



Ce projet est financé par l'Union européenne



REAL-GRNS

Renforcement de l'Engagement des Acteurs Locaux dans la Gouvernance des Ressources Naturelles dans le Septentrion Cameroun



Strengthening the involvement of local stakeholders in the governance of natural resources in northern Cameroon



Context

Northern Cameroon is the part of the country that, administratively, covers three regions: the Far North, the North, and Adamawa. The area has a wealth of geological potential and economic assets, transforming it into a precious treasure and a source of much envy. The issue of natural resources governance is emerging as a priority to make the most of this Region, manage its resources in a rational and sustainable manner, and above all to ensure inclusive development.

It is in this context that the project «Strengthening the involvement of local stakeholders in the governance of natural resources in northern Cameroon (REAL-GRNS)» is set up. The project will bring together all stakeholders and plans to work on mining, land tenure, forest resources and food security issues. This will be achieved by strengthening the technical, material and financial capacities of local CSOs, so that they can effectively lead initiatives to protect resources, ensure peaceful land management, build resilience into food systems, promote gender justice and reduce social inequalities.

The project has a very strong gender and youth dimension, which should make it possible to involve and mobilize women and young people, and give them an important place in the mechanisms and bodies for dialogue and decision-making related to natural resources management.

Why we are working on it

The Centre pour l'Environnement et le Développement (CED), Forêts et Développement Rural (FODER) and the Réseau de Lutte contre la Faim (RELUFA), after several years of intervention and collaboration in the region on issues of territorial governance, mining, conflict management and food security, are pooling their expertise and partner networks to contribute to the responsible use of available natural resources and inclusive community development.

The overall objective of the action is to «**strengthen the involvement of civil society organizations in good governance and inclusive development in the Northern regions, with the North and Adamawa regions being of priority**».

Specifically, this will involve.

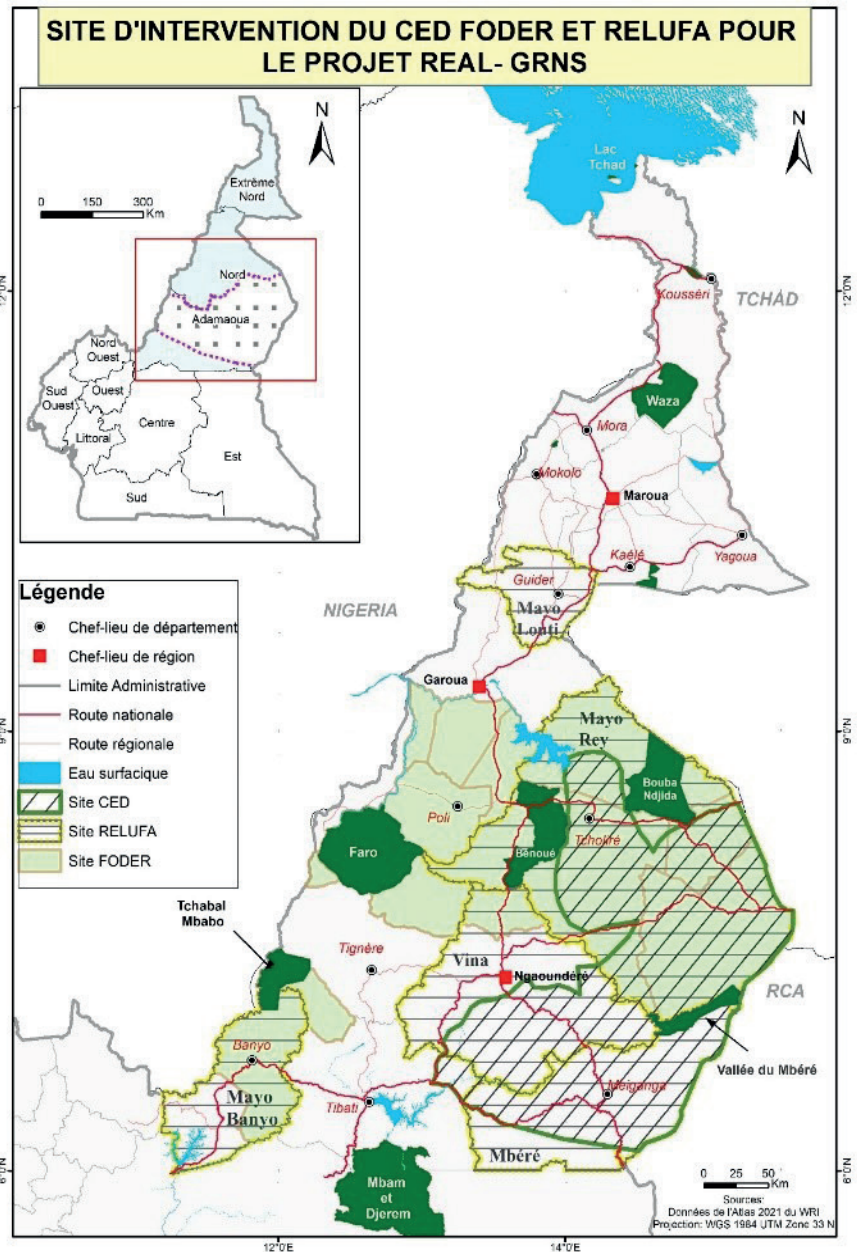
- Improve civil society's expertise in natural resource management and local stakeholders' and communities' understanding of natural resource management issues.
- Increase the effective participation of local civil society organizations in the governance of natural resources and support initiatives to preserve the environment and sustainable farming practices.

Area of intervention

Actions will be carried out in the Far North, North, and Adamawa regions, with a priority action zone straddling the North and Adamawa regions.

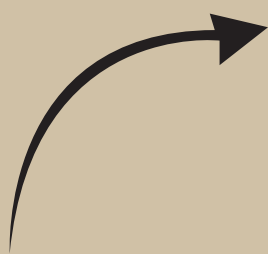
Targets

- Local CSOs, CSO networks, and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), with special attention on women’s and youth organizations.
- The National Government (main advocacy target).
- Local and regional authorities: traditional and religious authorities, local representatives of ministries.
- The local and national media (newspapers, radio, electronic media, and television), who will need to familiarise themselves with the project’s activities and achievements.



Expected results

Actions should have the following effects:



- 1** Increased understanding of issues related to territorial governance, natural resources, food systems and gender equality
- 2** Increased organisational and technical capacity of local CSOs and networks to address issues of natural resources governance, gender equality and food security.
- 3** The development and deployment of tools and platforms for commitment/ interaction between local CSOs, the media and local authorities for better monitoring of land and natural resources governance.
- 4** The implementation of initiatives led by trained CSOs supporting the preservation and sustainable management of natural resources for local development, food security, climate change resilience, and lobbying/ advocacy initiatives.

Activities

- Studies on land tenure, mining and food security to shed light on the situation, governance problems, conflicts and resolution mechanisms. These studies will lead to concrete recommendations to improve local governance of natural resources.
- Mapping of CSOs, strengthening their internal capacities and their networks, so they adopt good internal practices in communication, project design, community accompaniment, independent observation, advocacy and gender justice.
- Building the capacity of community leaders as trainers in natural resources management issues.
- Setting up platforms/tools for engagement/interaction between local CSOs, the media, and local authorities for better monitoring of the governance of land and natural resources.
- Providing around fifteen grants for CSOs to implement various initiatives in the mining, land, forestry and food (agropastoral) sectors promoting inclusive governance of natural resources.
- Collecting and disseminating information, producing and sharing natural resource management tools/approaches.
- Supporting multi-stakeholders dialogue at local and regional level.

Who are we?

THE CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

CED is an independent organization working for the promotion of environmental justice and the protection of the rights, interests, culture, and aspirations of local and indigenous communities in Central Africa. CED is an independent organization working to promote environmental justice and protect the rights, interests, culture and aspirations of local and indigenous communities in Central Africa. As a land issues specialist, CED will coordinate the REAL-GRNS project and carry out actions linked to land issues.

FORÊTS ET DÉVELOPPEMENT RURAL

FODER is a non-profit environmental organization with an international vocation, whose actions are focused on governance, sustainable management of natural resources, the rights of local and indigenous communities, biodiversity and climate. FODER has wide experience of mining issues and has the technical lead on mining activities as part of this project.

NETWORK FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

RELUFA's objective has been to combat the systemic problems that generate poverty, hunger, and social, economic, and environmental injustice in Cameroon. The organisation has significant experience in the field of food and trade justice, and will be the technical lead on food security and food system resilience issues for the REAL-GRNS project.

PROJECT DURATION: 36 MONTHS

FINANCED BY: THE EUROPEAN UNION