

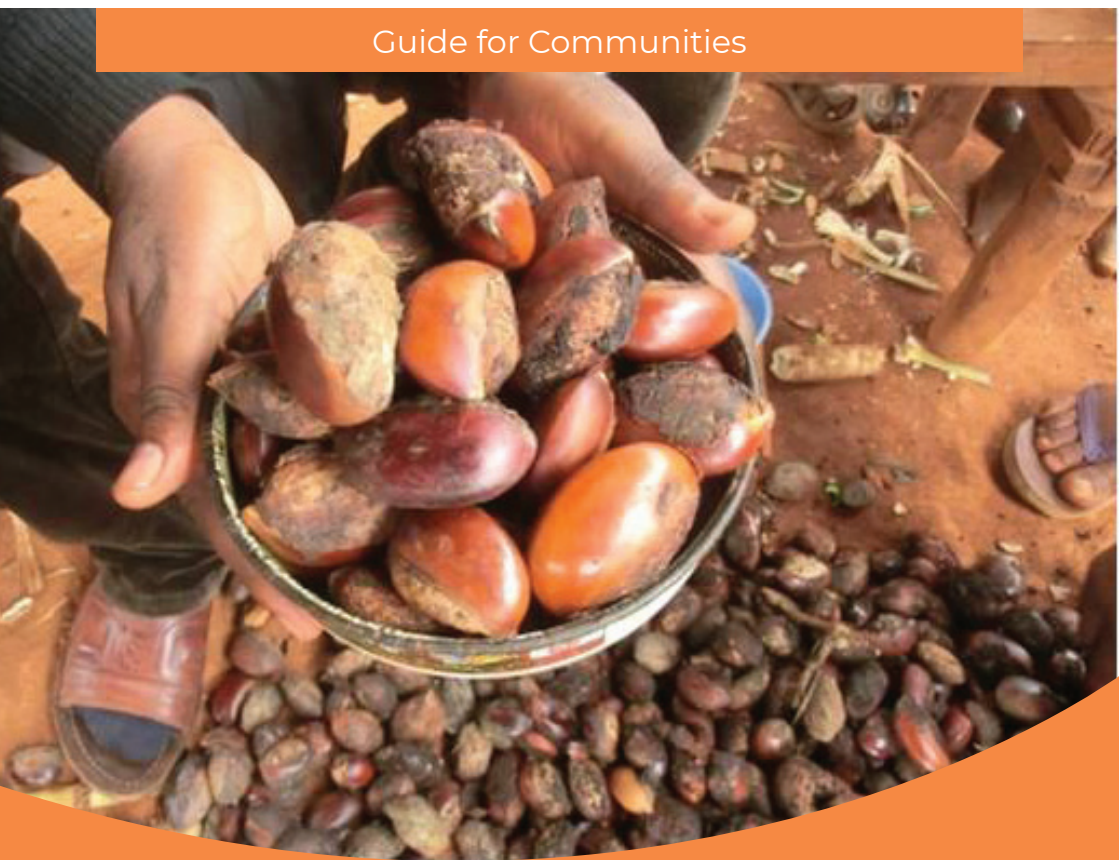


**Green  
Development  
Advocates**

*For a Green Congo Basin*

# **Collection and Transportation Modalities of Secondary and Planted NTFPs**

Guide for Communities



August 2021

## Introduction

Central Africa is home to the second largest forest on the planet, after the Amazonia. This forest area abounds in a great diversity of natural resources, including non-timber forest products (NTFPs), which figure prominently due to the multiplicity and abundance of species present and are of considerable importance in most developing countries, particularly in Cameroon, both in urban and rural areas.

From a socio-cultural point of view, they are essential for communities in the sense that they are part of the population's diet and contribute to the enhancement of food security. They are used in pharmacopoeia, and are as well raw materials for handicrafts and construction materials for housing. At environmental level, the harnessing of NTFPs contributes to the conservation of biodiversity and plant cover, which is useful for climate change mitigation and soil protection. Economically, NTFPs are an important source of wealth for the local, and even national economy. Their marketing is flourishing and helps to supplement household income in rural areas.

Thus, numerous government initiatives and those of Cameroon's partners have been undertaken to better supervise and boost the NTFP sector. At the legal and institutional levels, new decisions have been adopted, namely Decisions n 0209/D/MINFOF/CAB, n 0210/D/MINFOF/CAB of 26 April 2019 and Decision n 0034/D/MINFOF/CAB of 5 February 2020, on the classification of Special Forest Products and Non-Timber Forest Products, on the modalities for the collection and release of Secondary Non-Timber Forest Products and on the modalities for the release of Non-Timber Forest Products from plantations, respectively. Reading these decisions, it is clear that progress has been made that will undoubtedly facilitate the development of the NTFP sector in Cameroon. However, it is important that local and indigenous communities which are on the front line of the NTFP sector be informed of the progress made with regard to secondary NTFPs and planted NTFPs. It is in this context that this guide was produced.

## Definitions and clarifications

### Q : What are NTFPs?

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A : NTFPs are any non-timber plant products other than timber, from forests, wooded areas or trees outside the forest.

These forest products can be natural, i.e., grown on their own, or planted by humans (planted NTFPs).

### Q : What are the laws governing NTFPs in Cameroon?

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A : The State of Cameroon, in order to regulate this sector of activity, has issued a certain number of decisions adapted to the exploitation of NTFPs, including:

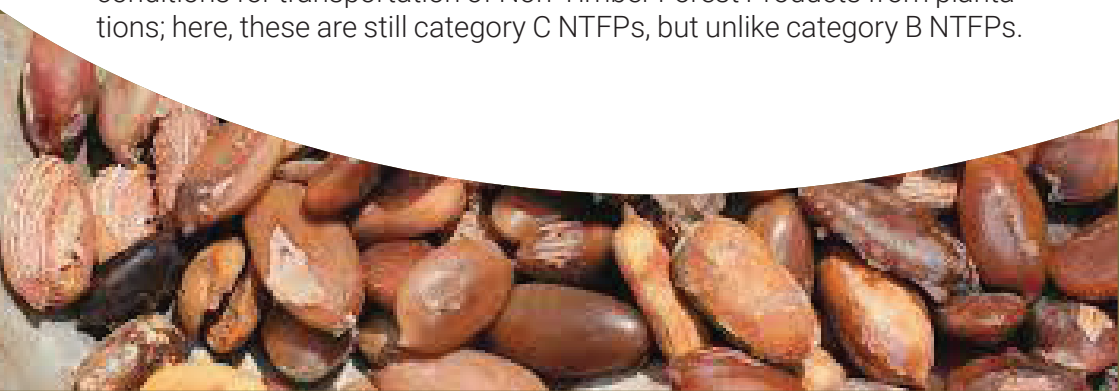
Law n°94/01 of 20 January 1994 to lay down forestry, wildlife and fisheries regulations; this law regulates all forest activities and products;

Decree No.95/531/Pm of 23 August 1995 Laying Down the Procedure for Implementing the Forests System ;

Decision n°0209/D/MINFOF/CAB of 26 April 2019, on the classification of special forest products and non-timber forest products; this decision identifies and categorizes NTFPs according to criteria such as their economic value, their socio-cultural importance and the ecological sustainability of the species;

Decision No. 0210/D/MINFOF/CAB of 26 April 2019, MINFOF lays down modalities for the collection and circulation of secondary Non-Timber Forest Products; these are the species identified in the above decision and which belong only to category C;

Decision No. 0034/D/MINFOF/CAB of 05 February 2020, laying down conditions for transportation of Non-Timber Forest Products from plantations; here, these are still category C NTFPs, but unlike category B NTFPs.



# Q : What are the NTFP Species and in what Class Are they Found?

A : Decision n°0209/D/MINFOF/CAB of 26 April 2019 on the classification of special forest products and non-timber forest products, distributes NTFPs in three categories as listed in the table below:

Category	Commercial Name	Part of the plant used
A	Pygeum	Bark
	Ebony	Timber
	Vohimbe	Bark
	Funtumia	Timber
	Voacanga	Fruit
B	Eru/Okok	Leaves
	Rattan	Stem
	Candle stick	Stem
	Tooth stick	Stem
	Acacia gum	Exsudate
	Green wood charcoal	Timber
	Natural wood poles	Stem
	Firewood	Timber
	Ndo'o/wild mango	Fruit
	Marantaceae leaves	Leaves
	Moabi	Fruit and bark
	Allanblanckia	Grain, leaves, bark

c	Esekeseke/Apkwa/Four sides	Fruit
	Mbalaka	Grain
	Date palm	Fruit
	Ezezung/Njangsang	Grain
	Bitter Kola	Grain
	Pepper	Grain
	Olom	Bark and grain
	Bush onion/slice	Bark and grain
	Mbongo	Fruit
	Ekuk	Bark
	Black fruits/Aiele	Fruit
	Haselnut	Fruit
	Nding/Ozek/Dengo	Grain
	Bamboo	Stem
	Wild vanilla	Fruit
	Rauvolfia	Fruit
	Ziziphus	Grain
	Essock	Bark
	Shea	Grain
	Raphia	Beans, stem, fruit, nervure
	Ginseng	Root
	Palm trees	Fruit
	All other NTFPs	Bark, leaves, fruit, exsudate





## Collection and Release of Secondary/Class C NTFPs

### Q : Who can collect secondary NTFPs?

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A : Any natural or legal person of Cameroonian nationality. Here, the law refers to local communities, indigenous peoples, Common Initiative Groups (CIGs), Associations, etc. which have direct or indirect access to the resource (NTFP). In order to circulate (cross forestry checkpoints) with NTFPs, whether they are secondary or planted, the person in charge must present documents that justify the circulation of the said product.

### Q : What documents do I need to collect Category C NTFPs?

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A : To collect NTFPs, you need an operating permit issued by the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife. The application file is made up of:

- A stamped application addressed to the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife describing, on the one hand, the surnames, first names, and place of residence for individuals and, on the other hand, the company name, the by-laws, the head office, and the name of the manager for legal entities;
- A fact sheet issued by the Divisional Delegate of the desired collection location specifying the species to be collected, the quantities of products, the places and methods of collection;
- A certificate of non-royalty, if applicable, i.e. if you are asked for;
- A receipt of declaration of association or a certificate of registration in the register of cooperatives, if you are a legal person;
- A certified copy of the national identity card for individuals;
- An activity report from the previous year, following a form provided by the forestry administration, if applicable, i.e. if the company was already active.



### Q : What is the duration of the collection permit?

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A : The duration of a collection permit is 1 year based on the fiscal year. This means, for example, that if you acquired your certificate in October, your certificate will be invalid on 1st January of the following year and you will not be able to circulate with your products. Therefore, you must apply for another collection authorization.

### Q : Who can move with Class C secondary NTFPs?

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A : To cross forestry checkpoints with NTFPs, the owner must present a «secure waybill» to the MINFOF controller. The waybill allows travelling with Class C NTFPs.

### Q : How do I get a consignment note?

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A : To obtain a consignment note for the transportation of class C NTFPs, you need:

- A stamped application addressed to the Director of Forest Products Promotion and Processing;

- A copy of the collection authorization;

- The receipts of payment of the regeneration tax. The amount to be paid is fixed by the regulation in force on the basis of the quantities of products to be transported.





## Ownership and Movement of Planted NTFPs

**Q : How can it be evidenced that one cultivated NTFPs?**

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A : To prove that you have planted NTFPs in your farm, you must send a stamped application to the Head of the Forestry and Hunting Checkpoint with territorial jurisdiction so that they can visit your NTFP plantation and draw up a plantation report.

**Q : What elements should the Head of the Forestry Checkpoint mention in the report?**

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A : The report signed by the Head of the Forestry and Wildlife Checkpoint must include:

- a- The name of the individual or company owning the NTFP farm;
- b- The NTFP species planted for trade;
- c- Quantities/number of plants;
- d- Area covered by NTFPs;
- e- The location of the farm (Region, Division, Sub-division, Village, Neighborhood);
- f- The geographical coordinates of the plantation area;
- g- The date and signature of the Head of the Forestry and Hunting Checkpoint.



### Q : What is the purpose of the report?

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A : On the basis of the report signed by the Head of the Checkpoint, the Divisional Delegate issues the NTFP promoter with an agroforester's booklet. This booklet makes it possible to follow the promoter's production, to attest that the products (NTFPs) come from the promoter's plantation and to serve as a basis for requesting a consignment note.

### Q : How do I get a consignment note for planted NTFPs?

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A : In order to circulate with NTFPs from the plantation, the promoter must send a stamped request to the Director of Forest Products Promotion and Processing for the issuance of the consignment note, which must include, among other things, the order number of the agroforester's booklet and the reference code of the plantation.





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Green Development Advocates (GDA) is a Cameroonian civil society organization, created in 2009 and legalized on the 30th June 2011. It works spans from development that respects social and environmental requirements. Its mission is to contribute to the sustainable development of African tropical forests while respecting the culture, rights, interests and needs of African peoples. A particular attention is paid to situation of indigenous forest peoples also known as “pygmies”.

