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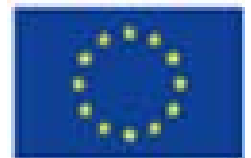
COUNTRY SHEET

CAMEROON

CRI-country sheets are prepared mainly on the basis of publicly available information, completed by data gathered by local partners in the specific countries, and will be updated periodically.

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Our local partners in Cameroon are:

- CRAT: a non governmental organisation with its main office in Yaoundé. It provides facilitating and catalytic services, such as counselling to IDP's, health counselling and treatment, as well as psychosocial interventions to vulnerable groups such as refugees, prisoners and victims of torture.
- CAMYOSFOP: a non governmental organisation, with its main office in Yaoundé, involved in the promotion of moral and traditional values focusing on human rights and conflict resolution.

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Background Note

The Italian Council for Refugees - in collaboration both with the Centre for the Rehabilitation and Abolition of Torture (CRAT) and the Cameroon Youth and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP) - did gather relevant information on the Republic of Cameroon.

The first fact-finding mission was carried out in Douala city - in the Littoral Province - by Chi Shirri Jovita and Ouahouo Blandine of CRAT, and ran from the 29th of August to the 1st of September 2007. A second mission was carried out in the city of Yaoundé, in September 2007.

CAMYOSFOP's research took place from the 12th of August to the 14th of September 2007.

The research was carried out using a questionnaire covering different topics, such as: access to territory, physical and social security, health care.

Interviews were generally conducted with experts in their respective fields, government officials, medical and religious groups, NGOs and private establishments.

Some of the consulted sources have consented to the use of the information provided on condition of staying anonymous. In those cases, efforts have been done to corroborate the information given.

Chapter 1

1. Access to territory (from country of asylum to return area)

1.1 Documentation

1.1.1 Travel documents needed for returnees

Foreigners as well as returnees need to have a valid passport, a residential permit and a visa to stay in the country.

For Cameroonians a National Identity Card (ID), is required to gain access to the divisions within the country.

1.1.2 Documents needed in the country of return

The possession of an ID is mandatory for all nationals.

1.1.3 How to obtain the necessary documents¹

If you have lost your passport and wish to request a new one, an application needs to be submitted to the Consular Service of the Embassy.

The following documents are needed² :

- For the renewal of the passport :
 - two completed application forms signed by the very bearer of the passport. In the case of underaged persons, the application must be signed by the legal guardian;
 - 4 passport-size photographs (both ears must be seen);
 - the old passport
 - the Consular I.D. Card
 - a valid residential permit in the country of reception
 - the original of work or student I.D. if profession is to be specified on the passport. Employer/School could communicate directly with the Consular Service in that regard.
- In case of loss :
 - two completed application forms signed by the very bearer of the passport. In the case of underaged persons, the application must be signed by the legal guardian;
 - information about the lost passport: references, date and place of issue ;
 - a copy of the lost passport, of its validity pages and of the entry visa in the country of actual residence;
 - a certificate of loss, given by the Police in the country of reception and legitimated by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 - the Cameroonian National Identity Card and a certified copy of the birth certificate;
 - a residential permit in the country of reception;
 - 4 passport-size photographs (both ears must be seen);
 - a reference of the Consular I.D. Card (if available) ;
 - the original of work or student I.D. if profession is to be specified on the passport. Employer/School could communicate directly with the Consular Service in that regard.

To obtain an ID in Cameroon, it is necessary to present yourself at a Police Office, bringing a copy of the birth certificate and a photo.

¹ Interview with a Police officer at the Identification Office of the Judicial Police, Yaoundé, sept.2007

² Cameroon Embassy in the Netherlands, Amaliastraat 14, 2514 JC THE HAGUE , The Netherlands; Tel: 0031(0)703469715, http://www.cameroon-embassy.nl/passport_and_others.htm

Before issuing the National Identity Card, the person receives a receipt which is valid for three months and renewable.

1.1.4 Price of the necessary documents

The price of an Identity Card is approximately 10 €, including the costs for the picture and the birth certificate.

1.2 Travel to the country of origin

Within the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (EMCCA- CEMAC) zone, free circulation is guaranteed, but acts of corruption are common spread.

1.2.1 By air

The main International airports are both in Yaoundé and Douala

The National Airport in Yaoundé is called the “Nsimalen National Airport”; the airport in Douala is called “Douala International Airport”.

The main connection points in Europe for Cameroon are Paris, London and Brussels.

The cost for an inter-continental flight return ticket is approximately 1.100 Euro.

Intercontinental air companies serving Cameroon are: Swiss Air, Air France, KLM, Camair, SN Brussels, Lufthansa Airlines, Emirates Airlines, British Airways.

Continental flights to Cameroon are operated by: Air Afrique, Air Kenya, Afriqihay Airways and Air Ivoire.

1.2.2 By sea

There are no connecting passenger lines by sea from Europe to Cameroon.

1.3 Impacts of former acts and statuses upon entry

A return into the territory is conditioned by past acts and statutes.

According to the law, for charges of crime, civil disobedience or contraventions, the injunction time is 10 years, 5 years and 3 years respectively.

If a person returns to the country after the injunction period is elapsed, the law will no longer be enforced upon him.

1.3.1 Impacts of crime committed outside the country

For crimes committed in a returnee’s reception country, a person can be extradited upon request if there is a signed convention between the reception country and Cameroon.

Both An-Nour Volunteers for Progress and Well-being and Caped International added that crimes committed outside the country would have great impacts if the concerned people are identified as in opposition to the ruling regime.

1.4 Access to return area

1.4.1 Limitations on internal travel

While Yaoundé is a town with a moderate climate characterized by alternating seasons (two dry seasons and two rainy seasons), Douala experiences extreme conditions: extreme high temperatures during the dry season and a lot of rain during the rainy season, sometimes leading to floods.

In Yaoundé, too much rain causes mud in the rainy season and sometimes obstructs movement, especially in swampy areas as e.g “Elobi”. This, however, is not the case with Douala, as it has a sandy soil.

Floods are typical for both towns, sometimes destroying houses and property.

1.4.1.1 Practical obstacles

Especially in Douala, free circulation can be a problem because of the frequent traffic jams. However, the government is making efforts in road maintenance while constructing new ones³. A danger comes from bandits, operating at road junctions and harassing travellers.

Further obstacles include poor transport infrastructure and corrupt officials who may ask travelers for bribes.

1.4.2 Means of internal travel

Public transport within the cities is handled by taxis. Most of them are yellow and they dominate the traffic in the cities. Different systems exist:

- Taxi ramassage: these taxis go on a special route. You share them with other passengers and have to know where you have to change to another taxi to get to your destination. Prices are low (150 to- 175 CFA per trip);
- Taxi course: these taxis transport only one passenger to the destination he wants to go. They charge about CFA 2.000 per hour;
- Taxi depot: these taxis bring you to the destination you want to go. But you allow the driver to pick up other passengers on the way. They charge about CFA 1.000 CFA per hour.

Travelling within the country is possible by air (easy, safe but expensive), by land, by car and by train (slow but safe).

Most public transport between the cities is handled by busses. They depart from bus terminals (gare routière). Although there are timetables, busses do leave or arrive rarely in time. They also have to stop every now and then at toll charge posts on the road.

An overview of the prices handled by the main bus agencies, based in Yaoundé:

- From Yaoundé to Douala(one way):
 - Central Voyage: 4 Euro (CFA 2.500), without comfort
9 Euro (CFA 6.000) with comfort
 - Le Car: approx. 9 Euro (CFA 6.000) with comfort
 - Guarantee Express: 5 Euro (CFA 3.500) without comfort
9 Euro (CFA 6.000) with comfort
- From Bamenda (in the North-West)Bafoussam /Yaoundé (one way):
 - Vatican Express: 8 Euro (CFA 5.000) without comfort

³ Interview with Ndzana Armand Crépin , Chief of Service at the Department of Land Tenure Bonanjo, in Douala

- Amour Mezam : 8 Euro (CFA 5.000)without comfort
- Guarantee Express: 8 Euro (CFA 5.000)without comfort
- Le Car: 13 Euro (CFA 8.500)with comfort

Cameroon Railway Company (CAMRAIL) transports passengers by train:

- From Yaoundé/Douala/Yaoundé: 9 Euro (CFA 6.000) one way;
- From Yaoundé/ Ngaoundere(Adamawa): between 38 to 53 Euro (CFA 25.000 to 35.000)one way;
- From Yaoundé/Kumba (South West Province): between 38 to 53 Euro (CFA 25.000 to 35.000) one way.

There are also internal flights available.

All the major airports in Cameroon are included in the table underneath⁴.

You will be able to find arrivals, departures, timetables airlines information, airport hotels, airport taxi services, airport public transport and airport parking by selecting an individual airport.

Code	Airport Name
BFX	Bafoussam Airport
BLC	Bamenda Airport
BPC	Bamenda Airport
OUR	Batouri Airport
DLA	Douala Airport
DSC	Dschang Airport
EBW	Ebolowa Airport
FOM	Foumban Airport
GOU	Garoua Airport
KLE	Kaele Airport
KOB	Koutaba Airport
KBI	Kribi Airport
VCC	Limbe Airport
MMF	Mamfe Airport
NGE	Ngaoundere Airport
NKS	Nkongsamba Airport
NSI	Nsimalen International Airport
MVR	Salam Airport
TKC	Tiko Airport
GXX	Yagoua Airport
BTA	Yaoundé Airport
YAO	Yaoundé Airport

1.5 Transfer of personal property and belongings

1.5.1 Transportation of movable property

Transportation of materials and belongings, from Europe to Cameroon, can be organised by sea or air⁵, through different companies.

⁴ Cameroonian Embassy London,

http://cameroon.embassyhomepage.com/cameroon_airports_limbe_airport_hotels_yaounde_airport_taxi_bamenda_airport_transfer_ngaoundere_airport_taxi.htm

Douala port is located 24 kilometres up stream on the left hand bank on the River Wouri.
The city of Douala can be accessed by sea through:

- Cameroon Shipping Lines (CAMSHIP)
tel. 237 3420064
fax. 2373427676
- Mediterranean Shipping Company
rue de la Base Navale
B.P. 4144 Douala
tel. 23733439148
fax. 237 33431405
email: info@msccm.mscgva.ch

1.5.1.1 Transportation within the country

By land, a reputed transportation agency for transferring belongings within the country is:

Amour Mezan A.M.E.C/S.D
B.P.6756 Yaoundé
tel. +237 99776426; +237 99842234(Yaoundé);
tel. +237 7732932(Kumbo)

It travels from Yaoundé(Biyen-Assi-Tongolo) to Bamenda/Douala/Kumbo.

The cost depends on the value of the belongings, e.g to transfer a document can cost from Euro 1,50 to 3,50 (CFA 3.000).

1.5.2 Money transfer

1.5.2.1 Contact list

Many creditable banks and microfinance institutions are available for money transfer and other monetary transactions.

A non-limitative list:

- BICEC (Banque International du Cameroun pour l'Eparagne et le Credit)
Av. du General de Gaulle, BP 1925, Douala
Tel. 237 342 8576 ; fax :237 3431226
Email: bicec@bicec.com
- Union Bank of Cameroon
P.O.BOX 13968 Yaoundé
tel.+237 /22201320; fax:+2372201319
- CITY BANK N.A. - Global Corporate Banking
Rue Flatters, 96
B.P. 4571 Douala
Tel. +237 3424272 ; fax +237 3424074
- National Financial Credit (NFC)
P.B. 65780, Yaoundé
Tel.:+237 22 20 2823; fax:+237 22202823
- Western Union
- Express Union

⁵ See 1.4.2

The following banks are present in Cameroon⁶:

- African Development Bank, Yaounde
- Amity Bank Cameroon, Douala
- Bank Africaine de Development, Yaounde
- Bank of Credit and Commerce Cameroon, Yaounde
- Banque Camerounaise de Developpement, Yaounde
- Banque Centrale des Etats de l'Afrique Equatoriale & du Cameroun, Yaounde
- Banque Internationale du Cameroun pour l'Épargne et le Crédit (BICEC), Yaounde
- Banque Internationale pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest, Yaounde
- Banque Internationale pour le Commerce et l'Industrie du Cameroun, Douala
- Banque Mondiale, BP 1128 Yaoundé
- Banque Paribas, Yaounde
- Boston Bank, Douala
- Cameroon Bank, Yaounde
- Caisse Commune d'Épargne et d'Investissement (CCEI Bank), Yaounde
- Chase Bank Cameroon, Douala
- Citibank, Douala
- Commercial Bank of Cameroon (CBC), Douala
- Credit Foncier du Cameroun, Yaounde
- Highland Corporation Bank (HCB), Yaounde
- International Bank of Africa - Cameroon, Douala
- Meridien Bank, Bafoussam
- Societe Camerounaise de Banque, Douala
- Société Commerciale de Banque - Crédit Lyonnais Cameroun (SCB-CLC), Yaounde
- Societe Generale de Banques au Cameroun (SGBC), Yaounde
- Standard Chartered Bank(SCBC), Yaounde

1.6 Communication System

Yaoundé and Douala both dispose of radio and television stations.

- Cameroon Radio and Television Cooperation (CRTV) can be found in all 10 provincial capitals of the country, including Douala and Yaoundé;
- Yaoundé radio stations are: Radio FM 105, Radio Campus, Radio Television Siantou (RTS), TV Samba and Ariane TV;
- Douala radi stations include: Radio Equinoxe, Radio Veritas, Africa No 1; and TV stations as : Spectrum Television (STv), Ariane Television and Canal 2.

Three telephone companies are operational in the country, represented in both Yaoundé and Douala:

- Mobile Telephone Network (MTN);
- Orange;
- Camtel.

Other communication systems include:

- Newspapers and Magazines Online
 - Cameroon Radio Television, Yaounde, <http://www.crtv.cm/>
 - Cameroon Tribune (Government-owned), Yaoundé, <http://ww.cameroon-tribune.net>
 - La Nouvelle Expression, Douala, <http://www.lanouvelleexpression.net/>
 - Le Messenger (Independent weekly), Douala, <http://www.lemessenger.net/>

⁶ http://www.portalino.it/banks/_cm.htm

- Mutations, Yaoundé, <http://www.quotidienmutations.net/>
- Post, The (Independent), Buea, <http://www.postnewsline.com/>
- Additional Newspapers and Magazines
 - Jeune Observateur (Independent biweekly), Douala
 - La Nouvelle Expression (Independent weekly), Douala
 - Peace News,
 - L'Effort,
 - The Herald,
 - Finance Eco.

Within the rural areas, fax and internet may be absent.

2.1 On-going armed conflicts

There are no armed conflicts going on in Cameroon.

2.2 Crime

2.2.1 Crime threatening physical security

Interviews of CRAT and CAMYOSFOP with police officers learned that frequent crimes in Yaoundé include child-trafficking, banditry, armed robbery and rape; and in Douala banditry, murder, assault, rape (minors and women), sexual abuse of children, aborted and abandoned babies.

All interviewees cited most or all the crimes. However, banditry poses the biggest threat to physical and psychological security, sometimes resulting in death or physical disabilities.

The police often lack necessary equipments.

Special intervention units are active within Commissariats (police stations) in the country to deal with specific situations, for example ESIR - Equipe Spéciale d'Intervention Rapide in cases of assaults and armed attacks, and GSO - Groupement Spéciale d'Opération against terrorism.

Yaoundé counts 18 police districts stations and recently the Delegate for National Security put into effect a 24-hours "Operation Dragon" within the police force to fight aggression, especially in taxis.

In addition, many police posts have been installed at strategic positions along roadsides to bring the police closer to the population.

In Yaoundé, the gendarmerie organizes patrols around the city, which are intensified at night. They also control vehicles to check documents, guns, stolen properties and thieves. In the event of receiving information on a suspected crime, elements are dispatched to cover the area. Mobile gendarmes reinforce the police in fighting crime. They also provide prompt intervention when called for to reinforce ESIR and GSO.⁷

2.2.2 Risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking or forced prostitution

The law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, but it does prohibit slavery, prostitution, forced labour and other crimes relating to trafficking in persons.

Trafficking remains a problem⁸. The Anti-Child Trafficking Law, drafted by the government in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), took effect in December 2005. However, prosecuting has been weak.

⁷ Interview CAMYOSFOP with Abouga Parfait, Inspector of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, and with a Police Lieutenant in Yaoundé.

⁸ United States Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, June 2007, <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/82902.pdf>

Women and children face the greatest risk and are trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labour. Most trafficking in children occurs within the country's borders, while most trafficked women are transported out of the country.

Reports show that girls were internally trafficked from the Adamawa, North, Far North, and Northwest provinces to Douala and Yaounde to work as domestic servants, street vendors or prostitutes. Children were also internally trafficked to work on cocoa bean plantations.

"Cameroonian children are trafficked to Gabon and Equatorial Guinea for domestic servitude, and forced market and agricultural labour. Cameroon is a transit country for children trafficked between Gabon and Nigeria, and from Nigeria to Saudi Arabia. Cameroonian women are sent by trafficking rings to Europe, primarily France, Germany and Switzerland... The Government of Cameroon does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is making significant efforts to do so, despite limited resources."

There are testimonies that trafficked children are usually lured or forced and taken away by people known to the family, as well as by strangers trading children in exchange for various benefits, or to be used in mystical performances by secret societies⁹.

2.2.3 Effectiveness of protection

2.2.3.1 Police forces

It is widely believed that individuals pay bribes to law enforcement and the judiciary to secure their freedom. Police officers and members of the gendarmerie are widely viewed as corrupt officials who frequently arbitrarily arrest and detain citizens. Police demanded bribes at checkpoints, and influential citizens reportedly pay the police to make arrests or abuse individuals in personal disputes¹⁰.

Security forces and Government authorities continue to arbitrarily arrest and detain persons, often holding them for prolonged periods without charges or trials and, at times, incommunicado¹¹.

There are reports that security forces detain persons at specific sites where they torture and beat detainees. Security forces also reportedly subjected women, children, and elderly persons to abuse¹².

Two forms of physical abuse commonly reported by male detainees are the 'bastonnade', where authorities beat the victim on the soles of the feet, and the 'balancoire', during which authorities hang victims from a rod with their hands tied behind their backs and beat them, often on the genitals¹³.

Pre-trial detainees were sometimes required, under threat of abuse, to pay 'cell fees', a bribe paid to prison guards to prevent further abuse¹⁴.

Many neighbourhoods in Douala and Yaoundé have an organized and functional "Auto Défense" unit aimed at maintaining order and ensuring security within the quarters. This is a voluntary security unit created and constituted by local citizen. They check people and cars that move in and out of the quarter. When an unknown person is noticed, they interrogate him and can take

⁹ Interviews of CRAT and CAMYOSFOP with police officers in Yaoundé (Mfoundi Division) and Douala (Wouri Division).

¹⁰ United States Department of State (USSD;) Country Report on Human Rights Practices 2006; <http://www.state.gov/q/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/78723.htm> , accessed August 2007

¹¹ Idem.

¹² Idem.

¹³ Idem.

¹⁴ Idem.

action against or call the police/mobile gendarmerie for prompt intervention. They work in shifts every night from 10pm - 4am¹⁵.

2.2.3.2 Judiciary

Law promotes equality and transparency, However many people feel that justice depends on the judge and it is affected by corruption, in the way that - for example - some people have earned a prison term for crimes they did not commit, while some embezzlers of state funds have never been punished.

This information is confirmed by the USSD 2006 report¹⁶ that stated that even though the constitution and law provide for an independent judiciary; the judiciary remains highly subject to executive influence, and corruption and inefficiency remain serious problems.

The legal system includes both national and customary law. Criminal cases are generally tried in statutory courts, and customary court convictions involving witchcraft automatically are transferred to the statutory courts, which act as the Court of First Instance.

Customary law, which is used most frequently in rural areas, where citizens are often unaware of their rights under civil law, is based upon the traditions of the ethnic group predominant in the region. Customary law is deemed valid only when it is not 'repugnant to natural justice, equity, and good conscience'. Even when Customary law provides for equal rights and status, men may limit women's right regarding inheritance and employment, and some traditional legal systems treat wives as the legal property of their husbands¹⁷.

¹⁵ Interview of CRAT with Clément Ndjewel, a Parish Priest Cathedral Parish at Douala.

¹⁶ United States Department of State (USSD;) Country Report on Human Rights Practices 2006; <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/78723.htm> , accessed August 2007

¹⁷ Idem.

3.1 Housing and accommodation

3.1.1 Property restitution and compensation

If displacement of people is a result of government policies or natural disasters, some form of compensation and property restitution is usually provided.

For example, this has been the case for people who were driven from their houses, following the construction of the "l'axe routier n° 4" in Douala, or the Nsam - Yaoundé fire disaster of 1998. In both cases, the victims were resettled in allocated houses and received financial compensation¹⁸.

3.1.2 Opportunities of building a house

3.1.2.1 Condition of obtaining land property

According to Ndzana Armand Crépin, jurist and chief of service at the Department of Land Tenure for the Wouri, the cost of land depends on the quarter and whether it is titled or not. Land is generally more expensive in the centre of town than at its peripheries. The procedure to obtain a land within Yaoundé can be quite long and worn out.

Acquiring the land certificate costs approximately 610 Euro (CFA 400.000) for a lengthy duration of over 24 months.

A land title ascertained, with a situation map, contours and surveyors' documentation, the plan of the house with quantitative cost estimates is drawn and submitted to the City Council. They will visit the site, approve the plan and issue out the "Building permit", which must be openly hoisted near the site during construction.

If the plan is not rigorously respected with regards to drainage and access road or neighbour's property, the Council can stop the work which is periodically visited and controlled.

Land is usually available in new layouts, but some people, depending on the affordability, buy old structures, first and second generation housing, destroying them and constructing modern ones.

Private State Domain

This can be assigned by a written text for use for a private service such as the administration. The land title belongs to the State.

The sale is organised by:

- bidding or negotiation between two or more people. They define the area, make it viable and then sell it; or
- by private contract or adjudication; established by a commission presided by the Senior Divisional Administrative Officer (Prefect). The titled land is then sold in parcels. This permits the biggest buyer or the highest donor to acquire land like in an auction sale. It is this procedure which is currently advocated. A commercial plot on public land is obtained by a lease.

¹⁸ Interview with Mboy Aimée Fidele, a social worker at the Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale (CNPS)

Besides sale, there's the possibility of:

- allocation: the State can allocate or cede land;
- exchange: the exchange of property for another of the same value, between an individual and the State;
- leasing: the domain can be the object of leasing for a periodical payment. Emphyteotic lease is reserved for expatriates (e.g. Embassies). An expatriate can never become owner of a piece of land. The duration of the lease is 99 years. After this period, the right of occupation expires. The lease can again be applied for and granted.

National Domain

There are two categories:

– direct matriculation.

This is applicable to land for settlement. For untitled land, the State requires that you must have invested on the land before 5 August 1974¹⁹.

Procedure for direct matriculation:

- Three copies of an application form, with the following information:
 - Surname, Forename, Parents, Residence, Marital status, Profession, Nationality;
 - An outline drawing or sketch of the land in four copies;
 - A certified true copy of the National Identity Card;
 - A copy of the Birth Certificate;
 - A calendar or plan for putting the land to use showing the phases of execution or implementation.
- This application is addressed and handed to the Service of Lands in the place where the building will be constructed, upon which the applicant receives a receipt of deposit.
- The Chief of Service of Lands will transmit the application file to MINDAF (Ministère des Affaires Foncières).
- When the plan of effective use is respected, they can transform the deed of definitive concession to that of Land Title after the payment to the Taxation Department and obtaining a receipt.

– indirect matriculation.

This is land free for all effective occupation.

The land title can be obtained by concession. This applies to persons not having met the conditions stipulated by the 1976 decree (land not put to use before the date 5 August 1974).

A person in need of land, buys from the private owner (individual/family), and then applies for a land title at the Department of Land Tenure, or acquires the land through a national decision temporary lease. A commission is then appointed to survey and demarcate the land. The buyer is given a period of 5 years to put it to effective use.

At the end of 5 years, the Commission will visit the land to see if the user has used it, and if so a definitive allocation will be granted, and this will end a land title.

The buyer may forfeit the land title if he fails to respect the stated time limit. A list of required documents is then deposited at the sub divisional office upon a receipt for processing and subsequently to obtain a building permit.

3.1.2.2 Relevant approximate prices

Examples of prices for obtaining land in Douala and Bonabéri:

- Quartier Kotto Haut Standing: 1000 m² (66,3 USD/m²)
- Quartier Kotto (Rois Mages): 500 m² (51,8 USD/m²)
- Bonabéri Sodiko Château : 500m² (62USD/m²)

¹⁹ Decree N° 76/165 of 25 April 1976 specifying the conditions for obtaining land title. This decree is classified as direct matriculation, applicable only to Cameroonians.

And in Yaoundé:

- Mbankolo: 38 Euro/m² (CFA 25.000)
- City Centre: 152 Euro/m² (CFA 100.000)
- Messame Ndong: 6 Euro/m² (CFA 4.000) - no electricity or water supply in the area

3.1.2.3 Available credits, subsidies and other form of help ²⁰

The government has three institutions that give building aid to citizens:

- Mission d'Aménagement et d'Équipement des Terrains Urbains et Ruraux (The Real Estate Company of Cameroon) MAETUR.

MAETUR lays out and plans building sites with necessary infrastructure and amenities (roads, electricity, potable water...), for sale or use by SIC. It equally offers assistance in construction (acquiring land titles, conception of building plans, compiling of documents for building permits, and supervision of construction work).

Contacts: Service Commercial MAETUR Douala
P.O. Box 3429 Douala
Tel: (237) 33 47 89 94 / (237) 33 47 89 93
E-mail: maetur.douala@maetur.cm

Siege Social et Service Commercial MAETUR Yaoundé
716, Avenue Winston Churchill, Rue 1071, Quartier Hippodrome
B.P. 1248 Yaoundé
Tel: (237) 22 22 31 13/ (237) 22 22 21 02
Email: maetur@maetur.cm

- Credit Foncier.

A banking Unit which offers Cameroonians building credit facilities on low interest on a long term. Workers contribute 1% of their monthly salaries to Credit Foncier for eventual building loans. Loans accorded are up to a maximum of 80% of the cost of a project for a maximum period of 20years.

Required documents for a loan include:

- Land title
- Building plan
- Building permit
- National Identity card,
- Marriage certificate,
- Bank profile and pay voucher

Contact: Credit Foncier du Cameroon
Rue Duwarf- Bonanjo
P.O. Box 297 Douala
Tel: (237) 33 42 12 13
Fax: (237) 33 42 90 38

Credit Foncier du Cameroon
484, Bld du 20 mai 1972
P.O. Box 1531 Yaoundé
Tel: (237) 22 23 52 15
Fax: (237) 22 23 52 21

²⁰ Interview with Ndzana Armand Crépin, Ministère des Affaires Foncières (Ministry of property and land tenure, MINDAF).

- Société Immobilière du Cameroun (The building enterprise of Cameroon), SIC.
SIC constructs residential quarters on plots laid out by MAETUR. These include detached and grouped houses and apartments for hire-purchase or rent.
The application is classified according to 6 social and professional categories (employees, minors, liberal professionals, other entities, married women, divorced women).
The files are then treated according to the applicant's income and risk criteria.
On acceptance, a contract is signed and a subscription of an insurance policy for the hire-purchase is made up. Other formalities of occupancy include delivery of AES-SONEL and SNEC subscribing certificates. SIC may also ask aid from Credit Foncier.

Contact: Société Immobilière du Cameroun
Agence Régionale de Douala
P.O. Box 924 Douala
Tel: (237) 33 42 06 05 / (237) 33 42 06 07
Email: info@siccameroun.com

Société Immobilière du Cameroun
Agence Régionale de Yaoundé
P.O. Box 387 Yaoundé
Tel: (237) 22 23 34 11/ 22 22 51 19
Email: info@siccameroun.com

3.1.3 Opportunities of buying a real estate

There are no official low cost housing programmes. This makes it very difficult for low income earners to build a house.

By way of an example, the monthly hire-purchase amount to be paid for the cheapest houses made by SIC (Société Immobilière du Cameroun) - a para-public enterprise responsible for the construction of low cost houses - is about 36 Euro (CFA 24.000), which equals the official minimum salary by the public service standard.

That is why people can still be seen constructing houses and living in risky zones, hill slopes and marshy areas ("Elobi")²¹.

The construction of houses within such susceptible areas sometimes results in property damages caused by floods during the rainy season. And no compensations are made to people who construct in such areas in the event of any catastrophe as these lands are owned by the government and use by private individuals is forbidden²².

Besides the para-public enterprises, houses can be bought or rent from individuals and public enterprises like the Mission d'Aménagement et d'Équipement des Terrains Urbains et Ruraux (The Real Estate Company of Cameroon, MAETUR). These companies are generally expensive. SIC houses at Bonamoussadi, Makepé and Koto in Douala are relatively affordable, but these are already saturated.

The first condition for buying real estate is to seek the services of a notary, who prepares a certificate of ownership at the time of buying. This can be done in person or through intermediaries like SCI - FOK (a building enterprise in Douala) who give advice and aid for buying land or a house, the construction of houses and also obtaining the land title/building permits etc.

²¹ Interview of CRAT with Abouga Parfait, Inspector of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

²² Interview of CAMYOSFOP with Dr. Njock Raphael, Medical doctor and Chief of Service, Laquintinie Hospital (Douala).

Buying real estate responds to the same criteria as buying land. It depends on the quarter, size and type of house. Many credit facilities are available from a number of banking and microfinance institutions.

However direct matriculation in land tenure is impossible for minors (below 18years), contrary to the other means of acquiring land. A governmental reform, on 16 December 2005, simplified the procedures for obtaining land titles and made it possible for women to become a land owner.

3.1.4 Opportunities of renting a house or apartment

3.1.4.1 Eventual obstacles for certain groups

The main obstacles in renting a house are the lack of finances and sometimes the stigma about certain houses suspected of being sites of mystical performances.

Massila Josephine Léontine, teacher and counsellor said, notwithstanding the financial capability of a buyer, some landlords discriminate in letting out houses to certain groups of people.

For example, somebody may not let an apartment for rent to:

- Bamilekes (one of the major ethnic groups), especially in Yaoundé, because they are considered not able to properly do the upkeep of the house;
- single women, because of the fear of their children picking up socially unacceptable habits (like prostitution); and
- soldiers/policemen, generally being considered as bullies.

3.1.4.2 Relevant approximate prices

In Yaoundé, the cost of renting varies greatly:

- 2 bed rooms, sitting room, toilet, between 70 and 120 Euro (from 45.000 to 80.000 CFA) per month;
- State houses of the same nature cost between 30 and 60 Euro (from 25.000 to 40.000 CFA) per month.

In Douala, for exemple:

- At Bonapriso and Bonanjo between 450 and 1500 Euro (300.000 and 1.000.000 CFA)per month;
- In the popular quarters between 30 and 230 Euro (25.000 and 150.000 CFA), for an apartment consisting of a sitting room, 2 bedrooms, a kitchen and a toilet.

Opposite, in rural areas prices can be much lower.

3.1.5. Temporary shelters

There are no temporary shelters for returnees.

However, as an example, in Bonaberi (Douala) a hotel room generally costs between as much as 12 and 200 Euro a day, depending on the quality and size of lodging quarters:

For example:

- Marima Hotel: 13 to 23 Euro (9.000 - 15.000 CFA)
- Liberté Hotel: 12 to 20 Euro (8.500 - 12.000 CFA)
- Hotel Royale Palace: 45 to 200 Euro (29.000 - 135.000 CFA)

Prices are however negotiable, especially if one intends to lodge for a long period of time.

3.2 Livelihood - basic "survival"

Confessional institutions are very active everywhere e.g. The Catholic Mission, Protestant Missions, Conseil des Eglises Baptiste et Evangélique de Cameroun (CEBEC) and several religious bodies called sects. There are also private sector NGO's e.g. Centre for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (CRAT), and CARITAS - a charitable institution of the Archdiocese of Yaoundé.

3.2.1 Employment

The main economic activities in Yaoundé are commerce and agriculture, while the main sources of livelihood in Douala are industrial and commercial activities.

Access to employment declined in the last two decades. Until the early 1990s, graduates from key professional schools (Education, Medicine, Administration, Technology, and Agriculture) were automatically guaranteed life-long employment in the civil service. While not guaranteed automatic employment, most graduates from the main university were also hired into the public service as well.

But since the late 1980s unemployment is on the rise, with high rates of graduate unemployment. There seems to be a positive gradient between education and unemployment, with university graduates having the higher rates of unemployment.

Unemployment levels are about 2,9 among those with no education, 12,6 among those with primary education and as high as 34,4 percent among those with a secondary or higher level of education. Most of the workers with low levels of education are employed in agriculture and in the informal sector.²³

There is a very large private market sector and markets are found in every major quarter.

3.2.1.1 Labour market reintegration programmes

The Ministry of Employment, Labour and Social Insurance and the National Employment Fund - NEF (Fonds National de l'Emploi-FNE) are charged with the application of Cameroon's employment policies. NEF was created in 1990 in the framework of a "Social Dimension Adjustment" and has the following goals:

- growing job opportunities;
- supporting young workers' job placement;
- supporting the starting of micro enterprises, giving trainings and access to micro-credits.

In the domain of agriculture, the government trains technicians, gives subventions for pesticides, fertilizers and for obtaining agricultural tools.

On their turn, the technicians train farmers in cooperatives on farming methods and the use of materials.

3.2.1.2 Practical and contact information

Newspapers such as the Herald and Cameroon Tribune Eden and The Post provide a list of vacancies²⁴.

²³ Parfait M. Eloundou-Enyegue e.a., Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA), Cornell and Clark Atlanta Universities and the United States Agency for International Development, Access to Schooling and Employment in Cameroon : New Inequalities and Opportunities; <http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp163.pdf> , last accessed August 2007

²⁴ Cfr. 1.6

There also operates a private agency called APAVE, both in Yaoundé and Douala, advertising job vacancies for multinational companies.

3.2.2 Recognition of degrees obtained while abroad

In most cases, returnees' diplomas obtained while abroad are accepted. One should address the Ministry of Education to that end²⁵:

Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur
Direction du Développement de l'Enseignement supérieur
Cellule des Systèmes universitaires comparés et des équivalences
BP 1457
Yaoundé

3.2.3 Education and retraining programmes

Higher education consists of University Faculties and High Schools, as well as private institutions (des Institutions Privées d'Enseignement Supérieur - IPES) who has a 2-year course and deliver a "Brevet de Technicien Supérieur" (BTS).

The reception and information services for university students are²⁶:

- Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur; BP 1457; Yaoundé; Cameroun
- Université de Buéa; BP 63; Buéa; Cameroun
- Université de Ngaoundéré; BP 454; Ngaoundéré; Cameroun
- Université de Douala; BP 2701; Douala; Cameroun
- Université de Yaoundé I; BP 337; Yaoundé; Cameroun
- Université de Yaoundé II; BP 1850A; Yaoundé; Cameroun
- Université de Dschang; BP 96; Dschang; Cameroun
- Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale

Other courses provided in Cameroon are: language courses, computer, marketing, trade, etc.

3.2.4 Starting a new business

3.2.4.1 Legal Conditions

Legal conditions to be fulfilled in starting a business depends on the type of business²⁷.

The general procedure includes:

- Filling a moral form stating the type of business and activities to be engaged, location and address of business site;
- Registering the business at the court;
- Preparing and legalizing documents with the Divisional Officer;
- Paying a Patent or Licence and declaring the business at the Department of Taxation in the Ministry of Finance for eventual calculation and subsequent payment of taxes.

If the business concerns a social activity (health care, education, ...) an authorization has to be obtained first from the Ministry concerned.

²⁵ Unesco, Study abroad; http://www.unesco.org/ed_sa/cgi-bin/search/index.cgi?vcountry=CMR

²⁶ Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur (MINESUP), <http://minesup.gov.cm>

²⁷ Interview with Ekobena Antoine of the Directorate of Interior Commerce at the Ministry of Commerce-Yaoundé.

Registration requirements to start up a Limited Liability Company, Sociétés à Responsabilité Limitée (SARL):

	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
1	The notary verifies and reserves the proposed company name by filing a motion with the African Intellectual Property Organization's office in Yaoundé	6 days	CFA 38.500
2	Deposit the initial capital in a bank and obtain a receipt	1 day	no charge
3	Present the physical location plan to the tax department and obtain an attestation of business premises	1 day	CFA 12.500
4	An attorney/notary drafts the Memorandum and Article of Association; Sign company by-laws before the Notary	2 days	CFA 500.000
5	Have the signed by-laws duly registered with the Registration and Stamp Duty Office of the Department of Taxation	2 days	0,25% of the share capital + fiscal stamps (usually paid as part of notary fees)
6	File an application to the Registrar of Companies in the Court of the First Instance.	8 days	no charge
7	Publish the incorporation of the company in the legal journal (Cameroun Tribune)	3 days	CFA 76.000
8	Pay the business tax (Patente) based on an estimated amount of turnover	3 days	CFA 67.200
9	Obtain a taxpayer card with the Inspectorate of Taxes in the area where the enterprise is located	7 days	CFA 1.500
10	Declare the existence of the company before the authorities in charge of the industry	1 day	no charge
11	Declare the existence of the company to the local office of Department of Labour	1 day	no charge
12	Register workers with health administration	1 day	no charge
13	Declare the existence of the company and the personnel employed before the National Social Insurance Fund (Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale-NSIF-CNPS)	1 day	no charge

Banks and microfinance institutions provide credit facilities for business ventures. No specific minimum capital is demanded.

Contact details:

AFRILAND FIRST BANK
 place de l'indépendance
 PB 11834, Yaoundé
 tel. 237 223 3068/223 91 57
 fax:237 222 1785/2239155
 email: firstbank@afriandfirstbank.com;
 contact person: M.Alphonse Nafack: 237 2233068

This bank provides a micro-credits fund for micro-enterprises, called MITFUND, in cooperation with KAFINVEST-SA and an NGO called ADAF (Appropriate Development for Africa Foundation).

BICEC (Banque International du Cameroun pour l'Eparagne et le Credit)
Av. du General de Gaulle
BP 1925, Douala
tel. 237 342 8576
fax :237 3431226
email: bicec@bicec.com

ECOBANK CAMEROON
Av.de la liberte
BP 582, Douala
tel: 237 343 8250/51/52
fax:237 3438609
Email: ecobankcm@ecobank.com
contact person: M.Eric Nanfa, 237 3438250/51/52/53
email : enanfa@ecobank.com

CITY BANK N.A. - Global Corporate Banking
96, Rue Flatters
B.P. 4571, Douala
tel. +237 3424272
fax +237 3424074

3.2.5 Charity organisations ²⁸

Among the numerous charity organisations throughout the country, we mention here:

CARITAS
Catholic Church Lay Organization
Bureau for Social Charitable Activities
Contact person: Paul Samangassou, (237) 99 99 64 93
P.O Box 12182 Yaoundé
Tel: (237) 33 31 32 08 / (237) 33 31 15 92
email: basc@iccnet.com;

The Cameroon Red Cross
rue Henry Dunant
P.O. Box 631 Yaoundé
Tel: +237 22 22 41 77

3.2.6 Useful data to calculate the cost of living

According to the Mobil Bonassama and Texaco - Bonaberi fuel station the prices of the following petroleum products are:

- Super: 0,90 Euro/L (585F CFA/L)
- Gasoil:0,81 Euro/L (535 CFA/L)
- Kerosene: 0,55 Euro/L (360 - 365 CFA/L)
- Butane cooking gas: 5,80 Euro/6L (3.800 CFA/6L) 9,00 Euro/12L (6.000 CFA/12L); 11,90 Euro/15L (7.800 CFA/15L)

²⁸ For a more complete overview of organisations active in Cameroon, we suggest The Development Gateway, Directory of Development Organizations 2008, <http://www.devdir.org/files/Cameroon.PDF>

Taking into account the Bonassama market and Marché Centrale at Akwa, prices of food vary sometimes as a function of prices of petroleum products: when these prices go up, transportation of food experience an automatic increase, thus influencing the prices.

For example:

- Rice: 15,30-22,90 Euro/50kg (10.000 - 15.000 CFA/50Kg)
0,45-1,06 Euro/KG (300 - 700 CFA/kg)
- Sugar: 0,90- 1,20 Euro/packet (600 - 700 CFA/packet)
0,76 -0,90 Euro/Kg (500 - 600 CFA/kg)
- Flour: 32 Euro/50 Kg (21.000 CFA/50kg)
0,95- 0,69 Euro/Kg (350 - 450 CFA/kg)
- Groundnuts: 3,51Euro/15L (2.300 CFA/15L)
- Packet of Tole Tea: 0,45- 1,50 (300 - 1.000 CFA variable sizes)
- Plantains: 0,75 Euro/5 fingers (500 CFA/5 fingers)
- Macabo cocoyams: 0,75 Euro (500 CFA) a heap of 4 sizeable cocoyams
- Irish potatoes: 1,83/5L (1.200 CFA/ 5L bucket)
- Vegetable oil: 1,22- 1,67 Euro/L (800 - 1.100 CFA/L)
- Palm oil: 0,83/L (550 CFA/L)

3.3 Health

3.3.1 General health situation by regions

Dr. Ndong Ngoe Constant, a specialist in public health at the Delegation of Public Health in Yaoundé, places among the main health problems encountered :

- parasitic and infectious diseases, such as malaria, diarrhoea and tuberculosis;
- chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.

Tamfu Hilda Berry, nurse and Chief at the Etoug-Ebe Baptist Health Centre in Yaoundé added that health problems frequently encountered also include:

- skin diseases;
- HIV/AIDS;
- cholera;
- buruli ulcers;
- STIs (sexually transmitted infections)
- and gastro-enteritis²⁹.

The Laquintinie hospital at Douala generally refers kidney diseases and neurological problems to the General Hospital which had specialists in these fields.

After the cholera epidemic in 2004 to 2006 the Local Council worked in collaboration with hospitals to put in place sanitary systems and structures.

Malaria is the number one killer disease in Cameroon. However the level of AIDS is also very high, with about 12% of the population between 15 and 49 years who are seropositive and about 100.000 children suffering from AIDS.

²⁹ Data are been confirmed by Dr. Njock Raphael medical doctor and chief of service at the Laquintinie Hospital in Douala and Mr Mpei Emmanuel of the Bonassama district Hospital in Douala.

3.3.2 Drinking water and sanitation by regions

Water is not accessible to all the population and so people turn to depend on water from wells, with all the dangers this it entails. In the suburbs of Douala, just like in Yaoundé, wells are dug to increase the supply of water.

According to Dr. Njock, potable water is not available in all quarters of Douala. This was one of the reasons of the cholera epidemic of 2004, in addition to the lack of adherence to hygienic rules.

According to Mbogo Etienne³⁰ at the Ministry of Social Affairs, about 49% of the Yaoundé population has access to tap water.

A majority of the population within Yaoundé use water distributed by CAMWATER (former SNEC - Société National des Eaux Camerounaises). Hygienic services/sanitary systems exist in town, but are the main responsibility of the Councils or Municipal Authorities.

There is also the question of taste. Many residents do not enjoy safe drinking water. Through sensitisation, people who have a notion of potable water have learnt to use filters and treat water with javel (parazone).

Respondents informed that the city councils in Yaoundé and Douala, in addition to their hygienic and sanitary services (public toilets, sewage disposal), have permanently employed HYSACAM (Hygiène et Salubrité du Cameroun- Hygiene and Sanitation enterprise) to keep the towns clean.

The Wouri division has public toilets all over town. It was also noticed that many enterprises were involved in the treatment and emptying of sewage waste.

3.3.3 Health care system

The current budget for public health is about 58 billion CFA.

According to Dr. Ndong Ngoe of the Provincial Delegation of Health in Yaoundé, health centres are generally not well equipped and poorly maintained. Hygiene and sanitation are often deplorable and the cost of treatment is considered high.

The Etoug-Ebe Baptist Health Centre, in Yaoundé, is equipped with good toilets, incinerators and treatment outfit for their wastes but part is deposited in the Council dustbins by the roadside.

However, perceptions of local situations differ.

According to Massila Josephine Léontine, teacher and counsellor in Douala, public hospitals like Hôpital General and Laquintinie, and private ones like Polyclinic Bonanjo and Clinic Muna are well equipped and assure high standards.

There are also many districts hospitals, private clinics, hospitals and dispensaries like Bonassama District Hospital, Deido District Hospital; Polyclinic Bonapriso, Shisong Catholic Hospital - Deido, Catholic Dispensary-Akwa, CEBEC - Confédération des Eglises Baptistes et Evangélique du Cameroun Hospital- Bonaberi, Nylon Catholic Hospital etc.

The Bonassama district hospital is not well equipped to take care of serious cases and emergencies, and equally lacks a blood bank. However, referrals are usually made to other hospitals like Laquintinie and the General Hospital, while for emergencies, the intervention unit of the Ministry of Public Health - SAMU (Service Ambulance et Medical d'Urgence) is solicited.

In Yaoundé, more complicated cases or those requiring hospitalisation are referred to big hospitals like CHU (Centre Hospitalière Universitaire - formerly known as CUSS), Central

³⁰ Interview with Mbogo Etienne, a social assistant at the Directorate for the protection and promotion of the rights of handicapped and elderly persons, Yaoundé

Hospital Yaoundé, General Hospital Yaoundé; the National Social Insurance Hospital and the Gynaeco-obstetrics hospital in Ngousso.

The Etoug Ebe Baptist Health Centre Yaoundé is only for outpatients. However, the centre possesses a well equipped Dentistry and there are experts who come from their headquarters at Mutengene in the South West Province for eye consultations.

3.3.3.1 Cost of healthcare

An at random overview of some costs :

Yaoundé

- Etoug Ebe Baptist Health Centre:

- o consultation: 0,80 Euro (CFA 500), booklet inclusive
- o eye consultation: 1,50 Euro(CFA 1.000)
- o dental consultation: 1,50 Euro(CFA 1.000 CFA)

The centre is also well equipped to take care of tuberculosis patients.

The centre is regularly supplied with drugs as well.

- Henry Dunant Health and Social Centre:

- o consultation: 1,50 Euro/month (CFA 1.000/month)

The centre takes care of certain indigent persons in partnership with associations like AFASO (Association des Femmes Solidaires) and CRAT at a minimal cost. However, as they lack specialists, they do make referrals to other hospitals as the need arises.

- Chantal Biya Foundation (Mother and Child Centre):

- o consultation: 1,50 Euro (CFA 1.000) for children
3,00 Euro (CFA 2.000) for women

- Central Hospital:

- o consultation: 2,40 Euro(CFA 1.600)
- o specialist consultation: 4,00Euro (CFA 2.600)
- o HIV/AIDS test : 0,80 Euro (CFA 500)
- o malaria combined therapy: 0,21 to 0,90 Euro (CFA 140 to CFA 600)

Doualé

- Public Hospitals:

- o normal consultation: 1,00 Euro (CFA 600)
- o specialized consultation: up to 3,00 Euro (CFA 2.000)

Cash payment is generally required prior to medical consultation.

Further payment is required for lab tests, hospitalization and the purchase of drugs.

Basic and generic drugs are available and affordable at the hospitals.

However, some doctors prescribe more expensive drugs proposed to them by pharmacy delegates on a percentage rather than the government subsidized drugs.

- Laquintinie Hospital:

- o consultation: the total fee amounts 1,80 Euro (CFA 1.100), divided as follows:
 - consultation: 1,00 Euro (CFA 600)
 - sanitary ticket : 0,15 Euro (CFA 100)
 - medical booklet: 0,50 Euro (CFA 300)

The basic minimum of standard drugs are available.

- Bonassama District Hospital³¹:
 - o consultation: the total cost is 3,20 Euro (CFA 2.100), divided as follows:
 - sanitary ticket: 0,15 Euro (CFA 100)
 - consultation/medical file/others: 3,00 Euro (CFA 2.000)

The centre is regularly supplied with standard drugs.

Government has made efforts to reduce the prices of essential drugs, including ARVs. Also some NGOs like SUNAIDS help in cases of HIV/AIDS and related diseases.

Medical treatment in public hospitals is affordable to ordinary citizens, due to the availability of essential and generic drugs which are cheaper (about 10 to 15% less). Their pharmacies however, sometimes runs short of supplies.

When public Hospitals are in low supply, patients normally have to purchase some of their drugs in more expensive privately owned pharmacies like: Pharmacie du marché -Madagascar or Deido Pharmacy, based in Douala; or Phamacie Bleue, Mandela Pharmacie or Pharmacie Mangueir; Pharmacie Soleil in Yaoundé.

According to Tamfu Hilda, Chief of Centre, Etoug-Ebe Baptist Health Centre, Yaoundé, medical care sometimes becomes expensive because of the practice of auto-medication and the consumption of unsafe drugs from hawkers who do not preserve the drugs well and who sometimes sell expired drugs.

In 2006 the monthly cost of an antiretroviral treatment was about CFA 3.000 and goes to CFA 1.000 in 2007. Treatment for HIV is free for all pregnant women as well as for children underneath 15 months old, while the costs for the 6-monthly examinations are reduced to CFA 7.000 .³²

Since the introduction of the national program against TBC, a treatment for TBC costs about CFA 5.000 .

3.3.3.2 Discrimination in the health care system

According to Massila Josephine Léontine, there exists a form of social discrimination in accessing health care delivery services. This stems from position of power and status. For example, the governor, military and family members are given preference.

However, this kind of positive discrimination is derived from status on a personal basis. There is no discrimination of certain groups in society.

In an effort to improve health care, the government - through partnership with the Centre Pasteur Cameroun (CPC, a Para public clinical/medical laboratory) - achieved price reductions for analytical/clinical tests for the following categories of patients:

- 50% for children (0-14years), hospitalised patients in public hospitals, handicaps, students (14years and above up to the 1st degree level), medical students, health personnel, and missionaries.
- 30% for civil servants, retired civil servants and prisoners.

³¹ Interview to Mr. Mpei Emmanuel, Chief of Pharmacy

³² <http://www.grioo.com/info7706.html>

3.3.3.3 Services of non-states agents in health care

Organizations who support governmental effort in health care services include:

- Médecins Sans Frontières (M.S.F.), dedicated to HIV/AIDS affected people; people suffering from buruli ulcers, and refugees;
- GTZ, German Technical Cooperation , Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Technishe Zusammenarbeit (in partnership with local NGOs as Plan Cameroon, e.a.)
P.B. 7814 Yaoundé
Tel. 237 2219457 / 2210651; fax 237 221 2689

- CARE Cameroon
B.P. 422 Yaoundé
Tel. 237 22212054; fax 237 2221 5187

Bonapriso Douala

Rose F. Tchwenko, Superviseur Regional Douala - Project Fight against HIV/AIDS

Tel. 237 77114438; fax 237 22215187

- SWAA CAMEROON (Society for Women and Aids in Africa)
B.P 3045, Douala
Dr. Bèatrice Kom Tayou (Médecin Coordonateur)
Tel./fax: 237 3423246
e mail: swaalittoral@yahoo.fr
- MSM- Maléo Social Marketing - Communication Sociale et de Santé
B.P. 2353 Douala
Joséphine L. Massila, Delegate
Tel. 37 3422452 - 9899437- 7695018; fax: 237 3437684
e-mail: jlmassila@yahoo.fr

Annex1

List of contacted people

People

- Abouga Parfait, Inspector of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour and Social Security
- Chantal Biya Foundation, Yaoundé
- Clément Ndjewel, Parish Priest Cathedral Parish Douala
- Dr. Njock Raphael, medical doctor and chief of service, Laquintinie Hospital, Douala
- Dr. Ndong Ngoe Constant, Provincial Delegation of Health, Yaoundé
- Ekobena Antoine, Department of Interior Commerce, Ministry of Commerce
- Françoise Douanla, Pharmacy, Henry Dunant Health and Social Centre, Yaoundé
- Massila Josephine Léontine, teacher and counsellor, Delegate, Maleo Social Marketing, Douala (Common Initiative Group for community health and social education)
- Mbogo Etienne, social assistant, Directorate for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Handicapped and Elderly Persons, Ministry of Social Affairs.
- Mboy Aimée Fidele, social worker, CNPS- Douala
- Mpei Emmanuel, chief of pharmacy, Bonassama - Douala
- Ndzana Armand Crépin, jurist, chief of service - Department of Land Tenure Bonanjo - Douala
- Ngaba Zogo, Cameroon Education for all Network
- Rene Evelyn, German Development Cooperation (GTZ)
- Saidou Maidadi, Secretary General, Association of Forces for Progress (political party)
- Tamfu Hilda, Nurse, Chief of Centre, Etoug-Ebe Baptist Health Centre, Yaoundé

Institutions

- Amour du Prochain (NGO), Bonanjo- Douala
- Chevron Texaco, Bali-Douala
- Department of Land Tenure, Ministère des Affaires Foncières
- Guarantee Express Agency, Akwa - Douala
- Ministry of Higher Education, Direction des Systèmes Universitaires Comparés et des Equivalences Académiques
- Mobil Fuel Station, Bonassama - Douala
- Texaco Fuel Station, Bonaberi - Douala
- University of Yaoundé

Annex B

List of abbreviations

AFASO	Association des Femmes Solidaires
AFP	Association of Forces for Progress
AZICUL	Azire Credit Union Limited
BICEC	Banque Internationale du Cameroun pour l'Épargne et de Crédit
BUCREP	Bureau Central du Recensement de la Population
CAMNAFAW	Cameroon National Association for all Women
CARE	Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere
CARITAS	Charity Organization of the Archdiocese of Yaoundé
CBC	Commercial Bank of Cameroon
C.B.C.	Cameroon Baptist Convention
CEBEC	Confédération des Eglises Baptistes et Evangélique du Cameroun
CEMAC	Communauté Economique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale (Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa)
CERAC	Cercle des Rassemblement des Amies du Cameroun de Mme. Chantal Biya
CCA	Crédit Communautaire d'Afrique
CCC	Community Credit Company
CHU	Centre Hospitalier Universitaire, Melen
CIR	Italian Refugee Council
CNPS	Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale
COI	Country of Origin Information
CPC	Centre Pasteur du Cameroun
CPDM	Cameroon people's Democratic Movement (Rassemblement Démocratique du Peuple Camerounais - RDPC)
CPDM	Cameroon People's Democratic Movement
CRAT	Centre for Rehabilitation and Abolition of Torture
CRC	Cameroon Red Cross
CRI	Country of Return Information
ESIR	Equipe Spécial d'Intervention Rapide
EU	European Union
GSO	Groupement Spécial d'Opération
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Deficiency Virus/Human Immunity-Deficiency Syndrome
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPC	Interior Professional Clean
MAETUR	Mission d'Aménagement et d'Équipement des Terrains Urbains et Ruraux
MDR	Movement for the Defence of the Republic (Mouvement pour la Défense de la République)
MINDAF	Ministère des Affaires Foncières
MINTAD	Ministère du Territoire et de Décentralisation
MSF	Médécins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NTACUL	Ntarinkon Cooperative Credit Union Limited
SAMU	Service Ambulance et Medical d'Urgence
SCI FOK	Société Camerounaise Immobilière - FOK
SCNC	Southern Cameroons National Council
SDF	Social Democratic Front
SGBC	Société Générale de Banque du Cameroun
SIC	Société Immobilière du Cameroun
SIDALERT	SIDA Alert (HIV/AIDS and TB Care Group)

SNEC	Société Nationale des Eaux du Cameroun
SUNAIDS	Association of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, Bali-Douala
SWAA	Society for Women and AIDS in Africa
UDC	Union Démocratique du Cameroun (Democratic Union of Cameroon)
UN	United Nations
UNC	Union Nationale Camerounaise
UNDP	Union Nationale pour la Démocratie et le Progrès (National Union for Democracy and Progress)
UPA	Union du Peuple Africain