

THE UCCC "COUNCIL AGROPOLES" PROGRAMME

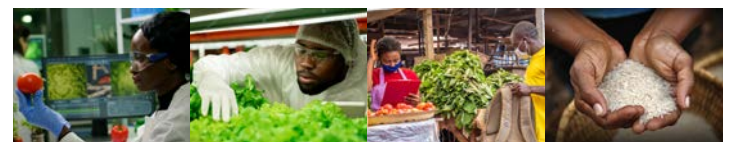


I. VISION AND OBJECTIF

The councils' role is to promote local development through the participatory implementation of structural projects designed to increase income and improve livelihoods.

In this light, the UCCC have designed a programme on council agropoles to lay down the conditions for accelerating local development as part of the government's decentralisation policy. It also seeks to consolidate the major objectives of the Government as launched and supported by the President of the Republic, HE Paul BIYA, that is, to increase Cameroon's food self-sufficiency on the one hand, and to promote

industrialisation by supporting the agri-food sector on the other.



The focus here is to substantially increase agro-pastoral production in the country's agro-ecological zones, provide a processable surplus, promote the processing of agricultural products, and develop agri-food value chains. The council agropole is thus the key to boosting local development, as its strategy is to breach the vicious circle hampering the rural economy

by empowering farmers. This will which in turn lead to increased productivity and higher income for the rural world.



In practice, the objective is to create a set of 50 council agropoles across the country in the medium term and thus to use the communes as a lever for regional development. The latter includes all promising agro-pastoral sectors.



II. CONCEPT

2.1. The council agropole is an agricultural, industrial and social agglomeration which represents a growth hub driven by local initiative, potential, and resources.

2.2. As an impetus to rural development, it focuses on the development of local value chains, organised in production, processing and marketing units.

2.3. The general scope of the programme hinges on:

- Law No. 2011/008 of 6 May 2011 to lay down guidelines on territorial planning and sustainable development

- Law No. 2013/011 of 16 December 2013 governing economic zones
- Laws relating to the development of the agricultural and agro-pastoral sectors.



III. STRUCTURE

The council agropole comprises three (3) units: research and extension; mechanisation; improved seed production; and animal breeding.

3.1. Agricultural or agro-pastoral production units designed to produce consumable, marketable and transformable surpluses.

3.2. Processing units including primary processing (sawmill, slaughtering and packaging unit) and, where appropriate, secondary processing units, enhancing the first, which pave the way for rural industrialisation.

3.3. A technology park (support structure) that includes, where appropriate, structures for the supply of inputs and services; marketing (collection, agro-processing, packaging, delivery); incubation; plant disease treatment; animal feed; disease prevention; training;

These units are designed to improve the know-how and increase the capacities of rural operators in their respective fields.



IV. ECONOMIC MODEL

4.1. The council's agropole seeks to promote and develop private initiative, whether local, national or foreign, under the supervision of the council and assisted by government institutions, in order to develop a dynamic, profitable, and sustainable local economy.

4.2. This project is designed as part of a free-market economy in which the council, like the state, prepares the environment and creates favourable conditions, while private operators invest in productive activities.

The technology park's structural services are paid for at minimum cost to facilitate the performance and profitability of the production or processing units.

4.3. The program involves four (4) types of actors:

- Local producers,
- National or foreign private investors;
- Councils through their SCI; and

- Institutional partners.

4.4. A multifaceted partnership that aims to boost local producers by means of contract farming. The aim is to create sustainable economic poles and ensure the economic and financial profitability and development of the production units and firms involved.

4.5. In terms of its structure, each Agropole is autonomous;

- The appropriate legal status for this model is the EIG;
- The activities of the EIG are carried out as part of an economic zone.

V. PARTNERSHIPS

The UCCC sign partnership agreements with the appropriate institutions and organisations to support them in their mission with regards to the programme and in favour of the agropoles. These include:

- **IRAD :**

- ▶ Research and extension of production techniques in the identified sectors;
- ▶ Supervision of the local research and extension branches of the technology parks;
- ▶ Study of soil quality.

- **CENEEMA :**

- ▶ Agricultural mechanisation in the agropoles;
- ▶ Supervision of local mechanisation units in the technology hubs.

- **Agropole/MINEPAT** programme: Support for development, opening up, infrastructure;

- **FEICOM** : contributes in financing the programme;

- **MINDEVEL** : multiple governmental support to the programme;

- Sectoral ministries (**MINADER**, **MINEPIA**, **MINFOF**): sectoral support needed;

- Consular chambers (CCIM, Chagri): specific contributions to the programme;

- **MINDCAF** : provision of land for the programme;

- **MINFI** : support the programme with the necessary finances;

- **MINEPAT** : support the programme as part of the import substitution strategy;

- Development partners: support the programme with finances and other forms of support;

- Diaspora: investment opportunities.



VI. ORGANISATION AND APPROACH

6.1. The programme is steered by the UCCC and is appropriately structured.

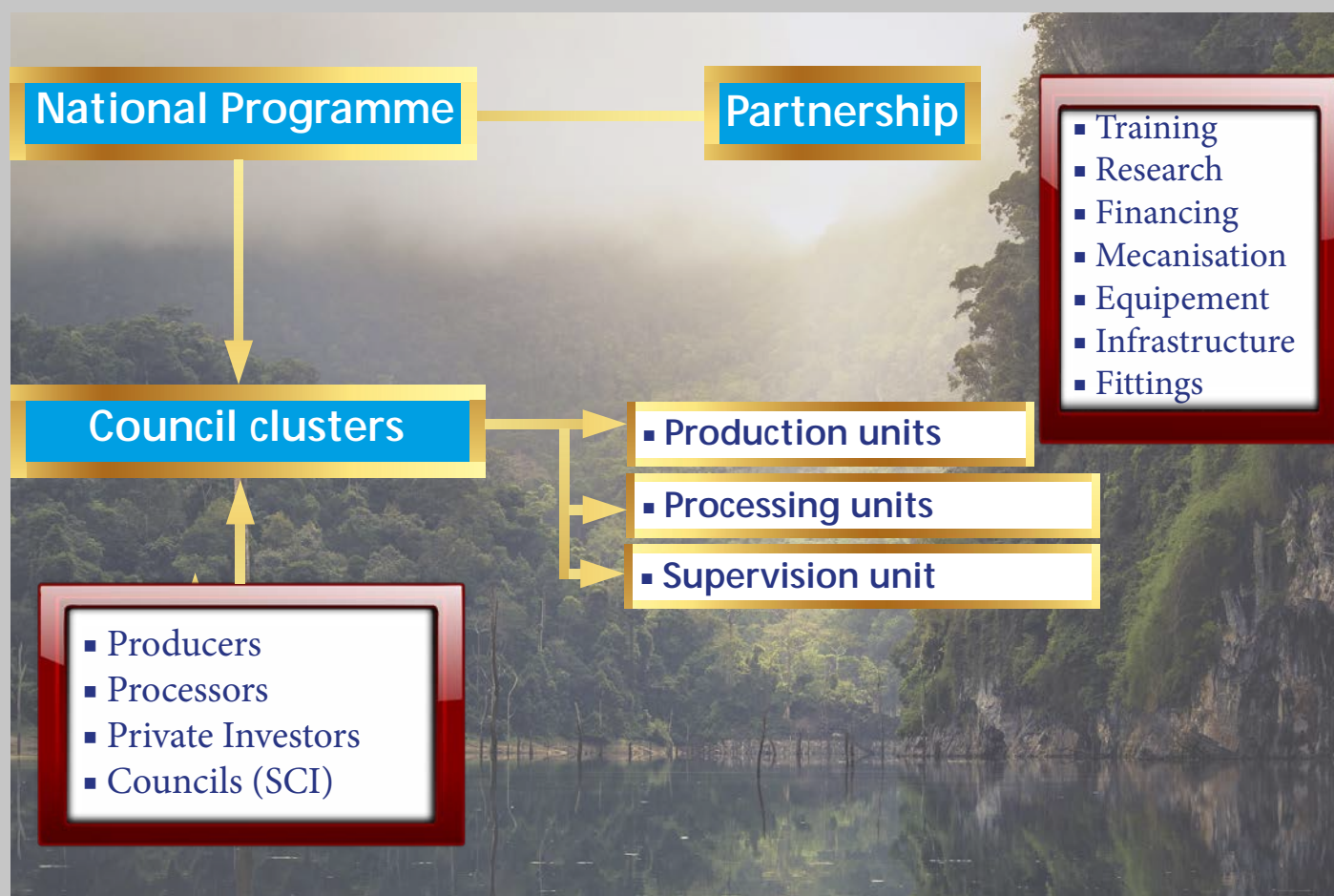
6.2. The steering of a council agropole project comprises four stages:

- Project identification at the council level;
- Sourcing of partners in collaboration with the UCCC;
- Feasibility studies and maturation in conjunction with internal partners
- Implementation at the level of the council.

6.3. A council wishing to participate in the programme must:

- Set up and populate a database pertaining to the project;
- Identify its economic assets;
- Set up an SCI.

General Plan



Agropoleís Structure

| Type of cluster Structures | | Agro-industrial | Agro-pastoral | | | | | Forestry Wood Hit |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | | Poultry | Pigs | Cattle | Small ruminants | Fish farming | |
| PRODUCTION UNITS | | Plantations | Farms | Farms | Farms | Farms | Farms | UFA |
| PROCESSING UNITS | 1 | Processing/ Packaging/ | Slaughtering/ Packaging | Slaughtering/ Packaging | Slaughtering/ Packaging | Slaughtering/ Packaging | | Sawmill |
| | 2 | | | | | | | |
| SUPERVISION UNIT | | | | | | | | |
| - Training centre | | • | | | | | | |
| - Seed production unit | | • | | | | | | |
| - Marketing unit | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| - Mechanisation unit | | • | | | | | | |
| - Plant health unit | | • | | | | | | |
| - Supply unit | | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| - Incubation unit | | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| - Micro-finance unit | | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| - Packaging unit | | • | | | | | | |
| - Nutrition unit | | | • | • | • | • | • | |
| - Disease control unit | | | • | • | • | • | • | |
| - Breeding unit | | | • | • | | | • | |

N.B : The units are autonomous; the units are supervised by the institutional partners.

SOUS LE TRÈS HAUT PATRONAGE DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN, S.E.M PAUL BIYA
sous la tutelle du Ministère de la Décentralisation et du Développement Local, en partenariat avec le FEICOM

LES JOURNÉES ÉCONOMIQUES INTERNATIONALES DES COMMUNES

pour le développement des territoires

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Thème : « LES TERRITOIRES FACE À L'IMPÉRATIF DE LA SÉCURITÉ ALIMENTAIRE »

CONTACTS :

(+237) 222 20 16 83

(+237) 674 70 18 99

(+237) 698 67 58 76

INSCRIPTION www.jeicom.org/inscription

Jeicom 23



Les Communes et Villes Unies du Cameroun
The United Councils and Cities Of Cameroon