



## NETWORK CENTER FOR GROWTH SECTORS

# 12 Growth Sectors



*At the heart  
of national  
import-substitution*

### Growth Sectors

- AQUACULTURE
- WOOD
- COCOA
- COFFEE
- CASSAVA
- ONION
- OIL PALM TREE
- BOVINE - MILK
- COTTON-TEXTILE-MANUFACTURING
- TOMATO
- INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE
- CORN
- ORGANIC FERTILIZERS

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# Editorial



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In 2020, the planet is wearing a mask. The global economy is suffocating. The covid pandemic is crippling industries, affecting foreign trade and destabilising human capital through its endless deaths. Sea, air, land and even rail borders are closed, and import-export business takes a huge hit. In 2022, while nations were still licking the wounds of this pandemic, war broke out unexpectedly in Ukraine. A study carried out by the UNDP in 2022 revealed that the Russia-Ukraine conflict had had an impact on the sustainable development of the African continent. These include rising fuel and food prices, inflation, socio-economic instability and unsustainable debt. These two crises highlight the urgent need for a paradigm shift in Cameroon's economy. In 2022, the Head of State, His Excellency Paul BIYA, already drew the attention of the Cameroonian people to the consequences of this crisis. In his address to the nation on 31 December 2023 and his message to young people on 10 February 2024, he laid the foundations for an economy based on import-substitution. And the CRFC, an operational instrument for implementing the national import-substitution policy, is contributing to the development of this innovative economic model. Since 2018, CAARD/CRFC has been working with MINEPAT and the sectoral administrations concerned to carry out feasibility studies of the reference situation of 11 growth sectors on the control of raw materials in order to supply future processing plants with derived products and by-products in order to substitute them for imported products and by-products. The problem identified was the lack of value chain structuring in the various growth sectors. The causes: inflation, the balance of trade deficit, the lack of funding for the agro-pastoral sector, insufficient productivity, the low processing capacity of our raw materials, the non-conformity of products from small-scale processing, inaccessibility to the local and international markets, and many others. In order to solve this problem, the CRFC has set itself the goal of working on three fundamental pillars: controlling the market, increasing productivity through improved seeds and mastering modern production techniques. Through the mobilisation of both international and local funding, the champion companies and import-substitution satellites resulting from the CRFC «Cluster» model are gradually developing with a view to industrialisation, the driving force behind our economic stability and above all, our emergence by 2035.



## MAIN ISSUE

The reference growth sectors are subject to high imports of products and by-products deriving from processing. This situation is due, among other things, to the low value added at local level of the value chains of our growth sectors. This undermines the achievement of Cameroon's emergence objectives by 2035 as projected by the Head of State. According to the National Institute of Statistics (NIS), in 2018, the import bill amounted to 3400 billion CFA francs, for a trade balance deficit of around 1400 billion CFA francs.

## OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the project is the development of the productive systems of the value chains of the growth sectors in networks of Production (PEP), Processing (PET), and Marketing (PEC) Enterprises oriented in import substitution in order to contribute to the balance of trade of Cameroon and the consolidation of food security.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Facilitate market access for the various products, by-products and derivatives of the Growth Sectors;
- Promote the development of industrial applications and support the implementation of Champion and Satellite Companies focused on import substitution in the Growth Sectors;
- Facilitate the interconnection and/or networking between the different stakeholders in the value chains of the Growth Sectors;
- Support the improvement of the Growth Sectors' productivity ;
- Support the rehabilitation of the existing production mechanism of the Growth Sectors and promote the creation of new plantations and the entrepreneurial management of farms;
- Keep young people in the production areas and reduce rural exodus;
- Set and support the growth of partnerships;
- Promote institutional incentives and facilitations related to the implementation and operationalisation of value chain operators' investments;
- Support the structuring and professionalization of value chain actors;
- Facilitate access to credit for operators in the value chains of growth Sectors;
- Ensure the digitalisation of growths chains.

« To contribute to the balance of trade of Cameroon and the consolidation of food security. »



# THE INDICATORS OF CRFC

## LEADING INDICATOR

The CRFC Project's key objective indicator is the reduction, for the period 2022-2029, of the import bill for products derived from the eight selected growth sectors by 50%.

## RESOURCES INDICATORS

The establishment at local level of eleven industrial units/champion-companies with a high capacity to process our raw materials:

Industrial plant/unit for the manufacture of pulp, paper and wood products set up and operational at the national level for the wood sector

Industrial production plant/unit for unbleached yarns and fabrics set up and operational for the cotton/textile/confection sector

Large capacity industrial and food starch manufacturing plant/unit set up and operational for the cassava sector;

High-capacity palm oil processing plant/unit set up and operational per oil palm production basin;

Large capacity industrial plant/unit for the manufacture of chocolate, cocoa butter, cocoa oil and other cocoa products set up and operational for the cocoa sector;

Large capacity industrial and food starch manufacturing plant/unit set up and operational for the cassava sector;

Large capacity industrial and fish feed manufacturing plant/unit set up and operational for the cassava sector;

High-capacity industrial plant/unit for the manufacture of quality cattle feed and 01 high-capacity industrial unit for the stimulation, treatment and conservation of cattle milk set up and operational per production basin for the dairy cattle sector;

Large capacity plant/industrial unit for the manufacture of biological and chemical fertilisers set up and operational at the national level;

Large capacity plant/industrial unit for the manufacture of onions set up and operational at the national level;

The installation in the production basins of 18,500 young people, 30% of whom are women.

« The establishment at local level of eleven industrial units with a high capacity to process our raw materials »»





« **The total funding of the project for the first 8-year phase amounts to 1,288 billion 435 million 661 thousand CFA francs.** »

## IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

Component 1 Support for the marketing of the various productions, products and by-products derived from the Growth sectors

Component 2 Support for the establishment and operationalisation of the Network of Champion and Satellite Companies in growth sectors' production systems.

Component 3 Support for the development of productivity, production, and genre entrepreneurship of Growth sectors

Component 4 Institutional support for the structuring of value chains, capacity building of actors, development of partnerships and facilitation of access to finance for value chain actors.

## TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING

The total funding of the project for the first 8-year phase amounts to 1,288 billion 435 million 661 thousand CFA francs. With a 50.93% contribution from the private sector for the installation and operation of the champion companies in the field of import substitution, and 49.07% from the State's contribution, mainly to the financing of its sovereign missions.

## AREA OF INTERVENTION

Project aimed at the IMPORT-SUBSTITUTION and FOOD SECURITY

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

Creation of 800 thousand direct jobs and 1.6 million indirect jobs;

Contribution to the improvement of the quality and quantity of entrepreneurial training in agropastoral, fisheries and forestry;

Improvement of the country's level industrialisation ;

Contribution to the improvement of the balance of trade of Cameroon ;

Improvement of the tax base;

Strengthening of food security;

Promotion of a more competitive agriculture;

Professionalization of sectors and related activities;

The marketing of quality products and the labelling of local products; access to credit and financing.

## INNOVATIVE FEATURE OF THE CRFC PROJECT

The innovative feature of the CRFC project lies in two points: the digitalisation of the channels, and the "Sell before you produce" marketing approach.



# SOME PRIORITY ACTIVITIES FOR 2024

## Cassava sector

- -Establishment of cassava seed fields covering 22 hectares in Binyam, a locality bordering the Meyomessala and Sangmélina districts, for an amount of 96 million 144 thousand CFA francs including tax, financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contract in progress;
- Establishment of cassava seed fields covering 22 hectares at Mogy Kouffin, in the Foubot district, for the sum of 95 million 700 thousand CFA francs including tax, financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contract in progress;
- Establishment of cassava seed fields covering 22 hectares in Binyam, a locality bordering the Meyomessala and Sangmélina Arrondissements, at a cost of 96 million 144 thousand CFA francs (including tax), financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contract in progress
- Establishment of cassava seedbeds covering 22 hectares at Mogy Kouffin, in the Foubot district, for the sum of 95 million 700 thousand CFA francs (including tax), financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contract in progress;
- Establishment of cassava seed fields covering 22 hectares at Mekomba, in the Mbandjock district, for the sum of 95 million 500 thousand CFA francs (including tax), financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contract in progress;
- ~~Markets~~ set up 22 hectares of cassava seed fields in Binyam, a locality bordering the Arrondissements of Meyomessala and Sangmélina.
- Installation of an irrigation and drainage system covering 22 hectares in Sangmélina.

## Onion sector

- Work to set up 22 hectares of onion seed fields at Magdeme in the Mora district
- The planting of 22 hectares at Kossa in the Mora district for 98 million 700 thousand CFA francs including tax, financed by line 94/MINEPAT; and 22 hectares at Magdeme in the Mora district for 98 million 956 thousand CFA francs including tax, financed by line 94/MINEPAT. Contracts in progress
- Work to set up 22 hectare onion seed fields at Kossa in the Mora district
- Work to set up 22 hectares of onion seed fields at Magdeme in the Mora district.
- Work to install an irrigation and drainage system covering 22 hectares at Kossa in the Mora district.
- Work to install an irrigation and drainage system covering 22 hectares at Magdeme in the Mora district.
- Seed acquisition and planning work on 22 hectares at Kossa in the Mora district
- Seed acquisition and planning work on 22 hectares at Magdeme in the Mora district.
- Work to set up 22 hectares of onion demonstration fields at Kossa in the Mora Arrondissement

## Oil palm sector

- Identification of active players in the oil palm sector
- Structuring identified stakeholders into clusters
- Support for the operationalization of the clusters set up.

## Aquaculture sector

- Construction work on an aquaculture farm in the Dibamba district for a total of 350 million CFA francs including tax.
- Setting up a central purchasing unit for fish feed, livestock feed and aquaculture equipment in the Dibamba district, for a total of 150 million CFA francs. Financing sought from national and international financial institutions.
- Construction of an aquaculture farm in the Dibamba district
- Work to set up a central purchasing unit in the Dibamba district

## Wood industry

- Draw up business plans for the various companies that will be set up as part of the agreement between the Ciblo project and Megalux Industries.
- Carry out a feasibility study to harmonise the timber industry with the CRFC project's cluster model.
- Update existing technical studies for the organisation of stakeholders in the timber industry into links.
- Formalise the contractual relationships between the various players through agreements and specifications
- Formalise a four-party agreement between the CRFC, CIBLO, VISION CONFORT and the trading company.





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## coordination and management of the CRFC project

The CAARD is the implementing agency ( Support Centre for Rural Development Actions): subject of the partnership agreement N° 00001/ MINEPAT/CAARD of 04 April 2022 relating to the implementation of the Network Centre for Growth Sectors(CRFC) in Cameroon between the State of Cameroon represented by: The Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development and the Support Centre for Rural development Actions(CAARD)

CAARD is a non-governmental development organisation (NGO) specialising in the development of networked production systems of companies in the growth sectors, in clusters of production enterprises (PEP), processing enterprises (PET), and marketing enterprises (PEC).