of the EESS will involve strategic options that will be identified and the components of this document.

The technical committee of the EESS cell of the Technical Secretariat will thus participate in the consultations conducted to construct the strategy and during the performance of the various studies that will feed into this strategy. From the start it will allow a reduction of the social and environmental risks that may appear during the preparation of the strategy or during the creation of the pilot programs/projects.

Once the EESS is operational, the strategic options of the future REDD+ strategy will be subjected to the EESS in order to evaluate the risks and potential environmental impacts (positive and negative) of these options. Efforts will thus be conducted in order to improve the existing REDD+ strategic options and/or to develop new strategic options on the basis of results, in function of the conclusions of the EESS. Following these observations and the improvements made, a social and environmental framework (CGES) respecting the safeguards applicable to Cameroon and taking into consideration the specific features of the agroecological zones will be developed.

Studies will be conducted in early 2013 for the preparation of the EESS. These studies will be carried out by multidisciplinary teams, with the involvement of all the stakeholders, in particular civil society, the private sector, technical partners, etc. The collection of data in all agroecological zones and for the production of the first outlines of the EESS and the CGES will be contracted. The recruited consultants will work with the EESS team from the Technical Secretariat to improve the tool.

The CGES resulting from the implementation of the EESS will be an integral part of Cameroon's future REDD+ strategy. The CGES tool will thus provide the guideposts for the primary social and environmental concerns to be reduced upon the preparation of the strategy. If necessary, corrective measures will be put in place in this phase and if applicable, during the implementation of the strategy.

✓ **Requirements for preparation of the EESS**

The development of human capacities is a necessary condition for preparing and applying an EESS in an efficient manner. Learning the procedures and the stages of the EESS by national executives (sectoral ministers involved, including MINAS, but also all stakeholders, including civil society, local and autochthonous communities, women, etc.) will thus allow the development of environmental and social yields, and to make strategic development or investment choices, while facilitating decision-making related to the preparation of the REDD+ program. It is possible to correct to a large extent any gaps by developing capacities linked to the EESS.

**Table 14: Activities and detailed timeline of Component 2d.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
Establishment of the ToR for preparation of the EESS							
Recruitment of the team that will be responsible for preparation of the EESS							
Collection of data necessary to prepare the EESS (analysis of prior work and discussions by technical partners of the MINEPDED, field work, consultations, etc.)							
Analysis of existing legislation that may affect the EESS							
Preparation of the EESS							
Consultation (Cf. Section 1C)							
Amendment of the EESS							
Implementation of the EESS							
Preparation of the CGES							

Primary activity	Secondary activities	Estimated costs (thousands of dollars)				Total
		2012	2013	2014	2015	
Preparation of the EESS and the CGES	Study		100			100
	Implementation		62	62	62	186
	Consultation (pm /see 1c)					0
Support / Strengthening of capacities	Support from stakeholders		100	50		150
	Training			100		100
<b>Total</b>			<b>262</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>536</b>
<b>FCPF</b>			<b>100</b>			<b>100</b>

## Component 3: Preparation of a national reference emission level for forests and/or a national reference level for forests

### **Standard 3 that must be respected in the text of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to satisfy the provisions of this component: Preparation of a national reference emission level and/or a national reference level for forests:**

Submit a working plan regarding the procedure for development of the reference level for deforestation, degradation of forests (if desired), conservation, sustainable management of forests and the strengthening of carbon inventories. Include preliminary ideas regarding a process for determining the approach and methods to be used (for example changing forest cover and GHG emissions based on historical trends and/or projections of data on historical trends; combination of inventories and/or remote detection and/or GIS or modeling), primary data necessary, current capacities and needs related to capacity. Evaluate links to Sections 2a (evaluation of causes of deforestation), 2b (strategic REDD+ activities) and 4 (design of the monitoring system).

(The FCPF and ONU-REDD recognize that international political decisions may affect this aspect and that a gradual approach may be useful. This aspect defines the proposed preliminary activities.)

#### **4. Objectives**

The reference scenario will develop the basic elements that will allow the politicians to conduct international negotiations regarding the REDD+ mechanism. It will thus serve as a tool to assist in decision-making, allowing the commitment of Cameroon to REDD+ to be determined

In its submission to the UNFCCC, Cameroon proposed a historical reference level supplemented by development adjustment factors to take national circumstances into consideration. In this regard, Cameroon proposes taking into consideration the specific features of the various agroecological zones thus emphasizing the infranational level during the preparation of its NR and NRE.

This aspect thus proposes an approach in order to develop a reference scenario that should take into consideration deforestation and degradation of forests, but also efforts aimed at conservation and increasing carbon inventories at the national level, and national adjustment factors in function of development projections (see 2a regarding past, present and future causes of deforestation and degradation). The estimate of historical emission in Cameroon will be based on the evaluation of surface areas of various types of land use over time to which we will add estimates of carbon gains or losses, since 1990. This choice is justified by the fact that most of the satellite analyses of plant cover in Cameroon were carried out at that time, but also because that date is near the implementation of the forestry law (1994).

#### **5. Various stages for preparation of the reference scenario**

Before the construction of the reference scenario, it will be necessary to implement the MRV Cell/Reference scenario charged with construction of the two systems and responsible for the centralization of data on the REDD+ (See 1<sup>st</sup> composition of the technical secretariat). This will be framed by a geomatics expert, a carbon accounting expert and an expert in independent social sciences. They will comprise support teams based on their specializations and their roles, in particular to perform field work. These support teams are mixed, comprised of MINFOF and MINEPDED agents or external experts.

Various stages must be respected for the preparation of the reference scenario:

- the analysis of forest coverage, the current situation and evolution during the past several years by photo interpretation, using the available satellite images;
- the quantification of past emissions using estimates of the biomass prepared based on available forest inventories supplemented by specific inventories intended to mobilize missing data. This information will be supplemented by the results of national communications (the second of which is currently being finalized);
- the development of paths for emissions / sequestration by modeling, taking into consideration the various adjustment factors arising from the projection of development and programs implemented in Cameroon.

The activities to be undertaken in the context of the preparation of the reference scenario will consist of:

- 1- establishing the reference framework in which this scenario will be prepared:
  - determining the time period selected for preparation of this scenario (previously: 1990-2012);
  - providing the definition of the forest that will be used throughout the process. The parameters related to this definition may differ from one agroecological zone to the next;
  - testing the technical capacities for differentiation of forest and non-forest surfaces at the level of each agroecological zone to validate the definition selected for the forest
- 2- the evaluation, mobilization and validation of existing data:
  - prepare an inventory and mobilize data allowing evaluation of forest coverage in Cameroon. This will primarily involve satellite images, but aerial photographs, maps of existing plant formations, etc. may also be used;
  - evaluation of the quality of various national inventories, inventories conducted in the context of the logging of forests and data from inventories from the various studies conducted in Cameroon;
  - validation of data over the time period selected for our evaluation (1990-2012);
  - mobilization of data and information relative to development programs put in place by the State and determination of the impact on forest coverage.
- 3- development of various methodologies
  - definition of protocols for treatment and use of satellite images;
  - identification of forest strata at the level of agroecological zones;
  - implementation of methodologies for verification of cartographic works in the field;
  - preparation of an inventory methodology for carbon stocks in the field for the various forest strata identified in the 5 agroecological zones, in conjunction with existing data;
  - implementation and development of participatory measurement systems for carbon inventories;
  - evaluation of methodologies for the preparation of scale reference scenarios for the various agroecological zones;
- 4- establishment of the national reference scenario
  - preparation of the current status (2012) of the scope (cartography and surface area) of forest formations by agroecological zone and for the extent of national territory;
  - Implementation of the inventory of carbon stocks in the field for the various forest strata identified in the 5 agroecological zones, by the use of experimental measurement plots according to the technical protocol which will be defined in Stage 3 above;
  - on the same bases, the preparation of cartography for forest formations on various dates (for example every 5 years as of 1990);
  - preparation of a historical degradation and deforestation map based on the delimitation of agroecological zones;
  - determination of the evolution of carbon emissions during the reference period;
  - introduction of adjustment factors;
  - evaluation and adoption of emission factors in function of the various forest strata,
  - development of spatial regression models based on the models obtained for the types of land use and economic development projections to the scale of agroecological zones.

- finalization of reference scenarios at the sub-national scale;
- finalization of the national reference scenario.

- 5- consultation and strengthening of capacities
- recruitment of national and international consultants to support REDD techniques in general and the MRV cell in particular;
  - strengthening of the capacities of local actors for the preparation of the reference standards;
  - strengthening of capacities of the central and decentralized technical cells regarding the subjects that contribute to the preparation of the reference scenario and the MRV system (remote detection, cartography, carbon inventories, etc.) and regarding the preparation of the Reference Standards.

#### **h. Problems of scale for the preparation of the reference scenario**

The objective of Cameroon is to have a national reference scenario established via historical and adjusted data. However, given the specific properties of the various agroecological zones that comprise the first stratification of national territory, sub-national reference scenarios related to these zones will be established in order for the expected results to take into account their specific dynamics. Other parameters such as the type of forest and the type of use of the land will contribute to finalizing these scenarios.

These scenarios by agroecological zone will be used to adjust the national reference scenario, even if the latter does not necessarily reflect the specific features of these zones, given that the international guidelines do not allow a dissociation of results at the national and infranational level because only the former is recognized.

#### **i. Definition of the forest**

According to the FAO, forests are considered to be lands occupying a surface area in excess of 0.5 hectares with trees reaching a height in excess of five meters, and tree coverage of more than ten percent, or with trees capable of reaching these thresholds on site. Lands for predominantly agricultural or urban use are excluded (FRA 2010).

According to the definition of the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC: "Forest is understood to be land with a minimum surface area of between 0.05 and 1.0 ha with trees the crown of which covers more than 10 to 30% of the surface area (or having an equivalent planting density) and that may at maturity reach a minimum height of 2 to 5 m. A forest may comprise either dense formations, the various stages and undergrowth of which cover a high proportion of the soil, i.e. clear formations. The young natural populations and all plantings comprised of trees with crown not yet covering 10-30% of the surface area or that do not yet reach 2 to 5 m are classified in the category of forests, like the spaces that are normally part of forest lands that are temporarily deforested following human intervention such as felling or natural phenomena, but which should again become forests."

According to Law No. 94-01 dated January 20, 1994 regarding the system of forests, fauna and fish, in Article 2, forests are considered to be: "*lands including plant coverage in which trees, shrubs and other species susceptible to providing products other than agricultural products are predominant.*"

The definition of the forest that will be adopted by Cameroon will therefore take into consideration:

- the definitions set forth in the current forestry legislation;
- the definitions of the FAO;
- the definitions of the Marrakesh accord;
- the definitions considered in the context of the MDP (given that Cameroon signed on to the Kyoto protocol).

Cameroon's option for a REDD+ covering all agroecological zones is based on a perception of vegetation and carbon as a continuum from North to South. The definition of Law No. 94-01 dated January 20, 1994 regarding the system of forests, fauna and fish does not establish thresholds and seems to be restrictive to the extent that it

excludes many agroforests, by setting forest and agricultural spaces against each other. The definition of FAO contains thresholds that favor the dense and more or less wet forest zone (trees larger than 5 meters).

The flexible thresholds and values established by the Marrakesh accords of the Protocol (minimum forest surface area of 0.05 to 1 ha, minimum mature height *in situ* of 2 to 5 meters, minimal forest coverage density (or storage level equivalent to 10 to 30%) are expedient, at first glance, for Cameroon, but a more in-depth analysis is nevertheless necessary to determine the definition to be used with parameters that may be specific to each of the selected agroecological zones.

The definitions of forest to be taken into consideration will thus be one of the first tasks carried out by the Technical Secretariat, upon the implementation of the MRV cell, in early 2013. The choice of the definition of forest is a prerequisite for the continuation of the work.

**j. Estimating historical emissions**

This section will be documented more extensively in Section 4a.

✓ **Available data sources**

The data available in Cameroon are:

- the data on national forest inventories (through 2004), forest logging concessions, results of various studies, etc.;
- satellite images;
- infranational data from various research works and conservation entities;
- inventories and quantification of GES, even if random;
- statistical data from the National Institute of Statistics (INS) and data from MINEPAT regarding land use.

Forest inventories

**Table 15: Available forest inventories**

Types of data	Scale	Coverage	Sources	Methodology used
Inventory of various forest strata	1992	National	ONADEF, 1992	Interpretation of aerial photography combined with field surveys
National forest inventory	2003-2004	National	FAO and MINFOF, 2004	Evaluation of forest resources and changes in plant coverage from 2003 to 2004
The world's mangroves	1980- 2005	Mangrove zone	FAO, 2007	Evaluation of mangrove surface areas from 1980 -2005
Forest planning inventories	From preparation of the first forest plans to the present	For each Forest Development Unit, communal forests, community forests	MINFOF	See Decree No. 0222/A/MINEF/ May 25, 2001

Satellite images (already available, and if applicable, that may be mobilized)

**Table 16: Data available from satellite images**

Type of data	Years	Properties	Coverage / Coverage zone	Sources
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Landsat 5 TM	1990, 2000	30 m resolution, 180 x 180 km <sup>2</sup>	Entire country	GAF AG / MINEPDED
Landsat 7 ETM+	1990, 2000	30 - 15 m	Entire country	GAF AG / MINEPDED
Images SPOT 4	2002	20 m x 20 m	45 images	ASTRIUM
Images SPOT 5	2010	10 m x 10 m	40 images, Southern region	ASTRIUM
TM Landsat-5 USGS	1982-...	Waveband: 0.45-12.50 µm Spatial Resolution: VIS-SWIR, 30 m; TIR: 120 m Swath width: 185 km		NASA
ETM+ Landsat-7USGS	1999-...	Waveband: VIS-TIR: 8 channels: 0.45-12.5 µm, Panchromatic channel: VIS 0.5-0.9 µm Spatial resolution: Pan: 15 m, Vis-SWIR: 30 m, TIR: 60 m Swath with: 185 km		NASA
ASTER	2000 -...	Waveband: VIS&NIR: 3 bands in 0.52-0.86 µm, SWIR: 6 bands in 1.6-2.43 µm, TIR: 5 bands in 8.125-11.65 µm Spatial resolution: VNIR: 15 m, stereo: 15 m horizontal and 25 m vertical, SWIR: 30 m, TIR: 90 m Width of scan: 60 km	Partial coverage	NASA
SPOT-2 HRV CNES	1990- 2007	Waveband: VIS: B1: 0.5-0.59 µm, B2: 0.61-0.68 µm, NIR: B3: 0.79-0.89 µm, Panchromatic: VIS 0.51-0.73 µm Spatial Resolution: 10 m (panchromatic) or 20 m. Width of scan: 117 km (i.e. 60 km + 60 km with 3 km overlap) - steerable up to ±27 deg off-track	No images of Cameroon before 2000 ? Partial coverage	CNES
SPOT-5 HRG High Resolution Geometry CNES	2002-...	Waveband: VIS: B1: 0.50-0.59 µm, B2: 0.61-0.68 µm, NIR: B3: 0.79-0.89 µm, SWIR: 1.50-1.75 µm, Panchromatic: 0.49-0.69 µm Résolution Spatial Resolution Panchromatic: 2, 5 m, Multi spectral: 10 m Width of scan: 60 km (1 instrument), 117 km (2 instruments). Same as SPOT 4 with an off-track steering capacity (±27 deg)	Partial coverage	CNES
SPOT-4 HRVIR High Resolution Visible and Infra-red (CNES)	1998	Waveband: VIS: B1: 0.50-0.59 µm, B2: 0.61-0.68 µm, NIR: 0.79-0.89 µm, SWIR: 1.58-1.75 µm, Panchromatic:(B2) 0.61-0.68 µm Spatial resolution: 10 m (0.64 µm) or 20 m Width of scan: 117 km (i.e. 60 km + 60 km with 3 km of overlap). Steerable up to ±27 degrees off-track	Partial coverage	CNES
ALOS	2007	Resolution 10 m Three on-board instruments (panchromatic, AVNIR and radar)		NASA

CBERS 2 High Resolution CCD Camera	2003 - 2010	Waveband: VIS: 0.45-0.52 $\mu\text{m}$ , 0.52-0.59 $\mu\text{m}$ , 0.63-0.69 $\mu\text{m}$ , NIR: 0.77-0.89 $\mu\text{m}$ , PAN: 0.51-0.71 $\mu\text{m}$ Spatial resolution: 20 m Swath width: 113 km	Very low coverage in Central Africa	INPE/AEB/CAST
DMC SSTL	2004	Waveband: VIS&NIR: 3 bands in 0.52-0.9 $\mu\text{m}$ Spatial resolution: 32 m Scan width: 600 km		(UK, Nigeria, China)
RapidEye (German company)		Resolution of 5 meters No SWIR band, but has NIR and a new "red edge" band		

Source : GAF-AG (2010), Preparation of the project to strengthen REDD institutional capacities for sustainable forest management in the Congo basin – (GEF/BM), Component 2: Study regarding measurement of forest carbon stock: Institutional and technical review for a regional MRV system.

#### Accounting of carbon / estimate of inventory

An information plan regarding the stages followed for the construction of the reference scenario for the accounting / estimation of the inventory is given above in Paragraph 2. To assist in this quantification, Cameroon will have two national bulletins regarding GHG emissions (the second is being prepared and will be available by December 2012). Even if they are spot measures and do not allow a chronological estimate over a long period of time, these data allow early components related to the NRE to be made available. To this we can add the following (not all-inclusive) data:

**Table 17: Data available regarding carbon inventory**

Types of data	Methodology used	Responsible entity	Primary results	Sources
Estimate of aerial carbon inventory				
REDD ALERT-REALU	Landsat et Aster, difficult to find sites with 2 dates, no images for 2010, too many clouds 12 villages selected in Southern Cameroon	ASB	Charcoal inventory (only degraded forest) Average 167.7 tC/ha (min. 91.1 – max. 325) Results on fallow land, fields, etc.	IITA / ICRAF
Study in progress at Efoulan: scenarios for change in forest coverage and carbon inventory	OpCost Analysis software	ASB	In progress	IITA / ICRAF
Pan-Tropical Mapping of Forest Cover and Associated Above-Ground Carbon Stock 2000-2003 / 2006	Existing forest inventories in the Republic of Congo (ROC), Cameroon and Uganda Images from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS) satellite (1-km resolution) covering the period from 2000 to 2003. "Random Forest" statistical model	WHRC	3054.9 MtC Total dense rainforest inventories  4677 MtC Cameroon total inventories	<a href="http://www.whrc.org/education/rwanda/pdf/Laportee_Proceedings_Brazza.pdf">http://www.whrc.org/education/rwanda/pdf/Laportee_Proceedings_Brazza.pdf</a>

Pan-Tropical Mapping of Forest Cover and Associated Above-Ground Carbon Stock 2007-	Launched 2009 (a) 2007 high-resolution, cloud-free radar imagery from the Japanese ALOS sensor (b) a forest cover map derived from this radar imagery to serve as a baseline for subsequent change monitoring, and (c) medium-resolution, pan-tropical biomass/carbon map based on the fusion of optical (MODIS), radar (ALOS), and lidar (GLAS) data sets.	WHRC	Pan tropical map of above ground biomass at 500 m for one time circa 2007 and another at 50-100 m of resolution	OFAC Site <a href="http://www.whrc.org/mapping/panropical/carbomap2000.html">http://www.whrc.org/mapping/panropical/carbomap2000.html</a>
Condition of Forests 2008	Details in the Charcoal chapter	OFAC	Total Cameroon Inventory: 5.043 MtC Total rainforest inventory 3,203 MtC	EDF 2008
INFORMS	Protected landscapes and areas PFBC (including Southern Cameroon and TNS)	WHRC, CIFOR, CARPE	?	<a href="http://www.whrc.org/mapping/informs/sangha.html">http://www.whrc.org/mapping/informs/sangha.html</a>

Satellite images will be used in order to estimate activity data, among other items, related to changes in surface area resulting from changes in the allocation of land. A monitoring system will thus be put in place and the data regarding surveillance of use of land by satellite will be produced annually. The results of surveys and field inspections will thereafter allow verification of the correct allocation of observations in this or that type of forest, thus ensuring the correct surface areas specified for forests (taking into consideration the various properties of vegetation in agroecological zones). The results of the various inventories will thereafter allow a forest strategy determined based on a quantity of carbon to be undertaken.

Note: Permanent test plots will be installed at the level of several forest strata identified in order to measure within them the evolution of the carbon inventory resulting from the growth of the forest formation in question. To the extent possible, agreements will be approved with the existing research structures that already have this type of test plot, which they regularly monitor.

✓ **Existing capacities**

Capacities exist at the level of MINEPDED and MINFOF, but also MINEPAT and MINDCAF, ANAFOR, INC, Universities (Université de Yaoundé 1, Université de Dschang, CRESA-Bois, etc.), NGOs and other national, sub-regional institutions (OSFAC, sub-regional FAO/COMIFAC projects), and even international institutions present within Cameroon. These capacities will be mobilized during the construction of the reference scenario and during the MRV. The thematic group supporting the MRV cell of the Technical Secretariat and having members from several domains will be strengthened. It will also be the extension of the thematic group created during the launch of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). These capacities will be strengthened through training that will, among other subjects, cover the guidelines of the GIEC, and thanks to dedicate budgets for the activities of Section 3 and Section 4. Transfers of skills will be planned to this end, in order to strengthen national expertise.

The MINEPAT will be significantly mobilized in regards to its prerogatives for planning the use of land.

✓ **Activities to be undertaken**

After having put in place the various technical approaches and methodologies to be applied, the remote detection activities may start up and allow the preparation of the current status (2012) of the scope (surface cartography) of forest formations by agroecological zone and for the extent of national territory. On the same

technical bases, prior cartography of forest formations will be prepared, on different dates (for example every 5 years as of 1990).

In parallel with remote detection and cartography activities, the inventory of carbon stocks in the field will be carried out for the various forest strata identified in the 5 agroecological zones. These inventories will be supplemented by the data from national inventories and forest concession inventories in order to evaluate the carbon stock for plant groups and types of use of land of primary importance to national territory. Specific effort will be made for the quantification of the degradation that to this point has posed a true problem. All these elements will allow subsequent determination of emissions and absorption values related to deforestation and the degradation of forests.

The reference levels identified at this stage will provide a perspective of “business as usual.” These levels will be adjusted by the following parameters in order to build the reference scenario for Cameroon and to define the ambitions of the REDD+ process in order to effectively reduce emissions of GHGs and to become an emerging country.

**k. Develop the trajectories for emissions / sequestrations by application of adjustment factors**

The definition of trajectories for emissions / sequestrations in Cameroon will comply with Resolution 4/CP.1511 adopted in Copenhagen and related to methodological aspects of REDD+ that state that “when they establish reference levels of emissions and other reference levels for forests, developing countries parties [sic] must do so in a fully transparent manner taking into consideration historical data, and [they must] carry out adjustments based on national conditions.” The national reference scenario will therefore be based on quantitative and spatialized predictions of emissions and greenhouse gases due to Deforestation and Degradation of Forests, over the selected time period.

The activities will consist of:

- the collection of data for adjustment (mobilization of data and information relative to development programs put in place by the State and determination of the impact on forest coverage);
- the related modeling and strengthening of capacities.

These activities will allow an estimation of the quantity and location of future deforestation in order to construct a realistic reference scenario.

Data collection:

It is important to collect new data on the primary causes of deforestation (identified in Component 2a), current and future. The lack of reliable data on the primary causes was also brought up in regards to Component 2A. The studies should allow the data necessary for evaluation of the impact of each factor regarding clear emissions due to forests to be determined. These new data will supplement the old data and will allow the Reference Standard to be updated. They will also allow evaluation of the impacts of the REDD+ process in the context of the MRV.

Summary of adjustment factors:

The preparation of a national Reference Standard is dependent on sectoral policies. In the context of the implementation of the DSCE and major activities intended to make Cameroon into an emerging country according to the 2035 Strategic Vision, sectoral policies that result from political choices defined objectives for development that will have repercussions on the forest and in particular on the absorption of GHGs. At first glance, the development ambitions of Cameroon, through its “major works” and other major initiatives such as the fast development of the mining and agroindustrial sectors must be taken into consideration.

The following elements, including implementation, may engender significant impacts on the levels of emissions and sequestration will be considered in the future projections of the reference scenario:

- *for the agricultural sector*, the Government decided to substantially and quickly increase the supply of agricultural products. It anticipated increasing rice production in major operations, developing corn and manioc production in order in particular to sustain development of livestock farming and aviculture and developing cross-border trade. Emphasis is placed on the development of growth chains, following the example of plantains, sorghum and oil palm. Production by the sector is projected at 5.3% on average per year during the period of 2010-2020;
- *for the livestock farming sector*, consumption of animal proteins is currently 11 Kg/resident/year and the objective is to increase to FAO standards that place it at 42 kg/resident/year. The strategy of this sector focuses on the development of livestock farming for short-cycle species (non-conventional livestock farming, small ruminants, porcines, poultry, aquaculture and fishing);
- *for the sylviculture and forest logging sector*, dam and plant construction projects will result in the recovery of wood volumes. Other than these two aspects, the forestry sector should experience average growth of 2.5% per year between 2010 and 2020;
- *for energy*, the start-up of several power plants is planned, including the gas-fired steam power plant at Kribi in 2013 (216 MW), the Lom Pangar dam in 2014 (120 MW), the Nachtigal dam in 2014 (330 MW) and the Memve'ele hydroelectric power plant in 2016 (201 MW). These developments will drive the growth of energy production at an annual pace of 2.9% and 13% respectively over the periods of 2009-2011 and 2012-2020. The tendencies in the field of wood energy are also to be taken into consideration. **They must on one hand consider demographic growth and on the other efforts provided to make the use of wood for energy more effective by the use of adapted hearths and stoves. The hydroelectric dam construction projects will involve the flooding of significant forest surface areas that it will be necessary to take into consideration;**
- *for the sector of buildings and public works*, annual growth on the order of 8% is projected. Between 2016 and 2020, several road and railroad construction projects are anticipated. These works will increase the average annual rate of growth of this sub-sector to 8.8% over the period of 2010-2020;
- On the social level, migratory movements with other countries but also within the country, the demographics, urban development are parameters that cannot be concealed.

(See the outline of the ToR for activities to be conducted and data to be collected in Appendix 3).

#### **I. Methodological approach for consideration of adjustment factors**

This is first of all a question of capitalizing on the existing methodologies for modeling, in particular the tools used by BIUCREP, INS and the regional IIASA model (that presents the potential for simulation of data on the scale of the Congo basin for the analysis of the reference level). Once the data on emissions / absorptions related to various changes in use of soil that occurred, the team ties them to predictions of changes in use of soil to calculate future emissions/absorptions. The results will be studied, adjusted and lastly validated at the level of the agroecological zones and then the national level by the Technical Secretariat. When this scenario will be validated, it may be used for simulations of the impact of strategic options identified for the development of the future REDD+ strategy.

The adjustment will be based on two components: (i) a “quantitative” component, in order to estimate future deforested surface areas and (ii) a “spatial” component to distribute deforested surface areas geographically, based on the calculations made in the context of the “quantitative” component.

The location of future deforestation will be estimated either based on established programs, or based on a spatial model. Once calibrated and validated, this will allow estimating the propensity for deforestation of the various forest zones in the country. This model will be calibrated in function of the spatial variables that will affect the propensity for deforestation of wooded zones: biophysical, accessibility, etc. variables. By combining the deforested surface and the map of risks of deforestation obtained thanks to the spatial model, it will be possible to determine where and when future deforestation will occur. The data to be collected thus simultaneously relate to the “quantitative component” and the “spatial component” of the scenario.

The preparation of maps detailing expansion zones of activities that may have impacts on deforestation (such as

agriculture, the size of towns and villages, etc.) are an indispensable element for understanding the future expansion of deforestation and the intensification of forest degradation. These maps will also take into consideration the adjustment factors set forth above. This work may be done using GEOMOD software, Land change modeler, Dinamica, etc.

The use of the map of deforestation risks will allow the prioritization of intervention zones to be supported. The reference terms for the construction of the scenario will include the calibration and validation of the spatial mode, the performance of a protocol for updating this model and the activities for strengthening capacities. These works will also be monitored by the steering committee. Consistency between the data and methods used to estimate reference emission/absorption levels and the MRV system is crucial. The methodologies selected for creating the reference scenario will also be those applied for the implementation of the MRV system.

Several studies conducted in the context of the construction of the REDD+ strategy (study of the causes of deforestation, analysis of sectoral policies, political economy of REDD+, etc.) will be used to feed the construction of the reference scenario (in order to adjust NREs and NRs). Consultations will be conducted in the various ecoregions in order to clearly identify the adjustment variables to be taken into consideration during the construction of the reference scenario. These consultations will be carried out with the stakeholders of the process and specifically with the communities that are dependent on the natural and forest resources.

Activities for building the reference scenario will be carried out simultaneously with MRV activities given their complementarity. Activities will begin in 2013. A realistic reference scenario reflecting the specific features of the 5 agroecological zones should be available before the end of 2014. It will be useful for choosing and prioritizing the strategic REDD+ options to be adopted.

## **6. Requirements for strengthening capacity**

Strengthening of capacity will be waived for members of the MRV technical cell / reference scenario to be put in place which will relay knowledge, to all institutions (national as well as local) that will be mobilized for preparation of said scenario and the MRV but also to members of local communities responsible for monitoring the MRV system. The training will involve:

- processing of cartographic data and satellite images;
- modeling;
- strengthening of data base management (not only satellite and cartographic, but also statistical, biological, social, economic, etc.).

To this we add a need to strengthen material resources of institutions that will be involved (see the list of institutions implied and their roles in Section 4a).

These trainings will be conducted with the technical and financial support of projects / programs in progress in the subregion (such as the FAO/COMIFAC project or the subregional REDD project, technical support from Japanese Cooperation, the support of the AFD through the C2D program, etc.).

In order to do this, technical assistance from the MRV cell / Reference scenario is necessary. It will be supplemented by technical support from national and international research centers, the technical partners of MINEPDED and NGOs that work on MRV-related subjects. The objective is thus to generate national skills capable of implementing the REDD+ process in the future.

It should be noted that this part has significant ties to Section 4a regarding the MRV: emissions and absorptions associated with the future changes in allocation of land will be obtained through the emission factors obtained by the MRV system; the reference scenario will be adjusted in function of the results obtained from the MRV system and the institutions responsible for preparing the reference scenario are the same as those responsible for preparation of the MRV system.

**Table 18: Planned activities and timeline for Component 3**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
<b>Establishment of a reference framework</b>							
Determination of the reference period							
Definition of the concept of "forest"							
Test in agroecological zones for validation of the definition of forest							
<b>Evaluation and validation of existing data</b>							
Inventory data allowing an evaluation of forest coverage values							
Evaluation of the quality of various existing data							
Validation of data over the selected time period							
Mobilization of data in State development programs and their impact							
<b>Development of various methodologies</b>							
Definition of the protocols for processing and using satellite images							
Identification of forest strata in agroecological zones							
Implementation of methodologies for verification of cartographic work in the field							
Preparation of the methodology for inventorying the carbon stock							
Implementation and development of participatory measurement systems for carbon stocks							
Evaluation of methodologies for the preparation of reference scenarios							
<b>Establishment of the national reference scenario</b>							
Preparation of the current status of the extent of forest formations							
Implementation of the inventory of carbon stocks for forest strata							
Preparation of cartography for forest formations on different dates							
Preparation of a historical deforestation map on the boundary of agroecological zones							
Determination of the evolution of C emissions during the reference period							
Introduction of adjustment factors							
Evaluation and adoption of emission factors in function of the various forest strata							
Development of spatial regression models							
Completion of reference scenarios on a subnational scale							
Completion of the national reference scenario							

Consultation and strengthening of capacities							
Recruitment of experts for the support of the reference scenarios/MRV technical cell							
Consultation at the subnational and national levels for preparation of the reference scenarios							
Strengthening of capacities of local actors on the preparation of the Reference Standards							
Strengthening of capacities of central and decentralized technical cells on the Reference Standards							

Table 3: Summary of activities and the budget for the reference level						
Primary activity	Secondary activities	Estimated costs (in thousands of dollars)				
		2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Analysis of chronological data	Historical data (identification, validation)		300	300	150	750
	Definition of forest		40			40
	Future data		50	50		100
Definition of NR and NRE	Modeling and development of reference scenarios			250	250	500
Strengthening of capacities	Training		50	100	50	200
<b>Total</b>			<b>440</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>1 590</b>
<b>FCPF</b>			<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>200</b>

It should be noted that this budget does not consider the costs necessary for data collection. These costs are mostly recorded in Component 4, given that these two components will use the same types of data.

## Component 4: Design of national systems for forest monitoring and Information systems for guarantees

### 4a. National forest monitoring systems

#### **Standard 4a that must be respected in the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to comply with the provisions of this component: National forest monitoring system**

The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) presents a proposal and a work plan for the stage by stage preparation of an integrated measurement, notification and verification system for changes to the deforestation and/or degradation of forests as well as the activities to strengthen forests. The design of the system must include preliminary ideas regarding the strengthening of the capacities of the country (through the integrated system or the coordinated activities) to monitor reductions in emissions and the strengthening of forest carbon stocks and to evaluate the repercussions of the REDD+ strategy in the forestry sector.

The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) must present the primary data required, the necessary capacities, measures to ensure the transparency of the system and monitoring data, preliminary ideas regarding the potential methods as well as the manner in which the system applies participatory approaches for monitoring by autochthonous peoples dependent on the forests and other forest populations. The document must also cover the matter of the independence of monitoring and the review by involving civil society and other stakeholders as well as the means of exploiting the results to improve the implementation of REDD+. The proposal must present the preliminary ideas regarding the manner of evolving the system towards a sophisticated REDD+ monitoring system having all the desired capacities.

(The FCPF and ONU-REDD recognize that this component may be influenced by major international political decisions and that may require a gradual approach. The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) proposes preliminary activities.

The MRV will allow:

- monitoring of eligible activities in 5 areas: i) reduction of emissions related to deforestation; ii) degradation of forests; iii) conservation of carbon stocks; iv) Sustainable management of forests; v) increase in carbon stocks;
- the monitoring of changes in the allocation of land in the various agroecological zones;
- the monitoring of socioeconomic and governance benefits.

Cameroon will respect Resolution 4/CP.15 of Copenhagen<sup>19</sup>, the methodological recommendations of the Group of Intergovernmental Experts on climate change GIEC from 2003 and 2006, as well as the GIEC guidelines for the agriculture sector, land use and forests in 2008.

The construction of the MRV in Cameroon will extend over 3 years of the preparatory phase. This is explained by the need to carry out thorough data collection and to strengthen capacities and knowledge of technical aspects of the MRV. This strengthening of capacity will not only be carried out at the central level, but also at the level of local actors, given the role that is assigned to them during the planned activities.

A system for monitoring forest coverage and land use will be developed at the same time as the carbon monitoring system at all identified reservoirs (ground, airborne biomass, bedding, etc.) even if the carbon is mostly found in the airborne biomass.

<sup>19</sup> This involves methodological recommendations for activities relative to the reduction of emissions from deforestation and the degradation of forests, the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and an increase in inventories of forest carbon.

## **1. Principles for preparation of the MRV**

The MRV will use at least two types of data:

- the results of the forest inventories for the mobilization of field data;
- the satellite images for analysis of the evolution of forest coverage.

In order to estimate GHG emissions and absorptions, expressed in tons of CO<sup>2</sup>/year, two stages will be observed:

- determination of changes to land occupancy among several categories; the result is called “activity variable” and is expressed as ha/year;
- calculating GHG emissions and absorption levels for each of the classes of land use: the result is called “emission factor,” and it is expressed in tons of CO<sup>2</sup>/ha. The product of both scales is expressed in tons of CO<sup>2</sup>/year.

### **m. Activity variables**

For the monitoring of the dynamic of land use, the GIEC guidelines describe three different processes for representation of activity data, i.e. the change of surface area of the various categories of soils. The methodology of Cameroon will correspond to “Approach 3” for monitoring the dynamic of land use, in accordance with the GIEC guidelines. This type of information may be obtained by sampling or by complete coverage of the territory or by a combination of the two approaches, since approaches 1 and 2 do not provide specific information on the spatial distribution of data and the nature of the conversions. Initial forest reference maps will provide a representation of the initial condition of the scope of forests, their stratification and the results of the inventory of the biomass and/or carbon stocks. The establishment of these maps must combine information coming from existing paper maps, remote detection data and inventory data. **An early analysis of the existing data will allow future data collection at the national scale.**

### **n. Monitoring of emissions / absorption**

The emission factors relate to the activity by unit, in terms of GHG emission or absorption. Emissions or absorptions caused by the conversion of the use of land are indicated in the modifications of carbon inventories of the ecosystem (in the five eligible compartments). GIEC recommendations allow consideration of five carbon compartments: (i) airborne biomass; (ii) root biomass; (iii) dead wood; (iv) bedding and (v) ground to ground carbon.

In the context of the MRV system of Cameroon, all compartments will be considered. However, based on agroecological zones, costs and efficacy/efficiency requirements, certain reservoirs could be considered with priority for the early years. Likewise, targeted GIEC tiers and the desired level of precision may be combined. The consideration **of all the compartments** will therefore be gradual, in function of the strengthening of national capacities allowing attainment of the best possible and desired precision levels (tier 3) in the long term. **It is thus unavoidable for Tier 2 to be the most appropriate in the immediate future, considering the available data.**

According to the GIEC, the carbon of the airborne biomass may be calculated using two methods: one called the “direct method,” and the other called the “indirect method.” The direct method allows calculation of the total airborne biomass of a tree thanks to an allometric equation using dendrometric variables. The indirect method allows calculation of the airborne biomass of a tree based on its commercial volume (yardage) multiplied by expansion factors to estimate the total airborne biomass. Together, these methods as well as a device of permanent monitoring parcels will serve as the basis for refining the equations (prepared based on parcel data) related to the various carbon pits identified.

The local communities and the decentralized entities for monitoring REDD+ activities will play a primary role in the collection of data **in the field. This collection may be based on local village development structures such as development committees. A better structuring of these committees will be provided by government agencies, the**

technical partners and civil society mobilized in this regard. The roles shall be distributed based on the skills and the presence of each partner in the selected zone. Taking this approach will require the support of the structures that participated in the national inventories in the past such as the forest inventory cells of MINFOF, ANAFOR, IRAD and the cartography institute. This experience may be repeated this time with significant mobilization of populations from the zones where the forests will be inventoried. This will require prior strengthening of the technical teams from the institutions involved, followed by a deployment of the members of these structures in the context of the strengthening of capacities of the local committees. As described in Section 3, the hybrid approach adopted by Cameroon with the implementation of projects of a subnational scale should lead to the advance adoption of the methodologies applicable at the national scale.

## **2. Available information and sources of information**

The data set forth in this section summarize in part the available data set forth in Section 3.

### **✓ Satellite Data**

The available satellite data are detailed in Component 3 of this document.

A starting point for the preparation of the MRV would be the use of Terra Modis images to identify deforestation hot spots. Thereafter, to refine the data, the Landsat 30 m resolution images for 1990, 2000 and 2005 will be mobilized to map the dynamic of forest coverage with minimal cartography units of 1 to 5 ha at intervals of 5-10 years. This presupposes, of course, land inspections allowing the improvement of the monitored classifications. High-resolution images (IKONOS type) may allow random inspections over the sampled spaces. The inventory of documents and data available must be carried out in advance for aerial photos, maps and satellite images that are available. The only satellite images to be acquired are those at very high definition, allowing a careful analysis of deforestation and degradation of forests in certain characteristic zones.

### **✓ Cartographic data**

The most regular and complete coverage of Cameroon in topographical maps available from the *Institut National de cartographie (INC)* is at a scale of 1:200,000. These maps, which have not been updated, also exist in the form of georeferenced mosaics for the southern part of Cameroon (dense forest zone). Cameroon has 44 cutaways of basic topographic maps at 1:200,000. The 1:50,000 map is more accurate but the 248 cutaways are far from covering national territory; the projection used for two types of maps is UTM. For the UTM projection, the earth is divided into 60 zones, 6° wide. Cameroon is in the overlap between zones 32 and 33.

Aerial photographic coverage also exists at a scale of 1:50,000 or 1:30,000, with the larger scales covering only the cities. It must be noted that the centralization of all maps that can be used for REDD+ including interactive maps (see Appendix 4) will be carried out before the start of analyses. This collection and centralization action of data was already started and was conducted by the REDD\_ Technical Secretariat.

### **✓ Forest inventories**

The forest inventories available in Cameroon are of several types:

- a national forest inventory of forest resources reconnaissance, subdividing national territory into seven phases, of which 5 have been made to date (the first in 1982, second in 1983, third in 1984-1985, fourth in 1990 and fifth in 2003-2004). The inventories carried out cover only 50% of the surface area of the country. They are also incomplete and even have been exceeded in regards to the evolution of the use of land and other factors as well;
- the UFA planning inventories allowing forestry logging to be planned within the limits of these UFAs;
- the logging inventories for identification and estimation of felling areas. The logging inventory allows a more accurate evaluation of the potential for immediately exploitable timber. It involves the systematic

counting of exploitable trees of the annual felling area (AAC). This inventory was conducted based on a survey device established using equidistant paths opened over the entire zone to be studied. This is a full inventory that involves the systematic counting of exploitable trees of the Annual Felling Area (AC); to this, we must add the inventories conducted in other operating permits or forest management units (community forest, communal forest, etc.);

- The preinvestment inventories for estimating the timber potential of exploitable and commercial resources, in order to determine the basic investment, and to establish the preliminary rules for management of exploitable trees in the short and medium terms. This statistical inventory is based on sampling.

It is on the basis of the first inventory that the plan for allocation of Southern Cameroon lands (forest zoning) was established. This zoning was prepared and approved by Decree No. 95/466/PM dated December 15, 1995 instituting a guidance framework for the use of land in Southern forest zones.

The administration responsible for forests has quality expertise and presents the benefit of providing recent data regarding the largest forest concessions in the country. They were prepared by the forest logging companies with the support of national and international experts, based on the Directives and National Standard for Forest Management. These inventories were validated by the MINFOF.

At present, the national inventories are not required to be directed at the biomass and carbon (although an estimate was prepared during the last forest inventory of 2003-2004) and they do not cover all of the country (FAO and MINFOF, 2005).

#### ✓ **Evaluation of carbon stocks**

The estimates of carbon stocks **currently available** were prepared on a small scale. The information was distributed among the technical partners of MINEPDED:

- **Estimate** of the carbon stock in the context of forest inventories by MINFOF (last estimate dated 2003-2004) (FAO and MINFOF, 2005);
- existence of several permanent parcels (e.g. Korup managed by the Smithsonian Institute (USA) since 1994: monitoring of the dynamic of plant life; but also others in parks and reserves, such as Dja, Mbam and Djerem, Takamanda National Park, Douala-Edea Reserve) ;
- FAO data;
- ASB (IRAD – IITA – ICRAF) data: evaluation of the carbon stock in various land use systems;
- GAF/AG data: localized data for Southeast Cameroon;
- TNS data in the Lobeke National Park;
- data from research work in the semi-deciduous forest zone (agroecological zone with bimodal precipitation).

Certain NGOs have also undertaken activities to estimate the stock of carbon at their sites. The results of these activities will be gathered centrally and assessed for the preparation of the MRV.

The work conducted by GAF/AG in the context of the REDD Pilot Project is part of the more detailed work, given that it has allowed the calculation of carbon rates not only in the airborne biomass, but also in beds and in other pools. However this study was limited to the zone of Southeast Cameroon.

Example of available data: GAF/AG data on the carbon inventory in the forest concessions of PALISCO and SCTB.

Concession	Stratum	Code	[ha]		Mean biomass in tons of carbon per hectare (tC/ha)								tC	
			Area	# plots	Wood	Lying dead wood	Standing dead wood	Below Ground	Vegetation	Litter	Soil	Total biomass with soil	Total biomass without soil	Total biomass with soil
Pallisco	Closed evergreen lowland forest/1.8-3.6 kg*m <sup>-2</sup> /1155-1781 mm	1	4690	67	211,42	17,97	12,51	42,28	2,64	2,55	41,04	326,12	285,08	1532771,97
SCTB	Closed evergreen lowland forest/1.8-3.6 kg*m <sup>-2</sup> /1155-1781 mm	1	4833	13	244,69	20,80	13,04	48,94	0,97	2,62	43,38	370,42	327,04	1481665,69

Source: GAF/AG, 2010.

Data regarding the carbon stock in the Congo Basin also exist. These data give estimates of carbon stocks in forests similar to those found in the Southern Region of Cameroon. Thus it appears to be necessary to set up new permanent parcels that comply with REDD+ standards and are spread throughout all carbon pits throughout national territory. Their number should reflect actual needs in data.

### 3. Methodology and approach

#### o. Choice of carbon compartment

The methodologies for the choice of compartments to consider are detailed in the paragraph regarding monitoring of emissions / absorptions.

In order to refine the results to be used in the context of the MRV, a more pointed definition of the forest biomass will be prepared with a more detailed delimitation of strata in conformity with common forest inventory techniques (but with more interpretation of satellite images, to the detriment of photo interpretation of documents that are too old). In addition, working at the Tier 2 level, the Tier 1 hypothesis according to which carbon stocks of ligneous vegetation, bedding and dead wood are immediately emitted following deforestation (i.e. post-conversion stocks are at zero) will be modified. Disruption tables will be developed modeling the retention, transfers (for example of the ligneous biomass to dead wood / bedding) and emissions (for example decomposition and burning) of the various compartments.

This requires the performance of test inventories and measurement campaigns in the field (sampling by risk and carbon stock) and having information on the national scale regarding forest carbon stocks alongside traditional inventories (which are not designed for this purpose) in order to increase accuracy and reduce uncertainties regarding emissions and absorptions.

#### p. Change in use of land

To ensure the monitoring of REDD activities, a map of the types of use of land will be prepared **taking into consideration the dynamic of land use in the various agroecological zones (See 2a)**. This will be the point from which each future change to the surface will be determined. This map (referred to here as the reference map) would be linked to a reference year in relation to which all future REDD+ activities will be monitored **(see the list of potential activities in 2b)**. The reference map will be updated at the beginning of each analysis period. Maps at varying scales could be envisioned (national, regional, town at least).

#### q. Change in scale and consideration of the approach by agroecological zone

The following stages will be followed for establishing the carbon balance over 2 given periods:

1<sup>st</sup> stage: identify the various classes of forest training and use of land by agroecological zone, identifiable by

remote detection (based on supervised classifications);

2<sup>nd</sup> stage: determine the surfaces for each class and establish the reference mapping;

3<sup>rd</sup> stage: establish the average stocked carbon volumes for each of these classes;

4<sup>th</sup> stage: by agroecological zone, after a given period, determine changes in class (by remote detection + inspection of land). Determine the new surfaces for classes and establish the corresponding mapping;

5<sup>th</sup> stage: establish the corresponding carbon balance at the infranational and national levels.

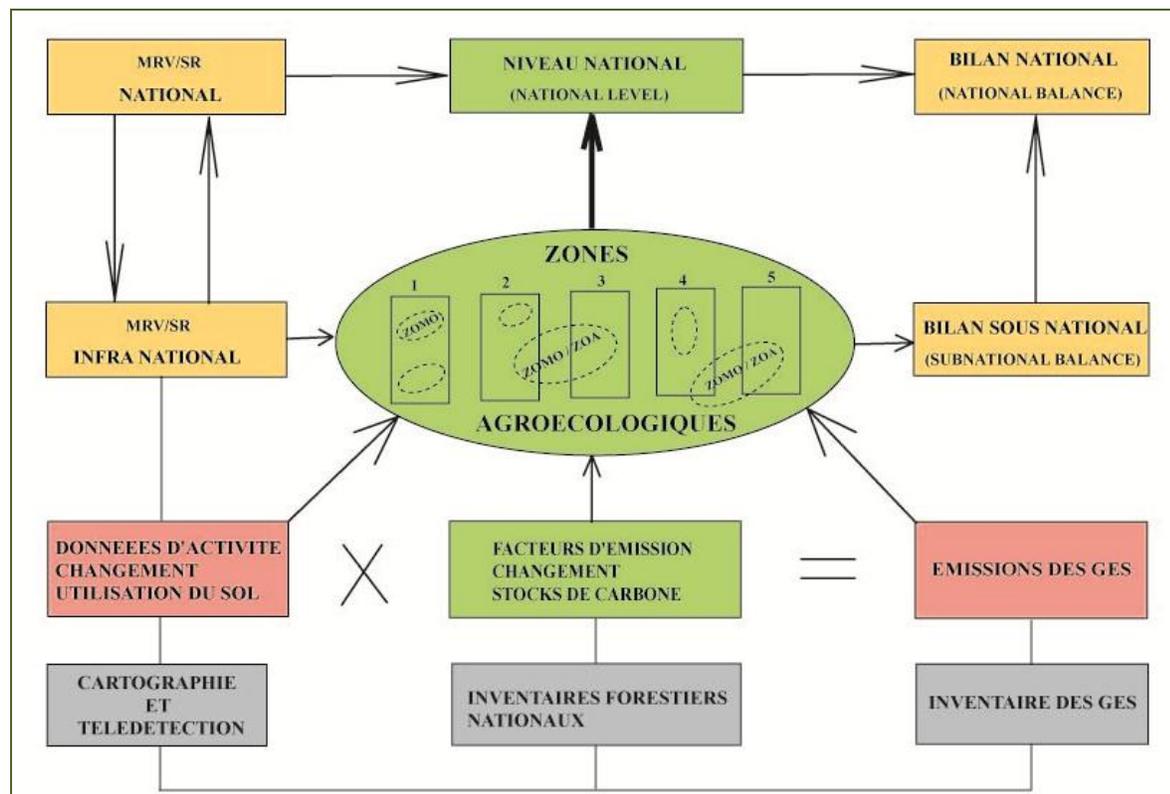


Figure 7: Scalar approach for MRV and the reference scenario in Cameroon

✓ **Implementation of a monitoring system for additions and leaks**

Pilot projects and programs described in Section 2b will have a mechanism for recording absorptions / emissions. They will be combined with robust systems for monitoring leaks that may occur between the zones where projects are implemented and other parts of national territory that are not required to have REDD+ projects or activities, or through the national register. A mechanism for monitoring possible leaks with neighboring countries will also be implemented given that activities related to agriculture, forestry and energy may engender such phenomena based on their quality and the chosen zones for implementation.

✓ **Implementation of a transparent, participatory mechanism**

The success of REDD+ will depend on the transparency of the mechanism. The results of the efforts undertaken must be the subject of ongoing dissemination, not only in relation to carbon aspects but for co-benefits. This must be done in accordance with transparency with participation and intense collaboration among all the institutions involved. An adequate tool will be developed for this purpose.

**4. The development of the MRV system**

This involves the implementation of a system for measuring emissions and absorption of GHGs related to REDD+,

a reporting (or notification) system and lastly a system for verification of emissions and absorptions that actually occurred. The following activities will be undertaken:

### 1. Definition of a detailed plan of action

- Identification of the institutional roles and responsibilities for the establishment and implementation of the MRV (in relation to building the reference scenario) as well as the roles of the stakeholders (primarily including the local and autochthonous communities, in particular for the collection of data)
- Identification of the technical and human capacities available and the needs for strengthened capacities for the future
- Identification of hardware and software needs for data processing.

### 2. Strengthening of capacities

- Must comply with the subject areas and needs (including hardware) identified during construction of the detailed plan of action.

### 3. Development of the MRV

- Collection of data and capitalization of information
  - o Evaluation of systems / structures necessary to allow the centralization of data and management of information.
  - o Centralization and sharing of data from various institutions through the MRV Cell of the Technical Secretariat: Establishment of an archival system to centralize all the information used by the MRV.
  - o Identification and mobilization of data with specialized institutions.
- Evaluation of technological options and methods suited to the various agroecological zones to measure changes in carbon stocks and changes in land use (methodology to be identified at the same time as for the reference scenario – See Component 3)
  - o Capitalization of experiences of institutions / NGOs having worked in the domain of the MRV
  - o Definition of a methodological protocol suited to the treatment of data on activity data and emission factors (same as for construction of the reference scenario).
- Development of an MRV System
  - o Treatment of data to obtain an evaluation of reference forest coverage
    - Treatment and analysis of satellite images for monitoring activity data and the evaluation of forest coverage (see methodological options in Component 3): production of cartography and national forest coverage for reference (in relation to activities conducted in Component 3) based on the data available from INC and MINFOF.
    - Calculation of the carbon stock and evolution of the carbon stock taking into consideration the properties of the various agroecological zones (see the methodological options in Component 3)
    - Treatment and analysis of data regarding co-benefits
  - o Collection of missing data and measurements to establish the elements arising from Components 2a and 2b, but also national communications regarding GHGs in the criteria and indicators to be integrated into the MRV system
  - o Verification of cartographic data, carbon accounting (with intervention of an independent consultant) of the archival system
    - Use of high-resolution satellite images
    - Verification of data produced by experimental plots (use of the same data as for Component 3)
  - o Determine the methods that will allow leaks to be dealt with and to compose future results of the implementation of strategic options in order to evaluate their relevance and the viability of those selected strategic options (according to the results of Component 2b)
  - o Cross-checking of activity data with data regarding quantification and monitoring of the carbon stock
  - o Test of the MRV system at pilot sites (site to be identified with Component 2b)
  - o Adjustment of the monitoring system

o **Development of a Reporting and Verification system**

The MRV system and the reference scenario will each depend on the prior work intended to establish the definition of the forest (taking into consideration the properties of the various agroecological zones).

The register that will be prepared in the context of the MRV will be used to:

- make information regarding REDD+ projects and initiatives available to all stakeholders, not only in terms of carbon record-keeping but also regarding elements that are the subject of environmental and social safeguards;
- monitor the carbon transactions in the country;
- avoid double counting of emission reductions.

A mechanism for approval of REDD+ projects will thus be developed by the MRV Cell / Reference Scenario and the approval will be granted by the Steering Committee. A display tool (available on the Internet) will make the information visible in order to respect the principle of transparency set forth by the GIEC.

Activities relative to the construction of the MRV will start up at the start of 2013 (the ToR for the various activities to be carried out will be strengthened before the end of 2012) leading to a functional national register in 2015.

## **5. Institution in charge of the MRV**

### **r. The MRV Cell of the Technical Secretariat**

Le MRV will be constructed under the responsibility of the MRV Cell / Reference Scenario of the Technical Secretariat. This cell will be charged with mobilizing experts and the technical partners that will contribute to the improvement of technical aspects of the MRV, in particular by the thematic group established for this purpose (see the compositions of the cell in Components 1a and 3). Technical assistance will be made available to the cell to strengthen the capacities of the personnel of this cell to aid in the construction of the MRV. MRV supervisors will also be put into place for each agroecological zone.

Due to the complementarity of the activities of the MINFOF and MINEP in the establishment and implementation of the REDD+ process, the MINFOF will support the technical implementation of the MRV, in particular by technical cooperation, exchanges of competence, exchanges of satellite images, cartography of forest coverage, results of forest inventories. The satellite imaging center (CETELCAF or the Remote Detection and Forest Cartography Center) will be mobilized for this purpose.

### **s. Management of the register and monitoring**

The management of the national register and the process for approval will be the responsibility of MINEPDED. The latter shall be supported by the National Climate Change Observatory (ONACC) the monitoring role of which must be activated.

### **t. Participation in the construction and implementation of the MRV**

Several structures will participate in the preparation of the MRV and their roles will depend on their specialties and competences. This involves the following structures, among others:

- the MINFOF Department of Forests;
- the Environmental Information System (EIS) of MINEPDED;
- the monitoring and ecological oversight cell of MINEPDED;
- the National Statistics Department;

- the *Institut National de Cartographie* under the aegis of MINRESI for cartography and the interpretations of the same<sup>20</sup>;
- Forest Planning Cells of forestry companies;
- State universities and research institutes;
- local elected and administrative authorities in the context of multi-actor cooperation;
- civil society (national and international NGOs, local and autochthonous communities);
- the private sector.

The intervention of MINFOF will be more pronounced through:

- services in charge of inventories and planning for forests (sub-directorate of forest inventories) and its cartography and photo interpretation service;
- SIGIF and CETELCAF ;
- the Nkolbisson satellite image interpretation center.

The National Climate Change Observatory (ONACC) will participate in the monitoring of the evolution of the carbon stock as part of its mission. It shall also play a role in the management of the register and the approval of REDD+ projects / programs allowing actual reductions in GHGs.

In Cameroon, communities already actively participate in monitoring the evolution of natural resources, but also in the monitoring of governance relative to the management of these resources. In relation to their relevance and out of a concern for implementing a relevant mechanism, these roles of local communities may be extended in the REDD+ process. In the specific context of the MRV, local and autochthonous communities will participate with the measures to be carried out at the local level (for example through the implementation and monitoring of more permanent plots). These measures will serve as the basis for data feeding the national carbon accounting system. Local communities will also be mobilized to evaluate any changes in the allocation of land, and thus the causes of deforestation and degradation in progress in particular at the local level. As for civil society, and based on its knowledge of the local context of the agroecological zones, it will be present and will provide support for monitoring the register and approval of REDD+ projects/programs (see also “monitoring of emissions” in this component).

The participation of the technical partners of MINEPDED is indispensable given that these institutions have technical capacities for the construction of the MRV and for the operational implementation of the latter.

## **6. Capacities around the MRV**

### **u. The existing technical capacities**

The administration responsible for forests has quality expertise and presents the benefit of providing recent data for the largest forest concessions in the country. Several research centers also are working on techniques for recording carbon. They have even already developed methodologies that allow the quantification of the carbon (not only airborne but also in the soil) with varying typical plant formations. To this we must add the expertise of several NGOS technical partners and research institutions that participate in carbon recordkeeping programs.

Strengthening of capacities was conducted in Cameroon the past few years on MRV and the various biomass calculation methods, carbon, as well as remote detection. Waived by GAF/AG (since 2010), by ICRAF/IITA (in 2012), by JICA (in 2012), these trainings have allowed agents of the administration but also several national NGOs to acquire the necessary knowledge of the various methods for measuring and calculating carbon based on plant types.

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<sup>20</sup> The Technical Secretariat will approach the INC in charge of cartographic data in Cameroon. In order to move the REDD+ process forward, the INC nevertheless were strengthened, not only in terms of technical competence but also hardware (software for the processing of data, materials for the treatment of data, for their archival and for backups).

**v. Necessary strengthening of capacities**

Trainings that must be provided in Cameroon related to:

- the guidelines of the GIEC, inventories and evaluations of SIG, in relation to the change in allocation of lands (to be carried out in relation to Section 3 of this document);
- remote detection and GIS;
- international climate negotiations and REDD+ that thus take into account the various directives to be respected.

The trainings will be directed at:

- members of the MRV cell / Reference scenario of the Technical Secretariat that will be in charge of the coordination of all technical activities on the preparation of the MRV (see the composition of this cell in Component 1a) and that will thereafter train the technicians;
- members of the National Climate Change Observatory (ONACC) and of the Steering Committee who will be in charge of the register and approval of REDD+ programs / projects;
- field personnel in charge of taking spatial and quantitative measurements;
- universities that will be the future technicians to be mobilized in the REDD+ mechanism;
- civil society, local and autochthonous communities and the NGOs to be involved in the collection of data and the monitoring of REDD+ activities (GIS, monitoring of experimental parcels, etc.).

Trainings will be coordinated by the Technical Secretariat, based on needs, subjects covered and target groups.

**Table 19: Timeline of activities of Component 4a**

Activities	Resp.	2012	2013		2014		2015	
			S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
<b>Definition of a detailed plan of action</b>								
Identification of institutional roles and responsibilities	C-MRV							
Identification of technical and human capacities available and evaluation of needs	C-MRV Technical partners							
Identification of needs in terms of hardware and software	C-MRV Technical partners							
<b>Strengthening of capacity</b>								
Recruitment and training of field agents	C-MRV MINFOF							
Training, strengthening of capacity according to needs identified in the plan of action	C-MRV MINFOF Technical partners							
<b>Development of the MRV</b>								
Collection of data and capitalization	C-MRV MINFOF Technical partners							
Evaluation of technology and methodology options suited to agroecological zones	C-MRV Technical partners							
Construction of the MRV system								
- Treatment of data for reference forest coverage	C-MRV MINFOF Technical partners							
- Collection of missing	C-MRV							

data + integration of data from 2a and 2b	MINFOF Technical partners							
- Verification of data	C-MRV MINFOF Technical partners							
- Determination of methods for leak management	C-MRV Technical partners							
- Cross-checking of activity data with carbon data	C-MRV MINFOF Technical partners							
- Test of the MRV system	C-MRV Technical partners							
- Adjustment of the monitoring system	C-MRV Technical partners							
- Development of a reporting and verification system	C-MRV Technical partners							

## **4b. Design of an information system dealing with multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and guarantees**

**Standard 4b that must be respected in the text of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to satisfy the provisions of this component:**

**Design of a monitoring system dealing with multiple benefits, other impacts and governance:**

The R-PP provides a proposal for the initial design and a work plan, in particular for preliminary ideas regarding the aptitude (either through an integrated system, or in the context of coordinated activities) of an integrated monitoring system in particular dealing with other multiple benefits, other impacts and governance. These benefits may include the improvement of means for rural subsistence, the conservation of biodiversity and key governance factors directly applicable to the implementation of REDD+ in the country.

(The FCPF and ONU-REDD recognize that major international policy decisions can affect this component. A gradual approach may thus be useful. The R-PP indicates which preliminary activities are proposed.

REDD+ must reduce deforestation and forest degradation while providing improvements to several domains such as governance, economic situation, the environment (more generally the forest ecosystem, among others, in terms of biodiversity, air and water quality, regulation of erosion, etc.), social dimensions (cultural, health, etc.). These domains must be monitored in order for the potential adverse effects of the REDD+ to be kept in check from the start of the process: the success of the process will depend on it. The EESS will respond in part to this mechanism for monitoring cobenefits, given that it allows early information regarding social, economic and environmental problems to be gathered. But the EESS alone cannot be sufficient to generate all the cobenefits of the REDD+.

The REDD+, following the example of any development program, could have potential negative impacts from the social point of view (living conditions of certain categories of populations, etc.) or an environmental point of view (biodiversity, ecology, etc.). Although “positive” cobenefits are expected, it is important to identify and monitor the potential risks of a REDD+ policy and to propose measures for mitigation by taking into consideration certain specific conventions including the Nagoya recommendations.

Cobenefits, as with carbon, will thus be the subject of a measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) mechanism the construction of which will be the responsibility of the MRV cell / Reference Scenario of the Technical Secretariat. In order to monitor these cobenefits, the MRV system will in time incorporate the following elements:

- monitoring of the impacts of implementation of the REDD+ national strategy on the environment and the social environment,
- monitoring of governance for the REDD+ implementation at the national level and the evolution of the primary factors related to deforestation and forest degradation.

The monitoring will also cover results of strengthening of capacities (at all levels) and the valuation of the capacities acquired by the trained groups or entities, not only for the management of the REDD+ mechanism, but also for activities developed through the community.

### ***7. Items to be managed***

The mechanism that will be developed will be based on existing social evaluation systems. This mechanism will take into consideration the monitoring indicators of the various processes in progress and the various sectors that have developed monitoring systems in national territory.

**w. Monitoring of social, economic and environmental impacts of the implementation of the REDD+ strategy**

The early criteria and indicators to be used to perform monitoring in the context of MRV will be generated by EESS. These criteria and indicators take into consideration the rights of the stakeholders in REDD+, and primarily the right of local communities, autochthonous peoples and women in the implementation of REDD+ (usage right, right of ownership, etc.). Local knowledge and practices will thus be taken into consideration before any introduction of innovations, knowledge, technologies, institutions and miscellaneous strategies. Participation by autochthonous peoples in the process will be carried out in accordance with the CLIP.

These criteria and indicators will be expanded by others that will involve the distribution of costs, the distribution of revenue, the creation of jobs with a low impact on GHG emissions, access to financing, savings capacity and more broadly the evolution of the standard of living of local communities and the benefits of the revenue generated by REDD+, etc.

Given that the mechanism targets an improvement of the well-being of local riparian communities of natural and forest resources, the involvement of these groups is very important during design of the tool and during its implementation.

**x. Monitoring of governance and of the evolution of factors related to deforestation and forest degradation**

In terms of governance, the following elements must be the subject of specific attention and be included in the MRV (through the evaluation of cobenefits of REDD+):

- the existence of a clear institutional framework for managing the process, not only at the central level but also at the local level (and intermediate: regional, departmental);
- level of participation of all stakeholders at all levels in decision-making including during design of the MRV system, primarily by autochthonous peoples, women and local communities that are dependent on natural and forest resources;
- compliance and synergy between the legal bases and national policies/strategies;
- evolution of reforms initiated or facilitated by REDD+;
- effectiveness of appeal and conflict management mechanisms;
- etc.

This monitoring, as for the establishment of the EESS (See Section 2D), will call on governance indicators and criteria developed in the context of the APV/FLEGT process and the criteria and indicators put in place to monitor forest governance<sup>21</sup>.

The various stages of the implementation of this monitoring of cobenefits will be carried out as follows:

- strengthening of capacities (at all levels) and for all the stakeholders, primarily communities dependent on forests (with particular emphasis for autochthonous peoples and women);
- collection of data to show the monitoring matrix for cobenefits to be coupled with carbon record-keeping;
- production of a monitoring matrix allowing consideration of the cobenefits of REDD+;
- experimentation with the matrix;
- consolidation of the MRV system by the introduction of social and environmental aspects (arising from the EESS) as well as the criteria and indicators to be taken into consideration for measuring the cobenefits that may be generated by REDD+.

The development of the matrix for monitoring cobenefits will be carried out at the same time as the establishment of the MRV system in order to avoid gaps in time and to optimize the erection of the MVR

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<sup>21</sup> When referring to the work conducted by the Independent Observer, in the context of the project to “Improve governance in the Forest Sector” (GTF), on forest governance indicators conducted by the OSC (GFI-Cam initiative), based on the experience with governance on use of the RFAs (FGSC – Civil Society Governance Fund) conducted with CSOs and the support of the development partners, at the initiative of the Forest Governance Facilitation (FGF) with the participation of civil society, etc.

mechanism. The MRV system must be available in mid-June 2015 at the latest, in order to be able to quickly record the benefits of the pilot projects developed during the preparatory phase.

### 8. Assembly of the MRV system and participation in the MRV

All aspects of the MRV System (carbon and cobenefits) will be managed by the Technical Secretariat that will be charged with maintaining the national register for approval of REDD+ projects / programs that actually produced the reductions in GHG emissions. The development of this system of monitoring cobenefits will be carried out with significant involvement of all stakeholders in the process. On the administrative side, the decentralized management structures will be mobilized for the collection of data (surveys, field measurements, etc.) in order for the properties of the agroecological zones taken into consideration in the system to be put into place. The same is the case for local communities, including the autochthonous peoples and women who will actively participate in the collection of field data and the validation of data in the system put into place. Local communities will be unavoidable, given that the data that feed the MRV system will emanate from their contributions. These groups will participate actively in the monitoring of the MRV system, in particular in the agroecological zones for the validation of data that will be in the system. For its part, civil society will take part not only in the assembly but in particular in the monitoring of the register and the mechanism for approval.

Several tools, instruments and methods will be developed to supplement the data available and to carry out monitoring: surveys of households, group discussions, various impact evaluations, gender audits strengthening of capacities, the start of CLIP, etc.

### 9. Strengthening of necessary capacities

University training must be strengthened in regards to carbon record-keeping. Training does not yet taken in this subject and future needs are significant. For this reason, the introduction of training in record-keeping and the monitoring of carbon will be planned at Universities and training institutes in Cameroon (Université de Dschang FASA; Université de Yaoundé; ENEF Mbalmayo; Ecole de Faune de Garoua, etc.). For this purpose, the support of the Network of Institutions for Forest and Environmental Training in Central Africa (RIFFEAC) to promote university training will be requested for new subjects to be covered.

Strengthening of capacity will also be intended for civil society, particularly local and autochthonous communities, for the consideration of cobenefits in the MRV. This strengthening of capacities will also involve the establishment and operation of the MRV system (carbon and cobenefits).

**Table 20: Activities and detailed timeline for Component 4b.**

Activities	2012	2013		2014		2015	
		S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
<b>Evaluation and monitoring of co-benefits</b>							
Collection of data to show the matrix for monitoring of co-benefits							
Assembly of the grid for the monitoring of co-benefits							
Introduction of the grid of co-benefits in the MRV - Carbon							
Strengthening of capacity of local participants to conduct monitoring of activities							
Cross-checking of Carbon data with co-benefits data							
Test of the MRV at pilot sites							
Adjustment of the monitoring system							
Development of a system for reporting and verification							

<b>Table 4-1: Summary of monitoring and budget activities</b>						
<b>Primary activity</b>	<b>Secondary activity</b>	<b>Estimated costs (In thousands of dollars)</b>				<b>Total</b>
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
National forest inventory	Operational cost		300	300		600
	Trainings		50	50		100
Inventory of Greenhouse Gases	Operational cost		300	300		600
	Trainings		50	50		100
MRV Construction (carbon and co-benefits)	Satellite images		450			450
	Construction of register (with approval)		0	470	370	840
Strengthening of capacity	Trainings		346	346	346	1038
			100	200		300
	Expertise to be mobilized			90	90	180
	Expertise for agroecological zones		264	264	264	792
	INC and institutions		100	400		500
Centralization of data	System for centralization and backup of data		0			0
	Ongoing monitoring		150	150	150	450
<b>Total</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>2110</b>	<b>2620</b>	<b>1220</b>	<b>5950</b>
Government						0
<b>FCPF</b>			<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>700</b>
Regional Project REDD+ / COMIFAC			150	150	50	350
Project FAO / CBFF			200	200	100	500

## Component 5 : Timeline and budget

### Standard 5 that must be respected in the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to satisfy the provisions for this component: Thoroughness of information and indications regarding financing needs

The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) proposes a complete range of activities for the preparation for REDD+, and it identifies the activities for strengthening capacities and the financial resources necessary to correctly carry them out. Budgets and timelines related to financial and technical assistance requested from the FCPF and/or the ONU-REDD Programme, and other international sources of financing (for example, bilateral assistance) must be summarized by year and by potential sponsor. The information presented translates only the priorities of the R-PP. Any insufficiency of financing must be clearly pointed out.

#### Mobilization of funds for the preparatory period

The amount for activities anticipated in this document is **28,911** million dollars. Cameroon thus cannot build its strategy only with funds made available by the FCPF. Other sources of financing will be explored. They will be a function of the activities to be put in place and the objectives of the potential sponsors.

In order to do this, Cameroon plans to mobilize available financing, such as that from UN-REDD, shared funds of PSFE, FCPF and the FCPF "Capacity Building Program for CSOs and IP groups," bilateral funds and in particular an not least of all funds from the Government. The sub-regional REDD+ project will contribute to training and strengthening of capacities. To do this, the Technical Secretariat will develop synergy with the manager of the sub-regional REDD+ project in order to best carry out the planned activities.

However this amount will not be sufficient to conduct all the activities allowing the REDD+ process to be correctly carried out. Cameroon actually requires **60 million additional dollars** in order to establish the correct pilot projects in the various agroecological zones. These projects will reflect the specific form of the REDD+ mechanism and their results will be capitalized for the construction of the REDD+ strategy. various sources of financing will be identified and mobilized for this purpose, including the CBFF, the Forest Investment Program, BM, PSFE Common Funds, certain bilateral and multilateral funds (to be specified), technical partners, etc.

The budget share that will be provided by the Government is not yet defined. The budget of Government funds is decided annually (general State budget). It is therefore not possible to anticipate in advance the exact amounts allocated to the REDD+ process for the entire length of the preparatory phase. It is nevertheless possible to anticipate annual Government participation the amount of up to \$200,000 to \$300,000, for MINEPDED alone, based on the amount allocated in 2012. This amount will surely be reviewed upward annually in function of the evolution of the process.

In total, Cameroon requires **88,911 million USD** to carry out its preparatory phase.

Primary activity	Sub-activity	Estimated cost (in thousands)				
		2012	2013	2013	2015	Total
Section 1	1a. National preparation management devices	0	2 141	1 496	1 639	5 275
	1b. Sharing of codes, information and fast dialogue with the primary groups of stakeholders	545	202	152	72	971
	1c. Process of consultation and participation	40	3 024	3 175	2 781	9 020
Section 2	2a. Evaluation of the use of land, forestry law, policies and governance	0	759	406	0	1 165
	2b. Strategic REDD-plus options	0	715	995	120	1 830
	2c. Implementation framework for REDD-plus	0	703	728	664	2 094
	2d. EESS	0	262	212	62	536
Section 3	Development of a reference level	0	440	700	450	1 590
Section 4	Design of the monitoring system	0	2 110	2 620	1 220	5 950
Section 6		20	120	170	170	480
<b>Total</b>		<b>605</b>	<b>10 475</b>	<b>10 653</b>	<b>7 178</b>	<b>28 911</b>
Government		235	300	300	300	1 135
FCPF		200	1550	1100	750	3 600
PSFE		120	200			320
UICN			100	100	25	225
COMIFAC sub-regional project			150	150	50	350
FAO / CBFF Project			200	200	100	500

**Summary of contributions by the Government and technical and financial partners of MINEPDED and MINFOF**

In order to move forward the REDD+ process, Cameroon may have an amount of **6,130 million USD** to put in place certain activities (including 555,000 USD used to initiate discussions during the preparation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)). To this we will add the amount that will be allocated by MINFOF for the MRV system but the exact amount of the contribution is not yet known (since REDD+ is one of the pillars of the MINFOF strategy). Other sources of financing are able to be mobilized (the most certain and the easiest of these is the PSFE Common Funds: 320,000 dollars may thus tae shape very quickly), however Cameroon cannot yet rely on the amount allocated by each financial partner of MINEP and MINFOF.

## Component 6: Design of a framework for monitoring/evaluation of the program

**Standard 6 that must be respected in the text of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in order to satisfy the provisions of this component:**

**Conception of a monitoring-evaluation framework for the program**

The R-PP provides an adequate description of the indicators that will be used to monitor results of the work program and REDD+ preparation activities and to verify in useful time any which difficulties result from possible delays or insufficient quality. The R-PP shows the extent to which a monitoring-evaluation framework encourages transparent management of financial and other resources for the correct performance of the calendar of activities.

This involves putting into place the criteria and indicators that will allow the advancement of the preparatory phase of the REDD+ process in Cameroon. The evaluation system for the subsequent phases will only be put in place during the preparatory phase, with the construction of the strategy. These long-term evaluation systems will include, among other items, the EESS and the elements of the MRV system.

### **Objective of monitoring and evaluation**

The objective of the implementation of this monitoring and evaluation framework is to be able to objectively evaluate the progress of the process, more specifically of the elements provided for in the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) as well as the other results that may be evaluated. This monitoring and evaluation will be a framework that will assist the process to advance so that it may be effective, efficient and in particular, transparent.

### **Field of application for monitoring and evaluation**

The monitoring and evaluation must consider:

- ✓ technical aspects of the process
  - Results and inventories of the advance of each aspect of the R-PP, through preparation of a semi-annual and annual report. These inventories must contain the recommendations for each aspect of the R-PP.
  - Updates / plans necessary in order to be integrated into future planning (PTA, etc.)
- ✓ financial aspects
  - The use of funds in relation to the results achieved.
  - The annual financial statements must be audited by external auditors. If necessary, requests for additional financing may be issued. If not, funds may be reallocated to other activities.

### **Tool for monitoring the REDD+ process**

Monitoring and evaluation will be a combination of the results of two approaches: monitoring and evaluation of the process and monitoring and evaluation related to the objectives and products determined in advance.

- The implementation of the process indicators that will be in charge of the performance measurements in the implementation of the process. These indicators will evaluate the progress of activities in each

aspect based on the competencies deployed to respond to the concerns set forth in the R-PP. They may thus be qualitative and quantitative at the same time.

- The implementation of indicators for products that will evaluate the attainment of the results expected of the process. These indicators will, among other things, involve the identification of the reference scenario, the implementation of the MRV system, the implementation and operational conversion of the EESS, identification of the REDD+ strategy of the country, etc.

An R-PP monitoring and evaluation manual must be carried out early in the launch of the first phase. This manual must be operational and it will allow the collection of information regarding the progress of the process.

Two significant stages must be considered for the evaluation of the process: A mid-point evaluation at the end of the second year of the R-PP and a final evaluation, at the end of the process. Evaluation reports will be published upon completion of these evaluations (See in Appendix 6 the indicators and the means for verification of the monitoring framework).

#### **Frequencies of monitoring: the time parameter**

Weekly progress reports will be carried out by each section of the process. The mechanism for the collection of information will thus be simplified in order to not take a lot of time for persons responsible for the implementation of Phase 1 of the process and to not adversely affect the correct operation of the structures for implementation of the R-PP. This mechanism will allow evaluation of the daily advancement of the cell's activities.

In addition to the annual activities report, semi-annual reports are prepared in order to have a more overall view of the process in progress and to inform the Steering Committee about the progress of the work. The annual report will be the result of work in common conducted by the IEC cell and the Technical Secretariat. This report will be submitted to the overseeing ministry (MINEPDED), the Government, Parliament, and it will be made available to the stakeholders.

#### **Level of monitoring: the parameter of space**

- Monitoring and evaluation at the national level

This will involve activities conducted in the context of the establishment of the REDD+ strategy.

- Monitoring and evaluation at the regional / local level

This monitoring will be conducted in step with the implementation of the regional local REDD+ process management institutions. This monitoring will not be immediate, given that priority will be given to the implementation of institutional bases at the national level, with appropriation at the central level.

#### **The need for centralization and to make monitoring results public**

The reports resulting from monitoring and evaluation activities will be made available to all entities that work for the REDD+. They must also be submitted to the REDD+ Steering Committee in order for the latter to be able to fully perform its role as a decision-making entity. The recommendations will be presented to the members of this committee for approval before their implementation. Out of a concern for transparency and in order to make all the information regarding the process available to the stakeholders (including the international community, in accordance with IEC), the results of the evaluations will be made public. The results will be published periodically at the national and local level, through the IEC cell of the Technical Secretariat, **the Regional Coordination Structures and the Departmental Technical Committees**, but they will also be available from an Internet site dedicated to the REDD+ process in Cameroon.

If progress is not in accordance with the expected results (based on the advance planning in the R-PP), adjustments will be made by the Technical Secretariat as the process advances.

## Operational implementation of the monitoring system

Monitoring of the REDD+ process will be the responsibility of the Technical Secretariat. All information regarding progress of the process will be made available for compliance with the principle of transparency.

The weekly monitoring of the process shall be the duty of the Technical Secretariat which is charged with conveying information through the Technical Secretariat, the Steering Committee and MINEPDED.

Activities	Sub-activities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Activity 1: Establishment of the system / procedure manual	Design	X		
	Validation	X		
	Deployment	X	X	X
Activity 2: Implementation of the monitoring / evaluation system	Monitoring	X	X	X
	Evaluation		X	X

### Monitoring grid

Expected results (Results and income)	Indicators	Means of verification	2013	2014	2015
Aspect 1: Organization and consultation					
REDD+ process management institutions put in place and operational	Steering Committee operational by January 2013 Functional Technical Secretariat by January 2013 Regional structures for coordination and Technical committees for functional departments, Management entity for operational conflicts	ToR for the technical team available Contracts signed for the technical team ToRs of regional and departmental structures available Activities report of the Technical Secretariat	X	X	
Primary groups of stakeholders made aware, trained and consulted	Communication tools available and distributed. Holding workshops for training and awareness Thematic consultations held Strengthening of the capacity of stakeholders (number of training, type of training, number of persons affected)	Report of miscellaneous workshops Available communication tools Effective participation by stakeholders in returns (at all levels	X	X	X
Section 2: Preparation of the REDD+ pot of the REDD+ strategy					

Causes of deforestation and the degradation of forests	Strategic options identified or each agroecological zone	Reports	X		
Implementation of a system for monitoring the evolution of land use	Monitoring system in place	Reports System		X	
Tools of the developed strategy	Mechanism for sharing revenue prepared and available Mechanism for the management of available funds EESS carried out and CGES available	Tools developed and available Reports available		X	X
Legal establishment of the approved strategy	Various legislation regarding the REDD+ that was identified and developed (gradual adoption)	Texts drafted (and submitted)		X	X
National REDD+ strategy approved	National REDD+ strategy document available	Strategy disseminated			X
Pilot projects in all agroecological zones	Pilot projects in progress	Project documents available Activities implemented	X	X	X
Section 3 and Section 4: Reference scenario and MRV					
Reference scenarios available for the national and international levels	Commitment to reduce emissions evaluated Information on the stocks of carbon in available agroecological zones	Reports Maps Infranational scenarios (at least one per agroecological and national review)	X	X	
Register of carbon accounting	MRV System put into place and operational. Management platform Information management platform available	MRV System National accounting record		X	X
REDD+ co-benefits evaluated		Grid		X	X

Table 6: Summary of activities and budget for the monitoring-evaluation program						
Primary activity	Secondary activities	Estimated cost (in thousands of dollars)				Total
		2012	2013	2015	2015	
Establishment of a procedures manual	Design of the monitoring / evaluation system	10				
	Validation of the monitoring system	10				
Implementation of monitoring	Collection of indicators		10	10	10	30
	Data Processing		10	10	10	30
Technical and financial verification	Mid-point evaluation			50		50
	Final evaluation				50	50
	Financial audit		100	100	100	300
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>480</b>