

WORKSHOP TO MOBILISE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND NETWORKS TO STRENGTHEN THE ELABORATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS IN CAMEROON

Final statement

At a time when different Countries from around the world are meeting at the COP26 in Glasgow, in a bid to find solutions to the climate change phenomenon that is affecting the entire planet earth, Green Development Advocates (GDA), from 04th to 05th November 2021 at the Felydac Hotel in Yaoundé mobilised some Cameroonian civil society organisations and networks from the human rights, forestry and environment sectors, namely: AAFEBEN, AJESH, ASE, ASTRADHE, CEFAID, CERAD, FLAG, FODER, FORUDEF, JVE, RADD, RADER, RECTRAD, REPAR, SAILD, WOAC, YPD. This workshop aimed at advocating for the strengthening of the elaboration and implementation of actions to fight against climate change in Cameroon. During these two days, the discussions were focused on: generalities of climate change; past negotiations on climate change; Cameroon's commitments towards climate change; analyses on the first and second NDCs, and practices which influence climate change in Cameroon.

During the two days deliberations, the organisations and networks present observed that:

1. The updated NDC was done in a hurry;
2. There is inconsistency between the development policies and the climate policies;
3. There is weak involvement of stakeholders (CSOs, IPLCs, women, youth, media, people with disabilities,...) in the elaboration and implementation of decisions, policies and projects linked to combat climate change;
4. The increased greenhouse gas emissions are due to changes in forest land use to conversion of forests to agro-industries and infrastructural projects, etc;
5. There is inadequate preparation of the Cameroonian delegation to COP-26;
6. There is weak involvement of the civil society in COPs and climate negotiations;
7. There is an insufficient consideration of climate change issues in the realisation of the environmental and social impact studies;
8. There is a poor implementation of climate change commitments on adaptation and mitigation (REDD+, AFR100, CDN, etc).

In view of the above, we recommend

❖ TO THE GOVERNMENT

- Update the new NDC by involving all key stakeholders (CSOs, IPLCs ...);
- Harmonise development policies with climate change policies, especially the National Development Strategy (NDS);
- Fully integrate the climate change issues in the mechanism for carrying out environmental impact studies;
- Ensure inclusive involvement of key parties in the preparation and participation in COPs and other climate-related negotiations;

- Strengthen consultations with civil societies and indigenous peoples and local communities in the development and implementation of climate policies;
- Strengthen government involvement in the search for green funds;
- Integrate climate change into the existing forestry law currently under review.

❖ **TO THE CIVIL SOCIETY, THEY SHOULD;**

- Influence policies at national and regional level to integrate climate change;
- Strengthen its representation in climate negotiations;
- Define an action plan in the fight against climate change;
- Revive climate change civil society platforms;
- Sensitise communities, parliamentarians and TDCs on climate change.

❖ **TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

- Fulfil the financial commitments of Annex 1 countries;
- Increase the funding envelope for adaptation.

Done in Yaounde, on 05th November 2021

The participants

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