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DE FORMATION DOCTORALE  
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UNITE DE RECHERCHE ET DE  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE I  
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POST GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR  
SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL  
SCIENCES  
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DOCTORAL RESEARCH UNIT  
FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES  
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**THE IMPLICATIONS AND STAKES OF THE  
“WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” BETWEEN CHINA  
AND CAMEROON AT THE LEVEL OF  
INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT:  
*THE CASE OF THE CENTRE REGION.***

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## **DEDICATION**

To MNKONG SHINGWA family

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## SUMMARY

<b>ABSTRACT.....</b>	<b>xvi</b>
<b>RESUME .....</b>	<b>xvii</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: LITERATURE REVIEW .....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>CHAPTER TWO: CHINA’S INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN CAMEROON .....</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>CHAPTER THREE: CO-CONSTRUCTION OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” BETWEEN CHINA AND CAMEROON.....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” IN COPRODUCTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES.....</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL STAKES OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” AT THE LEVEL OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT.....</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>GENERAL CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>311</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>349</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS .....</b>	<b>412</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 01: Sample and Data Collection Methods .....	19
Table 02: The Presentation of the Interviewees.....	22
Table 03: Population Administered Questionnaire to, in Different Localities in Yaoundé.....	24
Table 04: Focus Group Discussion Cordinated in Study Area.....	25
Table 05: Trends in Infrastructure Finance in Africa .....	81
Table 06: Sectors of Projects Funded by Chinese in Africa .....	82
Table 07: The Commercial and Technical Accords Signed Between Cameroon and China .....	115
Table 08: The Medical Accords Signed Between Cameroon and China.....	119
Table 09: The Outing of the President to Lay the Foundation Stone or for Inauguration of the Structure after Completion .....	123
Table 10: The Structure of Initial Investments Per Category .....	126
Table 11: Financial Transactions between China and Cameroon .....	130
Table 12: Cameroonian Leaders and Officials that have Visited China.....	141
Table 13: Chinese Leaders and Officials that have Visited Cameroon .....	144
Table 14: Chinese Ambassadors to Cameroon .....	147
Table 15: Ongoing and Realised Projects by Chinese Construction Enterprises in Yaoundé/Cameroon.....	148
Table 16: Information on Land Occupants, Land Owners and Land Titles .....	157
Table 17: Compensation Unit Price for Housing, community buildings and fruit trees in Cameroon.....	165
Table 18 : Table 18: Those Employed and Family Members Recruited from the Localities for the Realization of Infrastructures by Chinese.....	171
Table 19: Characteristics of the Population of Yaoundé as of the Official Population Census of 2005.....	173
Table 20: Those Indirectly Implicated in the Execution of the Projects Realized by the Chinese .....	178
Table 21: Benefits of the Inhabitants as a Result of the Realization of Projects in Their Localities .....	183
Table 22: Inhabitants with the Consideration on how useful are the Structures Put in Place by the Chinese in their Localities .....	186
Table 23: The Civil Servants with the Consideration on How Useful are the Structures Constructed by the Chinese .....	189
Table 24: Inhabitants that Have Incurred Loss as a Result of the Realization of Projects ....	196
Table 25: Functions Manifestations Seen as a Result of Chinese Projects .....	207
Table 26: Classification of the Questions in the Questionnaire to Chinese.....	215
Table 27: Cohabitation of Chinese Involved in Infrastructure Development in Cameroon.....	220

Table 28: Educational and Professional Qualifications of Chinese Involved in Infrastructural Development in Cameroon .....	234
Table 29: Professional Categories and Positions of Responsibility of Chinese in Projects Sites .....	237
Table 30: Materials Used in Chinese Projects in Yaoundé.....	241
Table 31: Chinese Gaining or Losing in Chinese Projects in Yaoundé.....	244
Table 32: Chinese willing or not willing to stay after Chinese projects in Yaoundé are over.....	248
Table 33: Chinese Willing to Leave for Other Countries When the Projects are over....	251
Table 34: Other Chinese Will or Will Not Come to Take over When the Projects are over.....	252
Table 35: The Chinese on whether China is Gaining or Not as They Carry out Projects in Cameroon .....	255
Table 36: The Chinese on whether China is losing or Not as They Carry out Projects of Construction in Cameroon.....	257
Table 37: Destruction of Economic Facilities with the Coming of the Structures Put in Place by the Chinese .....	266
Table 38: Destruction of families' economic structures for the Putting in Place of the Structures under the Control of Chinese .....	269
Table 39: Traditional Religious Aspects Destroyed as a Result of Chinese Projects.....	298

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 01: Presentation of Non-Participant Observation .....	27
Figure 02: The Chart of Data Collection and Analysis Methods .....	32
Figure 03: Thesis Configuration .....	46
Figure 04: Presentation of the Literature Review .....	64
Figure 05: The Presentation of the Chinese Foreign Policy .....	91
Figure 06: African Policies in the China-Africa Relations .....	101
Figure 07: Interaction from the Signing of Accords to the Realisation of Infrastructure between China and Cameroon.....	113
Figure 08: The Rate of Signing of Accords on Commercial and Technical Domain between China and Cameroon.....	116
Figure 09: Functional Interaction between Cameroon and China in the Medical Sector	120
Figure 10: The Number of Financial Dealings between China and Cameroon per Year from 2007-2018 .....	132
Figure 11: The Types of Financial Dealings between China and Cameroon .....	133
Figure 12: The ‘Web-like Official Visits by China and Cameroon to the Both Countries .....	136
Figure 13: Percentages of Number of Visits of Cameroonian officials to China per Decade.....	142
Figure 14: A Range of Five (5) Years of Number of Visits of Chinese Officials to Cameroon.....	146
Figure 15: Percentages of the Distribution of Infrastructures Constructed Over Towns and Regions of Cameroon.....	151
Figure 16: The Increasing Involvement of Chinese Firms in the Construction Sector in Cameroon over the Years .....	152
Figure 17: Percentages (%) of Those Who Own the Lands and Those Who Do Not .....	158
Figure 18: Percentages (%) of Those Who Own Land Titles and Those Who Do Not Have.....	160
Figure 19: Percentages (%) Rates of Unemployment in Cameroon from 2010 to 2020 .....	174
Figure 20: Percentages (%) of Living Situation in Chinese Camps of Informants that Answered the Questionnaire to Chinese.....	220

Figure 21: Triangular Social Structure and the Phenomena of International and Transnational Solidarity .....	232
Figure 22: Positions occupied and Categories of Chinese Workers in Projects Sites in Yaoundé .....	235
Figure 23: Percentages (%) of Different Posts of Responsibilities Occupied by Chinese ....	238
Figure 24: Percentages (%) of the Sources of Materials Used in Chinese Projects Sites in Yaoundé .....	242
Figure 25: Percentages (%) of the Chinese Not Willing to Stay When the Projects are completed .....	250
Figure 26: Other Chinese Will or Will Not Come to Take over When the Projects are over .....	253
Figure 27: Percentages of the Chinese on China Gaining as they carry out Projects in Cameroon .....	255
Figure 28: Projection of the Percentages of Chinese Who are for the Fact That China is losing or Not as They Carry out Projects in Cameroon .....	257
Figure 29: Contextualisation of the Stakes of the “ <i>Win-Win Relationship</i> ” at the Level of Infrastructural Development.....	262
Figure 30: Instability at the Socio-Economic Domain at the Level of Individuals, Families and Entire Community.....	264
Figure 31: Percentages of Business Units Destroyed During Construction Works by the Chinese.....	267
Figure 32: Percentages on Families Economic Structures Destroyed During Construction Works by the Chinese .....	272
Figure 33: Diversity of the Socio-Anthropological Stakes .....	286
Figure 34: Percentages of Cultural Aspects Affected with Construction Works by Chinese	288
Figure 35: Human Resource for Health Population Ratio in Cameroon .....	294
Figure 36: Percentages on Religious Aspects Affected with the Presence of Chinese .....	299



## LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: The Map of Cameroon.....	53
Map 2: The Administrative Map of Centre Region.....	54
Map 3: The Population Density Map of the People’s Republic of China .....	59

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Magnificent Structures Constructed by the Chinese in Cameroon .....	109
Plate 2: Property Destroyed for New Infrastructures to be put in Place by the Chinese.	169
Plate 3: New Transportation Infrastructure Put in Place by the Chinese in Yaoundé .....	208
Plate 4: Housing Infrastructures Put by the Chinese in Yaoundé .....	210
Plate 5: Chinese Camps in Yaoundé.....	219
Plate 6 : Symbolic Structures Constructed by CSYIC.....	226
Plate 7: Photos of Farming Facilities Partially Destroyed for Construction Works to Take Place in Localities in Yaoundé .....	274
Plate 8: Sign Boards and Instruments all Written in Chinese Language .....	289
Plate 9: Photos of Chinese and Cameroonian Camps .....	295
Plate 10: Photos of Practices During Burial of Loved Ones in Yaoundé .....	304

## LIST OF PHOTOS

Photo 1a: Ministerial building n° 1 .....	108
Photo 1b: The Sport Complex in Warda.....	108
Photo 2a: Part of cocoa plantation destroyed at Nachtigal .....	168
Photo 2b: Part of buildings destroyed at Mvog-Betsi.....	168
Photo 3: The Selling and Buying of Food during Break .....	180
Photo 4: Sport Complex in Warda .....	209
Photo 5a: Ministerial building n° 1 .....	210
Photo 5b: Conference center (Palais de Congrès) in Yaoundé.....	210
Photo 6a: Chinese Camp at Ahala .....	219
Photo 6b: Chinese camp at Mkometou II .....	219
Photo 7a: Conference Centre (Palais de Congrès) in Yaoundé .....	226
Photo 7b: Symbolic sculpture of friendship between CSYIC and Yaounde Municipality .....	226
Photo 8: Programme for the Installation of Satellite by the Chinese.....	228
Photo 9: Deserted once upon hot spot at Nachtigal .....	268
Photo 10a and b: Part of cocoa plantation destroyed at Obala for pipe borne water .....	274
Photo 11a: picture of the entrance into the construction carried out by the Chinese behind the Ministry of Justice .....	289
Picture 11b: Road sign board at Ahala. ....	289
Photo 12a: Outside view of Cameroonian camps.....	295
Photo 12b: Inside view of the Cameroonian camps .....	295
Photo 13: Displacement of Tombs from Project Site .....	301
Photo 14a: Mourners going to view corpse.....	303
Photo 14b: Food items contributed by mourners .....	303

## LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Questionnaire to the inhabitants where chinese carry out projects.....	349
Appendix 2: Questionnaire to the chinese carrying out construction work in cameroon	353
Appendix 3: Questionnaire to cameroonians civil servants.....	356
Appendix 4: Photos of structures constructed by chinese in yaoundé.....	359
Appendix 5: Cahier des clauses techniques particulieres (cctp) pour les travaux de rehabilitation de voirie.....	363

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AD	After the Death of Christ
ARMP	Agence de Régulation des Marchés Publiques
BC	Before Christ
CCCC	China Communications Construction Company Ltd
CCP	Chinese Communist Party
CCPM-SPI	Commission Central De Passation des Marchés des Services et des Prestations Intellectuelles
CCTP	Cahier des Clauses techniques Particulières
CFHEC	China First Highway Engineering Cooperation Limited
CFHEC-CO	China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd Cameroon Office
CHEC	China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd
CMEC	China Machinery Engineering Corporation
CNPS	Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale
CNU	Cameroon National Union
CPDM	Cameron People’s Democratic Movement
CRTV	Cameroon Radio and Television
CSYIC	China National Society of International Economic and Technical Cooperation of Shenyang
CV	Curriculum Vitae
CWE	China International Water and Electricity Corporation
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EU	European Union
ENS	Ecole Normale Supérieure
FDI	Foreign Direct Investments
FSLC	First School Leaving Certificate
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
INS	Institut National de la Statistique
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NCSCS	Nigeria-Cameroon Submarine Cable System
NPC	National People’s Congress
PB HEV	Paul Biya – Higher Education Vision

PRC	People's Republic of China
PTU	Programme Thermique d'Urgence
RPAO	Règlement Particulier de l'Appel d'Offres
TCM	Traditional Chinese Medicine
TTC	Teachers Training College
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNO	United Nations Organisation
UNSC	United Nation Security Council
USA	United States of America
USD	United States Dollars
WTO	World Trade Organization

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

APSA	Africa Peace and Security Architecture
CAMTEL	Cameroon Telecommunications
CAR	Central African Republic
CATAC	Centre d'Application des Technologies Agricoles Cameroun
CEMAC	Central African Economics and Monetary Community
CEP	Certificat d'Etude Primaire
Covid 19	Coronavirus Disease of 2019
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
EMIA	Ecole Militaire Interarmées
ENAM	Ecole Nationale d'Administration et de la Magistrature
ENSET	Ecole Normale Supérieure de l'Enseignement Technique
Equinox TV	Equinox Television
Exim bank	China Export and Import Bank of China
FCFA	Franc des Colonies Françaises d'Afrique
FOCAC	Forum on China-Africa Cooperation
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ICA	Infrastructure Consortium for Africa
IKO	Shaanxi State Farm
MINDCAF	Ministère des Domaines du Cadastre et des Affaires Foncières
MINHDU	Ministère de l'Habitat et de Développement Urbain
MINTP	Ministère des Travaux Publics
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTN Cameroon	Mobile Telephony Network Cameroon,
N°	Number
ROC	Republic of China
SAIL	South Atlantic Inter Link
Sinomach	China National Machinery Industry
SMEs Bank	Small and Medium Enterprise Bank
TIEC	International Body of Shaanxi Construction Engineering Group Corporation

## ABSTRACT

This research entitled *The Implications and Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” Between China and Cameroon at the Level of Infrastructural Development: The Case of the Centre Region*, intended to identify and show the level of the implication of the inhabitants and Chinese, from conception, realization and after the realization of construction works by Chinese companies, their contributions as well as the stakes in the realization of infrastructures. Our ambition is aimed at showing that the infrastructural development of Cameroon, especially under the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China, came with some innovations and stakes that cannot be underestimated.

In order to attain the objectives of this study, certain techniques were used to collect and analyze data. The data were collected in Yaoundé through observation, questionnaire administration, interviews, focus group discussions, photo snapping, the internet, mass media and library sources. Thanks to the survey design method, information from localities of projects sites, and offices were collected.

Findings are presented in tables and figures embracing bar charts, histograms and pie charts. Research findings revealed that Cameroon government officials are highly involved at the conception stage of projects. This is through visiting and signing of different forms of accords and carrying out necessary negotiations with China before the execution of the projects. The inhabitants of the localities where these projects are carried out are not highly involved at the conception stage of the projects. During the execution and after the execution of the projects, the inhabitants are not properly and knowledgeably implicated as they are faced with many stakes both socio-economical and anthropological in the communities with the construction of these structures within their localities. Their level of winning statistically turns around an average both from conception, realization and after the realization of projects by the Chinese. On the other hand, Chinese officials, their construction companies and labour for the execution of the projects are highly implicated from conception, execution and after execution of the projects. From the signing of accords by the Chinese officials, to the provision of facilitating documents by the Cameroon government for the Chinese construction companies for projects bidding, and the signing of contracts with the Chinese labour, prepares the Chinese before they take-off for the execution of the projects. During the execution, the Chinese are highly valorised with financially profitable posts of responsibilities. This makes them have a very high level of winning from the “win-win relationship” statistically turning around excellent. With the execution of the projects, they also create room for maintenance and repair works. They intend to continue after the execution of the projects – creating an atmosphere of continuity. Factually, implication and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is a matter not to be lightly handled. Most importantly being a win-win type of relationship, Cameroon should put more effort to bring a balance on her side between their partnering with China in this domain.

**Key words:** Cameroon, China, Win-win relationship, Infrastructural development



## RESUME

Cette recherche intitulée *Les Implications et Enjeux de la « Relation Gagnant-Gagnant » entre la Chine et le Cameroun au Niveau du Développement des Infrastructures : le Cas de la Région du Centre*, vise à identifier et montrer le niveau d'implication des habitants et des Chinois ; leurs implications dès la conception, la réalisation et l'après réalisation des travaux de construction par les entreprises chinoises, et les apports ainsi que les enjeux de la réalisation des infrastructures. Notre ambition vise à montrer que le développement des infrastructures du Cameroun, notamment dans le cadre de la « relation gagnant-gagnant » entre le Cameroun et la Chine, est venu avec des innovations et des enjeux qui ne peuvent être sous-estimés.

Afin d'atteindre les objectifs de cette étude, certaines techniques ont été utilisées pour recueillir et analyser les données. Celles-ci ont été collectées à Yaoundé par le biais d'observation directe, d'administration de questionnaires, d'entretiens, de discussions de groupe, de captures de photo, d'internet, de bibliothèque. Grâce à la méthode de conception de l'enquête, les informations des localités des sites des projets et des bureaux ont été collectées auprès des ministères. Les résultats sont présentés dans des tableaux et des figures comprenant des graphiques à barre, des histogrammes et des camemberts.

Les résultats de la recherche ont révélé que les responsables du gouvernement camerounais sont fortement impliqués au stade de la conception des projets. Cela passe par la visite et la signature de différentes formes d'accords et la conduite des négociations nécessaires avec la Chine avant l'exécution des projets. Par contre, les habitants des localités où sont réalisés ces projets ne sont pas fortement impliqués au stade de la conception des projets. Lors de l'exécution et après l'exécution des projets, les habitants ne sont pas réellement impliqués et en connaissance de cause car ils sont confrontés à de nombreux enjeux tant socio-économiques qu'anthropologiques dans les communautés après la construction de ces ouvrages au sein de leurs localités. Leur niveau de gain de la « relation gagnant-gagnant » tourne statistiquement autour d'une moyenne à la fois depuis la conception, la réalisation et l'après-réalisation des projets par les Chinois. D'autre part, les responsables Chinois, leurs entreprises de construction et la main-d'œuvre pour l'exécution des projets sont fortement impliqués dès la conception, l'exécution, et l'après exécution des projets. De la signature d'accords par les responsables Chinois, à la fourniture de documents de facilitation par le gouvernement camerounais pour les entreprises de construction Chinoises pour les appels d'offres de projets, et la signature de contrats avec la main-d'œuvre chinoise, préparent les Chinois avant le démarrage de l'exécution des projets. Lors de l'exécution des projets, les Chinois sont plus valorisés avec des postes de responsabilités financièrement rentables. Cela leur confère un niveau de gain élevé grâce à la « relation gagnant-gagnant » qui s'avère statistiquement excellente. Pendant l'exécution des projets, ils créent également de l'espace pour les travaux d'entretien et de réparation. Ils ont ainsi l'intention de continuer après l'exécution des projets, en créant une atmosphère de continuité. De ce fait, l'implication et les enjeux de la « relation gagnant-gagnant » au niveau du développement des infrastructures ne sont pas à prendre à la légère. Plus, important encore, étant une relation de type gagnant-gagnant, le Cameroun devrait faire plus d'efforts pour apporter un équilibre de son côté entre leur partenariat avec la Chine dans ce domaine.

**Mots clé :** Cameroun, Chine, Relation gagnant-gagnant, Développement des infrastructures

# INTRODUCTION

## 0.1 Justification of the Choice of Topic

According to *Africa infrastructure knowledge program*, Cameroon spends around USD nine hundred and thirty million (930,000,000) per year on infrastructural development. Irrespective of such huge spending and commitment, the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon still remains comparatively low, given the country's ranking in terms of access to basic infrastructure. In terms of infrastructure access and quality, Cameroon occupied the 88<sup>th</sup>, 94<sup>th</sup>, and 93<sup>rd</sup> position in 1991, 2000, and 2005 respectively out of 104 countries as of the result of (Africa infrastructure knowledge program of 2011). This is confirmed nowadays by the general poor state of regional and local infrastructural facilities as we see in the Cameroonian villages and cities. In fact, there is a general problem of poor road infrastructure, frequent power cuts, housing shortage as well as portable water supply scarcity in homes especially in the Cameroon cities particularly in Yaoundé, Douala and Bamenda just to name a few. We also have insufficient sporting infrastructures in regional headquarters. Cameroon does not have international standard stadiums in all her ten (10) regions, despite her reputation as a sporting nation. The country has international stars such as Albert Roger MILLER, Samuel ETO'O FILS and Francoise MBANGO ETONE who have raised the Cameroon flag in many international sporting events. The issue of insufficient infrastructures is evident as Cameroon struggled to put in place additional structures, to meet up with the demands of the hosting rights of the African Nations Cup in 2019, that ended up not reaching the target. However, Cameroon hosted the 2021 competition session in February 2022. Being the host of African Nations Cup 2021 after serious fireworks on sporting infrastructures, the state still lags behind, especially with the political aspiration of Cameroon to be an emerging country by 2035 forging ahead. To this move, there is the influx of a multitude of nationalists from friendly countries all over the world especially the Chinese to carryout infrastructural projects in Cameroon. This influx of nationalists of friendly countries into Cameroon is in response to the UNO declaration of 1<sup>st</sup> May 1974. This declaration of 1<sup>st</sup> May 1974 is on the installation of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation between all states. To buttress this fact, Dumont and Mottin, (1980:4), illustrate that this new international economic order for the states is independent of their social and economic systems for "*Africa made up of Africans*" (my translation) [L'afrique faite d'Africains]. This will correct the inequality and rectify the actual injustice, permitting the

eradication of increasing differences between the developed and the developing or least industrialized nations and assuring the peace and justice of the future generations.

Nevertheless, out of all these considerations of Cameroon and the international declaration, it is urgent to respond to the fundamental question of why this present research. The present study brings out her legitimacy and its profound inspiration out of the following principal facts.

My experience during the Master's level field work in the Chinese work sites permitted me to come in contact with both the workers as well as the communities where these projects are realised. Both the workers and the members of the communities who are the supposed beneficiaries complain and feel frustrated in one way or the other. Although my research was to find out the workers' relationship, on closer examination, the problem appears to concern the distribution of power throughout the length and breadth and on every level of the realisation of the infrastructures both on workers and on the members of the communities where these projects are being put in place. From all indications as Latouche, (1986:1), would write on the cover page of his book, "*Can you refuse development?*" (My translation). There is the problem of particular functional relationship between the Chinese and the communities where these projects are realised. The power weightings and benefits are not equally distributed. Even at this level, the problem does not merely concern how the income available for sharing amongst the groups occupying various positions is actually divided between them. The distribution of these economic chances is itself a function of the greater balance of power. So, it is indispensable to carry out a research of this kind to bring to light the implementation as well as the implications and the stakes of the "win-win relationship" at the level of infrastructural development on the communities involved.

With the construction of these infrastructures, the phenomenon of co-ownership which is a fast-growing form of acquisition of landed property has been intensified by the government. In order to support and regulate the construction of high-rise buildings in our cities, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul Biya, enacted *law N° 2010/22 of 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010* relating to co-ownership of buildings. According to the *Ministry of Housing and Urban Development*, (2017:1), this law was followed by its implementation instruments. All these instruments are still not well known or properly mastered by many. Co-ownership is a community life experience which can be a source of conflict and trouble if people do not comply with the rules and regulations governing it. In effect, it is important to carry out this

study to have important facts about co-ownership in Cameroon and how Cameroonians adhere to this.

It will not be inexact to think that in the Cameroon context, researchers in the social and human sciences have not really invested intellectually in this domain of infrastructural development especially under the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. There is a partial-inexistence (for the fact that researchers have invested on the area of Chinese relation with Cameroon, but not in details on infrastructural development) of a scientific study carried out on the contributions of the infrastructural development on the community. So, our intention is to carry out a research on this domain to bring out the implications and the stakes involved the win-win relationship. This will add to the power bank of information and research on infrastructural development and especially on the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon.

African states after independence had a profound desire for education and health care as well as industrialization. Neo-colonialism became the order of the day as the former colonial masters had an upper hand in the construction of public infrastructures through their loans, aids and technology. In fact, Africa has not gone far with this strategy of neo-colonialism that researchers like Dumont, (1973:1), just wrote on the fact that Africa has gone the wrong way. Now China is actively involved with her strategy of “win-win relationship” with soft power policy which is based on reduction of interest rate on loans, no interference on the internal affairs of the friendly nations, aid funds given to Africans and the coming along with their own know-how to Africa in general and Cameroon in particular. Can this Chinese strategy really bring about the development of Cameroon or is this another form of neo-colonialism? Can we reason in line with the English language proverb that stipulates that “help lock up those who accept this golden chain in the increasing bruit cycle of dependence?” This is to say, this is a type of development that depends on the proper exploitation of itself by other countries for their own interest in the name of “helping a friend develop”.

Without being exhaustive, my experience during the Master’s level field work in the Chinese work sites, co-ownership in the area of housing which has recently been introduced in Cameroon context, clashing misinterpretation of the “win-win relationship” of what is China benefiting as well as Cameroon in the relationship, and little scientific studies on the contributions of the infrastructural development as a result of the “win-win” are the origin of the elaboration of the subject of the present research. So, the present research is envisaged to

be a source of knowledge sharing to communities where public structures are being erected, policy makers, and development planners. In order to better have an understanding of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon; it is indispensable to have a brief analysis of the context of the study which will link us to the problem and the statement of the problem of this research work.

## **0.2 Context of the Study**

With the wind of globalisation and development blowing throughout the globe, especially in the least industrialised countries, many African states have been making policies to see how they can come out of the state of poverty to catch up with the rest of the world. The putting in place of these policies have created relations between nations and continents of the world. For instance, according to Magdy, (2015:43), to the President of China His Excellency Xi JINPING, Chinese and Africans will remain good friends, partners, and brothers forever.

Developed and emerging countries of the world have reached the level of improving their internal investment and industrial policies just to look for the outside world for business tendencies in order to liquidate their products and services. How can the calling of external investors instead of improving the internal investors (as always, the case) lead to a new method of emerging or becoming developed? We can depict that this is another new form of “*self-neo-colonialism*” by calling outsiders to come and control our economy in the name of calling external investors to invest in our country and continent in general. Cameroon is one of the countries in Central Africa that has been involved in the wooing of other states to invest in the country. The main aim of inviting other countries especially industrialized countries to Cameroon is to improve and boast the infrastructural development of the country that can then amplify the development of other areas. This calling of other partners has been done through the invitation and presentation of opportunities as well as signing of cooperation ties with friendly countries. One out of many of these cooperation ties is that with the People’s Republic of China. This relationship between Cameroon and China as well as China and other African countries has been given a baptismal name “win-win relationship”. Atebas Eyene, (2012), wrote on the support of China to the Emergence of Cameroon to the Horizon by 2035. He talked of the development cooperation, its success and worries.

To begin with, the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China has led to the involvement of Cameroonians and Chinese in the realisation of so many infrastructures. With

these infrastructures put in place, China projects the picture of being one of the best investors in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular. According to *Africa-China Economic Relations-Wikipedia*, (2006), the total Sino-African trade volume stood at USD 55 billion making her the second largest trading partner of Africa after the United States of America, which had trade worth USD 91 billion with African nations. After this second position in 2006, since 2008 China remains Africa's largest trading partner. This perception of economic reality of China, assumed being the largest investor, is such that many infrastructures in Africa (specifically in Cameroon) which have to do with cooperation ties, she is involved in one way or the other. If China is not directly involved in the carrying out of the project, she is indirectly involved by supplying one material or the other for the execution of the project. In other areas, she subcontracts even contracts that are given to other countries like in the case of the construction of the second bridge over the River Wouri that the contract was awarded to French nationals.

The realisation of these structures is aimed at putting Cameroon towards the achievement of goal nine (09) of the sustainable development goals geared towards improving infrastructures. This is by building resilient infrastructures, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and fostering innovations in the world by 2030. The realisation of huge and numerous projects is also to facilitate Cameroon's political aspiration of emerging by 2035. But, with all these, the "win-win relationship" has not been a bed of roses. Labourers as well as the populations of the communities where these projects are realised and who are the supposed beneficiaries are always complaining of one thing or the other. To this effect, it is necessary to carry out a sociological study to scrutinize, assess and take stock on this topic to better have an understanding of what is really the "win-win relationship" between China and Cameroon specifically at the level of infrastructural development (as China is engaged in several domains of activities in Cameroon and elsewhere). This elucidates our research problem seen in the next paragraphs.

### **0.3 Problem**

Infrastructural development which is the construction and improvement of foundational services with the goal of sparking economic growth and improvement in quality of life, offers man an image of the level of civilization, modernization, urbanization, industrialization as well as general development of a given place or country. In other words, the development of a particular place is analysed essentially based on the available infrastructures. In most cases we are confused when it comes to infrastructure and development. As pined by Nga Ndong,

(2003), infrastructure on its own is not development. In fact, infrastructure is one of the vectors of development. Insufficient infrastructure is an impediment to general development as well as Africa's development in general and Cameroon in particular. Infrastructure is not only an impediment; it is also the major constraint on poverty reduction and economic growth in Africa and Cameroon in particular. According to *Africa Infrastructure Knowledge Program*, Infrastructure is also very vital to Cameroon as it is one of the essential tools for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). This development goal has been transformed and recorded in the number nine (09) of the Sustainable Development Goals, which is industry, innovation, and infrastructure. Build resilient infrastructures; promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. Through interaction at the level of Infrastructural development can functionally bring about;

- 1) Direct revenue to the locality; indemnification at the time of construction of the infrastructure, rents, selling of the infrastructure as in the case of co-ownership of buildings.
- 2) Creation of employment to the locality; local labour, technicians and professionals.
- 3) Well-being of the population; the availability of the infrastructure which can better up the living standard of the population.

Due to the strategic place infrastructure occupies in individuals, community's and state's life, the instruments organizing the Government and those creating various state institutions were put in place. The Ministry of Public Contracts, Ministry of Public Works, as well as the Ministry of Habitat and Urban Development of Cameroon and many others are in charge of the elaboration and putting in place of the political projects of the government in the area of housing and urban development.

To enhance the construction of these infrastructures, the ministries give out contracts to both nationals and non-nationals. This culminates to the signing of "win-win relationship" between Cameroon and China. This suggests why when one moves from the villages to the metropolitan cities of Cameroon, it is common to come across various public projects involving both the Chinese and Cameroonian workers.

The infrastructural dynamics deployed by the People's Republic of China in Cameroon for decades now stands out as an intangible heritage in the building landscape in all major cities of our country. There is no doubt that Chinese investments in Cameroon have, in a more or less

long time given another face to Cameroon whether at the level of basic infrastructures as well as at the level of structuring infrastructures.

This intervention by China in Cameroon's infrastructural sector attests to the quality of diplomatic relations between the two countries, but also to the relative ease with which China is building its partnership under the "win-win relationship" label. Taking an illustrative support on the model of the economic cooperation between Western countries and Africans and more precisely between these countries and Africa, China has used the gaps and the conditionalities that these westerners imposed on African countries to develop a new type of partnership stripped of prejudices and preconceived ideas linked to the questions of human rights and democracy.

This Sino-Cameroon cooperation qualified as "win-win relationship" does not however, go without raising forth some questions. We can mention, among other things, the respect of the prescriptions of the national code of work, the national collective convention (a document put in place by workers' representatives, enterprises and the government as an agreement to regulate the working conditions of workers) as well as the international code of work. Also, many individuals and communities involved in one way or the other are faced with challenges. Either those employed by Chinese to work with them or, the communities where these structures are put in place agitate in one way or the other. Not to be limited only to problems encountered by workers and other parties when it comes to "win-win relationship", we are going beyond the clash to the questioning of the implications in terms of the functions, difficulties, the limitations and innovations. We are also interested in the dysfunctions and stakes involved in the relationship between the Chinese and the Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development in Chinese projects in Yaoundé. That is, the implications of both the Cameroonians and the Chinese from conception, realisation and after the realisation of the infrastructures as a consequence of the "win-win relationship" between China and Cameroon.

Our interest here is to investigate the relationship between China and Cameroon which is projected as "win-win relationship", but individuals and families working with the Chinese as well as the communities where these projects are put in place are complaining, striking and revolting. Over the years, infrastructures put in place by Chinese are still under their management and maintenance. Cameroon is accruing debts from China investing in Cameroon especially at the area of infrastructural development, just as with other partners in infrastructural development of international relations with the country. Basically, on this



financial aspect, it concerns globally loans and gifts given to the state by China through their financial institutions like Bank of China, China construction bank and Exim Bank of China. These loans are unfortunately, capital mobilisation directed or tilted to the advantage of the donor who does not only harvest the interest (though very low but will take a long time and accumulate huge sums at the end of the payment of the loan), but also the principal. Projects are carried out and managed as well as maintenance carried out by Chinese in Cameroon under conditions like for a particular period of duration; just like conditions given by other western powers to invest in Cameroon. China ships raw materials from Cameroon to China without any little transformation done in the country. This is similar to other industrialised countries in partnership with Cameroon. How can Cameroon develop when her raw materials are destined for industries in Asia and Europe as well as Cameroon seen, as a market for finished goods from the outside world? In fact, can we say that the train of things have not changed as in the era of colonisation, where the colonial masters were looking for territories that could provide them raw materials and markets for their finished goods and services? China floods Cameroon local markets with finished goods as well as construction materials for the realization of infrastructures, just like any other western country. Chinese carrying out projects in Cameroon, bring in equipment, engineers, technicians and even labour. In view of the shortcomings observed here and there in the application of the rules and regulations imposed by these framework instrument, it seems more relevant than ever to question and problematize the concept of this “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon.

From this question arises not only the intervention of the mode of the procedures that China imposes in the execution of bilateral projects between the two (02) countries, but also the interpretation that the Cameroon legislation makes of this cooperation somewhat borrowed from much suspect of irregularities or non-compliance with the Cameroon labour code. In order to do this, it is necessary for us then to question the policy of double standards in the redistribution of economic added value and the benefits that Cameroon derives from this “win-win relationship”.

Without being exhaustive, the elements presented in the paragraphs above, constitutes the back bone of the elaboration of the subject of the present research entitled “*The Implications and Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” Between China and Cameroon at the Level of Infrastructural Development: The Case of the Centre Region*”.

#### 0.4 Statement of the Problem

Today, we are in a world where events in one country or nation dramatically affect those in other nations, and where powerful nations compete with one another for influence. Relationships between the powerful and the weak nations is a call for concern. Sociologists have as duty to study individuals and societies as well as go as far as studying relationships between nations. These relations affect individuals and societies of these nations. In fact, the case of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon as Stroobants, (1993:15), puts it, is a fact that is not only external to individuals but is capable with endowed coercive power, by virtue of which it imposes itself on individuals independent of their individual will. This fact is full of implications or involvements both at the individual, societal, national as well as the international levels. These implications or involvements have come along with stakes that need to be examined to see how the “win-win relationship” really is, as its name entails. The relation begins with the signing of cooperation ties which triggers the chain of actions studied by sociologists.

The signing of these cooperation ties has influenced the influx of Chinese into Africa and Cameroon in particular within the last decade. We have not only witnessed the influx of people alone, but also the influx of money, businesses of all sizes and kinds. The advent of the Chinese has also led to investment as well as the putting to motion the Chinese technology and know-how in Cameroon, especially at the level of infrastructural development. Anver, (2014:3), opines that *“Between 2000 and 2010, China is estimated to have pumped around USD 260 billion into Africa”*. Very large chunk of this amount of money has gone into developing and upgrading Africa’s infrastructure. This has contributed to the Chinese involvement in construction or carrying out of so many projects such as roads, bridges, ports, airports, schools, power stations, stadiums, government buildings, hospitals and fuel pipelines just to outline but a few in Cameroon.

This infrastructural development accomplished by China and Cameroon is under the umbrella of the cooperation ties with the baptismal name “win-win relationship”. This relationship has prompted some heads of states according to Nga Ndongo, (1987:137), to make strategic statements about the relationship between China and Africa in general and Cameroon in particular. As already said, according to Magdy, (2015:43), to the President of China His Excellency Xi JINPING, Chinese and Africans will remain good friends, partners, and brothers forever. According to Xi JINPING;

*“Sincerity, friendship, equality, win-win cooperation and common development are the essential principles of friendly cooperation between China and Africa, constituting the driving force for the flourishing of their relations. China would continue to uphold the guidelines of its African policy-sincerity, real results affinity and good faith and a balanced approach to principles and interests”.*

To the head of state of China, “win-win relationship” is a new type of international relations centred on mutually beneficial cooperation. All these aims to deliver more benefits to both Chinese and African people.

To effectuate the benefits, in the following years, several visible and symbolic infrastructure projects were launched and achieved in Cameroon. This including the construction of:

- 1) The Lagdo Dam in the North Region completed in 1984 by CWE,
- 2) An outstanding primary school in Guider in the Far North completed in May 2009 by CSYIC,
- 3) The Memve’ele under “the PTU Programme put in place in 2009” in the South Region,
- 4) The Kribi Deep Sea Port by the CHEC in the South Region,
- 5) The Lom Panga Dam in the East Region,
- 6) The construction of the Bafoussam stadium in the West Region,
- 7) The Limbe Stadium in the South West Region,
- 8) The Gyneco-Obstetric and Paediatric Hospital of Douala in the Littoral Region,
- 9) The Conference Centre (Palais des Congrès) in Yaoundé in the Centre Region inaugurated in 1985,
- 10) The rehabilitation of the “Ministerial Building N° 1” at the Central Town commonly known by Cameroonians as “Immeuble de la Mort, in the Centre Region,
- 11) The Sport Complex in Warda in the Centre Region which was completed in December 2008, and then inaugurated in May 2009,
- 12) The construction of the Mfoundi Water Channel in the Centre Region,
- 13) The Gyneco-Obstetric and Paediatric Hospital of Yaoundé in the Centre Region and,
- 14) Construction of one thousand five hundred (1500) Low-Cost Social Housing units at Olembe in the Centre Region.

These projects are of great importance in the present study because they are to serve as part of our case studies. Our main focus will be the infrastructures constructed by the Chinese as well as the current and ongoing projects that involve the Chinese and the Cameroonians in

Yaoundé. Such projects include all the infrastructures mentioned above in Yaoundé and the construction of the Public Works Ministry building by Sino hydro Group Ltd currently going on at Mballa II, water project to improve on water supply in the city of Yaoundé currently going on at River Sanaga at Nachtigal, construction of the Nsimalen -Yaoundé auto road and the construction of the Yaoundé – Douala double carriage high way by CFHEC just to name a few.

All these endeavours and initiatives go a long way to boost the infrastructural development of Cameroon and her attainment of emerging economy by 2035, one of the primordial ambitions of the government under His Excellency President Paul Biya's regime. According to the document, *40eme Anniversaire des Relations Sino-Camerounaises (1971-2011:5)*, His Excellency President Jintao HU opines, "*China understands and supports the efforts employed by Cameroon to become an emerging country, and we will continue to help reinforce her capacity of auto-development and sustainable development*". The efforts put in place by Cameroon according to Ella Ella et al, (2021:33), is to bring about auto-development and sustainable development driven by political slogans such as "*grandes ambitions (2004-2011)*", "*grandes realisations*" (2011-2018) and "*grandes opportunités*" (since 2018). It is not all about the endeavours and initiatives to boost the infrastructural development of Cameroon, but on the other side, it is also, according to Roddrigue, (2008:37), "*the securing of a permanent source of raw material, space for the settlement of the over populated citizens of China*" and market for finished goods to and fro China respectively.

Concerning the "win-win relationship", activities envisaged are some sort of give and take type of cooperation, where the Cameroon government and the government of the People's Republic of China sign accords on projects to be realised which, it is perfectly done. In fact, structures are being erected, roads are being constructed and modern sport complexes put in place. Cameroonians, especially of working age, expect lucrative employment opportunities but, as Nga Ateba, (2012:17), asserted, "*Gaining an employment with a Chinese enterprise makes no difference as working with a local enterprise that are barely surviving*". It is even very difficult to work with the Chinese than working with the local enterprise meanwhile the wages are almost the same. The communities and the inhabitants around the infrastructures feel neglected, not sufficiently involved in the planning, execution and management of the infrastructure. Their properties as well as pieces of land are confiscated for the construction of these projects and in turn, little or nothing at all is offered as indemnities in respect of *law 1972 and revised 1996*. When the indemnities are even given, they end in the hands of the 'big fishes'

and the common man is left with little or nothing to count on. Some of their well cherished and well protected heritages like the tombs of their loved ones who departed before some of the generations were born in the families are also demolished for no compensation despite documents that prescript how these burial places should be compensated for.

Not only are these tombs destroyed at the environmental level, the forest (the base for social activities as hunting, palm wine tapping and harvesting of medicinal plants) and some sacred areas are also done away with as well as raw materials like cocoa, and wood from the equatorial rain forest are exploited and shipped to China with little or no transformation. There is deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Cotton from the north through Yaoundé to Douala is also carried to China at its raw state. Most of them are brought back as housing equipment, chocolate products and ceiling boards just to name a few from China being transformed by their industries for construction of infrastructures by the very exploiters. This empowers the industrialization of China. Industrialization which is concerned with the transformation of the economy from one based primarily on the extraction of raw materials and farm produce, to one based primarily upon manufacturing. In fact, Lee. and Newby, (1983:113), asserted that it was the cotton industry that epitomized factory system in Britain. With this factory system comes, the changes in the technology of production and changes in the social relationships which surround the organization of production. To Balandier, (1970:74), the mode of production of material life conditions the social, political and intellectual life process in general. With the change of economic foundation, the entire immense superstructure is more or less rapidly transformed. This is rapidly promoted by industrialism. Industrialism which deals with the putting in place of factories and firms is different from capitalism (which is first and foremost a system of economic production for a market organized around the principle of profit), although the two (02) are often merged together just as could be said of urbanism, since there are plenty of examples of cities in the pre-industrial world. However, the growth of cities obviously is accelerated by industrialism that aids the spread according to Ziegler, (2005:63), of the spirit of capitalism. In China these raw materials from Cameroon and other African countries boost the functioning and the industrial productivity of China. With this industrial productivity, employment opportunities are created to millions of Chinese in China. As such, Cameroon and African countries that supply these raw materials miss the opportunity to transform them to increase an atmosphere of industrialization and create more jobs. The building of roads, houses, bridges, hospitals, schools, power stations, stadiums and sport complexes is very good and important but the planting of industries, factories and firms is

indispensable and inevitable by Cameroon for her emergence by 2035 and unfortunately this is not or happening at a very low rate.

Out of what is indispensable, the construction of the infrastructures needs enough space. For this to take place marshy lands considered by Cameroonians to be inaccessible have been well drained and wonderful structures put in place, thanks to Chinese technology and know-how. Yet, in some areas agricultural land of the indigenes, are used up for the construction of these infrastructures. This brings about low availability of land for agriculture, thereby frustrating the daily life routine of the local populations. Those depending on these pieces of land for livelihood go jobless or are forced to device other means of survival, which are not easy to come by or take a long period of time to happen. These infrastructures provide jobs just for a short period of time especially during the construction phase. When this phase is over, many become jobless. Other community members lose their houses to give way for the infrastructures construction to be put in place. Their houses are demolished and indemnities promised, but when the time for payment comes most of the funds are misappropriated, especially by the administrations and the beneficiaries suffer the consequences. This misappropriation of funds leads to strikes and public manifestations by the inhabitants to show their dissatisfaction where these projects of infrastructure are being put in place.

Culturally, as Leyoesdore, (2003:3), puts it, “*in terms of artefacts and nonmaterial culture such as language, ideas, beliefs, rules, skills, family pattern and work practices*”, much is done in the field. In the cause of constructing these infrastructures, cultural grounds like shrines which mostly are in the forests, beside stones, large trees and water bodies and tombs that have been preserved for long are destroyed for modern structures like roads to go through, stadiums, hospitals, schools and other forms of buildings to be constructed. Languages and feeding habits as well as dressing styles are taking new shapes. When people living in an area do not share a common language, the provision of basic services can become quite complicated. If you have visited a community and have been unable to speak their language, you realize how important the use of language is in daily life. Communication is one of the aspects that is indispensable in this study. Bios, (1999:24), asserts that usually, the lasswellian model of unilateral communication is a paradigm, a paradigm where the question-programme of Lasswell to be recalled is summarised in five (05) questions including among others: who says what? Through which canal? To who? Cameroon is a country with about two hundred and eighty (280) local languages. Yaoundé being the political capital of Cameroon as well as other cosmopolitan towns harbour Cameroonians from all parts of the country with their different

languages. Ela, (1983:56), quipped “*it is difficult to go through a street in these cosmopolitan towns without being interrupted by someone from your own village or ethnic group*”. On the other hand, communication between the Chinese is not easy as we think. Many people, especially Cameroonians think that China has only one language. This is not true. There are many Chinese dialects. According to Lin and Chan, (2020), “*Although many Chinese dialects exist, the written language is a common form of communication*”. It is necessary to have knowledge on how Cameroonians receive and interact with the Chinese. The Chinese who come to Cameroon are not of the same race with Cameroonians. In this case, we are dealing with two (02) fundamental races; the Negro and Mongoloid with different official languages and dialects. Here we begin to pose worries about how these different groups create their social links especially as some Chinese who come to work in Cameroon, neither speak nor understand English and French which are the official languages of Cameroon. Rocher, (1968:23), quoting Piaget, (1965), said that “*the relationship between the subject and the object material modifies each other*”. In order to find facts about the problem raised, the following questions are to be answered in the course of our analysis. Are Cameroonians benefiting from Chinese technology? Are the Chinese as well as Cameroonians open to each other? How does this interaction between the Chinese and the Cameroonians boost the development of Cameroon? The issue here is to have an understanding how culture, be it artefacts or non-material culture between the two (02) states under the “win-win relationship” are operating at the level of infrastructural development.

At the financial level, money for the funding of the projects is gotten principally from loans and grants. Cameroon owes China, which are valued at a little more than 5.5 trillion FCFA since 2007. According to the *Horizon Newspaper*, (09/ 04/ 2018:6), China has written off three (03) trillion FCFA of Cameroon’s debts. With this gesture, China is seen as and has become the country’s major fund provider, with key donors being the government, Exim Bank of China, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China as well as the Bank of China. These funds are approved as loans and grants. The provision of these loans and grants are provided based on certain debts terms which Cameroon has for most of the times failed to fulfil in the past, and this has led to China tightened financing access conditions. When the funds are gotten, they are distributed at different levels and for different purposes. China provides the greater amount of the funds for the realization of the infrastructures constructed by the Chinese. Chinese do not only fund the construction of infrastructures they also get the greater share of the funds as she is in charge of the employment of workers for the construction of the structures. She is in

charge of the realization of projects through the use of her contractors who are those who actually do the work. The labour and materials needed for the construction come from China. That is to say, what the local population gets is limited and relegated to the cheap labour awards provided by the local community and the infrastructure itself. This infrastructure is not completely handed to the community as the government has to finish paying the loan that was taken for that project. Some agreements on the payment of some of these loans have to be based on the usage or exploitation of the land or extraction of raw materials for a given number of years. For instance, the agreement of the possibility of the usage of the ten thousand (10,000) hectares of land sold to the Chinese company for ninety-nine (99) years, quipped Charles (2009), Even when the loan is paid the Chinese are still found in control of the infrastructures to ensure proper maintenance as in the case of The Conference Centre (Palais des Congrès) in Yaoundé inaugurated in 1985.

After observing and identifying these series of short comings, the objective of this piece of work is to carry out a sociological diagnosis on the implications and stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. Here our focus is to have an understanding why the relation is called “win-win” and what Cameroon and China are gaining as a result of this relationship under the following research questions and hypotheses.

## **0.5 Research Questions**

The research questions here are sub divided into two (2) categories. The categories are the main or principal research question which according to Beaud, (2006:58), asserted “*the principal research question has to be crucial, essential in relation to the topic chosen*” and three (3) specific or secondary research questions.

### **0.5.1 Main Research Question**

How is the state of the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular?



### **0.5.2 Specific Research Questions**

- 1) How is the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of local population at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular?
- 2) How is the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of Chinese in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular?
- 3) What are the stakes in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development?

## **0.6 Research Hypotheses**

A research definitely starts with formulation of hypothesis. It is a supposition or proposed explanation made on the bases of limited evidence as a starting point for further investigation. Hypothesis helps as a guide to research. Quivy and Campenhoudt, (1995:52), assert, “*That a research work cannot be considered a veritable work without it structured around many hypotheses*”. Hypothesis acts like a map through the research study which tells the researcher which factors are important to study and how they might be studied. So, in order to respond to the research questions above, four (04) research hypotheses were formulated. These hypotheses are; the main hypothesis (that takes care of the mean research question) and three (03) specific research hypotheses that are formulated based on the specific research questions previously presented.

### **0.6.1 Main Hypothesis**

The implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development in the country in general and Yaoundé in particular is faced with short comings that need adjustments from both parties for the cooperation to reflect its appellation.

### **0.6.2 Specific Research Hypotheses**

- 1) The implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development does not fully implicate or involve the lives of local population in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular. The local population feel neglected and not sufficiently involved in the planning, execution and management of the infrastructure.

2) Chinese are highly implicated at all levels in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development from the conception realization and management of the infrastructures.

3) The stakes in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development range from environmental, financial, socio-economic, socio-cultural to socio-technological and industrial domains.

## **0.7 Objectives of the Study**

To carry out social science research according to Sill, (1968:97), “*is to leave a horizon of attending in terms of objectives*”. This implies the stakes or urgency that form the interest of the study. The present study is made up of a principal objective and three (03) other secondary objectives.

### **0.7.1 The Principal Objective**

The objective of this thesis is to question, problematize, interpret and analyze the stakes of the cooperation between China and Cameroon on both the micro-economics as well as the macro-economics and the political dimensions. It is to unveil the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon and particularly in the city of Yaoundé. That is, to identify the different ways the infrastructures realized or that are in the process of realisation by Chinese and Cameroonians are involving or implicating and contributing as well as the stakes involved in the lives of Chinese and Cameroonians especially the inhabitants where these structures are put in place.

### **0.7.2 The Secondary Objectives**

We want to identify and show the level of the implication of the inhabitants where Chinese carry out construction works and the contribution of the infrastructures put in place as the result of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China especially at the level of the conception, realisation and after the projects have been accomplished.

Our ambition is aimed at showing that the infrastructural development of Cameroon especially under the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China, came with some innovations as well as stakes that cannot be underestimated.

We will like to revisit the conditions that were surrounding the communities before the putting in place of these infrastructures in a bid to propose the contributions of the structures on the various communities.

## 0.8 Scientific Interest of the Study

On the plan of knowledge, the phenomenon of “win-win relationship” in the area of infrastructural development constitutes a challenge, for it puts in place the theory of motivation in social psychology which seems to have deepened mobile principle of the attitudes and behaviours of human groups in the area of social change and especially in the area of infrastructural development. The preoccupation of this study is to show the perspective of the implications of the parties involved, areas at stake and amelioration on the conditions of live in relation to the contributions of the presence of the infrastructures put in place as a result of Cameroon and China “win-win relationship”.

With the installation of Chinese in the construction of infrastructures in Cameroon, there has been a clash between the rules and regulations guiding working relations and the effectuation of the work. There are issues of poor working conditions, low payment of workers as well and disagreements from one angle to the other. At times this leads to the stoppage of work. Nevertheless, our interest in this “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is to go beyond the conditions of work to the involvement and the stakes from conception, realisation and after the realisation of the structures as well as the contributions of the realized and on-going construction works to the lives of the individuals and the communities where these infrastructures have been realized. Here it is critical to carry out this research to analyse the “win-win relationship” in the area of implications of the parties and the stakes involved in this relationship especially to Cameroon; seeing that this relation is between a guru of the world economy (China) and a state (Cameroon) still striving to catch up with her economy to be among the emerging economy countries of the world by 2035. With the scientific interest in place, it is of great necessity to have knowledge on methodology put in place to carry out this research work.

## 0.9 Methodology

According Barbier, (1985:412), *“the methodology of a research work involves the structure of the spirit, the form of the research and the technic used to put in practice the spirit and the form”*. Methodology is all a process comprised of the tools of data collection, the methods, and the approaches the researcher applies to collect, interpret and analyse data from the field. Furthermore, Benjafield, (1994:203), opines that *“a research work is worth the name only when data collection and analysis are done following well established models”*. The methodology adopted by this research meticulously answers questions on the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. For this study, methods and tools that stem from the field of empirical social research were used to

collect qualitative and quantitative primary and secondary data. This section discusses the research design that has to do with the method of data collection, analysis, and interpretation of research findings.

Methodology here is a mixed research method that has been divided into two (02) principal parts. The first part is dealing with the the data collection and analysis methods which makes up the research design and the second part addresses theoretical framework that presents the theories applied in this research work. This data collection is from a sample made up of over four hundred (400) respondents as presented in the following paragraphs.

### 0.9.1 Population and Sampling

The population of Yaoundé as earlier presented in this write up is two million seven hundred and sixty-five thousand six hundred (2,765,600) according to 2005 national population census projections. With this huge population, we adopted the purposive non probability sampling in collecting data. The target population includes the Chinese in Yaoundé, specifically those into infrastructural development, Cameroon administrators in the Ministry of Public Contracts, Ministry of Public Works and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, civil servants working in the infrastructures constructed by the Chinese, Cameroonians working with the Chinese and the population living in the areas where these infrastructures have been put in place or are still under construction. From this population we brought out the sample size of this research work as table one (01) paints the picture of our sample in correlation with the data collection methods applied in this study to collect data.

**Table 01: Sample and Data Collection Methods**

N°	Data collection techniques	Personality	Cameroonians			Chinese		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	Direct interview	Civil servants /Adm.	06	04	<b>10</b>	07	/	<b>07</b>
		Inhabitants/contractors/Workers	28	10	<b>38</b>	/	/	/
2	Questionnaire	Civil servants /Adm.	09	06	<b>15</b>	/	/	/
		Inhabitants	136	79	<b>215</b>	/	/	/
		Workers				80	13	<b>93</b>
3	Focus group	Inhabitants /workers	16	06	<b>22</b>	/	/	/
4	Documentary research	Libraries, Ministries, internet						
<b>Total interviewed per country</b>					<b>300</b>			<b>100</b>
<b>Total number of informants</b>							<b>400</b>	

Source: Mnkong, (July 2018)

From table one (01) our sample is segmented as follows; one hundred (100) Chinese specifically those involved in construction works, two hundred and seventy-six (275) inhabitants and contractors living in the working areas and twenty-five (25) administrators and civil servants working in the constructed infrastructures. The analysis for table one (01), is well elaborated under the following data collection techniques.

### **0.9.2 Data Collection Techniques**

Data collection was done under two (02) principal sources which are the primary and the secondary sources. These sources go along with and are identified by the methods and techniques used for the collection of data.

#### **0.9.2.1 Primary Sources of Data Collection**

The primary method of information collection on the subject under study was on first hand data collected from the inhabitants where Chinese carry out projects. Workers in the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Public Contracts and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development also provided necessary information. Cameroonians working with Chinese as well as the Chinese working in the domain of infrastructural construction were important informants that furnished us with vital information on this topic. Reconnaissance surveys were carried out in these project sites and the given ministries. This included visits to the field to get original information. These visits were undertaken to ascertain the place of infrastructures put in place by the Chinese and their implications and stakes on the communities involved. Points of contact between the researcher and the informants were achieved through questionnaire, focus group and documentary research.

##### **0.9.2.1.1 Interview**

Interview is one of the indispensable data collection techniques for this research endeavour. This technique involves “oral communication carried out with the main aim of transmitting information from the informant to the researcher.” This technique enabled us to reach out to the various individuals of the different parties involved. As Zambo Belinga, (2004:98), asserts quoting Donegani, “*the behaviours and the attitudes of social agents are always significant. This significance is only accessible to the researcher on the condition of putting the informant in a situation that allows him or her to express himself or herself*”. So, to have knowledge of every action taken by the actors involved in a research, one does not have to limit himself to observations and drawing conclusions. In order to have a better

understanding, there is need to come closer to the actor and get him give significance to his or her actions by expressing himself or herself respectively.

For better understanding of this work, the semi-directive interview and direct interview were used for investigation. Semi-directive interview is of great importance, for it enabled us to get information from those who neither understand English nor French, our official languages. In this case an interpreter was indispensable. This technique enabled us not to leave anyone behind because of language barriers. These individuals included Chinese workers who are expatriates in Yaoundé. Out of the one hundred (100) Chinese, previewed for data collection seven (07) were contacted for interview, three (03) personally by the researcher and four (04) through the assistance of three (03) interpreters and all these Chinese refused giving out any information on the pretext that they had no time to attain to us and also for the fact that there is Covid 19.

On the other hand, Cameroonians of great necessity needed for interview in this research endeavour included five (05) representatives of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, five (05) from the Ministry of Public works, thirty-four (34) inhabitants where these projects are projected and some on going in Yaoundé were interviewed. Four (04) Cameroonian contractors were also interviewed to get them express their on part of the coin when it comes to Chinese winning and executing contracts in Cameroon. Table two (02) gives us a presentation of those who were interviewed for this research work.

**Table 02: The Presentation of the Interviewees**

No	Interviewees	Post of responsibility	Number intended	Effective respondents	Date of interviewed	% interviewed
1	Chinese	/	07	00	03/09/2020, 15/09/2020	00%
	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MINHDU)	C/BUR du suivi et de l'exécution des marchés publics			18/02/2020	
2		CSA – DANH-Sous-direction des normes D'habitat	05	05	25/11/2020	100%
		Chief of Service of social works			24/11/2020	
	Ministry of Public works	Contract inspector			10/11/2020	
3		DEPC-Cellule des études et de la planification	05	04	09/11/2020	80%
4	Inhabitants	Inhabitants, chiefs/ assistant chiefs/farmers/	34	33	3-6/09/2020	100%
6	Contractors	Owner of companies	04	03	15/10/2020	75%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>		

**Source:** Field Survey, 2020

These individuals constituted part of our sample population. They provided us with the necessary information needed for this work. They were all interviewed in their various places of work or residences for inhabitants. Without the interviewing of these individuals, our work would be without base. There was need for this research, not to be a spontaneous sociological research. There was need to go beyond what we see to the “profound”. This could only be done with the use of data collection technique – interview, where those responsible or involved are critically interviewed to bring out that which is hidden behind their actions.

#### **0.9.2.1.2 Interview Recording**

Recorded interviews were conducted and the interview questions evaluated to assess the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. Interviewee responses were synthesized using literature to support research findings to strike a balance on the implications and the stakes

when it comes to “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level infrastructural development. Due to time constraint and some informants who did not want their voices recorded, questionnaires were put in place to collect more information from many informants.

### **0.9.2.1.3 Questionnaire**

We used structured interview method which relies upon the use of questionnaire as a data collection instrument. This required asking each person the same questions in the same way, so that any differences between the answers given were authentic and not the result of the interview situation. This tool enabled us to keep needed statistics for our quantitative analysis. The questionnaires were administered personally by the researcher as he went to the field. In most cases he had to help the inhabitants read the question or translate to French Language for those who could not read or understand English Language respectively.

Otherwise in the case of Chinese who objected taking the questionnaire, I had to go to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to contact some of the officials who go to the field, to go along with some of the copies of the questionnaire for the Chinese. It was at this level that the questionnaire for the Chinese was administered, collected and responded to by the Chinese. Here, ninety-three (93) questionnaire copies were previewed and given to Chinese workers of all levels. At the end of the day fifty-six (56) were recovered.

On the side of Cameroonians, fifty (50) copies were distributed and forty-four (44) copies of the questionnaire were responded to by the inhabitants of Mvog-Betsi where the Chinese constructed a stretch of road leading to the hospital in that area. Forty (40) copies of the questionnaire were distributed and thirty-two (32) responded to by the inhabitants of Ahala along the auto road linking the Yaoundé city to the Nsimalen Airport, where the Chinese are carrying out construction work. To gather information from the communities around the water catchment area at Nachtigal where the Chinese are tapping water from the River Sanaga to increase water supply to the city of Yaoundé, forty (40) copies of the questionnaire were distributed and thirty-two (32) received. At Mballa 2 where Chinese are involved in the construction of the state building, fifty (50) copies were distributed and forty (40) were collected. At Olembe where Chinese constructed low-cost social housing forty (40) copies were distributed and thirty-two (32) were responded to. The last twenty (20) copies of the questionnaire were responded to by the inhabitants of Lobo where the Yaoundé – Douala auto



road has been put in place. Table three (03) gives us a summary of the information on questionnaire administration.

**Table 03: Population Administered Questionnaire to, in Different Localities in Yaoundé**

No	Locality	No distributed	Effective respondent	%Respondent
1	Mvog-Betsi	50	44	88
2	Ahala	40	32	80
3	Nachtigal	40	36	90
4	Lobo	20	20	100
5	Mballa 2	50	40	80
6	Olembe	40	32	80
7	Chinese	93	56	75
<b>Total</b>		<b>333</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>78.07</b>

**Source:** Field Survey 2020

The questionnaire enhanced personal contact with respondents so that additional information for the survey could be collected. In case we came across an informant who could not read or write English language, the Face-to-face questionnaire administration (where the interviewer presents the items orally) was applied. Apart from the face-to-face mode, the paper-and-pen questionnaire (where the items are presented on a paper) was also administered. Due to the problems faced by the administration of questionnaire, such as doubts whether the respondent understood the questions that were asked and that the information gained can be minimal, the focus groups were organized.

#### **0.9.2.1.4 Focus Group**

Focus group technique involves the collection of information in an informal setting without any prior arrangement and in a casual manner in which situation, the informants may or may not be aware of the fact. Agnes (2001:548), asserts that “*Focus Group is a form of research in which a small group of people are gathered to engage in controlled discussions and interviews in order to elicit opinions about particular products or services, candidates or issues*”. According to Traynor, (2010), “*the first sociologist to use focus group was associate director sociologist Robert KING MERTON who set up focus groups at the Bureau of Applied Social Research in USA in 1976*”. Here, questions are asked in an interactive group setting

where participants are free to talk with other group members. During the process, the researcher will take notes or records of the vital points from the group. This permitted us to study the individuals in a more natural conversation pattern than typically occurs in one-to-one interview.

We used this technique especially during break time at Nachtigal in work sites and gatherings in the quarters like in the case of Ahala where people feel free to express themselves. We also extended it to road junctions and bars like in the case of Lobo where the inhabitants of the community gathered. Here, a debate is introduced and people give their view points. This technique is used in an attempt to get deeper into the life experiences of the workers as well as the inhabitants where the projects were and are still taking place. Table four (04) shows the focus group discussions coordinated to obtain first-hand information in the study area.

**Table 04: Focus Group Discussion Cordinated in Study Area**

Place	Date of activity	No of participants	Sex		Observation
			Male	Female	
Nachtigal	14/09/2020	07	05	02	Excellent participatory approach
Lobo	06/09/2020	06	05	01	Great solidarity among members
Ahala	02/09/2020	09	07	02	Excellent participatory approach
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>05</b>	

**Source:** Field Survey, (2020)

So, we had three (03) focus groups formed during our research. One took place at Nachtigal, the other at Lobo and one at Ahala. At Nachtigal we had seven (07) focus group members who were all members of that community. These seven (07) individuals were sitting under a tent where food is being sold to the workers working with the Chinese and the rest of the villagers. Six (06) people at Lobo, two (04) inhabitants and three (02) Anglophones staying in that locality. It was at the entrance to the Lobo town where these people were playing a leisure game (draft) as commonly called, that the topic about the Chinese construction of the road was lunched and everybody was anxious to make his or her voice known. At Ahala we had seven (09) participants who participated in the focus group discussion. At Ahala it was at

a beer salespoint closer to the fly-over where Chinese were working that the discussion was presented.

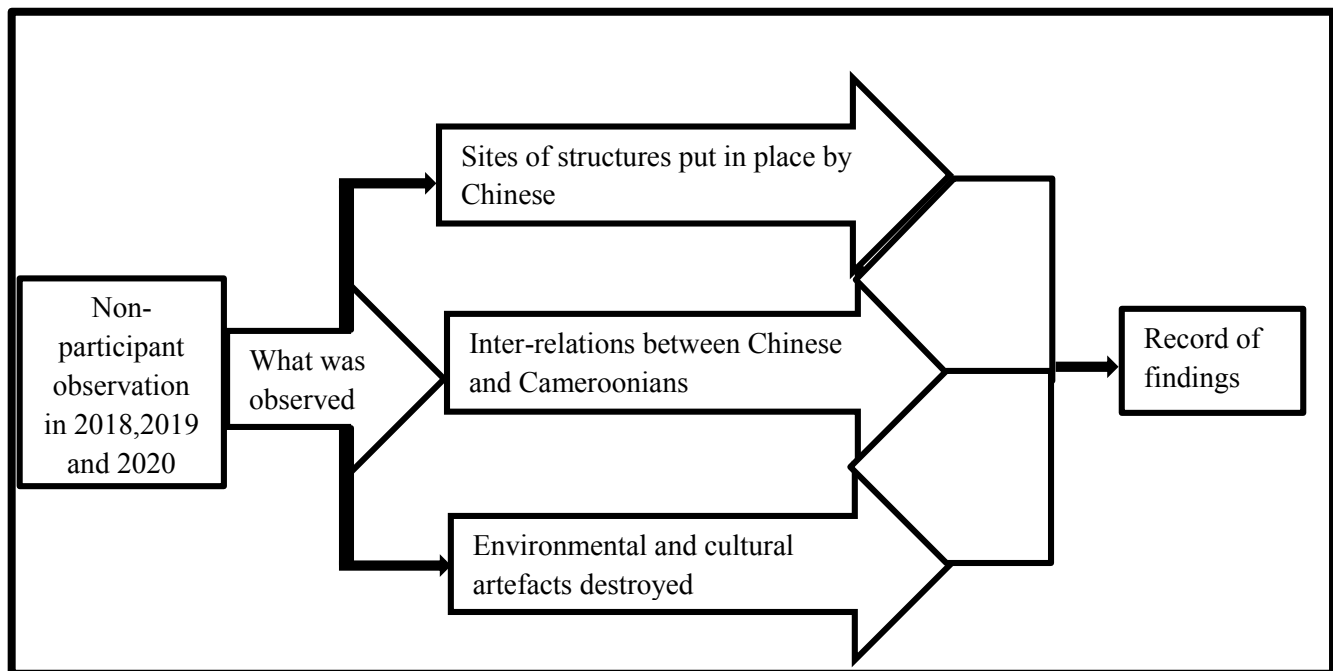
From all these focus groups we were able to get their perceptions, opinions, beliefs as well as their attitudes towards the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon especially at the level of infrastructural development.

#### **0.9.2.1.5 Observation**

Observation is one of the techniques of the collection of data that is indispensable for this research endeavour. Observation is noting and recording of a fact with the help of an appropriate means of investigation. Direct observation on its side is a technique of registration and description of events. In line with Alpe, *et al*, (2007:209), “*Direct observation involves direct contacts of the researcher with the reality through observation in situ.*” It favours immediate access to behaviours, actions, objects, as well as situations and practical real-life situations in which inter-reacts the different social actors. The techniques of direct observation are modes of registration by descriptive notes of actions or observations carried out in the field, in a natural context.

In effect, we have benefited from the products of observation carried out in the field to analyse our study in a more scientific manner with evidence and indications collected from the field with the help of direct observation. Direct observation took place in the form of passive observation and or non-participant observation. According to Nkwi *et al*, (2001), observation takes place either through passive observation or active participation. Passive observation occurs when observation is done with minimum interaction between the researcher and the object of study. In this case, the researcher observes in a disinterested manner the life of a community without taking part in the activities of the community.

Passive observation included visits to the field to get original information. Passive observation included the uncountable visits to project sites. This permitted the researcher to verify the norms/rules from actual behaviour. This method was very successful in this research as pictures or photos and some information were collected without the knowledge of the Chinese nor the inhabitants where the projects are carried out. This phase was carried out in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Figure one (01) gives a vivid presentation of the non-participant observation.



**Figure 1: Presentation of Non-Participant Observation**

**Source:** Author's Initiative

This technique of passive observation was applied in Chinese infrastructural projects carried out in Yaoundé. The project sites are situated at Ahala, Mballa 2, and Nachtigal. We also adopted it to observe the functioning of the various infrastructure put in place by the Chinese in Cameroon particularly in Yaoundé for instance the Sport Complex at Wada, Number One Ministerial Building and at the Conference Centre.

Through non-participant observation method, we were able to interpret the actions of actors in the domain of infrastructure. We furthermore used this method to take pictures/photos found in this thesis. Observation was put into use, not just for real and ideal functioning, but also because it enabled us to better understand the mentality of the people to be observed, their motivation and intimate sentiments.

#### **0.9.2.1.6 Photos Snapping**

For the purpose of reliability and validity, after selecting the study area, pictures/photos of structures demolished as well as farms that have been destroyed for the structures to be put by Chinese to take place were taken. Also, the structures put in place by Chinese in the study area were snapped, and the images transformed to texts and printed to have part of the appendices of this work. Information gathered also put to limelight the validity of the impact

of the “*win-win relationship*” between China and Cameroon especially at the level of infrastructural development. This brought out the implications as well as the stakes on the communities where these projects are being carried out.

### **0.9.2.2 Secondary Sources of Data Collection**

Secondary sources were used to obtain data on the implementations of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. To ensure total success in the collection of the secondary data, this research was centred on the three (03) points’ approaches of Sobowale, (1983:23), perspective. These three (03) points approaches include; the subject to be treated, what aspect of the subject to be treated, and which available documents could provide the best possible information on the subject under study.

#### **0.9.2.2.1 Documentary Research**

For this research to be a good one, it was conducted within the context of an existing body of knowledge. This is in order to determine how others have approached this particular research problem and what conclusions they reached. Apart from the findings of others, there was also much information needed to be put in place to set a base for this research work. Considering the Sobowale’s three (03) points, important documentary research was carried out in strategic libraries in and around the city of Yaoundé.

These libraries provided satisfactory documents related to “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. Among these libraries we have the Faculty of Arts library in the University of Yaoundé 1, Ministry of Housing and Urban development, Ministry of Public Works, National Institute of Statistics, and *la Bibliotheque de la Central de Lecture Publique*, IRIC library in the University of Yaoundé II, as well as the Statistic centre at the Ministry of External Relations that we visited. Examples of documents studied in these libraries include among others; accords, reports, research findings, publications, textbooks, journals, dissertations, and theses. Through the study of these sources of information, we were able to formulate themes, adopt methods of data collection, interpretation, and analysed data. This did not only provide us with valuable insights that helped guide our work, but also helped prevent unnecessary duplication of research efforts.

In the quest for valuable information concerning the conception and the evolution of the “*win-win relationship*” between China and Cameroon, the ministries that supervise infrastructure works and social security in Cameroon were of great importance. The Ministry of Public Works and that of Housing and Urban Development furnished us with statistics of

the various projects under the control of the Chinese contractors in Yaoundé. In the Ministry of External Relations, we gathered some important historical facts that are useful for this research work.

#### **0.9.2.2.2 The Media**

The media also played an important role in our research. From the radio, television and newspapers, journals and articles, we listened to, watched talks and read about “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructure. Some of the television channels that were of help included CRTV, Equinox TV, Afrique Media TV, and France 24 TV. We also read newspapers like Cameroon Tribune, The Voice Newspaper and the Horizon Newspaper. We read China-Africa, Peking Review and China-Today of different volumes that gave us a vast junk and diversify information on how China is relating with African countries in particular and other parts of the world in general.

#### **0.9.2.2.3 The Internet**

Internet sources were very instrumental in providing much information on the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon as well as the China-African relationship in general. This broadened the approach of this research. Published or unpublished scientific works were consulted from relevant websites. We used the internet to access some websites. The websites provided information on some related authors and their works, which were fundamental to this thesis.

#### **0.9.3 Research Ethics**

Worth mentioning also is the use of research ethics. The fact that social research often focuses on people, presents sociologists with many special research problems. Ethical principles in science helped to ensure that research is directed toward achieving worthwhile goals. All scientists for example, must conduct their research competently, report their findings accurately and accept responsibility for their actions. In doing all these we also have the responsibility of protecting the welfare of participants.

We have to ensure that the participants involved in our research endeavours are never intentionally harmed. This harm could include potential risks such things as physical, emotional, or moral endangerment, the loss of personal rights, and monetary losses. In order to preserve the values and dignity of the participants or informants, we made sure there was no

violation of privacy; that is, the respect of human dignity, customs and traditions, all of these of course, not to the detriment of objectivity.

In addition, informed consent also is an important ethical consideration for sociologists to put in place. Unfortunately, the nature of social research especially the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon made it impracticable or impossible to inform subjects that they are participating in a research project. This is particularly true during the observational studies. In many cases, if the Chinese or Cameroonian individuals knew that they were being studied, they would alter their behaviour, either intentionally or unintentionally. Whenever possible, however, subjects are given full knowledge of the research project. This was through the presentation of the research authorisation paper from the University of Yaoundé 1 particularly issued by the Head of the Department of Sociology and other requirements where necessary and or demanded.

Informants respond to verifications were under favourable conditions as after the presentation of these documents, many were willing to go on to interact with the researcher. The purpose for the enquiry is made known to all the informants who were to participate before asking them to participate. Armed with this information, participants were allowed to volunteer for the study or decline to participate. Informants were also allowed to withdraw their participation at any time. The level of success of the administration of the interview and questionnaire, reflect the level of the willingness of participants to participate in our research.

#### **0.9.4 Data Analysis**

After data collection, the researcher embarked on the treatment of the gotten information. The analysis of data is a very important step in every research endeavour. The purpose of data analysis is to determine whether the data support the research hypotheses. After the field work, we proceeded to the analysis of data collected. Once data are collected, they must be analysed.

After collecting the data set aside for the present study, through the primary and the secondary data collection sources named previously, we observed them keenly. Then, we tried to regroup them into different subtopics and classified them according to identified characteristic features. The classification excluded the names of informants and their telephone numbers as well as their photographs. This exception is not because the features are less important but, because we want to avoid revealing the identity of individuals as much as

possible. After classifying the data, we analysed them basing our judgements on sociological theories related to this present study.

Data analysis consisted of going over the questionnaire, looking at the commonalities and differences of the observation and the interview responses as well as pictures taken. Here, we made good use of a range of statistical methods. However, we interpreted a great deal of information with the help of statistical basic concepts.

We employed the measure of central tendency particularly the mean, statistical tables and the units of measurement – percentages (%). This research work also made use of bar graphs and circular graphs also called pie graphs. Extracts from recorded interviews were also analysed. Through this analysis, we sort to have an understanding on the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon and especially in Yaoundé.

In the process of this research, data was collected as already mentioned, mainly in two (2) ways. The first through documents or secondary data collection sources, our interest here was to get more insight about the topic, since we are neither the first nor the last to do a research on the subject area. We searched to see what other authors have done and what is not yet done. For this fact, we now focused our intension to work on this topic in a more detailed manner. The themes treated in this research are deduced and developed from the analysis of data from the field of study, collected from the primary and the secondary sources of data collection.

The primary sources of data collection which are interview, observation and group discussions or generally the primary source of data collection that took us to the field to actually meet the informants, discuss with them, got their opinions about the topic. This was done with a lot of objectivity, as only the opinions of the informants were important to us.

Result tables are used to indicate variations on responses, based on the questions of research posed at different levels using different methods. It ended up in putting information in written form, where conclusions were reached regarding the research questions, objectives, hypotheses and perspectives made at the beginning of the study. Figure two (02) presents to us the flow chart, showing data collection and analysis methods applied in this research work.





### **1.9.5 Theoretical Approach**

Theories are developed to guide research work and help interpret findings. We do not only develop theories to explain specific phenomena, they also adopt broad theoretical perspectives to provide a foundation for our enquiries. Theories in this study are elaborated in strict respect of research questions, guiding key concepts, relevance as well as major empirical research findings gathered. The theoretical framework is based on an overall understanding of the contextual issues defined in terms of the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon. This is one of the key players in the putting in place of structures with multi-faceted social concerns. To respond to the issues raised, the following theoretical models or approaches are to be maintained in this research. They include the dynamist model, the conflict perspective and interactionist approach.

#### **0.9.5.1 The Dynamic Model**

The dynamist approach aims at understanding the dynamics of social structures as well as the systems of inter-relations that may exist among these structures. In Sociology, the dynamist model goes as far as resolving issues of the phenomenon of structuralism to manage and orientate social stability.

Balandier, (1971) and Touraine, (1965), are considered as the initiators of this model who were particularly interested in the social mix up and change around certain historical events, at the verge of decolonization in Africa. The decolonization was followed by the gestation of the young independent states that were faced with new social phenomena particularly, urbanization, rural exodus as well as political revolutions. This new thesis is operating under a veritable revolution which is that of international relations with a clarion call of “win-win” especially at the level of infrastructural development in which new structures are put in place and life style as well as environment are taking different looks. This calls for studies to see how dynamic the individuals in the communities where these structures are put in place (starting from the conception of the projects, to the point of realisation of the projects and after the infrastructures) have been put in place. To have an understanding of what is going on in these localities where these projects are carried out, the dynamist approach stands in the best position to help us understand how both parties, that is, the Chinese and the Cameroonians are implicated at different levels of the implimentation of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon.

In fact, this model according to Balandier, (1971), is not only to talk about change but also to discover the different dynamics, the conflicts, the disequilibrium and the compromises of the change. He pointed out the need to consider communities through not just their internal dynamics but their external dynamics as well. He showed the importance of external and internal structures, and the inter-relations of these structures in every society.

In the present study, the dynamist model permits us to reveal the different dynamics in terms of the conflicts, the disequilibrium and the compromises of the change that is taking place in localities where Chinese have or are carrying out projects of infrastructure as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. This theory helped us broaden our minds to look at the details of the brief presentations of the both countries in the “win-win relationship” and their history on how the relationship started and the level at which it is at the present moment.

Change comes as a result of the interaction between the internal and the external social factors that may also affect community changes. There is need to understand the inter-relations between traditional and modern institutions among societies where infrastructure put in place as a result of “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon are located, through confrontations, mutations and adoptions. This enabled us to have the knowledge about the conflicts disequilibrium and the compromises surrounding the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China at the level of infrastructural development.

Seydou, (2016:26), quoting Balandier, (1955), stated that, *“every society is in relation with those outside, whether they are considered as allies or threats. This external dimension is the motive for the society to organize its defence against threats, and exalt its unity”*. With the “win-win relationship” there is need to have an understanding of how Cameroonians and especially those where structures are being raised by Chinese have organized their defence mechanisms and to see whether Chinese are considered as an ally or a threat in these localities.

#### **0.9.5.2 Symbolic Interactionist Approach**

Interactionist perspective focuses on how individuals interact with one another in society. Such sociologists are interested in the way individuals respond to one another in everyday situations. They are also interested in the meanings that individuals attach to their own actions and to the actions of others. Common theoretical issue of the works of Chicago school, the expression ‘symbolic interaction’ was first used by Herbert, (1969:10). Symbolic

interactionism supports that the conception that actors put in the social world constitutes, the essential object of sociological research. According to Touraine, (1965:43), “*the authentically sociological knowledge is given to us through daily experiences of life or through interactions we make daily*”. So, the analysis of one’s self is centred on the construction of the processes of socialisation, which unfolds through the interpretation of continues activities. Interactionist theories are heavily indebted to the works of Max Weber. According to Becker, (1963:116), the use of the interactionist approach is classified into two (02) levels.

At the first level, it is necessary to examine meticulously effective activities, in trying to understand the circumstances in which action takes place, those involved and to take seriously the interpretation given by the concerned community.

At the second level, the interactionist approach shows the primordial importance of the imposition of definitions. Every action of every actor is relative to situations, acts or to categories of individuals. So, there is need for every action to be given an appropriate definition in relation to the context and situation.

The actions of Actors involved in our research work are of great importance to the verification of the social scientific findings we are out to put in place. Not only their actions are important, but also the signs and interpretations of actions and signs are indispensable. Relationship is based on interaction. This interaction can take place either verbally, through actions or through the use of signs.

Interactionist approach is the suitable and timely approach which better permitted us to get into the understanding of how Chinese and Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development interact in their endeavour to accomplish the various tasks given them. In order to examine carefully the effective activities in the projects involving the Chinese and the Cameroonians, to get an understanding of the circumstances, interactionist approach is inavoidable. The interpretation the actors give to their actions, which is the first level of interactionist approach is to examine meticulously effective activities, in trying to understand the circumstances in which action takes place, those involved and to take seriously the interpretation given by the concerned community, was so unique and adequate for this research work.

In order to have a clear definition of the way things are done in the projects involving the Chinese and Cameroonians, there was a great need for the interactionist approach. This

approach enabled us to have and give a better understanding of the actions, the way interaction takes place as well as the reasons attributed to the actions put in place by the individuals involved in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development.

Furthermore, different signs mean different meanings in different places. Contextualisation of signs is very important in communication as communication always fails except by accident. There are some signs that we see that we do not just need to automatically give conclusions that they signify this or that. In order to have a better insight of the significance of various symbolic signs used in our field of research, we could not go without the use of the interactionist approach. Our aim was to bring out the sociological understanding about the situation between the Chinese and Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development as they interact with one another. Their interactions go along the usage of signs and symbols at times that need serious deliberation especially taking into considerations that the principal producers of the infrastructures as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon are not the mean users or the beneficiaries of those structures. In the construction of these structures, guiding signs are put in place for the sake of the user but unfortunately or fortunately, the beneficiaries who are Cameroonians do not have the mastery of these signs and guiding symbols. It is only with the use of the interactionist approach that we get to understand the intensions of the contractors putting those signs and symbols with the little knowledge of the user to understand the significance of each sign and symbol put in place.

In brief, the phenomenon of the implications and stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development is complex and involves so many groups and institutions. Some of these areas include; the Chinese Embassy, Cameroon Ministries of Urban Development and Housing, Labour and Social Security, Public Contracts, the Chinese contractors, Chinese workers, Cameroonian workers working together with the Chinese workers as well as the communities where these projects are executed. It is more than an institution with so many strings that need to be carefully coordinated for it to yield the required fruits that are our interest. All these parties have key actions to put in place, as well as key actors with well-defined key roles to be carried out. In order to study these key actors as well as their key actions or rules, there is need for an appropriate approach that can enable us to make a detailed analysis, and this appropriate approach is the, ‘interactionist approach’.

One of the reasons for the usage of this approach is that, it aids us to go into details to bring out not only the actors involved, but also their key roles and their stages of intervention. This approach also enables us to examine how the projects involving the Chinese and the Cameroonians have been contextualised, how actors have been spotted out and lastly how management network is coordinated. With this therefore, we could be able to bring out the implications and the stakes of “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. When interaction takes place, at times it ends up in conflicts and to examine conflict areas in this research, we applied the conflict perspective.

#### **0.9.5.4 The Conflict Perspective**

The conflict perspective focuses on those forces in society that promote competition and change. Following in the tradition of Karl Marx, conflict theorists are interested in how those who possess more power in society exercise control over those with less power. Conflict theorists do not limit their attention to acts of violent conflict only. They also, are interested in nonviolent competition between various groups in society such as men and women or people of different ages or racial or national backgrounds. In fact, conflict theorists handle topics such as decision making in the family, relationships among racial groups in a society, and labour disputes between workers and employers. With all these applicable to this research work, we still have some areas emerging like the conflicts between the leaders of the localities where projects are being carried out with the masses over the indemnities to be paid for material land occupation.

According to conflict theorists, competition over scarce resources is at the basis of social conflict. We are not saying conflict is bad or good because resources such as power and wealth are in limited supply, people must compete with one another for them. The theory holds that social order is maintained by domination and power, rather than consensus and conformity. Once particular groups gain control of society’s resources, they tend to establish rules and procedures that protect their interests at the expense of other groups. The individuals or groups within the society work to maximize their own benefits. This inequality between groups leads to social conflict, as those with less power attempt to gain access to desired resources and those with power attempt to keep it. These groups consist of individuals bound by mutual interests and a degree of property ownership. The property ownership in areas where projects are being realised has been a bone of contention between the locals and their leaders as well as to who is the owner of the land when it comes to government and the occupants of the land.

In conflict theory, there are four (04) primary issues which are necessary to understand and they include competition, revolution, structural inequality and war. Here, competition is seen as a constant and at times overwhelming factor in nearly every human relationship and interaction. The “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon is not a relation between countries of equal strength, especially at the socio-economical level under which many cooperation ties are anchored. This theory helps enlighten us to have an understanding of how competition is manifesting itself between China and Cameroon under the “win-win relationship”.

In fact, competition exists as a result of the scarcity of resources, including materials and intangible resources. In the area of infrastructural development, there is that necessity to have an understanding on the various materials and intangible resources that bring about competition in as much as the relationship between China and Cameroon is concerned. The theory is also applied here to guide us analyse the “win-win relationship” with considerations that human relationships and social structures all experience inequalities of power. In this way individuals and groups that benefit from a particular structure of society tend to work to maintain those structures so as to retain and enhance their power, and this power struggle ends up creating conflict between individuals and groups and between societies. Within the context of infrastructural development these conflicts could be between workers and their employers, between sub-contractors and the contractors, land owners and the contractors to execute the projects, economic giant and a struggling economic state just to name a few. Thus, conflict theorists see social change as an inevitable feature of society. So, the conflict theory was very vital for the carrying out of this research.

These three (03) approaches were of vital importance to this research endeavour. They did not only qualify this research work scientifically, but also made it relevant, in the guiding of this work to be acceptable in the sociological field of study. In fact, the dynamist model, interactionist approach and conflict perspective were complementary to each other and made this research endeavour complete and acceptable in the social sciences in general, and in sociology in particular. These theories enabled us to analyse in greater details the phenomenon of the “win-win relationship” observed in the area of infrastructural development involving the Chinese and Cameroonians in a clearer manner. They also enabled us to examine the changes, evolution and transformation of the society. As a result of this international symbolical relationship between China and Cameroon with the special connotation “win-win

relationship”, each of the theories gives and presents a vivid picture of each part of the relationship bringing out the implications and the stakes at each vital level.

## **0.10 Definitions of Key Terms**

We have key words that will be used in this research work and their meanings may not be obvious because they as, Durozoi and Roussel, (1997), asserted, are used in particular discipline to suit the present context. It is therefore basically necessary to define them as they will be applied in this study.

### **0.10.1 “Win-Win”**

According to Agnes et al, (2001:1639), to win implies to gain victory, be victorious, triumph. It also goes with to finish in first place in a race, contest or competition. To win is to succeed in reaching or achieving a specified condition or place. It entails to get by effort, labour, and struggle. This means to gain or acquire through accomplishment to achieve or attain. Win deals with to prevail upon; influence; persuade as well as to gain the sympathy, favour, affection or love of a supporter or friend. If to win has to do with gain, victory and for victory to come there is need to prevail which has to do with influencing and persuading, then, what is ‘win-win’?

The word ‘win-win’ which comes from the word to win according to the Longman’s Dictionary online is used to describe a situation in which both sides involved gain something or are successful in achieving their objectives.

The word ‘win-win’ in this study will refer to the effort, labour, and struggle put in place by individuals involved in the cooperation ties between China and Cameroon to gain or be successful in achieving their objectives especially at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon and particularly the inhabitants where Chinese are involved in putting up structures in the city of Yaoundé. This definition of ‘win-win’ brings us closer to the word ‘relationship’ that is used to complement the cooperation ties between China and Cameroon.

### **0.10.2 Relationship**

Relationship refers to the way in which two (02) or more people or things are connected or the state of being connected. That is, to say when two (02) or more people or things are connected to one another in one way or the other, they are said to be in a relationship. In social sciences especially in Sociology we are interested in studying relationships. In sociology in



particular, we have social as well as professional relationships that we are interested in. According to Alpe, *et al*, (2007:158 and 248), in Sociology, scholars like (Weber and Touraine) have looked at social relationship at different dimensions that will be of interest to us in the paragraphs that follow.

Alpe, *et al*, (2007:248), quoting Weber, say that social relationship has to do with the behaviour of individuals as oriented in function to the behaviour of others. To Weber, there are two (02) types of social relationships; *communalization* – when the individuals' behaviours are oriented by subjective sentiment of belonging to the same community; *sociation* – when the behaviour is founded on the objective compromise. That is, to say that at one angle social relationship has to do with behaving in respect of the sentiments of belonging to a community not according to your independent desire to behave the way you want. And at the other angle the behaviour of the individual has to be tele-guided by objective compromise that puts the individual at the junction to decide on what to do which is objective.

According to Alpe *et al*, (2007:158), quoting Touraine, 1965, assert that social relationship is the sum total of institutional relations between individuals. They are the object of study of society whether it implies as Rocher, (1968:147), puts it as class relations, influential relations, function differentiation or hierarchical relations, each of the grand category of social relations define a domain of sociological analyses.

Sociologists also talk of professional relationship. This refers to the group of practices, rules of institutions around which relations are established between salary earners, employers and the State. Sociology of professional relations studies notably the construction of rules that guide the salary earners, the modalities of collective actions, strikes manifestations of trade unions, and trade union crises. Sociologists are also interested in the respective weight of the laws and collective conventions, in the regulations and workers' relationships.

In this study, relationship takes into consideration the social and professional relations. That is, relationship covers the behaviours of individuals as oriented in function to the behaviour of others and as guided by the rules and regulations of given social institutions. This has to do with the two (02) types of social relationships; *communalization* – when the individuals' behaviours are oriented by subjective sentiment of belonging to the same community; and *sociation* – when the behaviour is founded on the objective compromise. Here, relationship has to do with social relationship as the sum total of institutional relations between individuals taking into consideration class relations, influential relations, function

differentiation and hierarchical relations. Relationship in this study also refers to the group of practices, rules of institutions around which relations are established between salary earners, employers and the state. It will have to deal with rules that guide the salary earners, the modalities of collective actions, strikes manifestations of trade unions, and trade union crises. It will also have to do with the implications and strikes carried out by inhabitants where projects are carried out. Relationship is also looked at, at the level of respective weight of the laws and collective conventions in the regulations and workers' relationships and stakes in the "win-win relationship" between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. With the knowledge of the word 'win', 'win-win' and 'relationship', we see the interconnection between the words by defining "win-win relationship"

### **0.10.3 "Win-win Relationship"**

According to Feudjio, the theory of "win-win" is to imply that; there should be a free economy through the influx of commerce (importation and exportation relations), the flux of migrants, transfer of technology and the integration chain of the world's values, as well as the flux of aid, should have proportionate benefit relations. To him it should be a situation where there is liberty at the economic level when it has to do with the relationship between China and Cameroon under the banner of or umbrella word "win-win relationship".

From the analysis and presentation of definitions above concerning the words to 'win', 'win-win' and 'relationship', the word "win-win relationship" is a compound word with profound and diverse significance. This compound word to borrow the words of Feudjio is a theory applied in this study to describe the effort, labour, and struggle put in place by individuals involved in the cooperation ties between China and Cameroon to gain or be successful in achieving their objectives especially at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon. This compound word in this context takes into consideration the social and professional sociological relationship bringing out the implications and the stakes involved in the China- Cameroon relations that has been baptized with the word "win-win relationship". The "win-win relationship" turns around the putting in place of infrastructure which is also a key word highly valued in this work which needs to be examined.

### **0.10.4 Infrastructure**

Infrastructure is a Marxist concept designing all the production relations and the productive forces. It talks of economic structure of the capitalist society. It maintains the

dialectic relations with the superstructure. That is Marxism mode of production and means of production. According to Marx quoted by Anthias and Kelly (1995:263-266), quipped,

*legal relations as well as forms of states are to be grasped neither from themselves nor from the so-called general development of the human mind, but rather have their roots in the material condition of life (...) In the social production of their life, men enter into definite relations that are indispensable and dependent of their will, relations of production which correspond to a definite stage of development of their material productive forces(...) The mode of production of material life conditions the social, political, and intellectual life process in general.*

With the change of the economic foundation which is the infrastructure, the entire immense superstructure is more or less rapidly transformed.

In this study we shall be applying the word infrastructure interchangeably with structure in terms of material productive forces and the artefacts which are the centre of relations between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. This shall be done taking into consideration the production relations and the productive force created and used in this “*win-win relationship*” between China and Cameroon. At the artefacts level, most of the structures put in place by China include roads, sport complexes, and social houses. Though many different definitions of development exist, the word infrastructure goes along with the word development to emphasize on the advancement of the domain of infrastructure. So, infrastructural development commonly refers to a positive change noticed over time within a specific locality. Within the background of this research, development is the process of improving the quality of life and economic wellbeing of people living within the study area which is the localities where Chinese are carrying out construction works.

### **0.11 Problems Encountered During the Research**

Data collection for this study was not easy to come by. The problem of insecurity was a great challenge. It was very difficult to move from one Ministry to the other and from one office to another and be easily accepted and information given. Most of the people in the offices were not welcoming especially when I disclosed my coming to their office. Some of the people were afraid to furnish some information especially with the fear of madness of the social media usage in our society.

Some of the informants that opened their office doors to help give the data also had difficulties of time. The difficulty of time kept us longer than initially programmed. Others had

to carry out their office duties before attending to me. At times I would be asked to wait and finally not even be attended to at the end of the day. When at times they want to finally attend to me, the information they have would not be what I actually needed and I will be directed to another person whether such could be of help. Some people saw me as one who is disturbing, idling, suffering and is wasting time.

It was also very difficult and tedious to move from one project site to the other handled by the Chinese contractors in search of the Chinese, workers and the inhabitants of the localities where these projects are carried out for the collection of data. Transportation became a difficult thing to handle as the projects and structures to visit are not in a particular location in town. Reaching the camps of the Chinese, all the gates are under lock and key. Many Chinese finally seen and needs presented will give complains of one thing or the other. Some under the pretext of the spread of Covid-19 paid us no attention. This time around, even when I passed through the interpreters, they were not happy with the interpreters and did not attend to me. At the end of the day, I had to go to MINH DU to contact those who go for inspection at the various sites where Chinese are carrying out projects to present the questionnaire before information could be gotten from some Chinese.

Furthermore, to meet with the Chinese was a very difficult task to accomplish. Even when you succeeded to talk with them language became another challenge. This landed to the use of interpreters to channel the information of what is needed from them. Most of them ended up just saying they were not interested and some had no time to attend to us not to talk of filling in the questionnaire for this study. This problem prolonged the duration of data collection. The data collection process was therefore quite daring and time consuming.

Getting information from workers working with the Chinese was not all that very easy. The highest problem was that of time. The only time for discussion was during break. And during break, some of them requested for food before they could ever listen to what I was saying. Some simply complained of being tired and needed rest. Some asked me to wait for them to eat before attending to me and before I discovered break was already over. With this I had to go and come the next day for another chance.

Inhabitants where these projects are carried out were very happy to see me come, but when I presented myself as a student on research; some just quietly deserted me. The samples of the questionnaire to inhabitants where these projects are carried out were filled in with a lot of difficulties. Some inhabitants said they were not interested in such an activity. Many were

afraid to give out information with the fear that when the information is collected from them sooner or later, they may be called to answer questions in the police station. Some were just angry taking into consideration the way their lands and landed properties had been destroyed and no remuneration paid for. Some took the copies but did not return them and more copies had to be photocopied and just this increased financial burden for the carrying out of this research work.

## **0.12 Thesis Structure**

This thesis is structured into introduction, five (05) chapters and conclusion. The chapters of this study are clearly divided with specific headings and subheadings, analysis and interpretations.

The introduction presents preliminary considerations and presentation of the research methodology. This introduction presents the preliminary points that will guide and focus the present study. It has to do with the presentation of the justification of the choice of topic, context of the study, problem, statement of the problem, research questions and hypotheses, objective of the study and the scientific interest of the study. Of interest here in accordance to Ghilione, and Matalon; (1991), is the methodology that is made up of the data collection techniques, data analysis techniques and the theoretical approach. The introduction ends with the definition of key terms, problems incouented in the field and the thesis structure. This sets the pace for findings and analysis discussed in other chapters especially chapter one (01) that enlightens us on literature related to this piece of research.

Chapter one (01) addresses the literature review. The literature review is a retrospective of related literature in the different domains of infrastructural development as a result of Sino-Africa relationship in general and Sino-Cameroon relations in particular, presented by other authors or researchers. It has to do with the presentation of Cameroon and China as the two countries into a relation with the baptismal name “win-win relationship” and a brief history on how this relationship started. We examined the research works previously done and evaluate what these research works have accomplished or failed to present in this area of study. The policies adopted by China in Africa as well as the policies put in place by Cameroon to tailor their international relations, find a comfortable position in this chapter. This draws us closer to chapter two (02) that presents the achievements of the Chinese in Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development.

Chapter two (02) is entitled ‘China infrastructural imprints in Cameroon’. It is centred on the description of setting, paying attention on the presentation of the infrastructural development realised as a result of the win-win between Cameroon and China in Yaoundé and

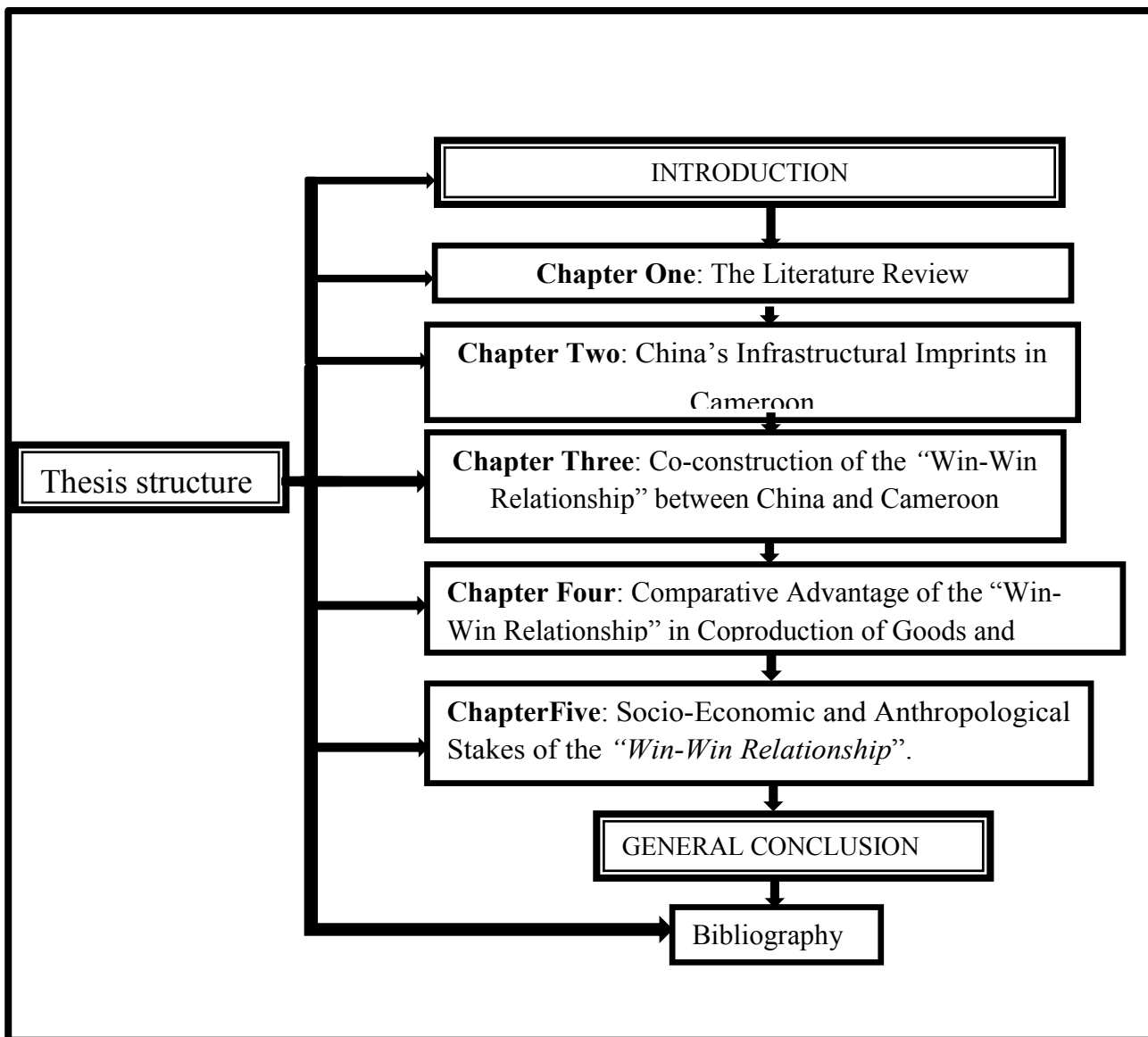
elsewhere in the country. The description also has to do with the visits of various states officials to both countries, the accords signed during these visits as well as comments on the time of construction, inauguration and the functions around the infrastructures. This chapter cues up with the previous chapters and sets the base for the chapters that follow.

Chapter three (03) presents the findings on the co-construction of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development on the Cameroonians. Here we talk of how Cameroonians are involved in the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. We also examine how Cameroonians appreciate or evaluate the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. This helps to enlighten us to see what Cameroonians consider really to be what they win in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. After seeing and understanding how Cameroonians consider really to be what they win from the “win-win relationship” we move to search to understand the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services implication of the Chinese in this relationship. The findings on Chinese implications in implementation of the “win-win relationship” are presented in chapter four (04).

Chapter four (04) presents the findings on the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services at the level of infrastructural development on the Chinese. Here we analyse how the Chinese are involved in the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. We also look into how the Chinese appreciate the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. This takes us to the last chapter which is chapter five (05) that presents the stakes involved in the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development.

Chapter five (05) examines the Socio-economic as well as the anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. Here we concentrate on the damages caused on the artefacts be them material or non-material as a result of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. This brings us to the conclusion of this research work.

Lastly, the work ends with a general conclusion. In this general conclusion, summary of findings is done and hence, logical conclusions are arrived at with attempted projections as well as suggestions for further research. For a better understanding, Figure three (03) shows a diagrammatic configuration of this research work.



**Figure 3: Thesis Configuration**

**Source:** Author's Conception

In a nutshell, the introduction presented a vivid picture of the preliminary considerations and presentation of the research. It poses the research problem, statement of the problem as well as the research questions and research hypotheses. It also presents the purpose of the study, its significance, scope and limitations, definition of some key terms and the problems encountered during research.

The introduction has put in place the theoretical framework bringing out the theories that guide and direct the analysis of data collected for this thesis. The theories put in place

include the interactionist approach that guides the analysis of the interaction of the various parties involved in the “*win-win relationship*” at the level of infrastructural development. The anomic division of labour assists in the area of the implications of the parties and where sharp misunderstandings arose, the dynamist model permits us to reveal the different dynamics in terms of the conflicts, the disequilibrium and the compromises of the change that is taking place in localities where Chinese have or are carrying out projects of infrastructure as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, and the conflict theory helps enlightens us to have an understanding of how competition is manifesting itself between China and Cameroon under the “win-win relationship”..

Finally, the introduction ends with the problems encountered in the field and the thesis configuration that help to clarify some basic issues in the thesis. Chapter one (01) is devoted to what earlier scholars and some researchers have said about “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in particular and Africa in general.



# CHAPTER ONE

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### 1.0 Introduction

For any human community to survive over time, as an obligation according to Levinsonm, (1978:68), certain basic needs must be put in place. These basic needs are accomplished in different ways in different societies. For instance, there must be the production of goods and services to those who need and desire them. New group members must be added either through birth or migration to the population to replace those members who have died or migrated to other parts of the world. People must be clothed, fed and sheltered. Socialization must take place for the young to be educated and intergrated into society. Health care must be provided to the elderly and the sick to receive treatment. Order must be maintained to reduce crime rates. The quest and desire for these basic needs have influenced the mobility of individuals from one continent, country, nation or city to another. This quest and desire for the basic needs have been followed by the initiation of relationships between individuals, groups and governments of various countries. One of these relationships between countries and nations is the relationship between China and Cameroon that has been named a “win-win relationship” which shall be the interest of this research work.

Chapter one (01) reviews previous works related to the present study. Part of the data for this work was collected from the library and the internet. In this chapter, both published and unpublished documents are reviewed. This is not the first work about the China-Africa cooperation as well as China-Cameroon bilateral relationship. Many other scholars have handled this topic in different ways, either in passing or swith some seriousness in a particular direction different from the one we are going to handle in this study. This chapter is the representation of the library and internet research carried out with regard to this study. The chapter is built upon thematic integrative and comprehensive literature review. This is in line with Vanessa, (2007:46), who opines that “*thematic integrative and comprehensive literature review analysis is seen as an exercise that should go beyond summarizing the relevant literature and include a critical analysis of relationships between various studies.*”

This chapter is structured into five (05) parts. The first, second third parts address Cameroon, China and the brief history of how the two countries came together respectively. The fourth part addresses the thematic integrative and comprehensive literature review which

dwell on Chinese migration to Africa and Cameroon, China's presence in Africa and Cameroon, Chinese general investment in Africa and Cameroon, and review in the domain of infrastructural development. The fifth part deals with the elaboration of Chinese policies in the China-African relationship which will have to do with China's norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa, China and Africa's Non-interference policy and the Chinese policy of soft power. The last part of this chapter deals with the presentation of the African policies in the China-African Relations which encompasses, the policy of local content requirement and the policy of project bids. Before getting into who has said what about the Sino-Cameroon it is good to have a presentation of the two countries.

### **1.1 Cameroon as a Partner of “Win-Win Relationship” with China**

Cameroon, officially “The Republic of Cameroon” according to *Law No. 96-06 of January 1996 to Amend the Constitution of 02 June 1972 of The Republic of Cameroon*, is a country in Central Africa. She is a member of the CEMAC zone which is constituted of six (06) member countries which are Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, the Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, and Equatorial Guinea. Wenze, (2010:7), opines that, the country is sometimes identified as West African and other times as Central African due to its strategic position at the crossroads between West and Central Africa. It is located between latitude 7.22° and 10.74° north of the equator and longitude 12.22° and 40.51° East of Greenwich Meridian. Cameroon is bordered by Nigeria to the west and north, Chad to the north-east, the Central African Republic to the east, and Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and the Republic of Congo to the south. The coast of Cameroon is washed by the Atlantic Ocean. Cameroon's landmass is four hundred and seventy-five thousand, four hundred and forty (475,440) km<sup>2</sup> with two thousand, seven hundred and thirty (2,730) km<sup>2</sup> of water.

From Ateba Eyene (2012:26), the country's name is derived from Rio dos Cameroes (River of Prawns) – the name given to the Wouri River estuary by Portuguese explorers of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1884 the Germans extended the word ‘Kamerun’ to their entire protectorate, which largely corresponded to the present state. This evolved into the name Cameroon or Cameroun in English and French respectively, that we are familiar with now.

The Republic of Cameroon is a decentralized, secular, and democratic unitary state made up of ten (10) regions. Power in the Republic of Cameroon is divided into executive, legislature and judiciary. According to part two (02), chapter one (01), article five (05) of the constitution of the Republic of Cameroon, the President of the Republic shall be the

Head of State and shall be elected by the whole nation for a term of office of seven (07) years. To form the government, the president appoints the Prime Minister and, on the proposal of the latter, the other members of government. The regions are headed by governors appointed by the Head of State. These regions are sub divided into divisions and sub-divisions headed by divisional and sub-divisional officers respectively.

The legislative power in the Republic of Cameroon is exercised by the parliament which is made up of two (02) houses – the National Assembly and the Senate. The National Assembly headed by a yearly elected president is comprised of one hundred and eighty (180) members who are elected by direct and secret universal suffrage for a five (5)-year term of office. Each year, the national assembly holds three (03) ordinary sessions with each lasting not more than thirty (30) days and at the opening of its first session, it elects its president and bureau members. On the other side of the house, we have the senate comprised of one hundred (100) senators. Each region in the Republic of Cameroon is represented in the senate by ten (10) senators of whom seven (07) are elected by indirect universal suffrage on a regional basis and three (03) appointed by the President of the Republic. The senate is headed by the Senate President who with its bureau members are elected at the opening of its first ordinary session.

At the level of the judicial power, the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and Tribunals administer justice in the republic in the name of the people of Cameroon. The Supreme Court is the highest court of the state in legal and administrative matters as well as in the appraisal of accounts. The Supreme Court is made up of a judicial bench, an administrative bench and an audit bench with each carrying out specific rules in regard to the administration and the population of the country.

According to National Institute of Statistics of Cameroon, “Cameroon-Third General Census of Population and Housing 2005-IPUMS Subset”, 2010, as of the results of the 2005 population and housing census published in 2010, the population of Cameroon stood at seventeen million, four hundred and sixty-three thousand, eight hundred and thirty-six (17,463,836) inhabitants. This population is made up of eight million, six hundred and thirty-two thousand, and thirty-six (8,632,036) males and eight million, eight hundred and thirty-one thousand, eight hundred (8,831,800) females. From Cameroon Population Worldometer, according to UN data with an estimated population growth rate of 2.6%, the population of Cameroon as of the year 2020 is twenty-six million, five hundred and forty-five thousand, eight hundred and sixty-three (26,545,863) people at midyear. Cameroon has a large youth population, with more than 60% of the populace under the age of twenty-

five (25) years. Cameroon has an extremely heterogeneous population, consisting of approximately two hundred and fifty (250) ethnic groups.

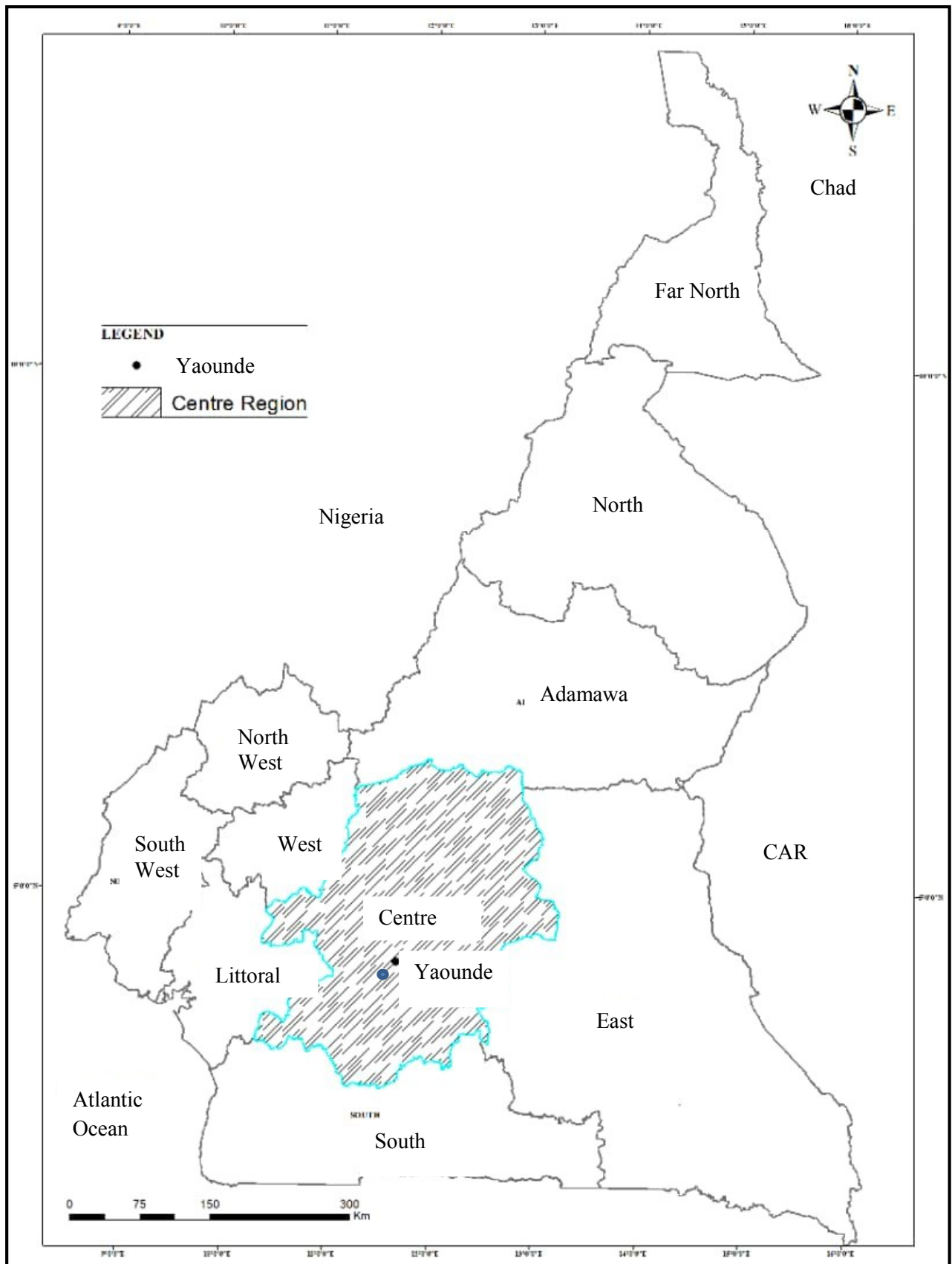
These ethnic groups can be regrouped into five (05) large regional-cultural divisions: western highlanders (Semi-Bantu or Grass Fielders), coastal tropical forest peoples (the Bassa, Duala and many smaller groups in the South West Region), southern tropical forest peoples (Betsi-Pahuin, Bulu, Fang, Maka, Njem, and Baka Pygmies), predominantly islamic peoples of the northern semi-arid regions (the Sahel and Fulani), and the Kirdi, non-islamic peoples of the northern desert and central highlands. These about two hundred and fifty (250) ethnic groups also present Cameroon as a country in Africa that speaks more than two hundred and fifty (250) languages.

With the historic evolution from colonisation, Cameroon is the only country in Africa with two (02) official languages qualifying her as one (01) out of the only two (02) bilingual countries in the world. The generally accepted written and oral official languages used in government offices and official documents in Cameroon are English and French. French and English are also the languages in education, in the media and in other relevant social domains. However, the official, indigenous and religious language cohabits. According to Fonka, (2011:103), Pidgin English is highly used in communication among the two (02) English speaking regions of Cameroon. French is widely used in the cities of the rest of the eight (08) French speaking regions. In the north of the country and Muslim dominating societies, Fulfulde is the primordial language used for communication and in business transactions.

In international trade, Cameroon is a member of the Central African Economics and Monetary Community (CEMAC), Commonwealth, the Economic Community of Central African states (ECCAS), and has signed the African continental free trade agreement. In August 2016, Cameroon signed a free trade agreement with the European Union (EU). Cameroon being a developing country whose economy depends mostly on primary products for her exports, most of the products exported from Cameroon are mostly agricultural products like cocoa, cotton, coffee, banana, and rubber. She also exports commodities like fuel (oil and gas), minerals (coal, aluminium) as well as wood from the Equatorial Rainforest. Cameroon is a strong market for the importation of goods like fuels and oil, food (rice, wheat, and fish). She also imports manufactured goods like vehicles, machinery, electrical and electronic equipment. She is also into the importation of medicines, clothes and drinks of all kinds. These products come from different countries.

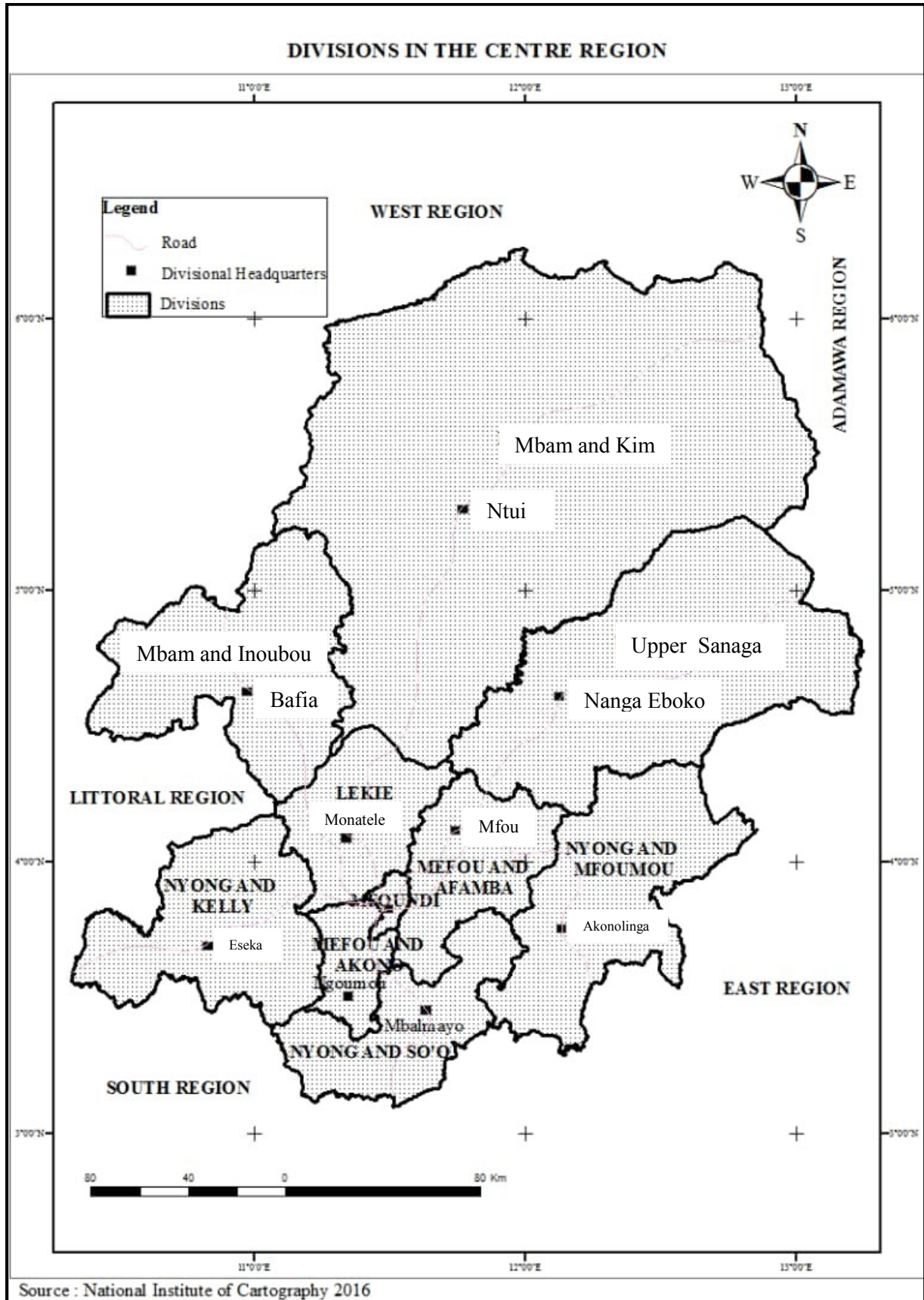
The main import partners of Cameroon are China, France, Thailand, Togo, and Nigeria. Her main export partners are China, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain. Eastern Asian countries especially China, Japan, India, and Thailand for over the years have been reinforcing their trade ties with Cameroon. However, Foreign Trade Figures of Cameroon-Economic and Political Overview, puts that Cameroon's trade balance is structurally negative. This is evident from statistics of 2014 to 2018. According to World Trade Organization (WTO), Cameroon recorded a trade deficit of United States Dollars (USD) five hundred and thirty-three million (533,000,000) in 2018. The country imported USD six billion, twelve million (6,012,000,000) worth of goods against USD three billion, eighty million (3,080,000,000) for export in 2018. With this business climate with the outside world, Douala the economic capital is the centre of business transactions in Cameroon, and Yaoundé the political capital, is the hotspot for administrative issues.

Yaoundé, the political capital is in the Centre Region. The Centre Region is made up of eleven Divisions which are; Mbam and Kim, Mbam and Inoubou, Upper Sanaga, Lekie, Nyong and Kelly, Mefou and Akono, Mefou and Afamba, Nyong and Mfoumou, Nyong and So'o, and Mfoundi. Yaoundé is the chief town of the Centre Region and of Mfoundi Division which is one (01) of the ten (10) divisions of the Centre Region. Mfoundi Division is divided into seven (07) subdivisions which are Yaoundé I, Yaoundé II, Yaoundé III, Yaoundé IV, Yaoundé V, Yaoundé VI, and Yaoundé VII. All these seven (07) sub-divisions make up the city of Yaoundé commonly called the town of seven (07) hills. Map one (01) and two (02) present a clear picture of Cameroon and the administrative map of Centre Region respectively.



**Map 1: The Map of Cameroon**

**Source: National Institute of Cartography**



**Map 2: The Administrative Map of Centre Region**

Source: National Institute of Cartography

Yaoundé lies in the Centre Region of the nation at an elevation of about seven hundred and fifty (750) metres above sea level. It covers an area of one hundred and eighty (180) km<sup>2</sup> with a population of two million seven hundred and sixty-five thousand six hundred (2,765,600) according to 2005 national population census projections. Her population density is estimated at fifteen thousand (15,000) inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>.

According to Ela, (1983:18), Yaoundé was founded in 1895, and is a city dominated by politico-administrative services. It was occupied by the German botanist Georg August Zenker as an agricultural research station named 'Jaunde' after the local 'Yaunde' or Ewondo people. After imperial Germany's defeat in the First World War (FWW), France held East Cameroon as a mandate of the League of Nations and Yaoundé was chosen to become the capital of the colony in 1922. It continued as the seat of government for the Republic of Cameroon upon her independence till date.

Yaoundé's economy is centred on the administrative structure of the civil and diplomatic services. As asserted by Laverne, (1995:449), the city centre, in partial respect of the concentric zone model proposed by Ernest BURGESS, in 1925 is made up of houses, government offices, ministries, banks, some hotels, Multipurpose Sport Complex, Conference Centre, Reunification Monument, Yaoundé I University, and the Central Market. The presidential palace and compound (The Unity Palace) are in Etoudi. Bastos with most homes owned by Cameroonians is home to foreign embassies and the expatriate Europeans, Americans, Chinese and other continental communities drawn mainly from the diplomatic corps. Most of these expatriates are inhabited here due to their diplomatic and friendly ties with the Republic of Cameroon. One of these relationships is that between the Republic of Cameroon and the People's Republic of China qualified as "win-win relationship". This brings us to the quest to know and have a brief presentation of who is, and where is China in the world that has a "win-win relationship" with Cameroon.

## **1.2 China a Partner of Cameroon in the "Win-Win Relationship"**

China officially called the People's Republic of China (PRC) is located in South-East Asia along the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. In terms of land ownership, China is the third largest country after Russia and Canada with an area of nine million six hundred thousand (9,600,000) km<sup>2</sup> and a coastline of eighteen thousand (18,000) km. China is located spanning about fifty (50) degrees of latitude and sixty-two (62) degrees of longitude and bordered by fourteen (14) countries which are Korea, Vietnam, Laos,



Burma, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and Russia. Her marine-side neighbours are North Korea, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam.

The name ‘Zhongguo’ referring to China, originated from central Yellow River Valley, around which the ruling Western Zhou dynasty was centred. Wilkinson, (2015:72), as well as Ateba Eyene, (2012:26), assert that the name in English for the country, was derived from Portuguese in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and became popular in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. China is one (01) of the world’s four (04) ancient civilizations and the written history of China dates back to the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046 BC). After the Shang Dynasty, came the imperial era from 221 BC-1912 AD. Within the imperial era, began the China’s unification under Qing’s rule right up to the end of the Qing Dynasty. The Qing Dynasty gave way to the Republic of China era in 1912 to 1949. The Republic of China gave birth to the modern China era that dates from 1949 until the present day. According to *China – Wikipedia*, the full given name of China today is ‘Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo’ translated into English as ‘People’s Republic of China’.

From the “Constitution of the People’s Republic of China, Chapter Three – State Institutions, English”, the People’s Republic of China is a state, organized or structured into eight (8) levels which are; the National People’s Congress, the president of the People’s Republic of China, the state council, the central military commission, the local people’s congress and local people’s government at various levels, the organs of self-government of ethnic autonomous areas, the supervision commissions, and the people’s courts and the people’s procuratorates.

The National People’s Congress (NPC) of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) is the highest organ of the country’s power and it exercises the legislative power of the state. The NPC is composed of delegates elected from the provinces, autonomous regions, directly governed municipalities, special administrative regions, and the armed forces. The NPC holds one (1) session per year, convened by its standing committee made up of a chairperson, several vice chairpersons, a secretary general and several members. The term of office of the NPC is five (5) years. It is the NPC that elects the president and vice president of the PRC, the president of the supreme people’s court as well as the procurator general of the supreme people’s procurate.

The President and the Vice President of the PRC are elected for a period of five (5) years. The President of the People's Republic of China, in accordance with decisions of the NPC and the standing committee, promulgates laws, appoints or removes the premier, the vice premiers, the state councillors, the ministers of the ministries, and secretary general of the state councils.

The State Council of the PRC is the central people's government, and plays the rule of the executive body of the highest organ of state power and is the highest organ of state administration. The State Council is composed of a premier, several vice premiers, several state councillors, and ministers of the various ministries, chairpersons of the various commissions, an auditor general, and a secretary general. The Premier assumes overall responsibility for the work of the state council. The ministers and chairpersons assume overall responsibility for the work of their respective ministries and commissions. The term of office of the Premier, the Vice Premier, and state councillors must not be more than two (02) consecutive terms of five (05) years each. The State Council is responsible and reports its work to the NPC or, when the NPC is not in session, to its standing committee.

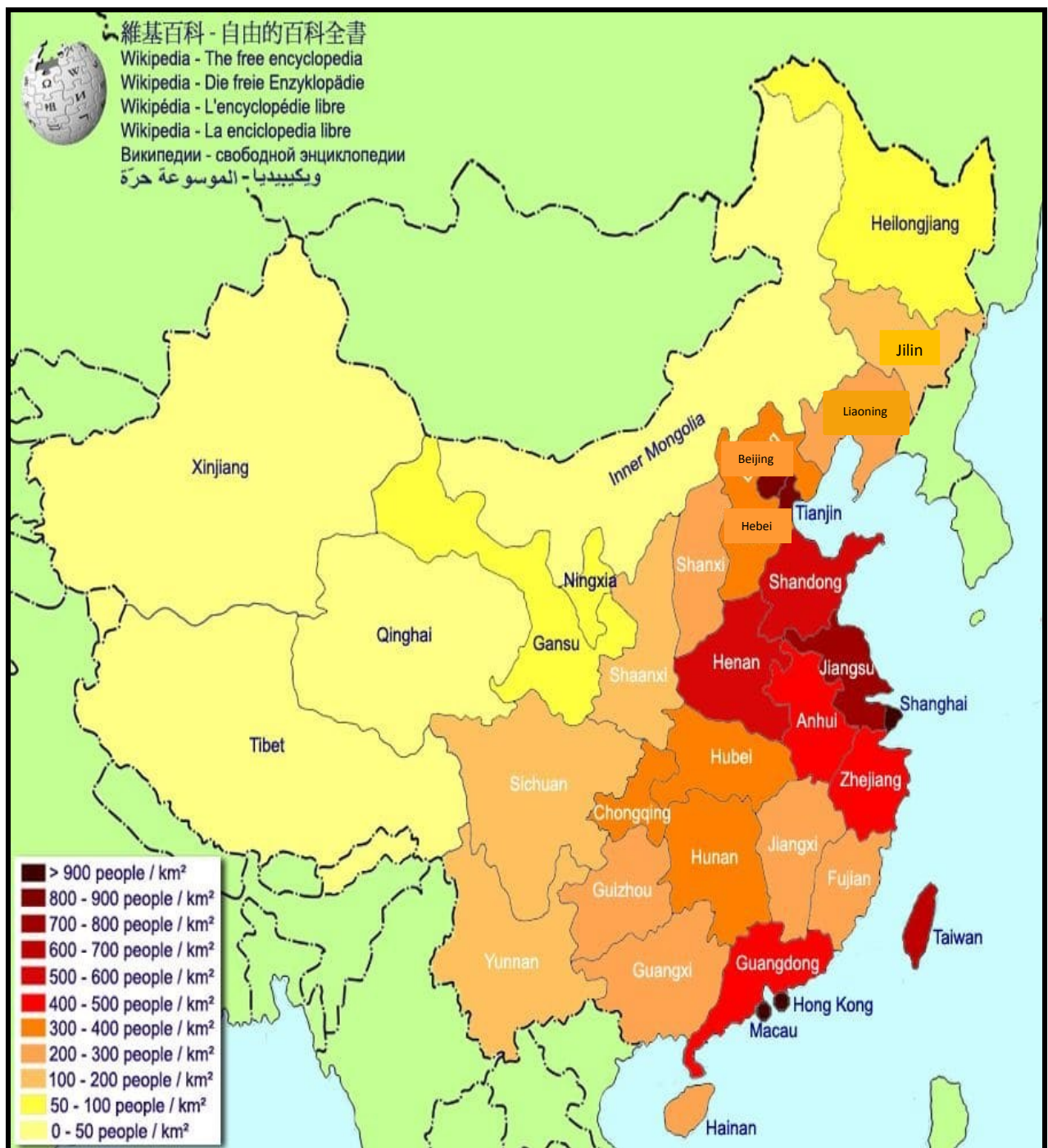
The Central Military Commission of the PRC directs the armed forces of the country. The commission is composed of a chairperson, several vice chairpersons and several members. The chairperson assumes overall responsibility for the work of the central military commission.

The local people's congress and local people's government at various levels are established in provinces, directly governed municipalities, counties, cities, municipal districts, townships, ethnic townships, and towns, governors, mayors, and heads of counties, districts, townships, and towns assume overall responsibility for local people's government at various levels.

The organs of self-government of ethnic autonomous areas are the people's congress and people's governments of autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures, and autonomous counties. The supervision commissions of the PRC at various levels are the supervisory organs of the state. The PRC establishes the state supervision commission at various levels. It is the highest supervisory organ of the state. The people's courts and the people's procuratorates are the PRC adjudicatory organs of the state, responsible for the execution of justice for the people of China, who are in billions.

According to the results of the “6<sup>th</sup> national population census of the PRC, also referred to as the 2010 Chinese census”, the population of mainland China stood at one billion, three hundred and thirty-nine million, seven hundred and twenty-four thousand, eight hundred and fifty-two (1,339,724,852) persons. In comparison with the results of the census in the year 2000, according to National Bureau of Statistics of China, “Communique of the National Bureau of Statistics of the People’s Republic of China on Major Figures of the 2010 Population Census (No 1), April 28”, 2011, there has been an increase of seventy-three million, eight hundred and ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and four (73,899,804) persons giving a growth rate of 5.84%. The census also listed the population of Hong Kong special administrative region as seven million, and ninety-seven thousand, six hundred (7,097,600) persons, the population of Macau special administrative region as five hundred and fifty-two thousand, three hundred (552,300) persons, and the population of Taiwan as twenty-three million, one hundred and sixty-two thousand, one hundred and twenty-three (23,162,123) persons. This population is made up of many ethnic groups.

Like in Cameroon, there are many ethnic groups that make up this high population in China. As of 1964, there are fifty-six (56) ethnic groups officially recognized by the PRC with the thickly populated ethnic group being the Han Chinese. These ethnic groups are geographically distributed into four (04) regions. The four (04) regions are the North, South, the North-West and Qinghai-Tibetan regions as presented in the geographical and population distribution map three (03) of the People’s Republic of China.



**Map 3: The Population Density Map of the People's Republic of China**

**Source:** Population distribution map of China – Bing images, [<http://www.bing.com/images/search>,] Visited 19/10/2020

The North and South regions are located in the eastern monsoon area and are divided by the Qinglin Mountains-Huia River. Nearly 95% of the Chinese population lives here indicated on map three (03) by the dark, oxblood and the red colours, with populations per kilometre square ranging from more than nine hundred (900) people /km<sup>2</sup>, 800-900 people

/km<sup>2</sup>, to 400-500 people /km<sup>2</sup> respectively. The other two (02) regions, the North-West and Qinghai-Tibetan regions that occupy 55% of the land have fewer people, although most of the ethnic groups cluster there. These ethnic groups spread over China, speak many different Chinese dialects as opposed to many who think all Chinese speak the same language.

Contrary to the general opinion that Chinese speak and understand each other, are many Chinese dialects. According to Lin and Chan, (no date), “*although many Chinese dialects exist, the written language is a common form of communication*”. Even though people are not able to verbally communicate in different provinces, they are able to understand each other in writing. However, the written Chinese language can be further subdivided into three (3); simplified, traditional, and informal slang or phonetic. There is also a form of the Chinese language called “pin-yin” which is the Chinese language transcribed using a roman spelling.

Traditional or classical Chinese characters are taught and spoken in Taiwan, Malaysia, Korea, Japan and elsewhere. The People’s Republic of China does not teach the tradition or classical Chinese characters in schools as we may have thought. Defrancis, (1984:214), opines that “*Mandarin is the Chinese language taught in Chinese schools*”. It is the most common dialect used in China and has been adopted as a second language by those who speak other Chinese dialects.

Mandarin is the main official Chinese language spoken and written in China. Yet, there are other languages or dialects spoken in Chinese provinces such as;

- 1) Cantonese, also known as ‘Yue’ or ‘Guanghua’ spoken in Hong Kong, most of Guangdong, and the southern Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region. Government officials and schools are required to use Mandarin dialect.
- 2) Toisanese is the Chinese language spoken in the northwest of China. Apart from toisanese, xiang dialect is also spoken in Hunan Province.
- 3) Min dialect is one of the local languages spoken in Fujian, Taiwan, and Hainan. In addition to the dialects mentioned earlier, Jag, (1999:278), adds that Wu dialect, Zhijiang, and Jiangsu are other dialects spoken by the Chinese just to name a few. Of all these dialects, Mandarin is the most popular Chinese dialects used in China for business transactions. After Mandarin, for local and foreign trade, English language tops the list of the languages spoken by Chinese.

Trade is one of the factors that have contributed to the migration and spread of the Chinese around the world.

In the area of trade, due to Chinese enormous trade surplus over the past few years, China has become the world's largest exporter and ranks second among the world's largest importers. According to Chinese Foreign Trade in Figures-Santandertrade.com, nine (09) China's main exports include transmission apparatus for radio-telephony, automatic data processing machines and units, electronic integrated circuits and micro-assemblies, electrical apparatus for line telephony, as well as parts and accessories for machines and vehicles on the one hand. On the other hand, China mainly imports electronic integrated circuits and micro-assemblies, petroleum oils, petroleum gas, motor vehicles as well as a series of raw materials like timber, cotton and iron ores. China's main partners when it comes to importation of finished products are the United States, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and Germany. As reported by World Trade Organisation (WTO), Chinese exports of goods in 2018 stood at USD two thousand four hundred and eighty-six billion, seven hundred million (2,486,700,000,000) and imports USD two thousand one hundred and thirty-five billion, seven hundred million (2,135,700,000,000), while exports and imports of services in 2018 reached USD two hundred and sixty-five, billion (265,000,000,000) and USD five hundred and twenty billion, six hundred thousand (520,600,000,000) respectively.

On the one hand, the value of China-Africa trade in 2018 was worth USD 185 billion, with the largest exporters to China from Africa being Angola, South Africa and the Republic of Congo. On the other hand, in 2018, South Africa was the largest buyer of Chinese goods, followed by Nigeria and Egypt. Although not amongst the largest exporters and importers of Chinese goods and services, Cameroon is highly involved in the export and import activities with China.

According to Chinese export data, in 2016, 2017 and 2018 the value of Chinese exports to Cameroon stood at USD 1,557.03 billion, USD 1,388.61 billion and USD 1,706.52 billion respectively. Averagely within the three (03) years, the value of Chinese exports to Cameroon increased by 9.64% though there was a drastic drop from 2016 to 2017 but followed by a tremendous increase in 2018. Looking at things critically, not only the shipping of goods is taking place between China and Cameroon but, also human migration is at a rise.

The Chinese community in Cameroon is hard to evaluate but has been growing rapidly in the last decade. According to Komings, (2011:191), “*Estimates go from 20,000 to 200,000, with a more realistic figure being 50,000 Chinese in Cameroon.*” These people who have migrated to Cameroon from China have become active in many sectors of the Cameroon’s economy, including where it is perceived as unfairly competing with locals who already have employment and financial difficulties. Chinese migration to Cameroon started in the late 1980s but until the 2000s was very limited and concentrated in restaurants, traditional Chinese medicine and retail shops (around 1000 Chinese). In 2008 the population was still about 2000. From Afrique Media, 05-08-2015, Programmes Français Contre Chinois Main Base en Afrique, “*In the last ten (10) years, new migrants have arrived and developed businesses in many areas, such as wholesale and retail trade, transportation, farming and fishing.*” This brings us to the point of searching to know how China and Cameroon started their relationship and how the relationship has evolved over time.

### **1.3 Brief History of China-Cameroon Relationship**

From Africa-China Relations, Wikipedia, the establishment of modern Sino-African relations began in the late 1950s, when China signed bilateral trade agreements with Algeria, Egypt, Guinea, Somalia, Morocco, and Sudan with Egypt being the first African country to establish diplomatic relations with China in May 1956. By the early 1960s, the period known as the period of the wind of change in history as many African countries were gaining their independence, Zhou ENLAI made a ten (10)-country tour to Africa between December 1963 and January 1964. Wenping He, (2006:44), laid emphasis that “*by the end of the 1970s, forty-four (44) of the fifty (50) independent African countries had entered into diplomatic relations with China*”. Before then, Cameroon had no bilateral relationship with China. Cameroon immediately after her independence in 1960, decided to create diplomatic relations with the Republic of China (ROC), with a common appellation Taiwan rather than with the People’s Republic of China (PRC) although China’s involvement in African’s states affairs dates back to the 1950s. Gebrehiwot and Hongwu, (2013:11), supported the view point that China’s relationship with Africa in modern times was characterized by the former, supporting liberation movements that had then been in moment’s stages leading to independence of most African countries from the colonial masters in the 1960s. This behaviour of China supporting liberation movements affected their relations with the state of Cameroon under President AHIDJO.

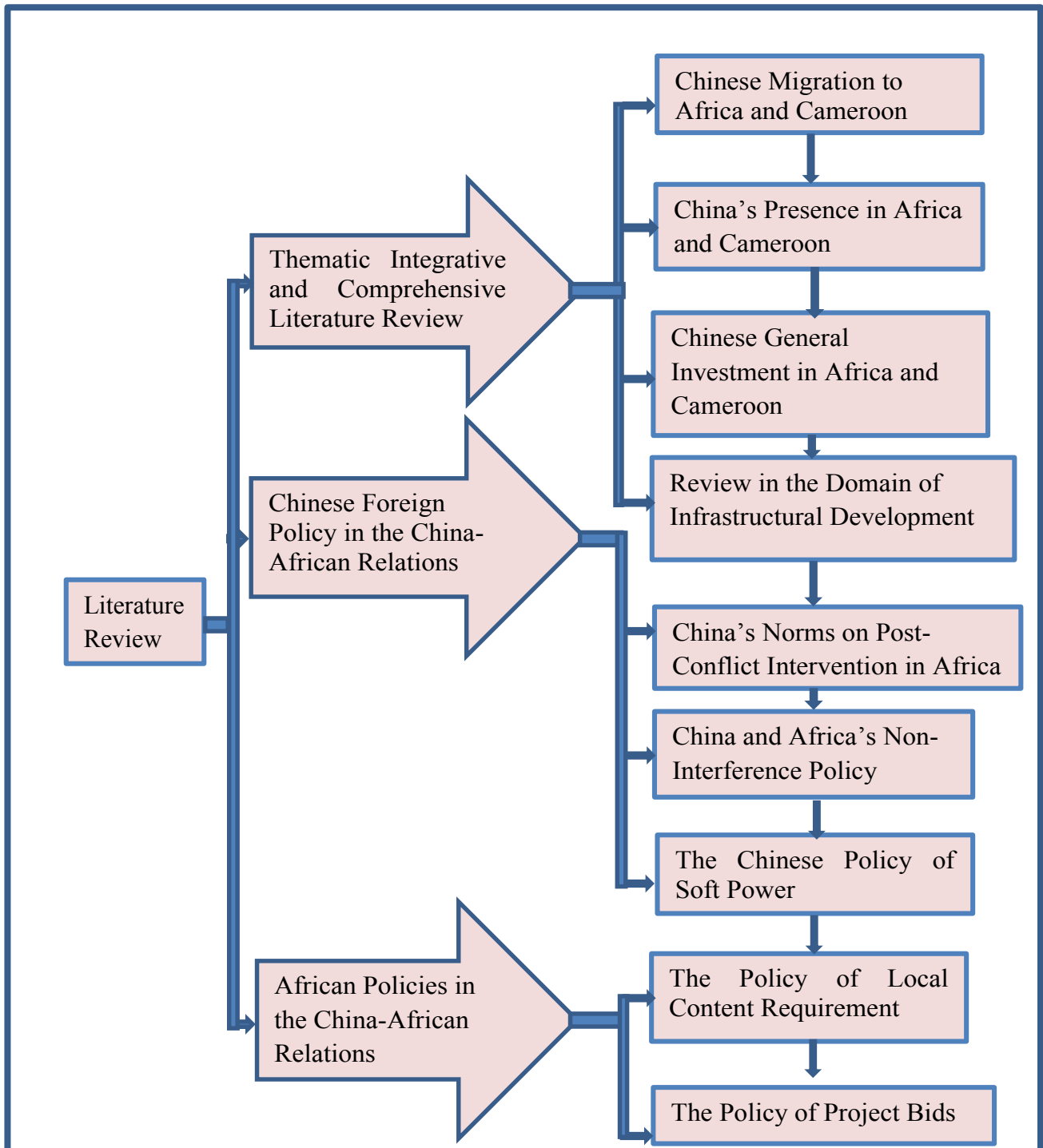
To unearth the reason for the unwillingness of Cameroon to create international relations with China, Richer, (1971:263), asserts that the choice of ROC culminated from the fact that “*the People’s Republic of China was financing the UPC to oppose the government of President AHIDJO*”. This provoked a radio declaration in Yaoundé, in which President AHIDJO affirmed, Kouega, (2007:3), quipped “*I already said, it is not because she is communist, it’s because she interferes in our proper affairs*”. This gives the reason why the Sino-Cameroon relations was characterised by “*a climate of tension*” before 1971 according to Mouandjo, (2000:57). With time, a trial was attempted, thanks to the negotiations of 26<sup>th</sup> March 1971 that were aimed to establish diplomatic relations between the two (02) countries; China and Cameroon. The participants involved in the negotiations table according to Mouandjo, (2000:58), were “*Mr Vincent EFON, the then Cameroon Minister of External Relations, and Mr Feng YU, the PRC’s Ambassador of the Maritime*”. Since then, the relations between the two (02) countries; Cameroon and China have witnessed a steady development with which they qualify as sincere and friendly cooperation carried out in every aspect.

In the political domain, Chinese leaders and officials including President Hu Jintao have visited Cameroon over the years. In return, Cameroonian leaders and officials including the heads of state President AHIDJO, the first president of Cameroon and President Paul BIYA, the present head of state of Cameroon have paid several official visits to China. These diplomatic visits and interactions of both states’ leaders and officials as well as the citizens of the two (02) countries have yielded fruits especially at the level of infrastructural development giving birth to the appellation qualifying their relationship as a “win-win relationship” which is the subject matter of this research work. To better study this subject matter which is the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development the following thesis structure has been put in place.



#### 1.4 Presentation of Literature Review

Figure four (04) presents the presentation of the literature review.



**Figure 04: Presentation of the Literature Review**

**Source:** Adapted from Nyanchi, (2019:65), and Modified to Context

## **1.5 Thematic Integrative and Comprehensive Literature Review**

Many researchers have carried out research on China international relationship in general and on China-Africa, and China-Cameroon relationships in particular. This section is therefore a review of earlier research works related to the present study. However, given that even the same topics are always treated differently by different researchers, this portion of literature review attempts to review some available opinions related to this topic so as to better situate this one. The works are regrouped under the following themes.

### **1.5.1 Chinese Migration to Africa and Cameroon in particular**

Migration is one of the key themes that has been handled so far as Africa- China relations are concerned in general and Cameroon – China relations in particular. Many researchers have written on the migration of both the Chinese to Africa and vice versa. From Africa-China relations, in 2013, there is an estimated one million (1,000,000) Chinese citizens residing in Africa. According to Gordon, and Yang, (2012:95-120), it has also been estimated that over two hundred thousand (200,000) Africans are working in China.

This displacement brings about what we term migration. According to Mohan and Kale, (2007), Chinese migration to Africa, has existed for at least five hundred (500) years, but has rapidly taken off in the last five (05) years since the year 2,000 in particular.

There have been three (03) phases to Chinese migration into Africa. Although there had been contacts between China and Africa across the Indian Ocean, it was only from the mid Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Century onwards that systematic migration really began. It lasted from 1850 to 1950 and was aimed mainly at providing labour for colonial projects. Between 1960 and 1980, following the founding of the PRC and onset of the Cold War, relations between China and Africa entered a more political phase. From the year 1990 to present, there has been an increase in migration resulting from the Chinese economic reforms initiated in the late 1970s.

As Ma Mung, (2008:91-109), notes, Africa has seen an increase in Chinese immigration since the late 1990s. He makes a distinction between three (03) kinds of migration from China which are temporary labour migration, proletarian migration in transit, and migration for business. To this, we should add the new wave of migration since the opening of China's frontiers in the 1980s. This consists partly of students, traders, and doctors, who provide

support for the Chinese medical personnel in Cameroon who belong to this wave of new migrants.

According to Roddrigue, (2008), the migration of the Chinese especially to Cameroon is a call for research. This migration of the Chinese to Cameroon can be understood under three (03) main aspects. The first had to do with the recent increase in the number of Chinese nationals in Cameroon within this decade. This calls for reasons to identify the causes of Chinese immigration to Cameroon especially within this decade. The second aspect was to study the reasons for the Chinese choice of Cameroon and the third had to do with the modalities which motivated their choice of Cameroon by the Chinese who have migrated to Cameroon.

Findings from Roddrigue, (2008:7), showed that China wants to wake up to marvel the world. To do this Roddrigue, (2008:36), says, China intends to amass wealth so as to be projected as a world power. To confirm this, Wu, (2016:43), quips “*China is looking for markets in which to invest*”. However, China’s major problem is her thick population. To salvage this problem of thick population, China sets out to create the means for her citizens to find settlement areas elsewhere. Cameroon is thus seen as the solution to this problem given that she offers many opportunities in terms of employment and labour.

The present study extends that of Roddrigue in the sense that it does not only look at the Chinese that have migrated for what so ever reason, but goes further to discuss the relationship between the Cameroonians and the Chinese that have migrated to Cameroon. Before presenting the relationship between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development, part of this work brings out the official visits carried out by both countries’ representatives who mandate the vitality and functionality of migration.

Roddrigue focuses on the causes of Chinese immigration, and reasons for the choice of Cameroon, while the present study focuses on the relationships that have been created especially at the level of infrastructural development. With the opportunities in terms of employment and labour Cameroon has offered and is still offering as the solution to the problems faced by China, the present study looks at the strategies of adaptability and the stakes involved between China and Cameroon relationship; particularly in the area of infrastructure.

To add to Roddrigue’s research on Chinese migration to Cameroon, Ateba Eyene, (2010), examines the penetration of China in Africa and the hope of the rupture of the colonial

pact with the western world for the Sino-Cameroon cooperation. He highly valorises the political relation between China and Cameroon. He states that “*on the political plan, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has maintained relations first with the Cameroon National Union (CNU) party since 1981 and with the Cameroon People Democratic Movement (CPDM) party since its creation.*” This relationship between these political parties, are in diverse ways. The diversity ranges from exchanges of experiences through seminars, different forms of workshops and training to good will gesture of gifts giving of different kinds such as computers, printers, cameras and projection boards.

There have also been reciprocal visits by representatives of the various parties to China and vice versa. For instance, concerning these reciprocal visits, Zhang, (2014:15-21), the Chinese foreign minister, had a strategic pragmatic visit to reinforce China foreign policy in four African countries. At this level of reciprocal visits, Ateba Eyene (2010), described his and Cameroon government representatives’ journeys to China that he titles “*The journey to China and the discovery of a big country*”. This visit was under the political coverage. Ateba Eyene (idem) focuses his presentation on examining the penetration of China at the level of the ruling political party of Cameroon – CPDM and the PCC of China. He presented how they travelled from Cameroon to China and their journey from one Chinese city to another. In all, they visited four (04) Chinese cities (Beijing, Guangxi, Xiamen, and Guangzhou). Their movement from one Chinese city to another was to create political links with the top Chinese political gurus of those cities and also discover cities as well as Chinese infrastructure, population, ethnic groups in China, religious life of the people of China and administration system. He also had to describe how they were welcomed in those Chinese cities from the south to the north and back to the south. To him the political journey to China was a success.

Away from politics Ateba Eyene also analysed the geopolitical injustice of the world powers towards China. This injustice is practised by the powers that are against China’s presence and influence in Africa. This injustice is well analysed in chapter seven (07) of the book with subheadings handled like the Chinese communism, Chinese demography, and the contradictions of the western capitalism spirit. To this effect of the injustice, Ateba Eyene had to bring out the reasons why despite the antagonised view of China in Africa, China still keeps on improving her relationship with Africa in general and Cameroon in particular.

He coined China and Africa as sisters. To this, he added that the Chinese model is a model that is convenient to Cameroon. To add to Ateba Eyene’s voice of the continuous

improvements of relationship between China and Africa, kofi Annan as recorded in Elsie, (2015:30), said:

*The Chinese engagement with Africa has been positive, Africa has had benefits and I think that these sorts of encounters must always be mutually beneficial. If it is not mutually beneficial, it will not be sustainable. Energy constraints make development difficult. Energy is as important as infrastructure.*

Furthermore, Ateba Eyene (2012), wrote on the support of China to the Emergence of Cameroon to the Horizon by 2035. He talked of the development cooperation, its success and worries. He presented Cameroon and China as names that originated from the Portuguese. This work went further to look at the emergence of Cameroon according to the head of state President Paul Biya. Of importance to this work is the presentation of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) visit of President Paul Biya to the People's Republic of China. This work ends with the presentation of virtues of the Sino-Cameroon relationship with emphasis placed on the worries of the Cameroonians in relation to the cooperation ties between the two countries.

From this research work, of Ateba Eyene, it is evident that the Chinese are not only migrating to Africa, but also to the rest of the continents of the world. Chinese have migrated to other parts of Asia, Europe, as well as to North and South America. Worth mentioning here is that, according to Ateba Eyene, (2012), the Sino-African relations in general and Sino-Cameroon cooperation in particular have just started and more is still to be done in the days ahead. To this just starting cooperation, the model applied to this relationship is that of mutual understanding, hope, vigilance and mutual confidence against the relationship between Africa and the West which is characterised by confusion, illusions, disillusion, reject and recapturing manifested through geopolitical injustice put in place by the West to dominate the African countries in their relationship.

Although we are not going to touch the geopolitical injustice analysed by Charles, this study has to look at the stakes and the implications of the Chinese both in China and Cameroon. Looking at both countries to buttress the saying of Kofi Annan that these sorts of encounters, must always be mutually beneficial. Ateba Eyene analysed only a single journey of the Cameroon government officials represented by the CPDM leaders to China, but the present study will extend to look in a critical manner the number of journeys carried out by both the Cameroon and China officials to both countries through documentary research. This will have to do with the official visits carried out by the number one citizens of the various states to the

visits carried out by ministers and states representatives at different levels. That is to say, this study goes deep to analyse the mobility of officials of both countries from the top government officials – the presidents to the ministers and top government officials at various levels and of the two (2) states. The visits and mobility of individuals from these two (2) countries have marked the presence of Chinese in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular not leaving out Yaoundé as our sample.

### **1.5.2 China's Presence in Africa**

The migration of Chinese to Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, have caught the attention of many scholars who do not only look at the migration but, also the settlement of the migrated Chinese in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular.

Firstly, Howard, (2014), considers Africa as China's second continent. He talks of a million migrants (referring to the Chinese population in Africa) building a new empire in Africa. Howard says there are diverse lots of Chinese in Africa. Some of the Chinese in Africa include doctors, engineers, farmers, entrepreneurs, labourers and prostitutes among others, and the account of their experiences are often absent from analyses of China-Africa relations. According to Howard, (2014), China-Africa relations analyses are often typically focused on infrastructure building and resource grabbing. In fact, according to him much has been said about infrastructure building and resource grabbing. Unfortunately, even with the analyses of the infrastructure building and resource grabbing, many things are lacking. Most of these discussions on infrastructure building which is our focus are based on economic terms and figures. At the sociological, cultural and environmental level, little or nothing is said in that direction. Even when something is to be said in these areas, it is always done in passing without greater analysis. This study seeks to fill the gaps created by the precedent authors.

Interacting with Chinese and Africans in Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Namibia, and elsewhere, Howard (idem), capably illustrates that although the Chinese omnipresence in Africa may be a form of soft imperialism, it is also a result of the crushing pressures such as lack of or limited space, merciless business competition, and pollution of modern Chinese society. The question we may ask here is to know how their escape from China to Africa has modified or is affecting the African societies, and how their influence in Africa is impacting the lives of Chinese back in China. This influence at various levels and areas brings us to our

topic that talks about the implications and stakes in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development.

The work of Howard (*idem*), is very important to this study in that it unmask the various domains in which Chinese are engaged in, when they migrate to Africa. In fact, he has gone further to enumerate the African countries he has visited and study the lives of Chinese. From the list of African countries visited unfortunately or fortunately, Cameroon which is our field of study is not mentioned. This study is an extension of Howard’s work in that, the infrastructure he made mentioned of, is more in political and economic terms according to him, without seeing the relations and social dynamics created by the activities of the construction of these structures which are the centre concern of this present study. He has generalised his findings, but we are particularly interested in a particular domain and particular country – infrastructural development and Cameroon respectively, which might extend to touch some of the areas he mentioned in a more detailed manner.

Furthermore, this study is not only interested in looking at the negative impact that pushed many to leave China for Africa, but goes further to see how the relations between China and Africa in general and Cameroon in particular influence the lives of individuals in China and Cameroon in particular. This causes us to review the research work of Wenze, (2010), who goes further to talk about the real cost of the China-Cameroon relationship.

Wenze, (2010), examined the real cost of the relationship between China and Cameroon. He like Ateba Eyene (*idem*) addresses the increasing phenomenon of the Chinese presence in Cameroon. He starts by bringing out the historical facts about the two (02) countries (China and Cameroon) involved in the relationship. To this history, he brings out the geographical positions of the countries in the world and then presents what each country is benefiting from the relationship. This portion is of interest because it has helped to orientate this work to search for the brief history as well as the locations of Cameroon and China as countries involved in a “win-win relationship”. With this presentation of the historical facts and geographical positions of the two (02) states, Wenze went on to examine what each state is gaining in their relationship with one another.

Concerning what each nation gains, Wenze, (2010:15), opines that, China, benefits raw materials, investment and space gains and on the other hand, Cameroon, has infrastructural and financial benefits. He also looks at the political atmosphere and the evolution of politics in

these two (02) countries paying attention to the forms of government and the political parties in the various countries. At this point, this study is not interested in the presentation of politics in the two (02) states not because it is not important but just for the fact that including politics will deviate our attention of looking critically at the specific aspect, we are to study which is the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. He did not end at the presentation of the political atmosphere and the evolution of politics in these two (02) countries, but went further to present the economic aspect especially in numerical terms of the relationship between China and Cameroon.

The greater interest in his work is the regard on the economic and business as well as the investments put in place by China in Cameroon. On this he analysis why the Chinese companies come in with labour from China to do work in Cameroon with the local Cameroonian labourers remaining jobless. He focuses on the benefits as well as the risk and issues resulting from this cooperation between China and Cameroon, especially economically and politically.

Talking about benefits and risks, the researcher drives towards the subject matter of the present study, yet, he goes towards more details on the economic and political than on the sociological aspects to be closely analysed by the present study. This study goes beyond the benefits and the risks to talk on the active implication at conception through execution to after the execution of the projects by these states in the “win-win relationship” especially at the level of infrastructural development. This prompts us to go more and more to discover what others have written in relation to this study.

To add to Wenze, (2010), Mouandjo, (2000), also analysed the Cameroon-China relationship. This researcher concentrates on bringing to limelight the various aspects in which the Chinese have concentrated in the “win-win relationship”. The researcher elaborates the economic, technical and commercial cooperation between China and Cameroon. He points out how Chinese are actively involved in the economic, technical and commercial sectors in Cameroon.

He mostly concentrated only on the Chinese without taking into consideration how Chinese and Cameroonians relate to one another. He focuses on what the Chinese are doing without taking into consideration that being a cooperation between China and Cameroon, Cameroon should have something to offer especially as the relationship is qualified a “win-win



relationship”. The present work is an extension of Mouandjo’s work in that, it has gone further to talk on how the relationship between China and Cameroon extends and goes beyond not only talking about Chinese in Cameroon, but also to Chinese in China. Apart from Mouandjo (idem), many other researchers have also written widely on the China relationship with African countries in general and Cameroon in particular.

Gebrehiwot and Hongwu, (2013), are editors of a collective book of over twenty-four (24) researchers who have worked on China-Africa relations under eleven (11) key areas of this relationship. These articles edited by Gebrehiwot and Hongwu, (2013), talk about China-Africa relation in terms of governance, peace and security. Governance, peace and security analysed by these researchers are important areas to the present study in that they go deep to bring out the policies put in place by the Chinese in Africa which are of great significance to this research work. The work is divided into three (03) sections. The first section deals with the interpretation, practice and the evolution of the non-interference principle from different angles. The second section mainly focuses on aspects of China-Africa relations at the continental, regional and spotlight country specific cases. The last section covers economic and political aspects of the China-Africa relations examining country specific cases.

Kambuudzi, (2013:29-45), characterizes the China-Africa relations as a give-and-take process with each side having something to offer and as well receive. This is in line with the objective of this research work which is not only to see what each partner in the relationship is receiving and offering, but also to see how each state is implicated in the relation at the level of infrastructural development. To add to Kambuudzi, (2013), voice, others like Bansal (2011), sees Sino-African cooperation as a new and fascinating path toward an emerging program for South-South relations. It is really a fascinating path toward an emerging program for South-South relations, yet, not all the countries or states of the South are of the same strength economically, especially looking at the relationship between China and Cameroon in particular. This is taking into consideration that China is an economic guru of the world and Cameroon on the other part is still striving to emerge by the year 2035 according to their political agenda which might be or might not be accomplished, for it is just a political aspiration.

It is important for this study to go further in line with Kambuudzi, (2013:29-45), to see at the sociological level what each party is to offer and receive in China-Cameroon relationship under the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. This sociological regard will have to do with the implications and the stakes of the relation at the level of

infrastructural development with China as a key partner in the accomplishment of giant projects in Cameroon to boast the agenda 2035 emergence. So, looking at these partners of a relation which is called a 'win-win', we can just imagine how a lion can be making friendship with a cat. Considering Cameroon as a cat and China as the lion is not a mistake especially when we look at the position of China in international organisations like the United Nation Security Council where she occupies one of the permanent seats, which is very vital in decision making in this important powerful organisation.

According to Alden and Dan, (2013:16-28), it would have proved difficult for China to get the permanent seat at the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) without the support of African states of which Cameroon is one of the countries that played this important role. To pay for this good gesture of voting China into the permanent seat in the UNSC, according to Alden and Dan (2013), in return China provides invaluable technical, financial, and diplomatic support to these African states including Cameroon.

This study is an extension of Alden and Dan (2013), research in that it will not only limit itself to the entry of the Chinese into the UNSC but, also look for other areas that the relation between China and Cameroon has paved the way for China at the international level in different ways. With this knowledge of the presence of China in Africa, it is essential to go deep to have a view of what they are actually doing in the continent through their general investments in the various countries of Africa.

### **1.5.3 Chinese General Investment in Africa**

From the previous presentation, the evidence is that China is actively present in African states in general and in Cameroon in particular. Their presence is not dormant, but an active one with many activities going on and many things happening. To have knowledge of their activities, we shall look at the Chinese general investments in Africa and Cameroon in particular. To look at these investments, this shall be done through the presentation of the works of researchers who have written about the Chinese investments in Africa such as Giovannetti and Sanfilippo (2009), Wang, (2013), Cheru and Obi, (2011), Ross, (2013), Mckinnon, (2010), Ozawa and Bellak, (2011) just to name a few.

Giovannetti and Sanfilippo, (2009), present that the buoyant growth of China in the past twenty (20) years, of an average rate of around 10% percent a year, has had a very positive impact on the world's economy. This China's rapid development has been characterized by a

vital need for natural and energy resources to sustain its growth. In its international quest for oil and mineral resources, China has increasingly invested in many of the African countries that may possess these resources. Consequently, on the one hand, China's involvement in African states is often seen as a rush to secure imports and commodities from these countries for the expansion of its own manufacturing sector back in China and elsewhere in the world, where they have planted their manufacturing industries.

On the other hand, empirically investigating the determinants of Chinese foreign direct investments (FDI) in across forty-one (41) African countries between 1998 and 2007, and based on an econometric analysis, Sanfilippo, (2010:599-614), directly engaged with this issue to carry out research. The research provided strong empirical evidence that favoured the controversial idea that Chinese FDI to Africa is driven by the two (02) factors of natural resources endowment and market opportunities. With this outcome with that the Chinese FDI is driven by the search for natural resources and market opportunities in Africa, more had to be investigated to see further what is prompting China to rush to Africa apart from these two (02) factors.

More specifically, Wang, (2013:128-145), investigated the key determinants of China's investment strategy by analysing the country's outward FDI flow to Africa between 2002 and 2007. Wang, (2013), identified oil supply as the primary determinant in shaping Chinese FDI. Out of the fifty-four (54) African countries, China has thus far invested in all forty-five (45) nations that have large sources of oil, coal and gas. For instance, Ross, (2013:114-127), talks of the east African oil and gas bonanza. Through FDI into Africa, particularly in the mining, infrastructure and technology sectors, China has considerably increased its partnerships with African counterparts. Accordingly, to Mckinnon, (2010), at least thirty-five (35) African countries have engaged with China to confirm infrastructure deals.

It is legitimate to question whether the benefits of cooperating with China will be long lasting. On this issue, Cheru and Obi, (2011), see economic advantages only in the short run, leaving Africa's long-term plans either unknown or at risk. For instance, looking at the China-Tanzania relation, Youqing, (2014:18), the future is questionable. This risk and the unknown usher us into seeking to know how the parties are implicated from conception of projects, their realisation and after the realisation of these structures. This might put us in a position to bring to limelight, how the future will look like with the sociological analysis of what is taking place now. This will be to produce knowledge which is the work of the sociologist. However, he

cannot be indifferent to these projects and the subjectivity of the actors. With this idea we go on to point more on what many have written about China when it comes to the point of whether China is out to help Africa or not.

Several studies Chemingui and Bchir (2010), Giovannetti and Sanfilippo, (2009), and Sperbee, (2009), have concluded that China is not willing to help Africa industrialize. Indeed, the cases of traditional partners of developing countries, such as those of the European Union (EU) are not different from the Chinese in any way. China cannot simply be seen as a white knight lending a helping hand to the underdeveloped African brethren – because it has its own vested interests. This interest of China in Africa is that of protection of investment and trade opportunities. In this, China is no different from European, Asian or American countries engaging with the continent that are out to benefit in one way or the other with their engagements in Africa. Then, the question to ask will be to know whether it is necessary to qualify the relationship between China and Africa in general and Cameroon in particular as a “win-win relationship”? For this relationship to be a win-win relation there is need for something special to be done by China to distinguish herself from other partners having cooperation ties with African countries.

In this regard to distinguish herself from other developmental partners of Africa, and to encourage African’s development, Zoellick, (2010), World Bank president from 2009-2012 requested that China should attempt to direct its investments and partnerships toward more sustainable programs. He suggested that “*Chinese investments in Africa should go beyond the traditional scope of building infrastructure and begin to include the development of the African manufacturing industry.*” This is to affirm that, China is engaged in infrastructural development in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, but the issue is that the infrastructures put in place cannot really boast the industrial development of the continent. Most of the structures put in place are not industrially oriented.

Taking into consideration that, what distinguishes the third world and the developed world, is the level of productivity of goods and services commonly known as industrialisation which is the engine of development. This point is to buttress the quest of this research work to have an understanding of how, both the Chinese and the Cameroonians are implicated after the construction work is over since most of the structures are not industrially oriented. So, with what is being put in place as structures, or what is going on as construction works between

Chinese and Africans in Africa, boast the industrial sector now or in the future of the African continent?

However, as stated by Ozawa and Bellak, (2011), China's capacity to transform Sub-Saharan countries into industrialized manufacturing economies through, FDI remain unrealistic, underdeveloped and quite restricted. These researchers have asserted that, currently, Africa's industrialization is dependent on extracting of raw materials with western companies that are specifically interested in cheap labour resources, rather than Chinese investments. Elu and Price, (2010), found that increasing trade openness with China had no direct effect on the growth of the total productivity in the countries. Indeed, their results suggested that increasing trade openness with China is not a long-term or viable source of development for many African countries. Thus, positioning Africa as the provider of raw materials for Chinese and western industries and market or better still, consumer of the Chinese and western industries – a position she has been from the beginning of any relationship from the slave trade era to present.

The same study revealed that for Sub-Saharan manufacturing firms, increasing their trade openness with China does not, in general, lead to transfer of technology and skills that enhance firm –level productivity. Then can we say that China is a wrong choice to Cameroon; to be partnering with her with the hope of becoming emerging by 2035? This is to indicate that the construction works going on in African countries carried out by Chinese to an extent, is to the benefit of China and not the masses. If the localities are not benefiting, can we say that the right name for the relationship should not be “win-win relationship” for the two (02) states, where only one seems to be benefiting. To this fact of only one out of the two (02) nations benefiting, more points are added for the need to carry out this present research work to see how the inhabitants are implicated from conception, realisation to after the putting in place of the structures and the stakes involved, if it is that they are not benefiting from the relationship.

To go further, Ozawa and Bellak, (2011), found that Chinese engagement in the Sub-Saharan region is primarily concerned with natural resource extraction, infrastructure development and business venture. These Chinese engagements at the level of resource extraction, infrastructure development and business venture in Africa is observed and appreciated with different opinions and remarks as well as appreciations.

On the one hand, African governments generally welcome engagements with China as it brings them political legitimacy and contributes to their economic development. Yet, on the other hand by contradicting, some segments of African society criticize Chinese enterprises for their poor labour conditions, unsustainable environmental practices and job displacement. With this contradicting reports and ways of looking at the presence of China in Africa, the present study critically looks at how the population is engaged in the accomplishments of China in the domain of infrastructural development, that are having mixed feelings in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular.

With the review on China's presence and general investment in Africa, we now have the quest to narrow our findings to search and understand how China is involved in the infrastructural development of Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, which is the foundation of this research work. To have a further and profound understanding of how China is involved in the infrastructural development in the continent, we shall deeply review the works of researchers related to infrastructural development in relation to China's relationship with Africa in general and Cameroon in particular in the following write up.

#### **1.5.4 Chinese in the Domain of Infrastructural Development**

Infrastructural development is one of the areas in which China has highly been involved in fuelling the "win-win relationship". Many structures are put in place and many are ongoing as well as many still are in the pipeline as the relationship between China and Africa as well as Cameroon gain more ground. With this vein of intervention in Africa by China, researchers have been interested in analysing the active involvement of China in Africa in the area of infrastructural development.

Ana, (2013), is one of the researchers that have carried out research on the Chinese engagement in the infrastructural development of Africa. To do her research, she investigated China's use of infrastructure-for-resources loans in as win-win economic cooperation tool. Her research is based on primary sources, namely observations and interviews with qualified informants between 2008 and 2013 in Southern Africa and China, complemented by secondary sources through extensive desk research. In her work she highlights topics such as, China-Africa: a perfect match? Unpacking China's motivations, unpacking Africa's needs, and Chinese economic cooperation and infrastructure-for-resources loans as well as the impact of infrastructure-for-resources loans on Africa's development.

From her results, she found out that, the formula of offering generous loans for infrastructure in exchange for resource access came into being largely as a default cooperation tool, inspired by China's own domestic experience and its competitive advantages on the one side. On the other side, Africa's receptivity to this kind of barter deal is one of the factors favouring China's active presence in Africa. To her, embodying the principle of mutual benefit, China has consistently combined the expansion of Chinese business interests and the pursuit of resource security goals. So, prominently, according to her, the first goal of the Chinese is to secure a source of raw materials for industries in China. And for this to work, China has gained access to the weak point of Africa, which is low infrastructural development that is basically because of insufficient finances or weak financial capacity of the African states, by providing financial support through loans of all sorts of conditions and free will donations tilted towards the construction of infrastructure.

The China's infrastructure-for-resources loans have a mixed impact in Africa's development. On the one hand, the provisions of infrastructure which fortunately or unfortunately are social based infrastructure and contribute very little to industrial development. The question is, with these mostly social amenities provided by this relation how can the African countries become industrialized? On the other hand, the shortcomings pointed out in this study which are the focus of our study, may in the long run offset these immediate benefits which are the infrastructure itself and the immediate employment of the local labour during construction works. These shortcomings include the existing flaws, particularly in terms of labour practices, local contempt, governance, debt sustainability and environmental impact; threaten to perpetuate the dire inequality indicators in receiving countries like Cameroon if not properly addressed.

These flaws acting as indicators to questioning the relation qualified as "win-win relationship" takes us to the elaboration of the stakes involved in the relation to be discussed by this present study. Also, while Ana treated the infrastructure-for-resources strategies from an economical perspective, the present study looks at the strategies from the sociological perspective. With this infrastructure-for-resource presentation, it is necessary to get to hear what others have said in the same line.

Levy, (2011), in addition to the research of Ana, (2013) of infrastructure-for-resources says, China's investment strategy has been formulated on a project-by-project basis, rather than a general policy basis, traditionally preferred by Western countries. Levy, (2011), argument is

based on what other developmental partners are doing and what China has come up with. To add to his voice, Broadman, (2008), has pointed out that it appears to be even more surprising to western commentators when China continues to invest in big projects, while many western partners still consider Africa a risky and even dangerous place to make such large investments. These continuous investments are clear indications that there is a gain somewhere somehow that many are not seeing, and that is what we are searching for. Large investments which as seen, analysed and presented by many are not focused on the development of the industrial sector of Africa. How can these mighty investments at the infrastructural sector put by China really assist and help Africa to be of equal strength with the other societies of the world in this post-industrial era as presented by Touraine, (1965).

This is to say that the industrial independence of African countries is still at stake even with the powerful presence and manifestation of the Chinese especially in the sector of infrastructural development of African states in general. The implication of the inhabitants in the projects put in place by the Chinese should be that of sustainability from the point of conception through the level of execution and after the finishing of the giant infrastructure projects surfacing as a result of the “win-win relationship” and that is the focus of this present study to see how this is being put into practice. Therefore, this research work is the continuation of the research of Levy, (2011), in that, it is out to really find out how the projects are of help to the inhabitants where these projects are carried out by the Chinese as well as what are Chinese gaining apart from the raw materials.

To have more arguments on what other partners of development are doing and what is happening on the side of the Chinese at the level of infrastructural development, Jauch, (2011:4-55), argued that despite some structural differences between Chinese and Western investments in Africa, Chinese businesses have mostly adopted a neo-colonialist approach to resource extraction. This has included labour exploitation and the deployment of infrastructural projects that encouraged local development or the improvement of Africa’s industrial and competitive capacity. Which sector of industrial development is Jauch, (2011), talking about when most of the structures that we see Chinese actively involved in are the construction of social houses, stadiums, offices as well as the construction of roads in which they are highly present in most of the projects they carry out. To support this point of view, Edinger and Labuschagne, (2019), enhance the idea that “*as a road passes development follows.*”



Research by Edinger and Labuschagne, (2019), on China's role in African infrastructure and capital projects, lay emphasis on the fact that if you want to prosper, consider building roads. The building of roads is to link the production centres to the markets and vice versa. Most of the roads constructed by the Chinese as agreed with the states end up at the coasts of African countries. For instance, out of the many roads constructed by China in Cameroon, some of the giant projects have to do with the construction of the high way linking Yaoundé and Douala, the road linking the Deep Seaport at Kribi and Douala as well as Yaoundé, the road linking the northern part of the country with the centre through Ntui, just to name a few, are directed towards the sea.

Looking at it critically, one can observe that most of these roads directed toward the sea are to enable the easy and faster flow of goods from the Western world to Africa and to ease the shipping of the raw materials from Africa to the industrialised states. This brings us to the point of being tempted to say that with this ideology, it will be difficult for Africa in general and Cameroon in particular to develop, because what is at their disposal as production are the extraction of raw materials whose transformation is not done in the country, but in the industrialised countries. If raw materials extracted from Africa could be refined on site, that would be of double advantage to the African countries and the “win-win relationship” will be seen as such, but unfortunately that is not the case as the transformation is done but elsewhere.

For China, these emphases on roads development are constructed around funding infrastructural development, and the *Belt and Roads* route to a more connected Africa. Edinger and Labuschagne, (2019), research results show that African countries continue to underspend on infrastructure. These authors went further to say that “*Sub-Saharan African countries have invested on average only 20% percent of GDP per annum between 2010 and 2017, and North African countries about 22.8% on infrastructure.*” With these percentages from the various parts of Africa, it is also illustrated that China is the biggest financier of the Africa's infrastructure. According to Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA) the following amounts of USD have been directed towards infrastructural development of Africa over the years from 2012 right up to 2016, as shown on table five (05).

**Table 05: Trends in Infrastructure Finance in Africa**

<b>No</b>	<b>Amount in USD</b>	<b>Year</b>
1	13.7 billion	2012
2	13.4 billion	2013
3	3.4 billion	2014
4	20.9 billion	2015
5	6.4 billion	2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.8 billion</b>	

**Source:** A Collection from Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA) 2017 and 2018

From table five (05), 13.7 USD billions, 13.4 USD billions, 3.4 USD billions, 20.9 USD billions, and 6.4 USD billions have been directed towards infrastructural development from 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively on trends in infrastructure finance in Africa. From 2012 to 2016 a sum of USD 57.8 billion has been tilted towards infrastructure construction. These sums of money pumped into Africa are with conditions that attract the African politicians and states to go in for.

The facial attractiveness of Chinese finance is that, the loans are offered at subsidised and relatively low interest rates. At times the loans are allowed to stay for many years before they mature to the extent as far as with a maturity of fifteen (15) years or more. The present study relates to this finding in that it questions that, whether at a low interest rate or not, the fact is that the loans taken will be paid and the interest also paid upon.

This simply extends the implications of Cameroonians after the construction of the structure. The desire will be to know whether after fifteen (15) years or more, how will the loans be paid. As already predicted by some researchers, when it comes to paying the loans with raw materials the gain to the Chinese might be something far better than the loan and what the loan has been used to accomplish. This present study will unveil to us the logic behind raw materials for infrastructure by presenting the ripple effects of the carrying of raw materials for transformation to take place but elsewhere and not in Cameroon. It is not good to end only by looking at the finances China is pumping for infrastructure, but it is also necessary to look at the projects funded by China.

Chinese are not focused on doing everything in Africa with the financial provisions they give to African states. From statistics collected from ICA, Chinese funds are not just out for any type of activity but are focused and tilted or directed to a set of specific projects, and sectors. The specific projects, sectors and the percentages of funding are as presented on table six (06).

**Table 06: Sectors of Projects Funded by Chinese in Africa**

No	Sectors funded by Chinese funds	Percentages (%)
1	Transport, shipping and ports sectors	52.8
2	Energy and power	17.6
3	Real estate (industrial, commercial and residential real estate	14.3
4	Mining	07.7

**Source:** A Collection from Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA) 2017 and 2018

From table six (06), we deduce that most funded projects are in the transport, shipping and ports sectors which occupy the highest percentage of up to 52.8% of funds directed for infrastructural development in Africa by China. After the transport, shipping and ports sectors, they are followed by energy and power sectors which according to Zhou, (2016:10), will bring about energy regional sharing occupying only 17.6%, far below average of what is spent on general transportation sector alone. This implies that the transport sector takes the lion share of the finances provided by China for Africa. The real estate includes industrial, commercial and residential real estate with 14.3% occupying the third position as of the financial spending in Africa by the Chinese, and finally, mining with 7.7%, takes the last position. To ICA, abundant Chinese funds at a time when African countries are looking for alternative sources of finance for development, and a global appetite and capacity of Chinese construction firms, could be a win-win combination for China and Africa. The belt and road initiative, benefiting from Chinese firms access to preferential financing for overseas investments and exports, is making African economies more connected to one another and to the outside world, boosting economic diversification and growth. The boosting of economic diversification is still placing African countries to maintain her position, she has been for hundreds of years, which is that of being a source of raw materials for industries out of the continent.

What highly relates this work to that of Edinger and Labuschagne, (2019), is that this work helps in furthering their research in the area of the infrastructures put in place with money loaned from China which are of key importance to our work. Today in Cameroon especially in Yaoundé we have diverse infrastructures and on-going projects put in place financed by China. This reveals the presence of China in the infrastructural development of Cameroon. The projects as well as infrastructures put in place by China are of great importance in this thesis, as it relates to the issue of “win-win relationship” and acts as part of the field of study to this research.

The present study differs from Edinger and Labuschagne, (2019), research in that in their work, much attention is paid on the funding of these projects and the boosting of economic diversification and growth. The present study puts an eye on the sociological diversification which includes among other factors the cultural, social, behavioural modification of the inhabitants as a result of the infrastructure and projects and the stakes involved in this engagement of the “win-win relationship” between the two (02) states especially when it comes to infrastructural development in Cameroon highly facilitated by China.

Yin and Vaschetto, (2011), argued that China’s well-coordinated trade, investment and aid activities have been instrumental in building the infrastructure needed for sustainable economic growth in Africa. For these authors, the Chinese are creating their own rapid development, while showing their desire to help Africa increase its own prosperity. This idea is also supported by Kurlantzick, (2007:209), who concluded that China does not aim solely to exploit Africa, but rather to exploit the potentials of mutual cooperation. This sounds so coordinated and positive, but when looking at the reaction of the inhabitants through strikes and some revolting strategies against the Chinese at construction sites, you understand that all is not a bed of roses and this is exactly what this thesis is out to investigate; the stakes involved with this relation between China and Africa in general and Cameroon in particular. This brings us to the question of what does the inhabitants have to pay for these construction activities to go on.

This present work extends Kurlantzick, (2007), and Yin and Vaschetto, (2011), to an understanding of what happens when this net-working takes place. It will also go beyond Chinese firms’ access to preferential financing for overseas investments and export, to the boosting of labour conditions in China to see how there are potentials of mutual cooperation. This is not the only researcher that talks about financial transactions between donors and

beneficiaries. Many researchers have looked into the issue of financial transactions between donors and beneficiaries. Of great importance to this piece of research work is the research findings we are going to handle that its preoccupation deals with financial donors in relation to Cameroonians as the beneficiaries.

Abega, (2015), talks on financial aid that basically concerned mostly borrowings and gifts accorded to the country Cameroon by her development partners. As reported by the researcher, these gifts and debts are unfortunately capital mobilization destined to prosper the advantages of the donor which would not only harvest the interest, but also the principal. To bring out the advantages of the donor, he presents how the harvesting is done. Conforming to the research, the harvest is done in two (02) ways which are either directly or indirectly. On the one hand, the harvest is directly, and this is manifested in two (02) ways also, by the bias of the interest paid on the capital on one side and on the other side the payment of the capital itself. On the other hand, at times indirectly and this takes place by further being divided into two (02) directions, firstly, the bias of the profits of fiscal exonerations and at times secondly, by subventions of the poor states and the harvesting of profits and salaries. To go deeper, it is important to pose the question to know how this is being done.

In keeping with Abega, (2015), the beneficiaries of the aids or gifts are seen forced with the buying of the goods and services of the donor. Also, received help or aid favours the exclusion of the people of the periphery, and this is observed or noticed particularly in the field of study where giant projects are being executed which was his focus. The marginalisation of the village communities is observed from the point of conception of the projects, evaluation through realisation to the quasi-totality of the project of development in Cameroon. Infrastructural development projects realised as a result of the win-win do not escape this logic and that is what highly connects this present study to that of Ateba, (2015).

This research relates to Ateba, (2015), work in the sense that, it analysis how the exclusion of these villagers from the point of conception of the projects, evaluation through realisation to the quasi-totality of the project of development in Cameroon cause the inhabitants of the communities where these projects are executed to behave. Altogether, whatsoever project or the channel of help on development in Cameroon, the participation of the locals, as well as the debate around their marginalization have to occupy a preponderant place also at the level of elaboration, realisation and evaluation of the said projects.

The study is different in that although he analysis the donors and almost all kinds of exclusions of the local communities, the present study is interested in the implications and the stakes on both parties involved in the relationship. We talk of the quality of participation of the local population and the relative multiplier effects of their involvement in the win-win game. Should it be at the level of the provision of labour by the communities where these projects are carried out? If that be the case, there is need to go further from donors and the exemption of the local communities to see how labour relations are handled between the Chinese and Cameroonians. To do this, we have to go a little bit further from just looking at the flow of finances and the exclusion of the inhabitants, to have a better understanding of the China-Africa relations in the area of infrastructural development by examining Chinese-Africa workers' relationship, cultural modifications as well as deformation and the manifestation of those who feel marginalised.

The flow of financial assistance has prompted a number of researchers to study the relationship between China and French-speaking countries. These researchers have come up with a collective book entitled "*La Presence Chinoise en Afrique Francophone*" under the coordination of Mbabia et al. This collection that talks about ten (10) African French-speaking countries is divided into four (04) sections or parts.

The first part of their work presents the Chinese diversified activism in French-speaking countries. Here, interest is directed towards how to reconcile the irreversible partner and the ambiguous image, the expansion of the two (Huawei and ZTE) Chinese telecommunication operators, the Confucius Institutes in Africa as a soft power strategy tool of China. As concentration here is directed towards the telecommunication Chinese company, this study on its part is tilted towards the Chinese construction companies in Cameroon.

The second part talks of the local impact of Chinese incursion especially the local stakes of the Chinese presence in commercial activities, the Chinese mining activities on the environment and the conditions of work in Chinese enterprises as well as in the domain of intervention and the promotion of social aid. These commercial activities embody amongst other things the commercialisation of building materials which shall be part of our presentation in this research work.

The third part has to do with the Chinese migration and discursive representation particularly feminine Chinese migration in Cameroon, social network and economic successes.

The Chinese influence on economic dynamism, the place of China in Cameroon dynamic development based on socio-political imagination. In fact, we are talking of the involvement or the implication of the Chinese in the infrastructural development of Cameroon with one of the key elements being the activities of the Chinese in this country. Migration presents the movement and we are so concerned about the function of the migrants in the area of infrastructural development.

The fourth and the last part of the work talks of the political dynamics and strategic mutation and Chinese activities as well as the military dimension of the Chinese power in French-speaking African countries. This aspect of the work pays more attention on the Chinese military operations in Africa which is not part of this research work. Nevertheless, the Chinese foreign policy is part of our search to see how China operates under the “win-win relationship” in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular.

This synthetic work on the Chinese offensive in French-speaking Africa renews the debates on the presence of China in Africa. Much said yet, the infrastructure aspect partially handled and less interest directed towards the implications and the stakes in the domain of construction work which is our concern.

Apart from studies on French-speaking African countries, on a general note, in Africa, based on study of ten (10) African countries, Jauch, (2011), focused on the labour conditions at Chinese companies in the continent. His study underlined the fact that, despite some discrepancies among the African countries and industries regarding working conditions in Chinese companies in Africa, there are numerous common practices and traits that characterize them. These traits include tense labour/trade relations, hostile attitudes of Chinese employers toward African trade unions, frequent violation of workers' rights, poor working conditions and many questionable labour practices.

To look more into the Chinese-Africa workers' relationship, looking at the salary conditions of the workers, Jauch, (2011), also argued pointing out that there is a salary discrepancy between Chinese and African employees. These financial differences are seen in that, Chinese employees enjoy significantly higher wages and more benefits than their African counterparts in projects under the control of Chinese, even when they undertake the same labour activities with the same qualifications.

To support this, Chinese companies frequently tend to only hire African workers for the most basic tasks, at very low salaries, while importing Chinese managers and supervisors for higher paid positions. This is despite the availability of skilled Africans. The author concluding his analysis posits that, *“Africa’s ambition to attract more FDI from China is contributing to the destruction of national/international labour and environmental standards.”* With this conclusion from the author, that opens the page for this present research to investigate and understand how the inhabitants where these projects are executed feel free to agree or reject the connotation given the relationship as a “win-win relationship”. This conclusion also prompts us to get to understand the policies put in place by each party to enable the relationship to flourish.

The present research topic is also related to the above study in that it studies the Chinese relations at the level of infrastructure that cannot be handled without taking into consideration the labour force put in place for these structures to be realised. The difference between the work of Jauch, (2011), and this present research is that, this present work is not more going to dwell on the failure of the Chinese on this or that in the aspect of labour relation as is the case with the work realised by Herbert. This present work is to see how behaviour modification has been and is being realised as a result of the local labour coming in contact with the Chinese. This is to see how their involvement in one way or the other has affected their relation with one another in one way or the other in and out of the project sites. To have a better understanding about Chinese workers’ relationship operating in Cameroon, Mnkong, (2016), had to carry out a case study in Yaoundé.

Mnkong, (2016), examined the relationship between China and Cameroon at the level of Cameroonian and Chinese workers’ relationship. According to him the China-Cameroon relationship has brought together workers from both countries. His reflexion emanates from the observation of the discordant or clash between the efforts put in place by both the employers and the employees in the area of work relationships and the rules and regulations put in place to guide these relations. This discordance is seen between the national collective convention of building enterprises, public works and related activities as well as the national code of work of Cameroon stipulating the conditions of work and what is observed in the field. In fact, it is the question of the difficulties and the limitations involved in the relationship between the Chinese and the Cameroonian workers in projects involving the Chinese and the Cameroonian workers in Yaoundé.



In his work, he concentrated on the mode of employment of workers and their working conditions in Chinese projects in Yaoundé and the valorisation of local labour as well as the perspective of appropriation of both the Chinese and Cameroonian workers.

He came to a conclusion that as a result of the relationship between China and Cameroon; many Cameroonians have gained employment and can put food on their tables, the investment practices put in place by the Chinese in Cameroon do not highly valorise the local labour, and many Cameroonians are lowly paid. This low pay package is because they are employed at a low category. The study also revealed that the conditions of work in general in Chinese projects sites do not fully respect the conditions put in place in the rules and regulations guiding employment in Cameroon. The revelation concerning the conditions of work in general in Chinese projects acts as a catalyst to go in for more research to see how inhabitants are implicated in Chinese projects at the level of infrastructural development which is the bone of contention in this present research endeavour.

The results of the work of Mnkong, (2016), being a catalyst, the present study is an extension of the 2016 work. The difference is that, what was already investigated and presented in 2016 like the mode of employment of workers in Chinese infrastructural projects, working conditions of workers, the valorisation of local labour, and the appropriation of workers will not more be part of the present research work and thus, will be left out. The present study looks at the benefits, difficulties, the limitations and innovations as well as the stakes involved in the relationship between the Chinese and the Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development in Chinese projects in Yaoundé. It does not only look at workers, but the localities where the projects are executed. This will have to do with all benefits, difficulties, the limitations and innovations embedded in the implication of the Chinese and Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development. That is, the inequalities and the struggles over power and material resources around the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. To have a better understanding of the implications and the stakes of the win-win at the level of infrastructural development is of great importance. In addition to all that we have reviewed, this study looks at the policies put in place by China to enhance the China-African relations in general and the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in particular.

## 1.6 Chinese Policy in the China-African Relations

Many studies have argued that Sino-African cooperation is mutually advantageous. The advantageous position is highly appreciated by those who try to compare the Sino-African relations with other relations Africa has had with the rest of the world, especially with the western countries. One of the researchers who is so interested in this comparison in a sociological perspective is Ateba Eyene, (2012). These relations include the slave trade era relations<sup>1</sup>, the colonial<sup>2</sup> and at times the post-colonial<sup>3</sup> as well as the neo-colonial<sup>4</sup> relations between African countries and their former colonial masters. For the Sino-African relations to be seen as advantageous, some of the measuring rods to act as a determinant to this position are the policies adopted by China in Africa in their relationship with the African countries. Some of those with the opinion that Sino-African cooperation are advantageous include Wu and Cheng.

To begin with, Zhong and Enjiang, (2010:629-643), analyzed that in the last thirty (30) years, remarkable achievements have been made in China's poverty reduction course. So, lessons are drawn for poverty reduction and economic development in African countries to conclude that the relations are advantageous. The paper also explores the potential for collaboration in poverty reduction between China and African countries. It provides that the dramatic fall in China's poverty can be attributed mainly to a high rate of economic growth, government poverty reduction policies and pro-poor macroeconomic and industrial policies. These experiences and policies adopted by China have contributed very much to the activities they carry out in Africa and when analysing these activities many are of the opinion that Sino-Africa relations are mutually advantageous when compared with other African states relations as mentioned previously.

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<sup>1</sup> During the slave trade era, slaves were carried from Africa through the trans-Atlantic and trans-Saharan slave trade journeys for plantation work in Latent America and Europe.

<sup>2</sup> During the colonial period the western powers colonized territories in Africa and administered, benefiting among others raw materials for their industries back at home without anything as benefits accounted for on the Africans in its strict sense.

<sup>3</sup> The post-colonial brings about the theoretical approach which showcases the political or the social conditions of the former colonies which has proven to be a window dressing with the strong manifestation of the neo-colonialism immediately during and after the period of the wind of change in Africa.

<sup>4</sup> With the neo-colonial era the African countries are experiencing the use of economic, political, cultural or other pressures by other countries especially the former colonial masters to control or influence in one way or the other activities for their own benefits caring less about what Africa gains from the relationship.

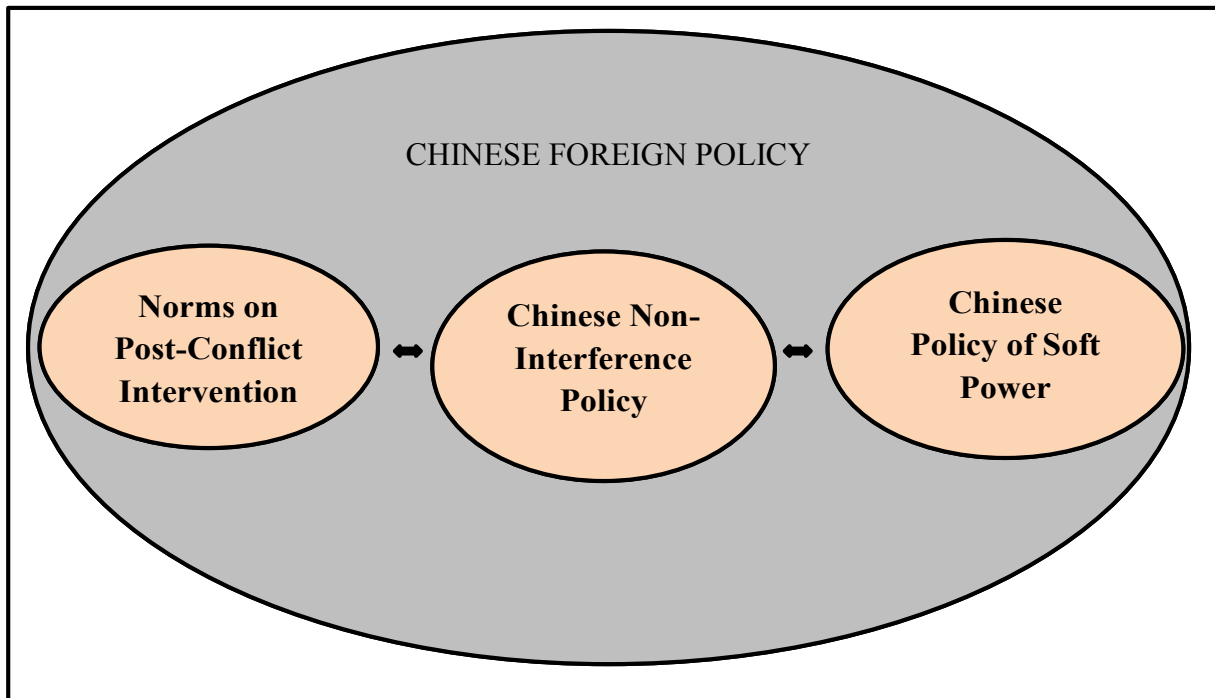
To gain more confidence to the Sino-Africa relations, China has demonstrated maturity and signs of seriousness in the financial domain. This maturity and seriousness are seen as China has cancelled the debts of several African countries loans that are of strategic importance to the Chinese economy. This gesture alone from China has won the hearts of many, if not all African political leaders. As a response from these African political leaders, they quickly go in for more cooperation financial accords with China without delay when an occasion or chance as such shows up.

As a proof of the mutually advantageous financial assistance in Sino-Africa relations, confirming to Yin and Vaschetto, (2011), China has also continued signing a number of unconditional loans and contracts with African states. This unconditional signing of loans is in contrast with the traditional tough conditional financing methods, such as International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans and the World Bank's (WB) structural adjustment programs. With these adjustment programs, there is a limit to how much these financial international organisations can offer to members especially the least industrialised nations. These tough conditional financial methods were largely imposed in the 1980s, frustrating the poor states of the world especially the African countries, to obtain loans from these big international financial organisations. With the tough conditions, it becomes difficult for least industrialised nations to carryout giant projects that can be done only with huge sums that these countries cannot afford apart from assistance through loans from these international financial institutions. Meanwhile, thought to have been created to ease and facilitate the poor nations to develop through borrowing from these institutions, this objective is far from being realised by these international financial organisations of the world.

Furthermore, to add a point on their assurance of making the China-Africa cooperation mutually advantageous, China announced at the 2009 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the cancellation of one hundred and sixty-eight (168) debts owed by thirty-three (33) African countries. To these cancellations, Jing and Schiere, (2011), concludes that these annulments translate into African leaders' increasing trust and appreciation toward the Asian rescue. With all these in place the question that remains unanswered, is that to understand the foreign policy China has put in place to work or associate with the African countries.

So, one of the key issues we are looking for is the foreign policy that China has put in place to relate with Africa and we shall do that by looking at their various means of operating with the African countries. To have this understanding of how the Chinese are operating in

Africa, the following areas of the Chinese foreign policy are illustrated on figure five (05) which shall be our focus.



**Figure 05: The Presentation of the Chinese Foreign Policy**

**Source:** Author's Initiative

From the presentation on figure five (5), Chinese have put in place three (3) key elements of their foreign policy to guide navigate their relationship with the rest of the world especially with the African states. These key elements of their foreign policy put in place by China include China's norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa. This policy of 'norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa', guides Chinese relations with countries with the history of conflicts with other states. From the norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa, we have the policy of 'Chinese non-interference policy'. The policy of 'Chinese non-interference policy', directs their relationship towards not intervening in the internal affairs with countries they are having cooperation ties. Finally, we have the 'Chinese policy of soft power' that entails Chinese non-use of violence to relate with her friendly states. All these elements of the policy are critically analysed in the paragraphs that follow in greater and essential details.

### **1.6.1 China's Norms on Post-Conflict Intervention in Africa.**

China's norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa is one of the most adopted and applied foreign Chinese policy in the continent. The application of this policy comes as a result

of the increasing expansion of the Sino- African relationship. This expansion is not without problems. According to Alden and Dan, (2013:16-28), China's expanding interest in Africa and high level of bilateral and multi-lateral diplomatic engagements are increasingly exposed to an array of security challenges. With these numerous security challenges, China has sorted for what he called 'norm making' rather than merely being reactive.

By this 'norm making' they said, "*China is involved in institutional contribution, discourse power and carrying out constructive set agenda rather than just following regulations and rules set by others*". Alden and Dan, (2013), quote Chinese scholar like Liu Hui who asserts, "*Development, stability and harmony is more attractive*" than "*democracy, freedom plus market economics for Africa*". From the perspective seeing development, stability and harmony more attractive as well as freedom plus market economics for Africa, political stability in various states is more important than holding elections. That is to emphasise that, peace is the outcome of long-term development. This depicts China's formal commitments to play a more active role in post-war reconstruction, like that made at the fourth forum on China-Africa cooperation in November 2009. This explains why Chinese are highly involved in infrastructural construction which is our focus in this study, rather than in the politics of the countries with which they have cooperation ties.

According to these researchers, for China to accomplish the norm making, let indigenous African ownership define and pursue their own solutions according to their own circumstances. With the circumstances defined by the Africans then, the Chinese come in with the norm making policy. And this norm making is that of putting in place structures on the request of African states and not on the imposing angle by the Chinese who are to do the work or the realisation of the infrastructure as may be the case with other industrialised nations in their relationship with Africa. This allows for the possibility for African agency or the responsibility incumbent upon affected authorities and societies to define and pursue their own solutions. One of these solutions is to dialogue with the Chinese partner on what Chinese termed "win-win relationship".

At the level of peace and development, Alden and Dan, (2013) go further to claim that they cannot be a unified standard for peace building endeavours. Different peace building strategies should be formulated in accordance with different conditions of the countries concerned. Economic process to achieve peace meeting basic needs through human resource

training and capacity building might just be some ways to attain peace. To this the norm making becomes effective and inevitable to be applied by the Chinese in Africa.

In the present study, norms put in place by the Chinese are of vital importance. Norms put in place by Chinese give us the clarity of how, they are going about with their activities in Africa despite the past and present challenging insecurities faced by the African states especially Cameroon fighting a war of insecurity in many different fronts of various diversities and origins such as the boko-haram in the North, and the security challenges in the North West and South West Regions of the nation.

We are talking on relationship and one of the key issues in a relation are the rules and norms directing and guiding that relation. We are dealing with professional relations whose greater interest is to study notably the construction of rules that guide the modalities of collective actions. So, this study will extend to see how this ‘norm making’ is applied in the Cameroon context in general and at the infrastructural development level in particular. ‘Norm making’ policy is not the only policy China is applying in her relationship with African countries. We also have the China and African non-interference policy adopted by the Chinese in Africa.

### **1.6.2 China and Africa’s Non-Interference Policy**

One of the formidable policies put in place by the Chinese is the ‘China and Africa’s non-interference policy.’ This policy carries with it the idea that Chinese are not to interfere in the political affairs of the African states with which they have cooperation ties. According to Getachew and Dawit, (2013:166-180), in China-Africa relation, China’s non-interference stance stems from the 1955, five (05) principles of peaceful coexistence policy. These five (05) principles of peaceful coexistence policy put in place by the Chinese to guide their cooperation in Africa include;

- 1) Mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity,
- 2) Mutual non-aggression,
- 3) Non-interference in each other’s internal affairs,
- 4) Equality and mutual benefit, and
- 5) Peaceful coexistence.

China’s non-interference approach reflects one of the most important principles of international relations put in place by the Chinese to guide the relations with the rest of the

world especially the African continent. To see this principle effective, for instance, in the forum on China-Africa cooperation (FOCAC) established in the year 2000, it promotes trade, investment and diplomatic ties between China and Africa. These relations are supposedly based on equality, partnership and consultations underlined by the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other partners. The purpose of the 'China and Africa's non-interference policy' put in place by the Chinese is to increase understanding and friendship, while seeking the trust and cooperation of friendly political parties and organisations.

According to the authors, with the policy of the 'China and Africa's non-interference policy', Chinese officials and academics believe that through non-interference, China is able to maintain stable relations with foreign governments, and ensure that economic cooperation is unaffected by political change. Non-interference meant that China does not openly engage in political issues during the conflict. The essence of the principle of non-interference is the right of every sovereign state to conduct its affairs without outside interference. The principle forbids all states or group of states to intervene directly or indirectly in the internal or external matters of other states. Demanding adherence to these principles reflects China's concerns about other countries interfering in her own affairs. This opens another page for discussion on the other side of the coin as China is also a sovereign state and demands non-interference in her internal as well as political affairs.

To adequately handle the talking about non-interference policy, Getachew and Dawit, (2013), better presents it as "*Africa and China's Non-Interference Policy: Towards Peace Enhancement in Africa*" than just putting it as the 'China and Africa's non-interference policy' which could raise questions of what about China. According to Kambuudzi, (2013:29-45), Africa and China have a longstanding relationship mainly shaped by the struggle against colonialism.

He traces that Africa and China relations dates from as far back as in the 1930s and 1940s when through long march led by Mao Tse Tung fought against foreign domination, colonialism and imperialism on its own soil. Coming to Africa, in the 1970s Beijing under Mao Tse Tung ambitions were defined by Cold War politics. So, Beijing was isolated internationally and mainly saw her relations with African governments as a means to expand its political influence. Thanks to support of African governments, China was able to replace Taiwan in the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) in 1971. The issue remains, with all these how is the non-interference maintained?

In support of the implementation of Africa Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), China has proffered its non-interference policy – according to which Africa remains master of its strategies on peace whilst China provides assistance. China aims at providing support for Africa to pursue its home-made priorities and attain its own objectives. This strategy that is based on the principle of non-interference, has given China an upper hand to frequently take advantage of the discord sown in Africa by developed countries' paternalistic approach to the continent. To this policy of non-interference, China has proposed new perspectives and understandings to African nations.

To accomplish the initiative of providing support for Africa to pursue its home-made priorities, China decided not to interfere in other countries' internal affairs, especially those of developing countries. Therefore, Africa can take initiative to promote peace, security and stability with the support, rather than the interference of China. It follows that, African states should be in the position to provide the terms of the support they receive – taking better advantage of the non-interference policy. This has permitted China to continue to invest in large infrastructure projects and provide loans and financial assistance to Africa and other developing regions.

With these investments, Zhongying, (2013:46-54), notes that since 2006, when China held the 1<sup>st</sup> FOCAC summit in Beijing, he has observed the evolution of China's attitude – including its foreign policy – and behaviour towards domestic political conflict and crisis in other countries, particularly in Africa, and China's interaction with other powers attempting to deal with conflict.

It seems clear to him that China has been caught in what he calls the non-interference dilemma. For instance, China has had UN peacekeeping soldiers deployed in various African countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Liberia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Cote D'Ivoire just to name a few out of many interventions.

Because of the non-interference dilemma, according to Zhongying, (2013:46-54), China is adopting a new approach which combines non-interference with conditional intervention. This approach has led to what Wang, (2013), called creative involvement. This is done through involving in international organizations like the UNSC to intervene in peace keeping security missions. The initiative seems to define the style and substance of China's



constructive intervention in Africa under the pre-requisite principal non-interference highly valorised in the past.

Although the present study does not study China's security and peace keeping missions and activities on ground in Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, the policy of non-interference is of great importance in this work. Through the policy of non-interference, projects and structures have been realised by Chinese in Cameroon. It is from these bases that the non-interference forms the bedrock of this study. We are involved in the study of "win-win relationship" that cannot go without a look at the policies adopted by China to be part of this relation. So, this study is the extension of the studies on non-interference policy in that; first, it is one of the policies adopted by China in Africa, secondly, this policy implementation brings about infrastructural development which is the aspect we are into as China-Cameroon relationship is concerned and thirdly this study shall also handle items relating to how Chinese are behaving in the "win-win relationship" as a fulfilment or practice of the non-interference policy as one of the policies guiding their foreign affairs. For instance, the silent nature of China in the face of security challenges faced by Cameroon, is an indication of the application or putting into motion the policy of non-interference. The China and Africa's non-interference however is not the only policy put in place by the Chinese to guide their foreign affairs, we also have the Chinese policy of soft power.

### **1.6.3 The Chinese Policy of Soft Power**

Before going further to talk about the Chinese policy of 'soft power', we will start by presenting the origin and when this term was first used; as China is not the first to put in place this policy when it comes to international relationships. When this has been done, we will then go further to analyse how the Chinese are applying this policy of 'soft power'. One of the researchers so interested in the history of the policy of 'soft power' is Fijalkowski, (2011).

Fijalkowski, (2011), says 'soft power' is a term which was coined by Joseph Nye in the 1990s when the United States of America (USA) encountered 'Changing the Face of Power' (CFP) after the Cold War (CW)<sup>5</sup>. According to Fijalkowski, (2011), power can be obtained through elements such as coercion, payment and attraction.

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<sup>5</sup> The Cold War which was a period of geopolitical tension and hostility between the United States of America (USA) and the Soviet Union and their respective allies, the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc, which began following World War two (WW2).

To this, coercion and payment can be seen as hard power (where power, might, or force is applied to achieve things), while attraction (where reason, agreement, and intelligence are the order of the day in doing things) is the core component of 'soft power'. In this perspective, 'soft power' refers to an indirect influence that a nation exerts on the conduct or interests of another nation, and it takes place through cultural or ideological means without using force or coercion. Indirect in the sense that, the person or country applying such techniques have something to gain and he can do that with the use of power but he or she chooses not to do that but at the end gains what he wants through other means. With this policy, from the perspective of many African countries in need of development, China's remarkable economic growth is attractive.

With this definition and differentiation between soft power and hard power as retrospectively presented, it is good to get to know how some researchers have elaborated how China go with the policy of 'soft power' to operate in their relationship with friendly countries in the African continent. Of great importance to this review are the works of the researchers that have talked about the Chinese careful and technical adoption of the policy of 'soft power' in African countries are Aguilar and Goldstein, (2009), Adisu *et al*, (2010), Pokam, (2011), Yin and Vaschetto (2011), as presented subsequently.

According to Aguilar and Goldstein, (2009:1543-1562), stem the Chinese policy adopted in Africa as '*China's Soft Power Strategy*' (CSPS). To them, '*Soft Power Strategy*' (SPS) differs significantly from hard power tactics. The hard power tactics among others include tactics such as military or economic intervention. That is, to say that, instead of using the Chinese military might to ensure their relationship with African states, they have done otherwise. In this sense, we can say that China is using 'soft power' strategies in Africa to internationalize her practices, values, culture and position toward African countries. One of the aspects China internationalizes her practices, values, culture and position is through African infrastructural development. Also, this point is valid when you observe the spread of traditional Chinese medicine in the world in general and Africa in particular.

To further the use of the policy of the Chinese policy of 'soft power', Yin and Vaschetto, (2011), have argued that China's means of exerting 'soft power' include the deployment of numerous Chinese medical teams to Africa. The deployment of a number of Chinese teams is also done by sending experts in some aspects to deliver professional training and supplying agricultural supports to increase self-reliance.

The export of the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) to Africa largely takes place within the arrangements agreed for in bilateral co-operative programs. Whereas these programs began in the Maoist era as forms of joint co-operation, nowadays they more closely resemble private entrepreneurial ventures. Under Mao, the earlier arrivals to Africa worked within co-operative arrangements, but now, Chinese doctors coming to the continent are above all businessmen with personal initiatives to establish their business centres.

They are private entrepreneurs who set up their businesses in African countries at their own expense, seeking economic successes and personal reputation through the provision of TCM services. This present phase of Chinese coming in with their private traditional Chinese medicines have shown proof of the use of the Chinese policy of 'soft power' in Africa. More details about the use of the Chinese policy of 'soft power' in Africa can be examined in the strategies for the diffusion of TCM in Cameroon.

According to Pokam, (2011:51-58), the presence of the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) in Cameroon is above all the outcome of strategies on the part of the Chinese government. These strategies put in place by the Chinese government to influence the exportation of Chinese medicine to Cameroon greatly influence its reception. To achieve these objectives, China makes use of a range of seductive strategies, including the strategic use of 'soft power' which means that the leadership has adopted for pragmatism and patience in its competition with the other leading powers.

Ever since the founding of PRC in 1949, the Chinese government has supported TCM by integrating it into its public health system along lines similar to its support for biologically based medicine. The process that imposed government support, along with the standardisation of medical practices, has led to the current situation in which TCM is used in the large university hospitals alongside the latest developments in Western medicine.

These involvements of the traditional medicine into the government strategies have eased the export of TCM to Africa thus, largely enabling the effectiveness of the 'soft power' policy. The policy of 'soft power' in Africa is not only demonstrated in the area of TCM as we may think or assume.

The policy of 'soft power' in Africa is also seen manifesting itself in the area of infrastructural development of Africa. Adisu *et al*, (2010), see China as exerting its 'soft power' through infrastructural improvement projects. This 'soft power' approach has also advanced

through the Chinese promotion of the concept of a ‘like-minded ally’ Yin and Vaschetto, (2011). The concept describes the perception of Africans feeling comfortable in dealing with a developing country that understand their history, realities and needs especially in the area of infrastructure emergency where African states are in dire need of infrastructure from all sectors.

In fact, this Chinese policy of ‘soft power’ concept describes the perception of Africans feeling comfortable in dealing with a developing country that understands their history, realities and needs despite the risk that Aguilar and Goldstein, (2009), have described as the ‘*Chinisation* of Africa’. This ‘*Chinisation* of Africa’ could be one of the stakes in the analysis of the stakes in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development, but we shall prefer to call it ‘*Chinisation* of Cameroon’ and or better still the ‘*self-neo-colonisation*’ for the purpose of contextualisation of our research findings. So, the connectivity of the presentation of the Chinese policy of ‘soft power’ will be to help us enlarge the stakes in the application of this policy, when it comes to dealing with the Chinese relationship with Cameroon, in the sector of infrastructural development.

With the clue of the foreign policy put in place by China to enhance the “win-win relationship” between China and Africa in general and Cameroon in particular and areas of the application of the policy, it is wise for us to also look at what the African countries have put in place as policies to receive their development partners especially China. That will be our preoccupation in the paragraphs that follow.

### **1.7 Cameroon/African Policy in the China-African Relations**

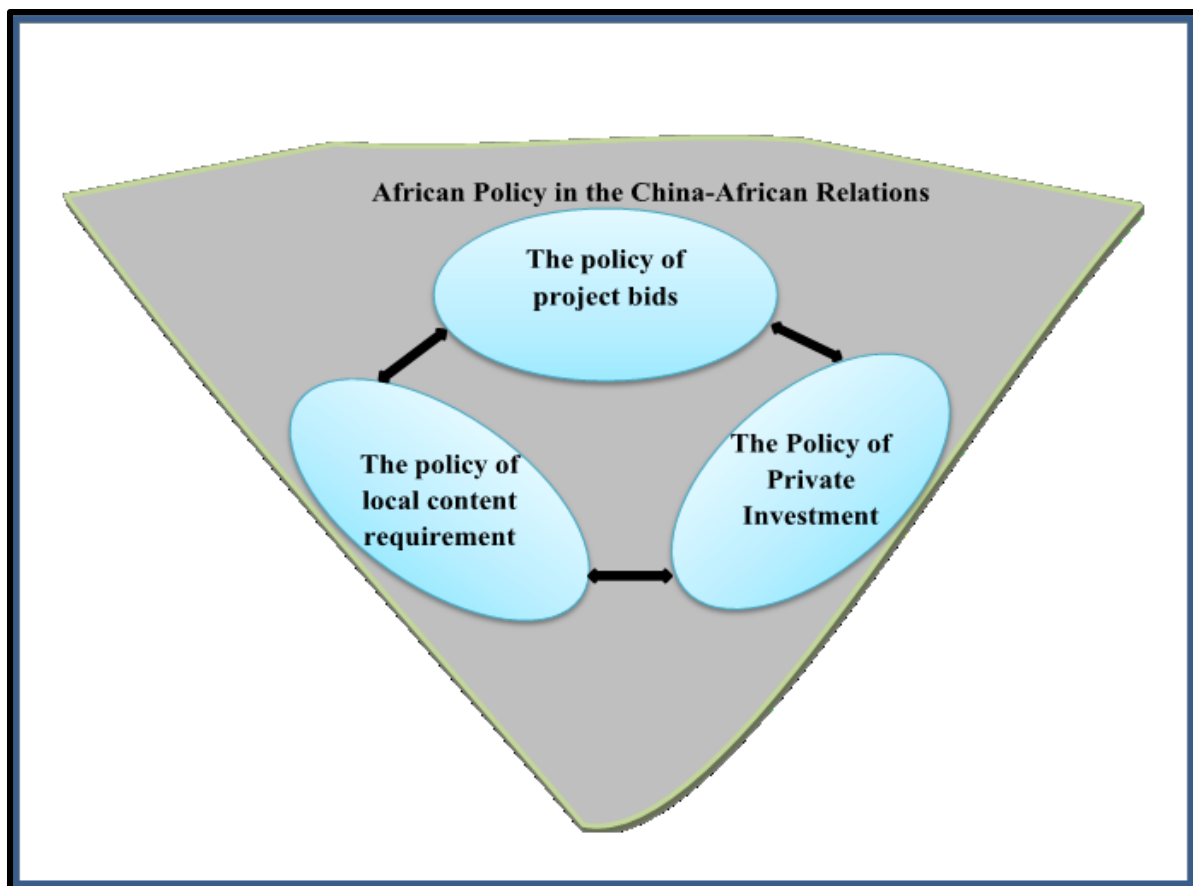
African countries like any other countries of the world have foreign policies that govern their relationships with one another. To operate with other countries each country sets it foreign policy. These foreign policies are conditions or requirements that direct and orientate relations among friendly countries. The issue of foreign policies is strongly adhering to by developed worlds or industrialised countries than in the third world or developing countries. In most of the developing countries there are no clear cut or defined foreign policies. This low application of foreign policies presents the issue of life in a jungle where each partner behaves the way it wants to the detriment of the third world country in question, and to the benefit of the industrialised countries. This is seen in the way third world countries handle their issues when it comes to decisions patterning to their relationships with their development partners. They seem not to know exactly what they want. Those who know what they want get what they want.

This is because we do not define ourselves. This has led researchers like Cheru and Obi, (2011), to propose a need to define a framework for bilateral, fair and balanced cooperation. There is need to look carefully to what Africans really want. Do Africans really need but the construction of sky scrapers? This question is to launch us see how the relationship between China and Africa can really be win-win cooperation as presented.

According to Cheru and Obi, (2011), the basic condition for Africa to entertain a win-win business partnership with China depends on the African leadership defining thoughtful frameworks for bilateral, fair and balanced cooperation. This brings us to the point of looking to see how the African countries stabilises the activities of Chinese and others from other continents of the world especially when it comes to infrastructural development.

According to Kaplinsky and Morris, (2009:551-569), this idea of setting basic conditions by African countries is even more defensible when it appears that Africa does not have a single and coherent policy for cooperation with China at this stage, while the latter has a clear and goal-oriented policy to its presence in Africa. Without a single or coherent policy puts the continent at the level of accepting all that comes from the other partner or partners in relationship. The presentation of Kaplinsky and Morris, (2009), puts Africa as a beggar in the world scene that has no choice than to accept whatever the other party puts on the table as terms of their relationship. The question one should ask at this level would be that to know whether there is any nation of the world that is into international relationship with the rest of the countries of the world without a foreign policy.

This is not really true because when you look at the order of things, other countries from the other continents are looking for where to invest and tap resources for their industries while, on the other hand African countries are looking for ways to attract countries to make businesses with them and to also invest in African countries. With these opposite intentions of creating international relationships between African countries and other countries of the world, it appears Africa has not put enough efforts to regulate their relationship with other countries especially with China. As the common saying goes “*international relations are relations of interest*”. Every nation or country in relation with one or another is for its interest and cannot just be involved without a policy (even if it is not clear to bring in the idea of the application of anomic division of labour thoery) put in place. Nevertheless, we can trace the following policies put in place by African states to relate with the Chinese. These policies put in place by African countries among others are as presented in figure six (06).



**Figure 06: African Policies in the China-Africa Relations**

**Source:** Author's Initiative

From figure six (06) we have three (03) key African policies in the China-Africa relationship especially in the area of infrastructural development. There may be other policies African countries have put in place to relate with the rest of the countries of the world, but our interest and focus shall be on three (03), that are directly related to this research work on infrastructural development of Africa in general and Cameroon in particular and China as a strong partner in this domain of activities. These three (03) important and Africans strategic foreign policies are; The Policy of the Local Content Requirement (PLCR), The Policy of Private Investment (PPI) and The Policy of Project Bids (PPB) which shall be of preoccupation in this write up eventually.

### **1.7.1 The Policy of Local Content Requirement**

To handle relations with the Chinese and other foreign countries, African countries have put in place the policy of local content requirement. According to Wang, (2013), the policy of local content requirement is a popular government regulation on foreign direct investment in Africa. This is a policy by which the African countries in relationship with industrialised

countries requests from these partners to put down concrete strategies for compliance with provisions of their acts. Many of the African countries having foreign relations with developmental partners put in place this policy for the effective understanding and carrying out of investment activities in the African countries. The African countries that have put in place this policy of local content requirement to understand effective investment activities in their country amongst others include Nigeria and Algeria.

In the case of the application of this policy in Nigeria, certain prepositions have been put in place by the Nigerian government. In order to properly handle oil extraction by foreign companies in Nigeria, according to this policy reinforcement, the Federal Government of Nigeria asked international oil companies operating in the country to provide it with concrete strategies that they had developed and adopted to ensure compliance with provisions of the Nigerian Act. Without which, the operations of these companies are suspended until the presentation of the concrete strategies for adaptation and compliance with provisions of the country's act.

Nigeria is not the only African country that has put in place the policy of local content requirement. Algeria has also made provision of the local content requirement in article thirty-three (33) of the decree promulgated in (1993) to promote foreign investment. This article in the Algerian law determined that foreign enterprises investing in free zones could recruit as many foreign technical and managerial staff as they saw fit. To hire foreign workers in free zones, a foreign enterprise only needs to report to local authorities. With this law, foreign investors are encouraged to invest in free zones boosting the development of those areas in Algeria. The policy of local content requirement is not applicable in Cameroon that is our point of focus or field of research or laboratory. In Cameroon despite the fact that the local content requirement is not adopted, the policy of private investment incentive is applicable and that is what we shall be preoccupied with ultimately.

### **1.7.2 The Policy of Private Investment Incentive**

Concerning Cameroon, she needs to attract foreign investors in order to finance her projects of developing infrastructure. According to world investment report 2019 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Cameroon's FDI inflow stood at United States Dollars (USD) 814 million and USD 704 million in the years 2017 and 2018

respectively<sup>6</sup>. To these amounts with a huge amount contributed by China, China has become a major investor in the country, carrying on large infrastructure projects.

To handle investment cases in Cameroon, she needed an adequate policy that could best attract investors. In the quest for this policy that should handle the relationship between investors and the Cameroon Government, the investment code was put in place. This investment code has undergone a long process of changes to finally be replaced by the Policy of Private Investment Incentive (PPII). The investment code, applicable to investment activities in Cameroon before now was instituted by ordinance number *90/007 of 09 November 1990* amended by law *no. 2002-004 of 19 April 2002* then known as the investment charter, today being replaced by the private investment incentive. This private investment incentive replacing the investment code is empowered by law *no. 2013/004 of 18 April 2013*.

This document is applicable to Cameroonians and foreign entities, natural or legal entities residing in or out of Cameroon, in the conduct of their activities or participation in the equity of Cameroonian companies in order to encourage productivity, investment, promote job creation and develop activities geared towards strong, sustainable economic growth and ensure the objective of emergence by 2035. To validate this endeavour of the Cameroon government, a researcher like Ateba Eyene, (2012), writes his book on the title that talks about the contributions of China to the emergence of Cameroon to the horizon 2035. The relationship between China and Cameroon is qualified by Ateba Eyene, as a cooperation of development, its successes as well as its worries.

In the light of the successes of the cooperation ties, participation of foreign and home investors in the new vision envisaged by the new dill has earmarked several benefits to enable investors benefit in their investment in Cameroon. These benefits include fiscal and custom incentives, administrative and financial incentives, as well as specific incentives that are given to those investing in the area of agriculture fisheries and animals' life stock activities, tourism and leisure, social ecology, social housing and many others.

With these incentives put in place by this policy, many giant investors are expected to show interest and come to invest in Cameroon. Looking at the investments put in place by the Chinese as one of those investors Cameroon is inviting to come for business in her country

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<sup>6</sup> Lloyds, (2021), Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Cameroon-Investing-International Trade Portal, <https://www.lloydsbanktrade.com>.



especial in the infrastructural sector, the structures being put in place are not industrial infrastructure. Not being industrial infrastructures (looking at them in the sense of opening of industries) the stakes of the relationship is something to be looked into critically. The critical look at the type of investments and its stakes is part of the duty of this thesis. Cameroon has not only put in place the policy of private investment Incentive to handle relations with her foreign cooperation partners. For better functioning and relating with the national as well as international investors in Cameroon especially in the domain of infrastructural development, apart from the PPII one of her policy put in place to enhance relations with the development partners is the policy of project bids which shall be looked upon before long.

### **1.7.3 The Policy of Project Bids**

Project bids is another policy adopted by most African countries to relate with the Chinese. This project bids policy has to do with those to carry out construction works in Cameroon. This policy is a competitive policy in which many interested in a project tender their options to how the project is to be realised. Here, both the Cameroonian and foreign contractors are presented the project to be realised.

With the Project bids, after tenders and scrutinization of the files, the highest bidder is awarded the contract. For the company to be awarded the project, Project Bids need to contain clear local content, and detailed local development plans. These local content and detailed local development plans have to do with compensations to be paid to the communities where the project is to be carried out. It also has to do with presenting how the locals are to be active participants as the immediate beneficiaries of the projects. Here, brings into questioning how this clause in the project bids is being respected by the investors in the infrastructural development sector that many inhabitants where projects are realised complain to the extent of carrying out strike actions to hinder the realisation of such projects they are to benefit from.

During biddings there is the requirement for the signing of memorandum of understanding with the host community, agreeing to provide certain variety of aid for that community in question. Does the aid come to the society in question? If yes, why the agitations in these communities where investors are carrying out projects in our case the Chinese carrying out construction works in Cameroon? For instance, to satisfy the requirements from the Nigerian side, SIPEC developed a community development plan, aimed at transforming members of the public from being mere onlookers into major stakeholders. In this research

work we want to present the behaviours of the inhabitants in relation to their implication in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. This will unmask the application of the policy of Project Bids in Cameroon as one of the prominent laws guiding the relationship between investors, especially international investors and the Cameroon government.

In Cameroon, the policy of project bidding is guided by two (02) categories of documents. The first, talks of the general rules and regulations guiding project bidding in Cameroon in general and the second, has to do with documents that stipulates specific rules and regulations patterning to specific projects of different domains. In this research we shall present the document dealing with general rules and regulations and the specific document dealing with rules and regulations guiding the project bidding of road construction in Cameroon eventually in forth coming chapters of this thesis.

## **1.8 Conclusion**

Conclusively, this chapter has reviewed previous works and foreign policies related to this study. The elements and the themes reviewed include Chinese migration to Africa and Cameroon, China’s presence in Africa and Cameroon, Chinese general investment in Africa and Cameroon, and thematic review in the domain of infrastructural development. These research works reviewed have given us a clear understanding of the fact that Chinese are really migrating to Africa.

The Chinese are not only migrating to Africa, but are also actively present in African states. Their presence in the African states is felt very heavily through their investments. Chinese have and are highly involved in investing in many sectors in Africa. Their presence and investments are guided by policies they have put in place to relate with these African countries. The policies applied by Chinese in Africa were also of great importance to this chapter dedicated for the literature review.

This chapter presented the elaboration of some elements of China’s foreign Policy applied in the China-African relationship. For China to relate with the African states, Cameroon inclusive, she has put aside policies to guide their activities in these countries. From our review we came up with three (03) areas of China’s foreign policy which are China’s norms on post-conflict intervention in Africa, China and Africa’s non-interference policy and the Chinese policy of soft power. The continent Africa through her various countries has also put in place

her own policies to relate with the rest of the world especially with China as presented on the last part of this chapter.

The last part of this chapter one (01) had to dwell on the presentation of the African policies in the China-African relations. Three (03) policies put in place by the African countries especially Cameroon to relate with the external partners including China were elaborated. These policies include the policy of local content requirement, the policy of private investment incentive and the policy of project bids. These policies put the interest of the African countries as Chinese and other investors come to invest in Africa.

These parts of the chapter reviewed are on purpose, for instance, the present study discusses the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development. The knowledge of how these parties have come together before involving themselves needs to be brought on board, and that could only be done by presenting how the Chinese have migrated from China to Africa in general and Cameroon in particular. The vivid presence of the Chinese in the country and continent in general could not be neglected, because you cannot be talking of how you are implicated in an activity or activities with other people, without the need to know the where about of the individuals in question. With all these data already put in place, the chapter that follows will show the Chinese infrastructural imprints in Cameroon to better present the realistic presence and activities of China in the area of infrastructural development of Cameroon.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

# **CHINA'S INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN CAMEROON**

### **2.0 Introduction**

The explosive growth in Sino-Cameroon relations over the years is highly felt at the infrastructural sector. With the coming of Chinese to Cameroon, Cameroon has witnessed a great dramatic change in the area of infrastructural development especially at the public sector. For these structures to be put in place many other activities have been carried out by both the Chinese and the Cameroonian leaders, and citizens at various levels.

These activities carried out by both countries range from official visits, offering of free will financial as well as materials and services donations, to the signing of official documents to cement the relationship between Cameroon and China. These basic activities from the both friendly countries set the base or foundation for construction or realisation of the projects to take place in Cameroon.

To have information about these activities happening between Chinese and Cameroonians, data had to be collected. The data presented in this chapter is from documents collected from Ministry of Public Works, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. Other information was also taken from the internet from the Chinese embassy in Cameroon's website, the president of Cameroon's website and Cameroon tribune newspapers as well as from the Chinese magazines just to name a few.

### **2.1 Interaction between China and Cameroon**

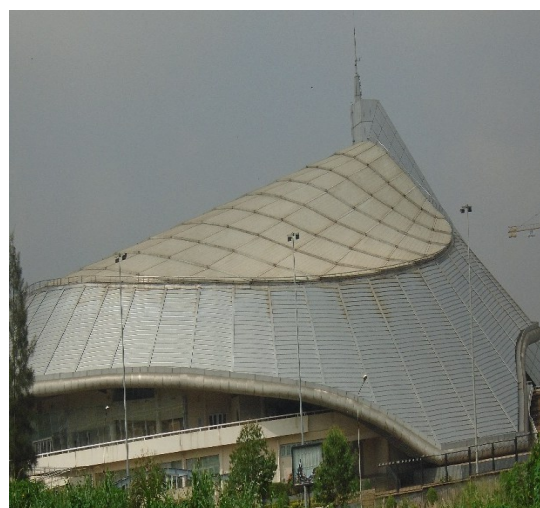
To carryout this content analysis, in this Chapter, we focused on the description of the imprints of China in Cameroon especially in Yaoundé in the area of infrastructural development, paying attention to the accords signed between China and Cameroon over the years, official visits effectuated by the two (02) states and presentation of the infrastructure realised as a result of the win-win between Cameroon and China in Yaoundé and elsewhere in the country. These socially produced texts and artefacts are valuable sources of information about the two (02) countries which have produced them. Here we are concentrated on studying the activities and the processes which have created these artefacts, as opposed to just studying the structures themselves. The description of the infrastructures realised especially in Yaoundé

as a result of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China would have to do with comments on the time and place of construction where possible.

Yaoundé the political capital of Cameroon and where many projects carried out by China are found has two (02) principal entrances when you are from overseas. When you travel by air or by water, there is a particular junction called Mvan where you pass before entering the centre town. When you leave Mvan and drive to the centre town, through brief eye contact, the first remarkable and the irresistible building you come across is the first Ministerial building formerly called ‘*Immeuble de la Mort*’, that has been transformed and rehabilitated by the Chinese to an outrageously ‘*Immeuble de la Ville*’. From there as you drive pass Hilton Hotel, the next gigantic structure you notice is the Sport Complex positioned as a mother-hen incubating the chicks beside the main road leading to the Unity Palace (the presidency of the Republic of Cameroon). As you continue driving through the city towards Bastos and lift up your head to the hills what cuts your attention is the magnificent building called the Conference Centre. This structure realised by the Chinese was nick named ‘*the China-Cameroon project*’ inaugurated in 1982. The realisation was after seven (07) years of work and officially given the name Conference Centre in a presidential decree on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1982. The naming of this building was just one month after the accession of His Excellency President Paul Biya at the helm of affairs<sup>7</sup>. The pictures of these structures among others are presented on plate one (01), photos 1a, 1b, and 1c.



**Photo 1a:** Ministerial building n° 1  
(Rehabilitated 2015)  
**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020



**Photo 1b:** The Sport Complex in Warda  
(Completed December 2008)  
**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020

<sup>7</sup> State Visit of the President of the Republic of Cameroon H.E. Paul Biya to China, 2018, Press kit, [www.prc.cm](http://www.prc.cm), visited on 12/08/2020



**Photo 1c:** Conference Center (Palais des Congrès) in Yaoundé (inaugurated in 1982)

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020

**Plate 1: Magnificent Structures Constructed by the Chinese in Cameroon**

All these structures realised by the Chinese, just to name but a few, project the image of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon and particularly the firm irresistible image of China’s presence in Yaoundé. From 1972, to give an etiological explanation to date, we can see the impact and the efforts China is putting in place geared towards the transformation of Cameroon in general and the city of Yaoundé in particular. This strategy of transforming a city put in place by a foreign Country-China, in a particular City-Yaoundé, glue to Cameroon under the umbrella of “win-win relationship”, causes us to begin to dig to know why the city of Yaoundé. What ideology are the Chinese putting in place to project their presence in Yaoundé? That is, to have an understanding of values, beliefs, assumptions, and expectations put in place by both China and Cameroon in the realisation of the infrastructures.

To have an understanding on the ideology, we will start to trace the presence of Chinese in Cameroon by searching and presenting the accords signed between China and Cameroon over the years. The signing of accords between China and Cameroon under the bilateral relationship presented as being a “win-win relationship” is what we are to present in the subsequent sub heading.

## 2.2 Accords Signed Between China and Cameroon

Individual relationships come as a result of socialisation with one another. At the family level, according to Zerihun, (2005:21), primary or childhood socialisation takes place where children are attached to their parents by birth or through adoption and learn basic personality individual make-up. Husband and wife are joint together through marriage with a marriage certificate as a legal document backing their relationship. At the international level, nations come into relationships through diplomatic ties solidified by the signing of agreements which in other words are commonly called accords. These accords are bilateral or multilateral depending on the type of relationship between the countries. When there are more than two (02) countries involved we talk of multilateral and, bilateral when the accords are signed between two (02) countries. The relationship between China and Cameroon as well as any other international relationships have as foundation, the signing of bilateral accords between the two (02) countries. These accords represent the legal decoded laws or framework that bind China and Cameroon together as friendly countries.

Taken overall, the accords signed between China and Cameroon appear as the relation drives to institutionalize a greater degree of social, political and economic equality between the two (02) countries. In fact, we are out to search to discover the laws that govern the birth and the development of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. That is, in other words as quipped, Ziegler, (1980:14), *“the task of a sociologist is to reveal the society behind the deformative screen of the representations that ideologies impose on humanity”*<sup>8</sup> (my translation). We cannot talk of international relationship without mentioning the accords that are joining, confirming and solidifying the countries together. These accords express the interest of each country to another and conclude the level of satisfaction and agreement at the end of each encounter of representatives of the states in that relationship.

In the case of Cameroon and China as well as any other country in a relationship with another, the accords are the bedrock on which the activities of individuals of each other country are seen as legal. In our case, the activities of China in Cameroon at the level of infrastructures put in place by Chinese in Cameroon are seen and validated as legal, based on the accords signed by both countries in this sector. As Anthias and Kelly (1995:227), quoted Anthony GIDDENS quipped, *“Law exists where a convention is backed, not simply by diffuse informal sanctions, but by an individual, or more usually a group, which has the legitimate capacity and*

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<sup>8</sup> En d’autres termes, sa tâche est de révéler la société derrière les écrans déformateurs des représentations que les idéologies imposent aux hommes.

*duty to apply sanctions against transgressors.*” So, the legitimacy of the activities of Chinese in Cameroon are backed by the conventions signed by the representatives of the two (02) nations in the “win-win relationship”. With the absence of these accords any activity initiated and carried out by Chinese or any other country in Cameroon are seen as illegal and can receive the required legal negative sanctions due the activity. The illegality or legality of work carried out by one country in another is depicted in the authenticity of the accords signed between the members’ countries involved in the carrying out of the said task.

The signing of accords portrays or carries with it the spirit of work relation between the two (02) friendly countries. Accords guide and in other words direct or give the framework in which the activities of a friendly country can be exercised or carried out in the other country. For instance, as asserts Nzhi Engono, (2013:9), “*the prosperity of Europe is founded in history over centuries on their aptitude at work and volunteerism to conquer and to transform the world on the basis of change depending prior on her state of the spirit [...]*”<sup>9</sup> The spirit, in other words, the ideology is the engine behind every action. That which is hidden is that which is verifiable. The images and structures people produced out of their existence form the superstructure for the society. Their material situation experienced, the production and usage capacity that govern them develops the infrastructures. Between the images and the reality, between the infrastructures and the superstructures, there is a link that is complementary and at the same time antinomies. That is to say, that a structure is constructed because an accord is signed and the accord is there to validate that a structure is to be constructed. In other words, we can conclude that “*No accord, no structure*”. This is to emphasise that the signing of an accord initiates the beginning of the construction of a structure by one country in another (especially with the case of Cameroon and China), for there is no construction of any structure by any country without first of all an agreement effectuated through the signing of an accord for the construction work to be put in place, except those done illegally.

For the signing of the accord to take place, officials of the parties concerned are bound to meet each other for the negotiations that end in the signing of the agreement for the project to take place. For the officials to meet either of the parties, representatives are to travel to meet their partners for the negotiations to take place. The meeting can take place in any geographical territory of the two (02) countries to be involved in the signing of the accord or accords. At

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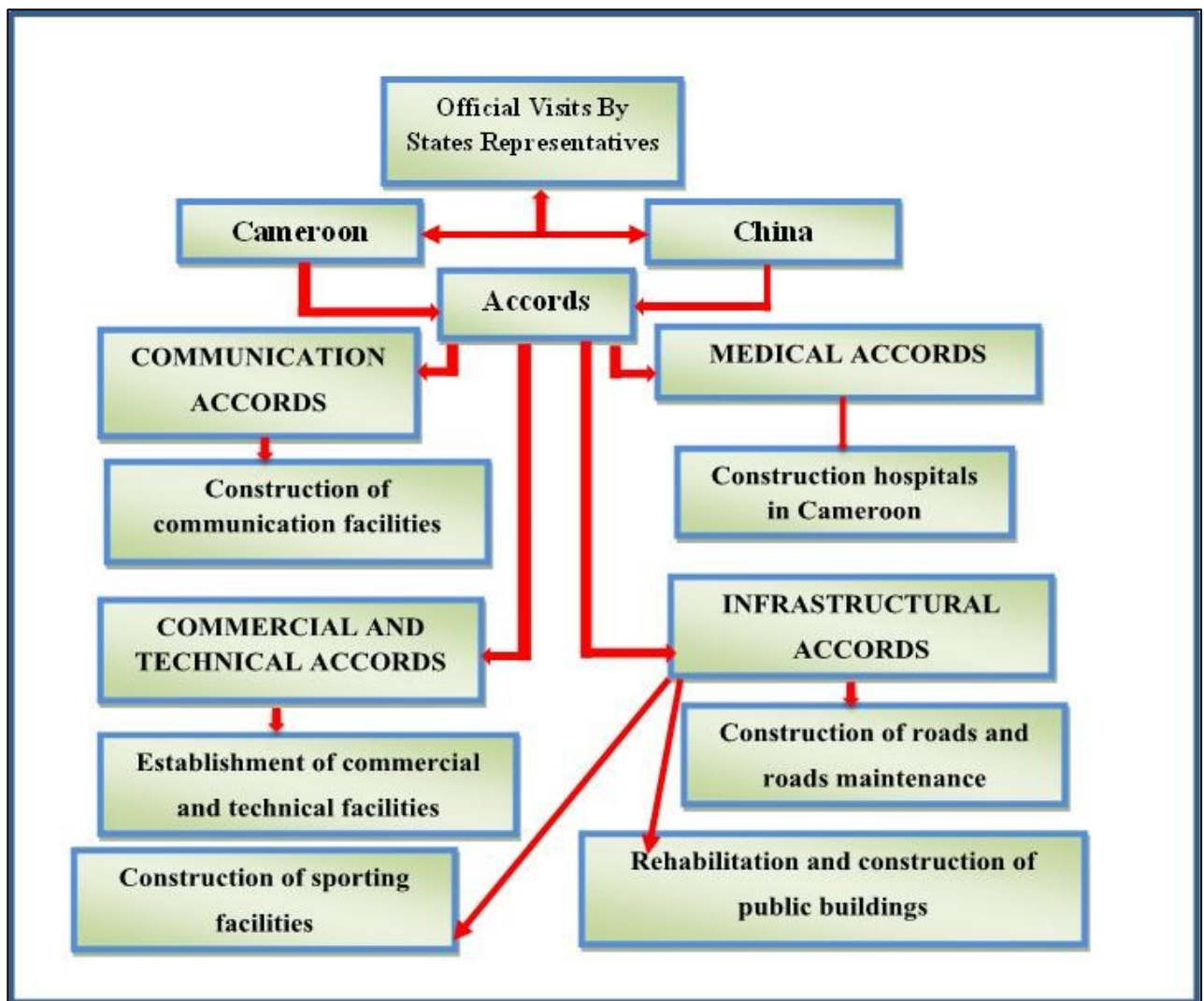
<sup>9</sup> Alors que la prospérité de l’Europe s’est fondée historiquement durant des siècles sur son aptitude au travail et sa volonté de conquérir et de transformer le monde, sur la base d’un changement préalable de son état d’esprit, [...]



times the meeting takes place in the country of the beneficiary and at times, it takes place in the country of the benefactor. In our case the beneficiary of the construction of structures is Cameroon and the donor or benefactor is China.

This presents to us the interwoven nature of the movement of the officials from one country to another for the accords to be signed. At times a single journey does not conclude on the agreement and further visits are scheduled for the finalization and conclusions on a particular agreement, before an accord concludes negotiations for the project to be constructed or assistance given. This brings about the oscillation pendulum manner movement of officials from one country to another.

In the case of Cameroon and China, the representatives of both countries have been making official visits to the friendly countries and the accords are being signed. Figure seven (07) gives a vivid illustration of the flow of interaction through official visits of states representatives to both countries. These official visits from one country to another by these two states most of the times are concluded by the signing of accords for the construction of different socio-economic structures in different sectors of social activities in the geographical territory of Cameroon.



**Figure 07: Interaction from the Signing of Accords to the Realisation of Infrastructure between China and Cameroon**

**Source:** Author's Conception

These social structures put in place resulting from the signing of accords range from communication, medical, infrastructural to commercial and technical structures. From figure seven (07), there is the flow of interaction from the signing of accords to the realisation of these infrastructures. The signing of accords depicts the starting point and the initiating point for the realisation of the infrastructure by Chinese contractors and companies in Cameroon.

Accord here signifies mutual agreement, harmony, as well as formal agreement between countries. This implies a being or going together without or with limited conflict, absence of inconsistencies and inequality. The construction of infrastructures has as foundation the signing of accords. There is always need for an agreement or accord before getting into the realisation of any project or infrastructure. From Alpe, *et al*, (2007:01), sociologists deal mostly

with “*collective accords*” (accord collectif), which basically deal with the relations between the salary earners and employers based on the framework of collective negotiations.

In our case we concentrate on the accords signed between China and Cameroon in which Cameroon is seen as the beneficiary wooing China to come and construct in her territory on win-win basis with China being the benefactor. These accords defer from one form to another and range from commercial and technical accords to medical, infrastructural, communication, agricultural and financial accords. From figure seven (07), we can see that through official visits of the both states representatives, and in both countries the results of their come together is the signing of these accords.

The signing of communication accords has led to the construction of communication facilities. Medical accords have contributed to the construction of medical structures such as hospitals in many localities and regions of Cameroon. More so, commercial and technical accords have resulted to the putting in place of technical and commercial facilities of various sorts and kinds. To engage in the construction of structures the infrastructural accords have facilitated the building of sporting facilities, low-cost social houses and rehabilitation structures of different kinds and magnitudes.

As already said, the signing of these accords set the ground for the realisation of the various structures and infrastructural facilities put in place in Cameroon and Yaoundé in particular by the Chinese. The presentation of the accords in different domains signed by China and Cameroon that have acted as bedrock for the realisation of important infrastructures and financial assistance as well as agricultural dealings between the two (02) countries is our preoccupation subsequently in this write up.

### **2.2.1 Commercial and Technical Accords**

Social life is structured by people’s access to goods and property and the life which goes with the possession of these goods and property. Perhaps recalling that in an ordinary way, that, the form of a society is determined by all the elements that act on her, access to these goods and property are guided by principles that limit conflict between individuals clamouring for them. To grant peaceful cohesion between China and Cameroon at the level of commercial and technical domain, accords have been signed between these two (02) friendly countries to limit or eradicate conflicts in these sectors. Basically from 1997 to present, Cameroon and China have signed over five (05) agreements in the domain of economic and technical

cooperation. These accords are signed as need arises and as the relationship between the two (02) countries deepens and widens to different domains of their need for each other especially at the level of commercial and technical domains. Table seven (07) gives us a vivid presentation of the commercial or economic as well as the technical accords and the years these agreements were signed between China and Cameroon.

**Table 07: The Commercial and Technical Accords Signed Between Cameroon and China**

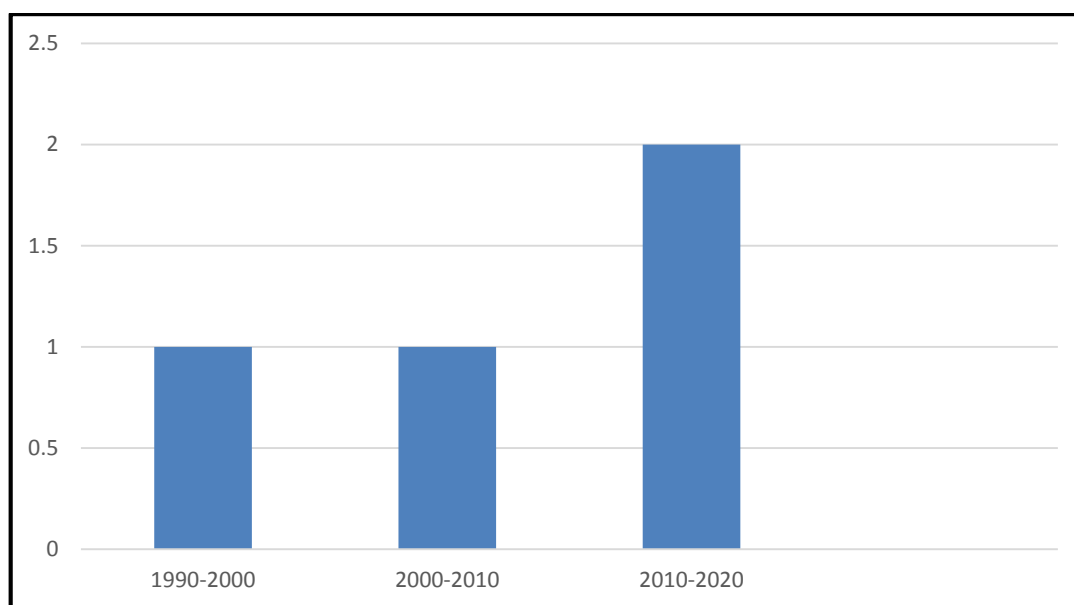
N°	Commercial and Technical Accords	Year of Signature
1	Agreement on economic and technical co-operation	1977
2	Agreement for the Reciprocal Protection and Promotion of Investments	1997
3	Agreement for Trade, Economic and Commercial Cooperation	2002
4	Agreement on a non-interest loan worth 100 million Yuan (about FCFA 6.386 billion) for the execution of economic and technical cooperation	2011
5	Agreement exempting nationals of both China and Cameroon who are holders of diplomatic or service passports from entry visa requirements	2016

**Source:** Adapted from JATO, (2018), President Ahidjo Visits China, (1977), and Mbonteh, (2017),

With these accords in place, China and Cameroon have been involved in trade in many dimensions. For instance, from the signing of these accords, China occupies an important and significant position when it comes to Cameroon's international trade relations in the world. For instance, a vivid example is seen when looking at the Sino-Cameroon trade relations; China occupies 17% of Cameroon's trade with the rest of the world of over approximately two hundred and fifty-one (251) countries that are recognised by the world's largest organisation – the United Nations Organisation (UNO).

The rate of signing commercial and technical accords between China and Cameroon stood at approximately one (01) accord after each decade from 1977 to 2010. From 1972 when the relations between Cameroon and China were established, one of the basic accords relating

to economic and technical co-operation was signed after a period of five (05) years in 1977. To follow the signing of the ever first accord, the second after the 1977 came up in 1997 over a long period of over twenty (20) years. The signing of accords of commercial and technical nature did not continue this way as the years went by and their relations strengthened. For instance, looking at between 2010 to 2020, the number of accords doubled, moving from one (01) accord over a decade to two (02) as shown on figure eight (08).



**Figure 08: The Rate of Signing of Accords on Commercial and Technical Domain between China and Cameroon**

**Source:** Drawn from Table Seven (07)

The increase in the number of accords show how each country is interested in maintaining strong ties with each other taking into consideration that economic and technical domains are the backbone of international relations where each country looks at her own interest before that of others. Countries come together through bilateral or multilateral relationships mostly to increase or and extend their economic and technical know-how to business partners, friendly and peaceful partners. The increase or an extension is done depending on the economic and technical know-how of the partner in question.

On the one hand, economical and technical advanced countries like China, go in for some of these economic relations with less developed or developing countries in the area of economic and technical domains to look for markets. Some of these relations China is reinforcing is geared towards protecting their sources of raw materials. Also, their aim of

maintaining these relations according to (Rodrigue, 2008), idem, is to project their economic and technical strength to the rest of the world as well as just for prestigious reasons.

On the other hand, underdeveloped or developing countries in the area of economic and technical domain like Cameroon mostly go in for the economic and technical relationships as a means of developing their own economy and technical capacity. So, these poor or economic developing countries in this area of economic and technical domain see these engagements with the economically and technically viable countries as an opportunity or help from the rich counterparts.

It is worthy to mention here that globally, China has severely impacted the economic and technical processes in Cameroon. For instance, in 2011 according to (Mbonteh, 2017), an agreement on a non-interest loan worth 100 million Yuan (about FCFA 6.386 billion) for the execution of economic and technical cooperation was signed between China and Cameroon. This huge sum of money with free interest rate, might have gone a long way to boost the economic and technical activities in Cameroon that have suffered financial scarcity for many years since the economic crisis that hit the country in the 1990s.

Taking into consideration that, increasingly, our society is rocked by various challenges which include economic recession like in the 1990s, advancing technologies, changing family relationships, violence in communities, exclusion, intolerance and identity crisis, China and Cameroon had to strengthen their relationship by agreeing to protect each other. The strengthening of this relationship was done by signing an agreement for the reciprocal protection and promotion of investments signed in 1997. This is to guarantee the assurance that the risk to be taken by investors in Cameroon especially from China are backed by a document of this nature, where each nation in this relationship has a role to play in securing the investments and the interest of each member states. Here denotes the application of the non-intervention with conditional intervention policy presented by (Zhongying, 2013), in this case intervention is permitted and legalised.

Cognisance of the fact that, the social framework of economic and technical know-how is never what come in contact, but that individuals do, and that it is individuals that carry the economic and technical values and not the values themselves, in 2016 there was the signing of an agreement exempting nationals of both China and Cameroon who are holders of diplomatic or service passports from entry visa requirements. This agreement exempting nationals of the two (02) countries who are holders of diplomatic or service passports from entry visa

requirements acts as a strong support and the empowerment of the agreement for economic and commercial cooperation signed in 2002. This permits the nationals with diplomatic or service passports to carry out economic and technical know-how activities in each country at ease without many government bottle-necks that at times hamper the fast execution of such activities.

More so, most of these agreements define the modalities of Chinese concessional lending to Cameroon. In most cases most of these lending modalities defined in these accords moderates the interest rates and the duration for the payment of the loans. The Chinese lending to Cameroon go to diverse domains, especially the economic, technical as well as the medical and infrastructural development that we are to be discussing about their accords signed between China and Cameroon subsequently.

### **2.2.2 Medical Accords**

The medical domain is one of the areas in which China and Cameroon are highly interested in, in their relationship. This is shown especially in the number of years the two (02) countries have had fruitful relations in this sector. This is the revelation and concrete manifestation of the usage of the Chinese foreign policy of “soft power” in the medical domain as discussed in the literature review of this research work. The manifestation is shown, for instance, as on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, Cameroon and China commemorated forty (40) years of fruitful cooperation in public health. In these forty (40) years, China has successfully constructed four (04) hospitals in Cameroon with the first constructed in Mbalmayo. Some of the Chinese constructed hospitals in Cameroon include the Douala, Guider, and Yaoundé Gynaeco-Obstetric and Paediatric Hospitals.

With the construction of these hospitals since 1975, according to Manyanye, (2015), asserted “*close to five hundred and eighty-six (586) medical personnel amounting to seventeen (17) medical missions from China have been to Cameroon*”. In accordance to the application of the policy of “soft power”, this influx of the Chinese medics is encouraged by a structural arrangement by the Chinese government in the health sector that have given rise to the immigration of numerous Chinese doctors on a temporary basis. For instance, Manyanye, (2015), on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 1975, a protocol was signed to cover the despatch of medical teams by China to Cameroon. This document stipulates that every Chinese team has a two (02) years mandate in Cameroon after which the other goes and a new team comes. In addition to this protocol signed between these two friendly countries, three (03) other agreements to make a

total of four (04) medical accords have been signed by China and Cameroon in the medical field over these forty (40) years of their medical relations as presented in table eight (08).

**Table 08: The Medical Accords Signed Between Cameroon and China**

No	Name of Accord	Year of Signing
1	<i>'Protocole d'accord entre la République Unie du Cameroun et la République Populaire de Chine relatif à l'envoi par la Chine d'une équipe médicale au Cameroun'</i>	1975
2	The credit agreement for the construction and equipment of a paediatric hospital in Yaoundé	1993
3	An agreement on a joint project on training, research, and assessment of Cameroonian and Chinese medical plants and traditional medicines.	2003
4	An accord on the technical assistance by China to enable Cameroon improve services at the Gynaecological Hospital in Yaoundé as well as the hospitals in Buea and Mbalmayo	2018

**Source:** Adapted from (Pokam, 2011), and Sino-Cameroon Ties: Key Agreements Signed in Beijing, <https://www.Cameroon-tribune.cm> Visited 05/08/2020

In August 31<sup>st</sup> 2018, an accord on the technical assistance by China to enable Cameroon improves services at the Gynaecological Hospital in Yaoundé as well as the hospitals in Buea and Mbalmayo was signed.<sup>10</sup> The Minister of External Relations, Lejeune Mbella Mbella and Alamine Ousmane Mey of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development signed for Cameroon. The signing of this accord in 2018, is followed by Chinese government offering a consignment of goods of basic necessities, medical and technical equipment worth one million six hundred thousand (1,600,000) FCFA to the government of Cameroon in January 2020.

These medical accords in general, have facilitated and enabled the Chinese government participate in the distribution of medicine in Cameroon. On the one hand, this takes place through the dispensaries of the hospitals in Yaoundé, Mbalmayo, and Guider, which sell TCM products to the patients of Chinese doctors in accordance with the 1975 agreement and on the other hand, through the Chinese Pharmaceutical Cameroon company. The penetration of the TCM is not single handedly carried out by the Chinese government alone in Cameroon.

With the agreement of the Ministry of Public Health in Cameroon, the Chinese Pharmaceutical Cameroon company has penetrated the Cameroonian public health sector. This

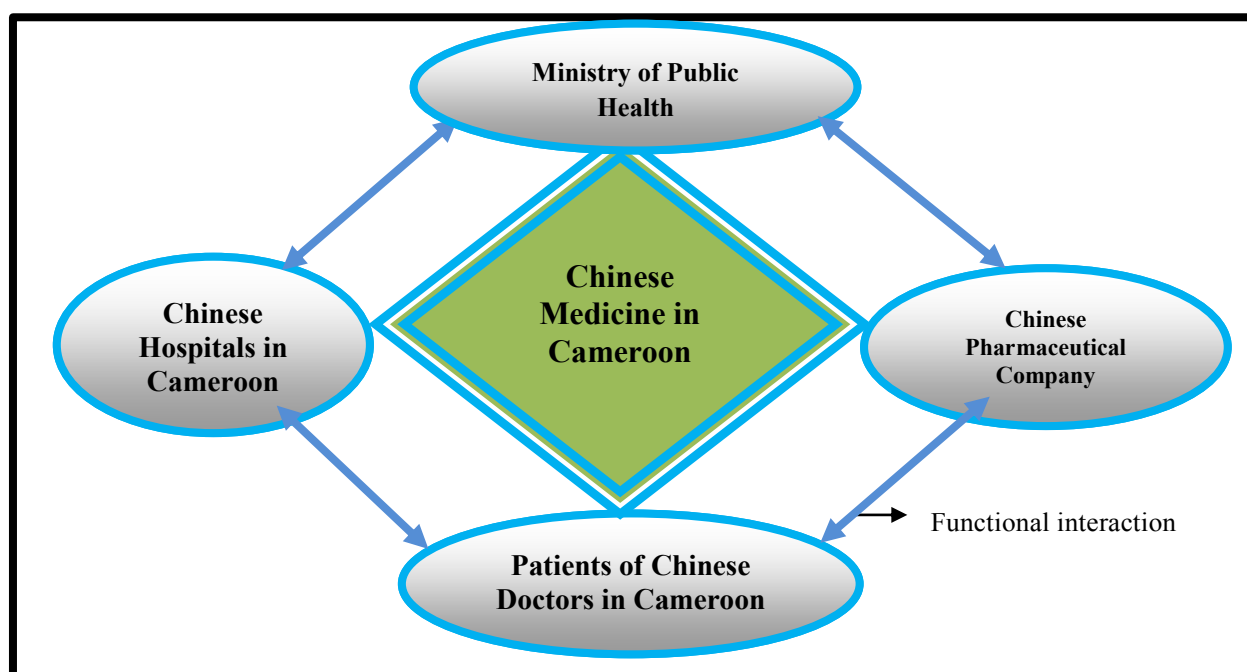
<sup>10</sup>Sino-Cameroon Ties: Key Agreements Signed in Beijing, <https://www.Cameroon-tribune.cm>, Visited 24/ 12/ 2020



penetration has to do with relations at both administrative level and at the individual level where the patients meet the Chinese doctors for medical attention.

This Chinese pharmaceutical Cameroon company penetration has created an atmosphere of inter dependence of the Cameroonians on Chinese doctors and the doctors' services to the patients. The Chinese doctors present in Cameroon play a dual role, first by acting as a source of humanitarian services and as well as a means of creation of jobs to the Chinese medics. So, the coming of the Chinese medicine especially the TCM play a big role in the area of creating employment to Chinese in Cameroon particularly the Chinese medical practitioners.

Secondly, the presence of the Chinese doctors in Cameroon acts also as an avenue for the Chinese medics to show their expertise and to promote Chinese traditional medicine to this part of the world, thereby boosting the ambitions of China to become the world's power in the near future even in the domain of medicine. The distribution of the medicine and penetration of the Chinese pharmaceutical Cameroon Company bring about profound interaction between Chinese and Cameroonians. This chain of interaction in the medical domain in the "win-win relationship" brings into motion the involvement of both the administrators of the two (2) countries, the Chinese medical practitioners, Chinese pharmaceutical company as well as the patients of Chinese doctors in Cameroon as shown in figure nine (09).



**Figure 09: Functional Interaction between Cameroon and China in the Medical Sector**

**Source:** Author's Conception

There is a creation of a high social atmosphere between Chinese and Cameroonians patients in the area of Chinese medicine practised in Cameroon. As a result of the “win-win relationship”, Chinese doctors have gained a social environment especially in their intervention at the procreation sector in Cameroon. At the procreation domain, the Chinese are actively present from prenatal attention to delivery and postnatal services especially with infants having health challenges of diverse fronts. Many women who were pregnant and went to Chinese hospitals, have always testified of cordial relationship and assistance from prenatal to delivery as well as to postnatal activities even with complicated situations.

In the Chinese hospitals operating in Cameroon, about four (04) services like in the case of the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Ngossou-Yaoundé are at the disposal of the patients. We have the emergencies, resuscitation, clinical laboratory and radiology services. Figure nine (09) shows the functional interaction as a result of the Chinese medicine in Cameroon. At the look of the figure, China represented by both Chinese doctors and Chinese medicine, have links with the representatives of the state of Cameroon – at this level the Ministry of Public Health of Cameroon. With the Ministry of Public Health that incarnates the state of Cameroon in the medical domain, the Chinese work hand in hand with them to establish Chinese hospitals. The functioning of the Chinese pharmaceutical company assists the patients of the Chinese doctors in Cameroon who are the beneficiaries. For these activities to take place, medical structures like hospitals are put in place. Not only medical structures are put in place, but many other structures in many different domains and that, leads us to see the infrastructural accords signed between China and Cameroon over the years for the realisation of these structures.

### **2.2.3 Infrastructural Accords**

At the level of infrastructure today, Cameroon’s relationship with China is presented in Yaoundé as ‘strategic’. According to Cabestan, (2015:67-91) *“this relationship is strategic due to the fact that Chinese companies are involved in over 70% of Cameroon’s official ‘structuring projects’, which are the key development and particularly infrastructure projects launched since the end of the year 2000.”* These infrastructures are a result of accords signed between China and Cameroon over the years. Some of these work executing contracts are presented on the table for financial accords as most of the agreements have to do with financing of the construction of these structures. To move from words to actions as Li, (2014:51), among

the projects are the Memve' ele Dam in the South Region, the Lom Pangar Dam in the East Region found north of Bertoua the chief town of the region, the Mekin Hydroelectric power plant, the Douala's two-phase water project (2014), the Yaoundé-Douala Highway (2017), and the Kribi deep –water port (2014), just to name a few from a very long list. Looking at the presentation of the projects previously mentioned in this write up, one can be tempted to say, China is only interested in building dams in Cameroon. That is not true. In addition to building of dams, China is also highly involved in the construction and reconstruction of roads in Cameroon. For instance, 90% of the road construction works or reconstruction projects in Cameroon have been and are being won and carried out by Chinese construction companies. This involvement of Chinese in road construction in Cameroon has motivated the signing of so many other accords amongst which is the memorandum of understanding between the two (02) states presented subsequently in this write up.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the joint construction of Africa-China's "Belt and Road Initiative" was signed between China and Cameroon in August 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 by The Minister of External Relations, Lejeune Mbella Mbella and Alamine Ousmane Mey of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development signed for Cameroon while their counterparts did same in the presence of both President Paul Biya and Xi Jinping. This accord just like many others, went a long way to pave the way for China to come in more powerfully to help Cameroon in whatever way possible (be it financially or technically) to construct the Edea-Kribi motorway, the completion of the Douala- Yaoundé and Yaoundé- Nsimalen motorways.

The putting in place of these structures by Chinese in Cameroon as a result of the "win-win relationship" is in line with the political desire of the state under the leadership of President of the Republic of Cameroon as mentioned in his speech at Douala on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2011. President Paul Biya at Douala October 6<sup>th</sup> 2011 quipped; "*From the state of 'great ambitions', we are going to that of 'great realisations'.*" He went further to say that, we need giant projects to make Douala a modern metropolitan economic city through their capacity to facilitate exchange in our regions and between the countries of our sub-region. According to the president, with these giant projects, Douala will become the point of reference in the Gulf of Guinea. Apart from making Douala a modern metropolitan, the policy of 'great realisations' has a great impact in the political domain, especially the mobility of the president in and out of the country.

These projects also have a big role to play in the political manifestation especially at the level of the presidency, where the president has to move from one project site to the other to either lay the foundation stone or inaugurate the structure when construction is over. Apart from moving within the country from one project site to another, the initiation and realisation of the projects also influence the president's relations with the rest of the world especially with friendly nations like China highly involved in the construction works in Cameroon. Table nine (09) shows us the projects that have promoted the outing of the president of the Republic of Cameroon to either lay the foundation stone or for inauguration of the structures after completion.

**Table 09: The Outing of the President to Lay the Foundation Stone or for Inauguration of the Structure after Completion**

No	Purpose of president's outing	Place of outing	Date of outing
1	Laying of the foundation stone of the Deep Kribi sea port	Kribi	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2011
2	Laying of the foundation stone of the Memve'ele hydroelectric dam	Nyabizan	15 <sup>th</sup> June 2012
3	Laying of the foundation stone of the Lom Pangar hydroelectric dam	Lom Pangar	03 <sup>rd</sup> August 2012
4	Laying of the foundation stone of the second bridge over the River Wouri	Douala	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013
5	Inauguration of the Gyneco-Obstetrics and Pediatric hospital of Yaoundé	Yaoundé	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2002
6	Inauguration of the natural gas treatment unit of Ndogpassi	Douala Ndogpassi	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2013
7	Reception of the ex-hostage of Cameroonians and Chinese by boko haram from the Far North	Yaoundé	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2014
8	Yaoundé Multipurpose Sport Complex inauguration	Yaoundé	19 <sup>th</sup> June 2009

**Source :** Compiled and Adapted From Njiotang, (2018)

These outings of the head of state for the laying of foundation stones and the inauguration of the completed projects go along side with the advantage to address the public on the intentions and the agenda of the government towards the realisation of these projects.

As one of the ideologies of the head of state, according to The President of Cameroon at the laying of the foundation stone of the Kribi Deep Sea Port<sup>11</sup> quipped,

*Kribi will be the centre of connection between Cameroon and the brother countries of the north like the Republic of Chad (...) with the pipe-line Chad-Cameroon terminal at Kribi (...) Kribi will be the big water port of that part of the littoral and is from Kribi that we will be exporting our minerals-iron, cobalt, aluminium, and many others as well as the agricultural products to the rich countries (...) Kribi will also act as a terminal of the railway to facilitate the transportation of the raw and or transformed goods in and out of Cameroon (...) This will go a long way to create employment to the young, vibrant and dynamic Cameroonian youths and the reduction of unemployment and poverty.*

From the laying of the foundation stone of the Kribi Deep Sea Port, in 2012 the President went to Nyabizan, where he laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Memve'ele hydroelectric dam. In this village, the President told the people of Cameroon of the necessity and the plans of the government to construct many more dams to provide and add the production of electric energy, that is of great importance to the development of Cameroon in general and the industrial development in particular.

In line with industrial development, according to the President of the Republic of Cameroon, without energy in effect, there is no way for a veritable development to take place as Njiotang, (2018:335), quipped,

*Without energy, it will not be possible to have industries, there will be no transformation of our agricultural or primary products to finished products. In brief, without energy, we cannot have modern economy. The energy deficit has largely penalised the Cameroon's industrial sector, as well as the tertiary sector that highly depends on the provision of electricity. The starting of the building of the Memve'ele hydroelectric dam that was initiated with the laying of the foundation stone by the President was just the beginning of the construction of many other dams in Cameroon.*

During this occasion, the president promised the construction of other dams like that of Lom Pangar that he laid the foundation stone on the 03<sup>rd</sup> August 2012, Mekin, Warak and Menchum as well as that of Nachtigal were in the pipeline. The putting in place of these dams is a dream come true of the progressive start of the politics of 'great realisation' of President Paul Biya with the ambitions of Cameroon becoming an emerging country by 2035.

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<sup>11</sup> Discours de S.E.M. Paul BIYA, Président de la République du Cameroun a l'occasion de la cérémonie de pose de la première pierre du Port en Eau Profonde de Kribi, 08 Octobre 2011, [www.minpostel.gov.cm](http://www.minpostel.gov.cm), Visited 09/08/2020

From Nyabizan where the President laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Memve'ele hydroelectric dam, in 2012 August 03<sup>rd</sup>, and in 2013 November 14<sup>th</sup> he preceded to the laying of the foundation stones of the Lom Pangar hydroelectric dam and the second bridge over the River Wouri respectively. To the Head of State, H.E. President Paul BIYA, these giant projects open a new era of the energy production in Cameroon. These strategically economic gigantic projects would bring about the era of moderate cost, abundant, stable, competitive, renewable and less polluting energy in the country – Cameroon.

The coming of the Lom Pangar project will bring along the electrification of the East Region, creation of employment in this Region, development of proximity commerce and the disenclavement of the people of Kepere-Deng Deng, and payment of indemnities to those to be compensated. Still presenting the speech of the Head of state of Cameroon, Njiotang, (2018:335), asserted, *“today we are with the energy sector, tomorrow we will be in the mineral sector to be followed by agriculture and others will follow suit,”*. These projects are not single handily carried out by the Cameroonians or Cameroon government alone. The Cameroon government is working with partners and one of the partners highly involved in the realisation of the giant projects is China whose imprints in this sector cannot be neglected.

The realisation of these economically giant projects is thanks to the fruitful excellent relationship and that Cameroon has maintained with the People's Republic of China. Like China, many other international organisations to which Cameroon is a member are doing a great deal to see this happen. Some of these organisations among others who assist in funding among others include; the World Bank, *L'Agence Française de Développement*, African Bank of Development, *La Banque de Développement des Etats de L'Afrique Central* and the European Bank just to name a few.

With the laying of foundation stones of projects mostly constructed by Chinese in Cameroon that led to the outing and presentation of official speeches and many more promises by the President to the people of Cameroon about the development plan of the government we are also interested to see how China is involved in the communication sector in Cameroon. This is to be seen through the communication accords signed between Cameroon and China.

#### **2.2.4 Communication Accords**

Among the accords signed by China and Cameroon, there are accords in the domain of communication. These accords have fuelled the construction of communication facilities

through easing the means of financing by China for these projects to be realised. For instance, in 2011, a four hundred and thirty-three million (433,000,000) Yuan (about FCFA 27.651 billion) preferential loan for the e-post project in Cameroon was signed between Cameroon and China. This preferential loan agreement is an indication to show that China is also highly concerned about the communication domain in Cameroon.

However, in the area of general communication, China has invested much and is still doing so. For instance, in the area of Post and Telecommunication, China has pumped in around thirty-one billion (31,000,000,000) CFA Francs. The structure of initial investments per category, which corresponds to the 31 billion CFA Francs debt contracted from the Chinese bank, is as follow:

**Table 10: The Structure of Initial Investments Per Category**

N°	Category	Amount (FCFA)	Weight (%)
1	Building and civil engineering	2266695498	7.28
2	Platforms and servers	6012076998	19.32
3	Software	3543686347	11.39
4	Fibre-optics Network and VSAT	10376933206	33.34
5	Other expenses	3659135566	11.76
6	Power equipment	2243675571	7.21
7	Rolling stock	397246396	1.28
8	Hardwares	1331408301	4.28
9	Telecommunications equipment	724019343	2.33
10	Air conditioning systems	468804399	1.51
11	Training	99597140	0.32

**Source:** e-Post A Highly Secured Ultramodern Postal Network

The funding of the e-post by the Chinese is meant for the putting in place several sectors of communication network structures of different categories for the whole project to be realised. These categories make up the various components of the e-post project construction. The categories with their various components include the following:

- Building and civil engineering; talking about building and civil engineering, we include architectural surveys, building and fitting-out of buildings meant for communication activities.

- Platforms and servers; these platforms and servers include all platforms and servers deployed to the data centers.
- Software; the software corresponds to different software and antivirus installed on the platforms for communication purposes. Some of these software put in place for the e-post project constructed with financial loan from China include pis, oa, and antivirus.
- Fibre-optics network and Vsat; includes civils engineering, fibre-optics cable, Vsat terminals and the Hub.
- Other expenses; include civil transportation, insurance, installation and commissioning costs.
- Power equipment; include solar modules, generators, inverters, batteries etc.
- Rolling stock; includes motorcycles delivered within the framework of the contract.
- Hardwares; include microcomputers, scanners, and printers.
- Telecommunication equipments; these are IP phones, video phones, videoconferencing and telepresence screens.
- Air conditioning systems; these are air conditioning cabinets in the Data center and air conditioners in the technical rooms of post offices.
- Training; include training sessions in China, Israel and Cameroon.

All the categories with their components as presented have and are playing an important role in the involvement of both the Chinese and the Cameroonians alike in the area of Post and Telecommunication in Cameroon with training of Cameroonians very vital in this area of activities.

Training as well as the construction works are very important in the relationship between China and Cameroon. Training permits the transfer of know-how which helps the Cameroonians to acquire the know-how of the Chinese to help in the development of Cameroon. Ikelle, (2009:32), asserts *“training consists of giving or learning of know-how throughout one’s life. This supposes that knowledge and know-how are never acquired at one time”*. If this training negotiated could be extended to other sectors of the implications of the Chinese in construction of infrastructures in Cameroon, the agenda to reach emergence by 2035 will be a reality without doubts. Far from only being involved in the post and telecommunication projects in Cameroon, China is also very vibrant and determined in the agricultural sector as is presented subsequently in this write up.



### 2.2.5 Agricultural Accords

To boost the agricultural sector in Cameroon, and for her to experience a second-generation agriculture, China has also come in to assist. For this assistance to take place, China signed one prominent accord with Cameroon in 2008. This accord is the memorandum of understanding on the construction of a pilot centre dedicated to agricultural techniques signed in 2008. Before the signing of this memorandum in 2008, China had signed an agreement on the possibility of using ten thousand (10,000) hectares of land she bought in 2006. According to Grain, (2010), The payment of this land was facilitated by financial investment agreement worth USD 120 million signed between IKO (the Chinese company behind the project which is the state-owned conglomerate Shaanxi Land Reclamation General Corporation also known as Shaanxi State Farm) with the government of Cameroon. Sino Cam IKO is specialised in the production, the transformation and the trade of agricultural products.

These ten thousand (10,000) hectares of land are found in the two (02) of the ten (10) regions of Cameroon which are the Centre and the West Regions. In the Centre Region we have two (02) pieces of land, one made up of two thousand (2,000) hectares at Nanga-Eboko and the other four thousand (4000) hectares in Njore. In the West Region, the company has four thousand (4000) hectares of land in Santchou. According to Business in Cameroon, (2015), the acquisition of these over ten thousand (10,000) hectares of land by Chinese has made Cameroon to be among the top Ten (10) African States to award the greatest land portion to China for its agricultural investments.

These pieces of land are used for pilot studies for the cultivation of rice and maize. The buying and securing of land by Chinese for agriculture in Cameroon reinforces cooperation between the two (02) countries especially in the domain of agriculture. Agricultural sector is a solid base for every economy and plays a very important role in development and social stability. Agricultural sector like many other sectors Chinese are involved in, in Cameroon, have a wide range of cooperation activities that set the implications and stakes in motion. These activities range from mechanisation of agriculture, capital investment, employment, technological as well as financial involvement just to name a few, that affect the functioning of a given community where the agricultural activities are taking place.

To enhance employment, there is need for training. To make sure that this training happens, the Chinese have constructed a training centre at the Nanga-Eboko station which is one of the fifteen (15) agricultural technological demonstration centres that the government of

China committed to build in Africa at the Beijing summit of Sino-African cooperation in 2006. Apart from agricultural relationship between China and Cameroon, to have more on finances relating to China-Cameroon relationship, we shall be examining financial accords signed between China and Cameroon over the years as presented in the following paragraphs.

### **2.2.6 Financial Accords**

With the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, there have been serious flow of money especially from China to Cameroon. Giddens, (1995:242), quipped; “*Money plays an extremely important part in relation because it makes possible the estimations of the values exchanged in quantitative and fixed, rather than in subjective terms.*” Money plays three basic functions in every society. First of all, money is used as a unit of account. It is a standard numerical unit of measurement of market value of goods, services and other transactions. Secondly, money has the function of store of value. Finally, money acts as a medium of exchange. Here, money is used to intermediate the exchange of goods and services. This value exchange which is money is highly valorised as the relation has a heavy impact at the economic level and economic relationships free themselves from the particular ties and obligations of local community structure, and become fluidly determined by the material chances which individuals have of using property, goods or services which they possess for exchange on the competitive market. Table eleven (11) shows the financial transactions between China and Cameroon as they forge ahead with the “win-win relationship”.

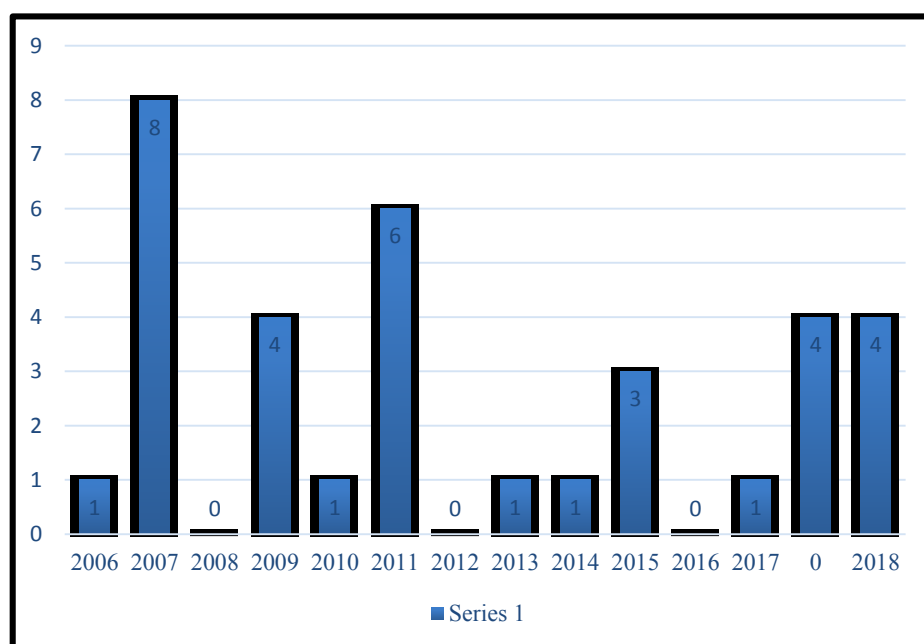
**Table 11: Financial Transactions between China and Cameroon**

<b>No</b>	<b>Financial agreements</b>	<b>Amount in yuan</b>	<b>Amount in FCFA</b>	<b>Year of agreement</b>
1	Financial investment agreement signed between IKO and Cameroon	906 million	78 billion	2006
2	A grant under an economic and technical cooperation	29,7 million	2,560 billion	2007
3	An interest-free loan in the framework of economic and technical cooperation	22,3 million	1,920 billion	2007
4	A preferential loan	260 million	22,4 billion	2007
5	Economic and technical agreement intended to finance phase one of the potable water in Cameroon	987 million	85 billion	2007
6	Financial donation Construction of a public school in Mvomeka'a	5,5 million	480 million	2007
7	Provision of expertise on studies for the construction of the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Douala	520 thousand	44,8 million	2007
8	Donation of equipment to the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Yaoundé	743 thousand	64 million	2007
9	Preferential loan for the financing of CDMA-HUAWEI-CAMTEL Project	262,5 million	22,6 billion	2007
10	Loan agreement relating to the construction of the Mekin hydroelectric dam with Eximbank to do the financing	337 million	22 billion	2009
11	ZTE Cameroon Sarl project financed by China Eximbank	355,5 million	30,6 billion	2009
12	Financing for the Construction of the Yaoundé Multipurpose Sport Complex	197,5 million	17 billion	2009
13	Donation of equipment worth...	813 thousand	70 million	2009
14	Preferential loan for the rehabilitation of MATGENIE	81 million	7 billion	2010
15	Preferential loan agreement for the e-post	433 million	27,651 billion	2011
16	Interest-free loan for the execution of economic and technical cooperation	100 million	6,386 billion	2011
17	Unrequited donation	50 million	3,193 billion	2011
18	Loan agreement for the first phase construction of Kribi Deep-Sea Port	2,4 billion	207 billion	2011
19	Loan for the construction of 1,500 social housing units	389 million	33,5 billion	2011

20	Loan agreement relating to the construction of the Memve'ele dam	2,8 billion	243 billion	2011
21	Construction of the Nanga-Eboko (CATAC)	313 million	27 billion	2013
22	Loan agreement for Co-financing of the potable water supply project in the city of Yaoundé by China Eximbank and Sinomach	3,9 billion	339 billion	2014
23	Loan agreement from China Eximbank for the construction of the Kribi-Lobabe highway	2,2 billion	192,91 billion	2014
24	Unrequited donation	11,6 million	1 billion	2015
25	Establishment of a computer network for Higher Education	1 billion	93,5 billion	2015
26	Afriland First Bank and China Development Bank	304 million	26,2 billion	2015
27	Unrequited donation for renovation of the Conference Centre	127 million	11 billion	-
28	Economic and technical agreement intended to finance phase two of the potable water in Cameroon	594 million	49,4 billion	2017
29	Donation for the development of 145 human-powered potable water boreholes	23,2 million	2 billion	-
30	Preferential loan for the construction of the Bafoussam Omnisport Stadium	190 million	9,1 billion	-
31	Loan agreement relating to the second phase construction of Kribi Deep-Sea Port with Eximbank to do the financing	4,5 billion	390 billion	-
32	Preferential loan from China Eximbank for the first phase construction of Yaoundé-Douala Highway	3,6 billion	316 billion	-
34	A memorandum of Understanding of cancelling Cameroon's debt to China as of December 2005	178 million	15,36 billion	2017
35	Contribution for the emergency humanitarian assistance	20 million	1,9 billion	2018
36	Concessional loan agreement for second phase of project to supply drinking water in cameroon	580 million	50 billion	2018
37	Memorandum of understanding on the development of human resource and infrastructure	3,8 billion	334 billion	2018
38	Pledge to donate for human resource and infrastructure development over the three coming years	975 million	84 billion	2018

**Source:** Business in Cameroon, China donates more than FCFA400 billion to Cameroon following Paul Biya's state visit, The Voice Newspaper, N° 130, 9/ 03/ 2018,

Funds from China to Cameroon are given under different conditions. Some of the funds are free will donations for the construction of diverse infrastructures. The finances come as Chinese support the endeavours of Cameroon to develop to an emerging economy by 2035. Apart from free will financial donations from China, Cameroon also receives preferential loans for the construction of various structures especially those carried out by Chinese. These financial transactions, we are talking about are those between the year 2006 to 2018. The number of financial agreements and their corresponding years are presented on figure ten (10).



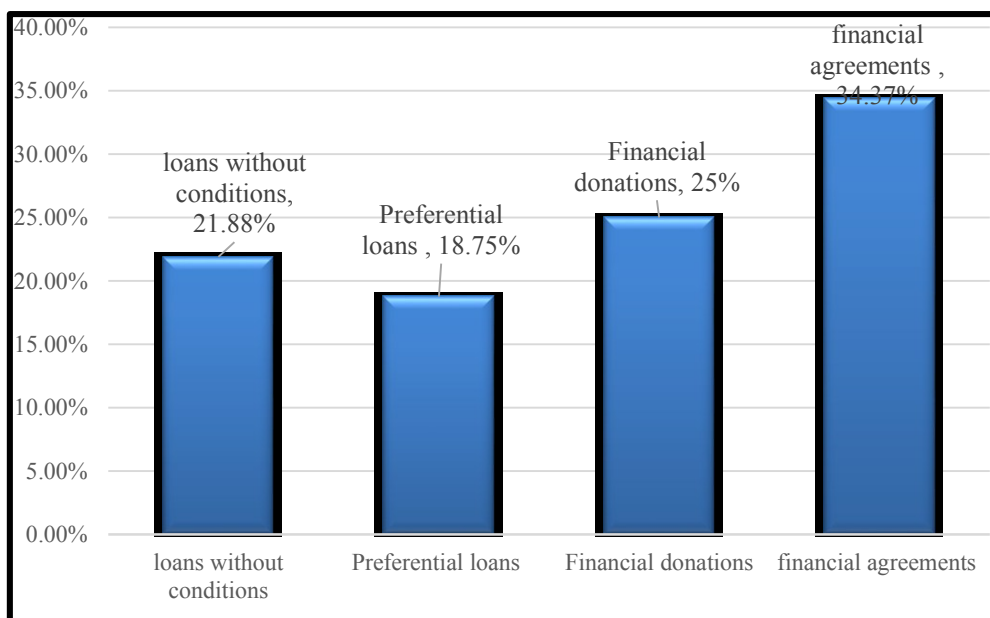
**Figure 10: The Number of Financial Dealings between China and Cameroon per Year from 2007-2018**

**Source:** Information Obtained from Table Eleven (11)

Most of these loans are granted by the Chinese Exim bank and the Chinese development bank under the instruction of the Chinese government after agreements have been reached between China and Cameroon. Some of the loans are Interest-free and some are termed preferential because they believe the interest to be paid is not much and also at times the duration for the payment of the loan will be over a certain number of years (what economists called long term loans).

From figure ten (10) presenting the financial dealings between China and Cameroon from 2006 to 2018, the number of financial accords fluctuate over the years with the highest number of financial agreements recorded in 2007. In this 2007, there was

a higher dimension of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon witnessed with the ever first visit of the then number one citizen of China, Hu Jintao to Cameroon. During his visit, there were many accords signed and among these accords were the eight (08) financial accords as presented on table eleven (11). After this highest number of accords signed in 2007, the second majority of financial accords signed per year between China and Cameroon were six (06) in 2011 when President Paul Biya paid a state visit to China. In 2009 and 2018, four (04) financial accords were signed each year respectively. In 2018, President Paul BIYA did not only sign financial agreements, but also had as a point on his agenda to plead for more financial aid as (Saah, 2018:03), puts it. We also found four (04) financial accords signed between China and Cameroon without the years indicated. In 2015, China signed three (03) financial accords with Cameroon and the least number of accords signed between these two (02) countries was one accord per year signed in 2006, 2010, 2013, 2014 and 2017. In total, from 2006 to 2018, China and Cameroon have signed a total number of approximately over thirty-eight (38) financial accords. These accords and financial assistance from China to Cameroon are done with different conditions. The conditions for financial dealings between China and Cameroon are illustrated on figure eleven (11).



**Figure 11: The Types of Financial Dealings between China and Cameroon**

**Source:** Information Obtained from the Table of the Financial Transactions between China and Cameroon

From figure eleven (11) we can observe that about 21.88% of financial transactions between China and Cameroon are loan agreements without conditions whether they are interest free or preferential loans. Preferential loans from China to Cameroon occupy close to 18.75% of the total percentage of financial offers from China. Financial donations or supports from China to Cameroon are over 25% of the total financial transactions between China and Cameroon. Some of these financial donations at times are material donations valued in financial terms. Around 34.37% of the financial agreements do not specify whether the financing are donations, interest-free loans, loans without conditions or material asserts assess in financial values. These amounts just appear as financial agreements between China and Cameroon for this or that activity or project. From every indication, huge amounts of funds from China to Cameroon fall under loans granted to the beneficiary with different conditions depending on the agreement between the parties concerned.

Whether be those loans or financial donations to Cameroon from China, the greater part of the funds is directed towards the construction of infrastructures. From table eleven (11), about 65.6% of financial transactions between China and Cameroon are for construction purposes. These projects range from the construction of transportation structures like roads and sea ports, sporting facilities like stadiums and sport complex, communication facilities as well as agricultural centres, to potable water facilities and health structures like hospitals all over Cameroon. Other financial dealings are classified under economic and technical agreements as well as loans just granted to the Cameroon government to facilitate and improve her financial funding of state activities.

China and Cameroon are not only interested in relating in terms of financial transaction as (Simmel, 1903), will have it that as a result of anonymity in the metropolis, the city dweller can only establish a relationship with currency-money and exchange becomes a medium within which the city dweller invests their trust. As (Simmel, 1903), will say it, I quipped *“This psychic mood is the correct subjective reflection of a complete money economy to the extent that money takes the place of all the manifoldness of things and expresses all qualitative distinctions between them in the distinction of how much.”* Apart from financial accords, China and Cameroon have signed so many accords. The signing of these accords as presented previously is carried out during official visits of officials from both countries in different occasions. Our next preoccupation in this research work would be looking at the official visits between China and Cameroon. These official visits presentation will be in a bit to show the official mobility of both China and Cameroon top officials as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon.

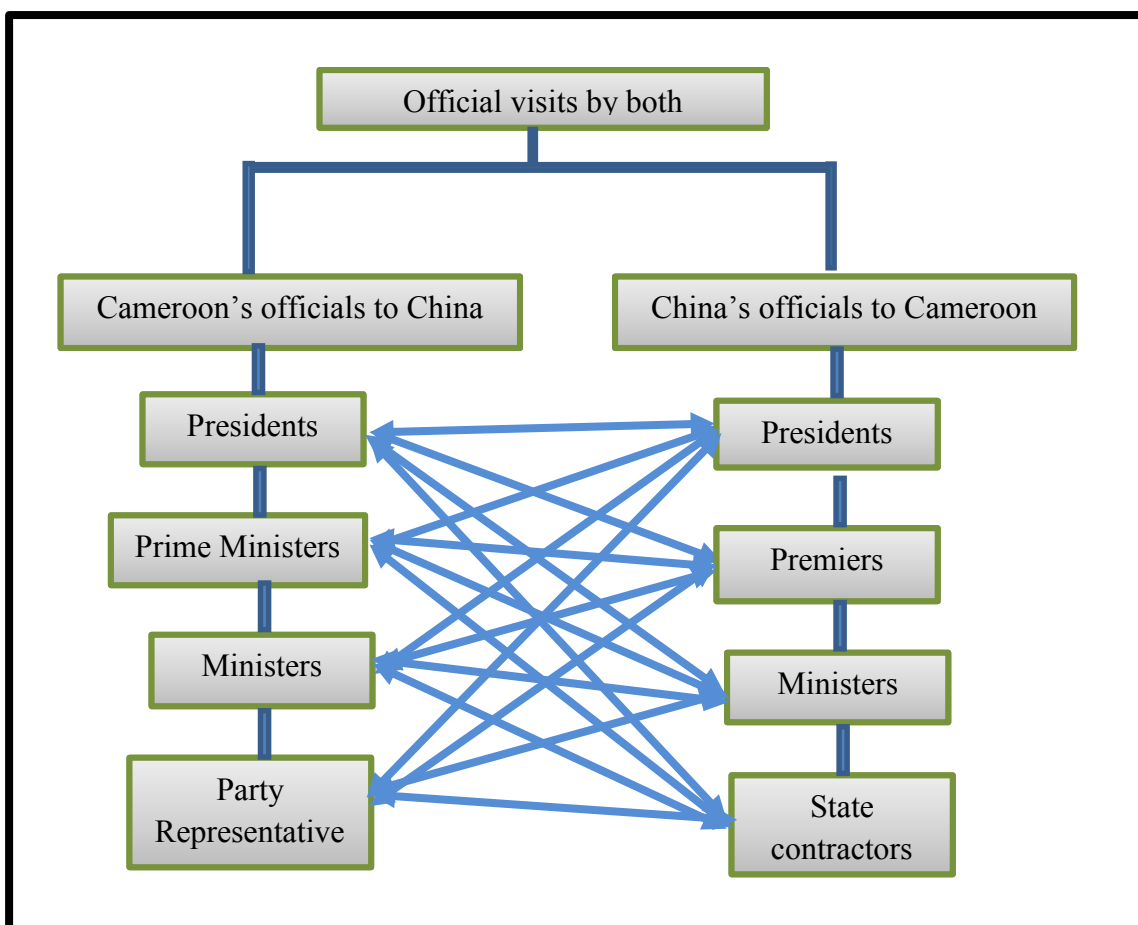
### 2.3 Official visits between China and Cameroon

When it comes to official visits, according to Wang Yi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, as Yanshuo, (2014:14), puts it, Chinese state leaders have paid over one hundred and forty-nine (149) visits to African countries and their African counterparts have made three hundred and seventy-nine (379) trips to China. These visits of both states' officials are an indication of the flow of relationship between the parties. This relationship in the area of mobility and visiting of one another, projects some sort of anomie as there are no clear-cut norms regulating them. The question here is to know among these two (02) friends who should pay a visit, when and how should this visit be effectuated.

Probably, at this level the type of relationship practiced here has the characteristic of the informal relationship where time of visit has no limit and friends seek to satisfy the needs of one another. This can be seen in the number of visits disparity as Chinese has paid over one hundred and forty-nine (149) visits to African countries and their African counterparts have made three hundred and seventy-nine (379) trips to China which is more than double the number carried out by Chinese.

At the level of Cameroon's relationship with China, the governments of the two (02) countries have initiated and carried out many diplomatic visits involving top ranking officials of the both countries visiting one another for one reason or the other. Some of these visits are carried out by the number one citizens of the countries, that is, the presidents of the two (02) countries. Figure twelve (12) gives us a web-like representation of the official visits paid by both countries representatives of different administrative posts ranging from the president of the republics, ministers, to party representatives to each other member country of the two (02) states.





**Figure 12: The ‘Web-like Official Visits by China and Cameroon to the Both Countries**

**Source:** Author’s Conception

The web-like official visits presented in figure twelve (12) are indications of the human involvement to solidify the relationship between China and Cameroon. As states representatives from both countries pay visits to the countries, there are interchangeable contacts and negotiations at different levels and domains. From Cameroon on the one hand, apart from private and business individual trips as well as those who have travelled to seek for jobs or for educational purposes, the official visits on behalf of the state of Cameroon have been effectuated starting from the heads of state to the prime ministers as well as the ministers and the party representatives like the ruling political party the CPDM. On the other hand, many Chinese on their individual and multiple purposes like for business venture migrated to the Republic of Cameroon. Talking of official visits, the highest hierarchy who is no other person than the then President of China Hu Jintao set his feet on the Cameroonian soil in 2007. Apart

from this president of the People's Republic of China to the Republic of Cameroon, we have had Chinese premiers, ministers as well as contractors who have paid official visits to Cameroon to represent and take decisions on behalf of the Chinese people in the relationship and corporation between China and Cameroon.

### **2.3.1 Cameroon Presidents' Visits to China**

Starting from the heads of state, the former and the present heads of state of Cameroon have visited China. Cameroon heads of state have paid official visits to China over the years on several occasions. The two (02) heads of state that have ruled Cameroon from independence in 1960 to present, have had the privilege to visit China on behalf of the people of Cameroon. These visits are always either by invitation by the government of China under the leadership of a president or through their request by the Cameroon government through the president.

These visits of the heads of state of the Republic of Cameroon have solidified and empowered the "win-win relationship" between China and Cameroon especially at the helm of bureaucratic leadership of the states.

The first president of the United Republic of Cameroon (today the Republic of Cameroon) had to visit China and he did just that. After independence the United Republic of Cameroon under the leadership of His Excellency President Ahmadou Ahidjo for over a decade did not create relationship with the People's Republic of China. In the 70s this relationship was created and His Excellency President Ahmadou Ahidjo visited China twice. His ever first official visit to China was in 1973 in which he had cordial sincere and friendly talks with the then president of China and premier in the persons of His Excellency President Mao Tsetung and Premier Chou En-lai. In line with the intentions of this visit, according to President Ahidjo Visits China, (1977), "President Ahidjo's Speech", *Peking Review*, (1977:3), quipped,

*This early Cameroonian Presidential visit was guided by the Cameroon's pursue of the policy of non-alignment, opposes imperialism, colonialism, hegemonism, Zionism and racism, supports national-liberation movements and maintains that the affairs of Africa should be settled by Africans.*

This first visit by the head of state President Ahmadou Ahidjo can be qualified as the solid foundation on which the "win-win relationship" stands because this was the ever first Cameroon official state visit carried out by the Head of state to the People's Republic of China. This visit was so fruitful that there was need for a second visit to take place. The second visit of President Ahmadou Ahidjo to China took place after four (04) years of his first visit.

President Ahmadou Ahidjo's second visit to China was very eminent and powerfully recognised by China. The visit took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1977 when he was welcomed at Peking's airport by Chairman Hua, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and his wife Comrade Lin Chia-mei, Vice-Chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme as well as several thousands of people in the capital. At this time, the Cameroon government had advocated the Cameroonization of cadres and investments attached importance to the development of agriculture and put forward the *slogan* "*Self-Centred Development*". So, his visit to China was opened up to find prospects for the further development of the friendly relations and co-operation between the two (02) countries with the common objective to ensure total advancement. So the "win-win relationship" is not an affair of today, but that different names and different dimensions have been put in place to cherish the relationship between China and Cameroon at different times and different levels by different states personalities of the friendly nations.

After His Excellency President Ahmadou Ahidjo, it was the turn of the second president of Cameroon in the person of His Excellency President Paul Biya. In his years at the helm of the political seat as the president of Cameroon, His Excellency President Paul Biya has made six (6) official visits to China. After taking over power in 1982 he stayed in power for over four (4) years and in the fifth year, in 1987, he paid his ever first official visit to China. The visit of 1987 was followed by that of 1993 after his re-election at the helm of state as the president of Cameroon in 1992. The 1992 visit is followed by the 2006 visit that much is not talked about. From 2006, President Paul Biya paid an official visit to China again in 2011.

One of the head of state's prominent official visits to China was in 2011. This visit is seen as prominent due to the results seen in the number of accords recorded that were signed between Cameroon and China in 2011. Among many other accords, during the 2011 visit five (05) economic and technical partnership agreements were signed. Those agreements are among accords presented previously on the various tables of the various accords signed between Cameroon and China as a result of the "win-win relationship". This visit of the head of state in 2011 reinforced Sino-Cameroon relations and oiled new perspectives in intensifying bilateral cooperation between the two (02) friendly countries.

The president of the republic, His Excellency President Paul Biya in his official outings went to China twice in 2018. The first of these visits was in the month of March 2018. According to Mbonteh, (2018), because of the landmark economic connotation to this visit, his

team was made up of; The Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT), Public Works Minister, Minister of Water and Energy, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Handicrafts, President of Cameroon Employers' Association (GICAM). This visit was at the invitation of His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, inviting the president of the Republic of Cameroon. It was in this august visit that the president of the Republic of Cameroon, His Excellency President Paul Biya solicited for the 'total or partial cancellation' of Cameroon's debts to China. This encounter between China and Cameroon representatives was highly enriched with the signing of two (02) agreements and a promise from the Chinese president to finance or give financial assistance for the construction of three (03) economic development projects such as; the phase two (02) of the Yaoundé-Douala motorway, motorway from Yaoundé city centre to the Nsimalen International Airport, and the motorway from Edea to Kribi where the largest Seaport in Central and West Africa is located.<sup>12</sup> After this solemn visit in the month of March, the president of Cameroon had to be again in China for the second time in 2018, this time around in the month of September for the third FOCAC Summit.

The president of the republic, His Excellency President Paul Biya's second visit to China was in September 2018 which was to attend the Beijing Summit of heads of states and government of the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). Here the relations between China and Cameroon were raised to a higher level and at the general level concerning China and Africa, in the FOCAC summit of 2018. According Jato, (2018:5), the president of China, His Excellency President Xi Jinping quipped, "*The new platform of international cooperation should be turned into a road of peace, prosperity, openness, green development and innovation and a road that brings together different civilizations*". To deliver on the promises of Beijing 2018, China and Africa are therefore intending to maintain and deepen the "win-win relationship" to build infrastructures, cooperate in areas like energy development, transportation, information and communication technologies and cross-border water resources.

At a specific level between China and Cameroon at the FOCAC summit in 2018, the Chinese president His Excellency President Xi Jinping promised to assist Cameroon in her steady drive towards an emerging economy by 2035 through the Belt of Roads initiative. At the end of the summit, the president of Cameroon endorsed the Beijing Declaration and a three

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<sup>12</sup> State visit of His Excellency Paul Biya to the People's Republic of China, official website of the President of the Republic of Cameroon, <https://www.prc.cm>, visited 12/08/2020

(3)-years' action plan adopted at the end of the third summit of the heads of states and government of the forum on China-Africa cooperation.

FOCAC is an important platform for dialogue and an effective mechanism for cooperation between China and Africa, based on solidarity and mutual respect. This level of solidarity engulfs both the mechanical and organic solidarity at the international and bilateral relationship levels.

The mechanical solidarity can be seen demonstrated at the relation between the heads of states as they accept and appreciate what they have in common, especially at the international level labelling both China and Cameroon as third world countries. With this classification and putting them on the same scale as third world countries, they have some things in common. These include economic, social and political situations that need the assistance of one another.

At the level of organic solidarity, the countries representatives are hunting for personal interests of the states they are representing with the claims that international relations are relations of interest. Here we see the manifestation of the secondary group relations which are impersonal and formal. This is elaborated at the level of the form of visits of the heads of states which are strictly state visits with limited time frame and interest based on the benefits of each state at the presentations of that state's representatives - at this level the presidents. The president is not the only one that incarnates the state. In many occasions, he is accompanied by many other state officials who play a vital role in ensuring the representation of the states in the "win-win relationship" between Cameroon and China.

### **2.3.2 Cameroon Officials' Visits to China**

The organic solidarity and mechanical solidarity are not only demonstrated by the visits paid by the Cameroonians Heads of state, but are also accompanied or represented by other top ranking Cameroonian government officials. These top-ranking officials have visited China in several occasions and for many diverse reasons. Some of them accompany the heads of state in their official visits to China and some are sent to represent the state in one way or the other. To have a view of the official visits paid by some state representatives to China, table twelve (12) is drawn to bring out the names of the Cameroonian officials who have represented Cameroon in China through official visits they have carried out.

**Table 12: Cameroonian Leaders and Officials that have Visited China**

No	Name of the official	Post of responsibility	Year of visitation
1	Vincent Efon	Foreign Minister	August 1972
2	Luc Ayang	President of the social and economic council	August 1986, September 1990
3	Fonka Shang Lawrence	Speaker of the National House of Assembly	May 1989
4	Joseph Tsanga Abanda	President's special envoy	1994
5	Cavaye Yeguie Djibril	Speaker of the National House of Assembly	1996, and December 2009
6	Philemon Yang	Prime Minister	June 2015
7	Augustin Kontchou Kouomegni	Minister for State Affairs in Charge of Foreign Relations	June 2000, and 2006
8	Atangana Mebara Jean-Marie	Minister of Higher Education	November 28 to December 6, 2000
9	Joseph Owona	Minister of National Education	October 2006
10	11 men delegation	CPDM Delegation to China	2009
11	Louis Paul Motaze	Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development	July 2016
12	Alamine Ousmane May	Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development	2018
13	Emmanuel Nganou Djoumessi	Minister of Public Works	2018
14	Gaston Eloundou	Minister of Water and Energy	2018
15	Celestin Tawamba	The President of Cameroon Employers' Association	2018
16	Christophe Eken	President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Handicrafts	2018

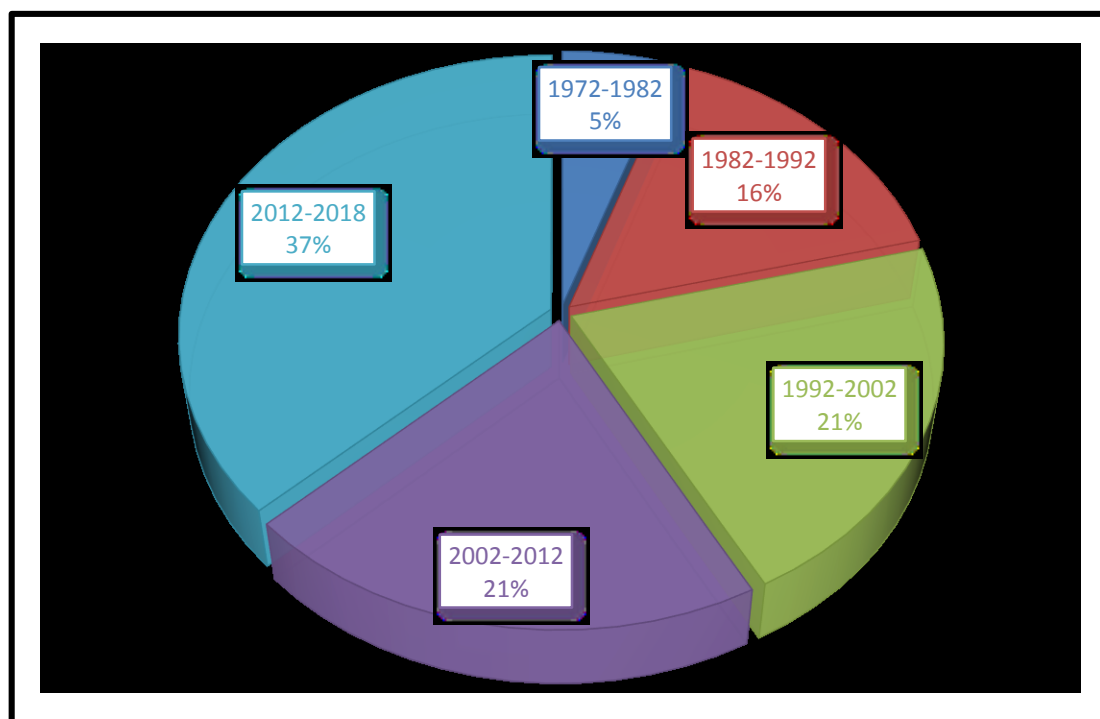
**Source:** Adapted from Economic and Commercial Office of the Embassy of the PRC in the Republic of Cameroon, Mbonteh, (2018), Ateba Eyene, (2010),

Not only the names of representatives are being mentioned on the table, note is also taken of their posts of responsibilities as well as the years of their visits to China. From table fifteen (15), Cameroon state representatives have paid official visits to China. Some of these officials have visited China on behalf of the state of Cameroon for more than one time.

Not all the Cameroonian officials presented on table twelve (12) have gone to represent Cameroon. Some of them like the eleven (11) men delegation have visited China on political basis representing the ruling political CPDM party. These party officials went to participate in a seminar organised by their counterpart the CCP, the ruling political party of China. This

illustrates even the political impact China is putting in place in their relationship with Cameroon. Though China and Cameroon are not operating on the same political system – while Cameroon is operating under democracy and multipartism, China is under the communist one-party system. These parties still have common grounds of operations as they are the ruling parties of the two (02) countries and other things in common.

Before the eleven (11) men delegation from the CPDM party to visit China, many other visits have been paid by state officials to China. The ever first visit to China by Cameroonian officials was carried out by Vincent Efon the then Foreign Minister in August 1972. This visit laid the plate-form for both the presidents and other Cameroonian officials to follow. It was after this visit that His Excellency President Ahmadou Ahidjo had the first presidential visit in 1973. From 1972 to 2018 gives us approximately five (05) decades with the following official visits as represented on figure table thirteen (13).



**Figure 13: Percentages of Number of Visits of Cameroonian officials to China per Decade**

**Source:** Information Obtained from Table Twelve (12)

From 1972 to the year 2000, over nine (09) official visits were effectuated for a period of over twenty-eight (28) years. Averagely, we can say that the official visits of Cameroonian officials to China between these periods from 1972 to 2000 stood at three (03) official visits per decade. From the year 2000, the trend of things changed as concerns the intensification of

the official visits to China. Over eleven (11) visits were carried out after the year 2000 to 2018. This gives us an average of over five (05) visits per decade as compared to the last three (03) decades of China-Cameroon relationship. Within the first decade from 1972 to 1982 apart from the presidential visits, only one official visit was recorded by Cameroonian representatives to China, occupying 5% of the number of visits effectuated by Cameroonian officials. This visit took over a decade for other visits to follow. From 1982 to 1992, exactly ten (10) years, the number of visits went up to three (03) and from another two (02) decades, that is, from 1992 to 2002 and from 2002 to 2012, a number of four (04) visits per decade respectively were carried out. From 2012 to 2018 left with four (04) years to complete another decade, the Cameroonian authorities went to China over seven (07) times occupying the greatest percentage of 37% of the visits carried out by Cameroonian authorities to China. As years go by, the number of visits to animate the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon keep on increasing.

Apart from the officials and the heads of state visiting China on temporal basis, out of the one hundred and forty-seven (147) foreign embassies in China, the Cameroon Embassy has also been put in place. As described by Ateba Eyene, (2010:32), the Embassy of the Republic of Cameroon in China is located at Beijing as the fulfilment of diplomatic mission of Cameroon in the People’s Republic of China. It is located at number seven (07) Dong Wu Jie, San Litun in Chaoyang District of Beijing. For over forty-five (45) years, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Cameroon have enjoyed productive and progressive bilateral ties, which have enabled both countries to develop a deep connection. The current ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon to China is His Excellency Mr. Martin Mpana who replaced H.E Mr. Eleih-Elle Etian since 2008. It is not only from the Cameroon side that these visits are taking place. Chinese are also playing a greater role in organising and carrying out official visits to Cameroon.

### **2.3.3 China’s President’s Visit to Cameroon**

Modern China from 1949 to 1982 worked not under a president but under Central People’s Government led by chairman or chairwoman of the Central People’s Government with the ever first chairman being Mao Tsetung and honorary chairwoman Soong Ching-ling. The position of a president of the People’s Republic of China was put in place from 1983 to present. From 1949 to present, China has had over six (06) chairmen, one (01) honorary chairwoman and five (05) presidents of the People’s Republic of China.



With these twelve (12) top leaders of the People's Republic of China, only one of them have paid an official visit to Cameroon. The one Chinese president is His Excellency President Hu Jintao who paid a visit to Cameroon in 2007. This visit of China's president in 2007 was after the president of Cameroon had visited China in 2006. In his visit to Cameroon, the president of China, Hu Jintao, pledged nearly one hundred million (100,000,000) USD in grants and soft loans to Cameroon. This visit did not only see the pledged of the USD 100 million, but also acted as a platform for in-depth views on the development of China-Cameroon ties, as well as consolidating the China-Cameroon traditional friendship.

The journey itself was not only meant for Cameroon as the President Hu Jintao was to make a tour of eight (08) African nations. He described his tour of eight (08) African nations as a journey of friendship and cooperation. Nevertheless, apart from this presidential visit, many other top ranking Chinese officials have been to Cameroon.

#### 2.3.4 China Officials' Visits to Cameroon

Before the coming of His Excellency President Hu Jintao to Cameroon in 2007, many Chinese officials have visited Cameroon. Over twenty-six (26) to thirty (30) sessions of official visits have been made by Chinese state officials to Cameroon as presented on table thirteen (13).

**Table 13: Chinese Leaders and Officials that have Visited Cameroon**

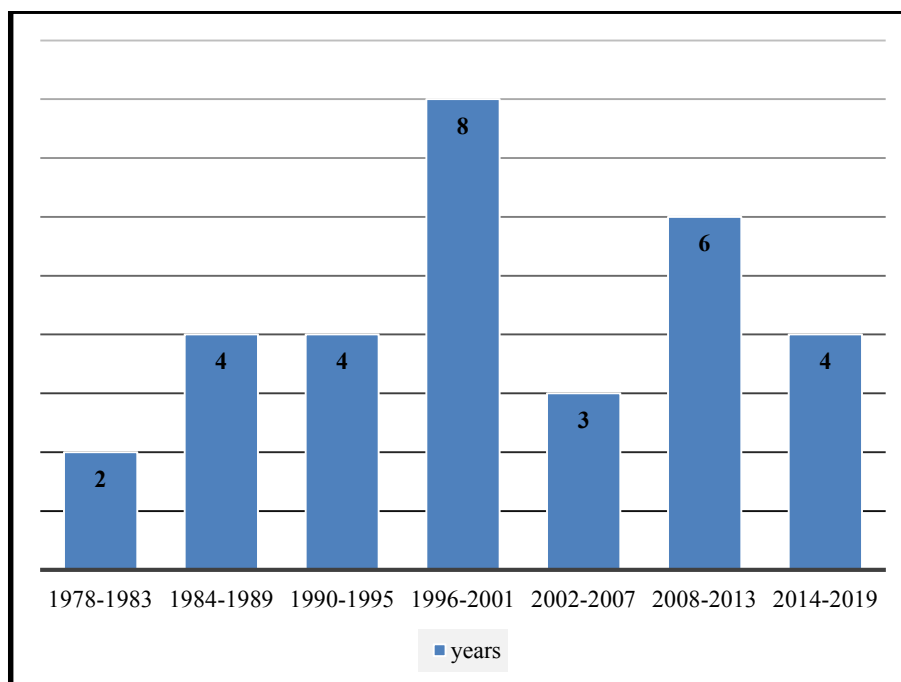
No	Name of official	Post of responsibility	Year of visitation
1	Chen Muhua	Vice-premier of the State Council	1978
2	Gong Dafei	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1981
3	Zhang Jinfu	Member of the State Council	1986
4	Qian Zhengying	Vice-chairman of the NPPCC	1988
5	Wang Hanbin	Vice-chairman of the NPC	1989
6	Yang Fuchang	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1991
7	Ma Wenrui	Vice-chairperson of the NPPCC	1992
8	Qian Qichen	Member of the State Council	1993
9	Li Lanqing	Vice-premier of the State Council	1995
10	Tian Zengpei	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1996
11	Bu He	Vice-chairman of the NPC	1996
12	Li Peng	Premier of the State Council	1988, 1997 and 1998
13	Ji Peiding	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1998
14	Dai Bingguo	Minister of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee	2000
15	Tang Jiaxuan	Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2001
16	Zhu Rongji	Premier of the State Council	1998, 2002, and 2003
16	Yang Wenchang	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2003

17	Jia Qinglin	The Chairman of the National People's Political Consultative Conference with a delegation of 115 members	2010
18	Major General Jia Xiaoming	Major General in the People's Republic of China	2010
19	Hui Liangyu	Deputy Prime Minister of the Council of State Affairs of the PRC	2011
20	Feng Zuoko	The Vice-President of the Chinese Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, with 13- men delegation	2011
21	Liu Yandong	China's State Adviser and Vice Prime Minister with a delegation of 31 people	2011
22	Chen Zhu	The Minister of Health of the PRC	2013
24	Wang Yi	The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRC	2015
25	Ding Wei	The Minister of Culture of the PRC	2017
26	Zhang Ming	Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRC	2017
27	Yang Jiechi	Special representative of President Xi Jinping	2019

**Source:** Adapted from Economic and Commercial Office of the Embassy of the PRC in the Republic of Cameroon

These officials' visits have been paid by different state personalities and party representatives at different times for different purposes directed at moderating and optimising the relationship according to (Xiaoqin, 2016:22). Looking at table thirteen (13), the ever first official visit paid by Chinese officials to Cameroon was in August 1978 carried out by Chen Muhua the then Vice-premier of the state Council of the People's Republic of China. From then, there has been an influx of Chinese state representatives to Cameroon. Some of the state representatives just like Cameroonians have carried out more than one visit to Cameroon. Some have even paid over three (3) visits to Cameroon on behalf of the people of China. These visits have not been carried out by individuals alone. Most of them come in delegations and one of the highest delegations from China to Cameroon was that led by the chairman of the National People's Political Consultative Conference in the person of Jia Qinglin, with a delegation of one hundred and fifteen (115) members.

In some years, more than one different delegations are received in Cameroon from China from different ministries and represented by different state officials. Figure fourteen (14) presents to us a summary of details of the frequency of number of visits paid by the Chinese officials to Cameroon between a period of five (05) years each from 1978 to 2019.



**Figure 14: A Range of Five (5) Years of Number of Visits of Chinese Officials to Cameroon**

**Source:** Drawn from Table Thirteen (13)

During the first five (05) years from 1978 to 1983, two (02) delegations of Chinese officials paid visits to Cameroon, one in 1978 and the other in 1981. From this first five (05) years range, the following two (02) ranges of five (05) years, recorded a number of four (04) consecutive Chinese officials' visits to Cameroon. The apex of the visits so far paid by Chinese officials to Cameroon was from 1996 to 2001 when the number of the visits went up to eight (08). After this apex period of the official visits carried out by Chinese officials to Cameroon, the next five (05) years recorded three (03) visits that were followed by another sharp increase from three (03) to six (06). The six (06) visits by these officials were carried out between 2008 and 2013. The last range from 2014 to 2019 saw about four (04) officials' visits to Cameroon by the Chinese state representatives. This gives us a total number of over thirty (30) visits Chinese officials have visited the Republic of Cameroon. Comparatively and contrary to (Wang, 2015:40), Chinese officials have paid more visits to the Republic of Cameroon than Cameroonian officials have done to China. On the Cameroonian side, Cameroon officials have had eight (08) by the two (02) presidents who have ruled the country and nineteen (19) from other officials making a total of twenty-seven (27) as compared to over thirty-two (32) visits carried out by the Chinese counterparts.

Apart from the officials of China visiting Cameroon over the years, China has established her embassy and consulate in Cameroon. With over one hundred and sixty-one (161) Chinese embassies and sixty-seven (67) consulates spread all over the world, China has put in place her Embassy in Yaoundé and a Consulate General in Douala. Table fourteen (14) presents the Chinese ambassadors to Cameroon from 1971 to present.

**Table 14: Chinese Ambassadors to Cameroon**

No	Ambassador	Start of service	End of service
1	Zhao Xingzhi	08-1971	05-1974
2	Wei Baoshan	09-1974	01-1981
3	Miao Jiuyue	07-1981	11-1984
4	Shi Nailiang	03-1985	04-1988
5	Shen Lianrui	08-1988	12-1992
6	Zhang Longbao	12-1992	07-1995
7	Zhu Yourong	11-1995	09-1998
8	Gao Ruming	09-1998	10-2000
9	Xu Mengshui	12-2000	12-2003
10	Wang Sifa	01-2004	07-2007
11	Huang Changqing	08-2007	01-2010
12	Xue Jinwei	02-2010	08-2012
13	Wo Ruidi	08-2012	01-2015
14	Wei Wenhua	01-2015	05-2018
15	Wang Yingwu	06-2018	present

**Source:** Chinese Ambassadors to Cameroon.<sup>13</sup>

From 1971 to present as shown on table fourteen (14), over fifteen (15) Chinese ambassadors have served in the Republic of Cameroon. The longest serving Chinese ambassador so far was Wei Baoshan who stayed in Cameroon from July 1974 to January 1981 making approximately seven (07) years in the country. Most of the ambassadors spend averagely three (03) years with the least number of years ever spent by Chinese ambassadors in Cameroon being approximately two (02) years.

These state visits show the social oscillation motion put in place by the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. This oscillation motion of the movement of state officials of both countries to each country and back resulted to the signing of accords of different types and magnitudes as presented in our previous subtitles and tables in 3.1 of this write up entitled “*Accords Signed between China and Cameroon*”. The signing of these accords amongst the two (02) countries are not the only results we have gotten from these social

<sup>13</sup>Chinese Ambassadors to Cameroon, [<https://www.fmpsc.gov.cn/mfa-eng/ziliao>], visited 24-12-2020

oscillation movements of states officials. As already said, the accords have prepared and levelled the ground for many other activities that have diversified the interaction between the Chinese and the Cameroonians in both countries especially in Cameroon. Some of these activities which are primordial to this research work are at the area of infrastructural realisation by the Chinese and Cameroonians, controlled by Chinese construction enterprises in Cameroon in general and in Yaoundé in particular as presented in the subsequent paragraphs.

## 2.4 Structures Realised by Chinese in Cameroon

One of the fruits of the official mobility of Cameroonians and Chinese officials to and fro the two (02) countries, to fuel the “win-win relationship” between the two (02) friendly nations, is the construction of structures of different magnitudes and diverse functions. These structures are put in place by Chinese construction enterprises that have come to do work as a result of the negotiations between the Chinese and Cameroonian officials, who travel to and fro for states visits, to each of these countries, signing accords of different purposes.

Table fifteen (15) present projects realised and ongoing in Yaoundé and elsewhere in the country that the Chinese have realised or are on the process of realising in Cameroon.

**Table 15: Ongoing and Realised Projects by Chinese Construction Enterprises in Yaoundé/Cameroon**

No	Enterprise	Projects in Yaoundé	Year/Reference
1	CHFEC	Construction of the <i>FEICOM</i> head office permanent structure	0000095/M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2013
2	CHFEC	Construction of the taxation permanent head office structure	0000037/M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2016
3	CHFEC	Construction of the Bacculaureat du Cameroun head office	000126/M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2015
4	SINOHYDRO Co.LTD	Construction of the MINTP Central services structure	00664/M/MINMAP/CPM-BEC/2013
5	CHFEC	Studies on the first phase of the auto road Yaoundé -Douala	00068/M/MINMAP/CPM-TR/2014
6	China International Water and Electricity Corp.	Construction and Tarring of the RNI-Nkolesson Nding et Bretelle Nanga Eboko 6BIFOGO(lot2)	M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2013

7	CCCC	Complementary work on the construction of auto road Yaoundé- Nsimalen	04018 /M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2018
8	CCCC	Construction of the auto road Yaoundé - Nsimalen	000573/M/MINMAP/CCPM-TR/2013
9	CRBC.Co	Studies /realisation of the construction work on the urban section of the auto road Yaoundé - Nsimalen	000075/M/MINMAP/CSPM-TR/2016
10	CRBC.Co	Rehabilitation works on the Omgba Bissogo road (7.004 and 7.004) section; wrong point Zoo-hôpital des sœurs to Mvog-Betsi quarter	07/M/CUY/CIPM/2017
11	CRBC.Co	Maintenance work on the access route at Toutouli quarter	2492/M/MINHDU/CMPM/2016
12	CRBC.Co Sino-Cam IKO Ltd	Landfills coated curative maintenance work at wrong point Tradex Ahala to Afanayor Construction of the Nanga-Eboko (CATAC)	00660M/MINHDU/CMPM/115/2013 M/MINMAP/CCPM-BEC/2013
13	Sinomach	Potable Water Supply project in the city of Yaoundé	2020 (on going)
14	CSYIC	Construction of 1500 social housing units in Yaoundé	2012
15	Shanxi Construction engineering corporation	Rehabilitation of Ministerial Building N° 01	2010
16	Anhui Construction Engineering Group	Rehabilitation of the Conference Centre	2015
17	/	The Gynaeco-Obstetric and Paediatric Hospital of Yaoundé	1998
18	/	Construction of the Yaoundé Multipurpose Sport Complex in Warda	2004
19	/	The canalisation of the Mfoundi water channel	/
20	/	The construction of the e-post	/
21	Huawei	CDMA-HUAWEI-CAMTEL Project	2014
<b>Some of the Projects out of Yaoundé</b>			
22	Shanxi Construction engineering corporation	construction of the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Douala	2009
23	Louis Berger-Bec	construction of Kribi deep-sea port	2018

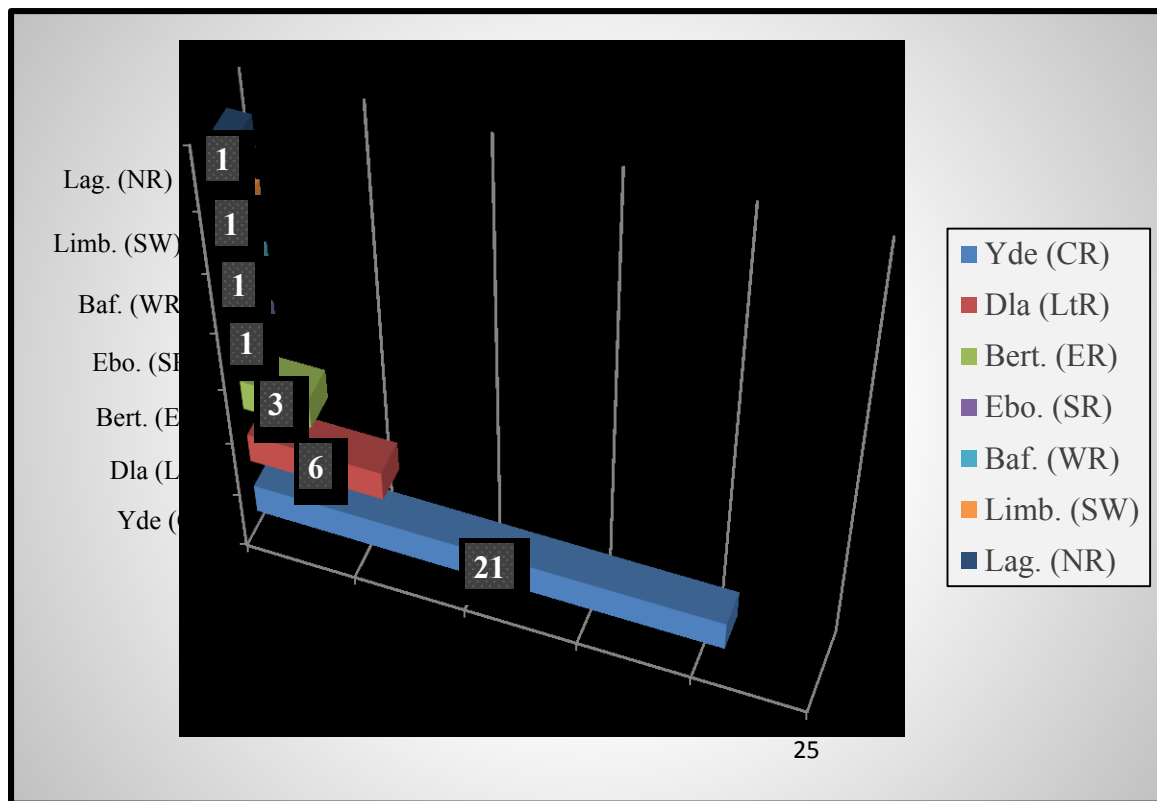
24	/	Construction of a public school in Mvomeka'a	2007
25	CMEC	construction of the Bafoussam Omnisports Stadium	2018
26	Synohydro	construction of the Memve'ele dam	/
27	/	construction of the Mekin hydroelectric dam	/
28	/	construction of the Kribi-Lobabe highway	/
29	/	Lagdo hydroelectric dam	1986
30	Shannxi Agriculture Group	The agro-industrial project of Nanga Eboko	2006
31	HUAWEI	The CTPhone project	/
32	ZTE	ZTE Cameroon Sarl	2016
33	HUAWEI	The Optical fibre project	2009-2012
34	CMEC	The Limbe Omnisports Stadium	2016

**Source :** MINHDU, MINMAP, (Gabas, 2016).

Many of these outstanding refurbishments are constructed in the political capital of Cameroon, with the rest dotted all over the nation, mostly in capitals of the ten (10) regions of Cameroon. For instance, according to Gabas, (2016), in 2016 China engaged in the construction of over eighteen (18) infrastructural structures all over Cameroon. Out of these eighteen (18) structures engaged by the Chinese to construct in Cameroon in 2016, eight (08) were to be realised in Yaoundé and the remaining ten (10) were scattered over the whole territory in the remaining nine (09) regions. This acts as one of the evidences to the reason why we selected Yaoundé as our field of study for the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development.

Furthermore, out of the thirty-four (34) projects earmarked on table fifteen (15), twenty-one (21) have been realised or are in the process of realisation in the city of Yaoundé. The remaining thirteen (13) are scattered throughout the remaining nine (09) regions of the country. Going by order of having infrastructures put in place by the Chinese in Cameroon, the second region after the Centre Region is the Littoral Region with six (06) infrastructures put in place by the Chinese. Littoral Region is followed by the East Region with three (03) projects realised by the Chinese construction companies. After the East Region we have at the last position West Region, South West Region, North Region and South Region with each project respectively, put in place by Chinese enterprises. The rest of the regions not mentioned are not having a construction or on-going construction

projects put in place by the Chinese. The regional distribution of the projects realised by Chinese in Cameroon is better illustrated as shown in figure fifteen (15).



**Figure 15: Percentages of the Distribution of Infrastructures Constructed Over Towns and Regions of Cameroon**

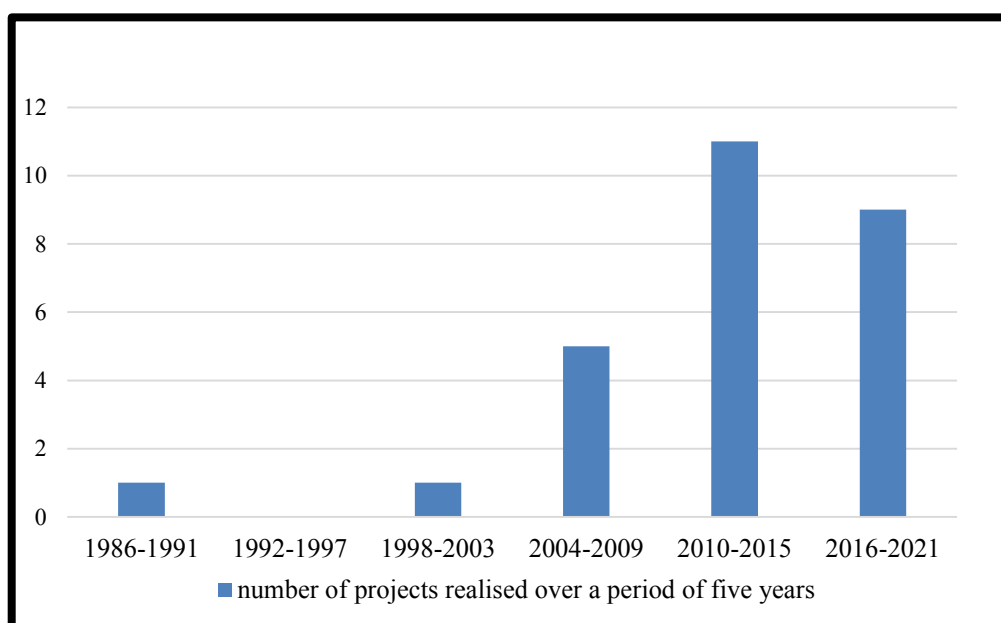
**Source:** Data Collected from Table Fifteen (15)

Figure fifteen (15) shows that out of the ten (10) regions of Cameroon, Chinese companies involved in infrastructural development have carried out or are carrying out construction works in over seven (07) regions not including the Far North Region where Chinese were carrying out road construction works and were kidnapped by the Boko Haram militants that led to the stop of continuation of the project. This in a bit to give us the over view of the presence and active involvement of the Chinese and Cameroonians at the level of infrastructural development as an aspect of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. On table fifteen (15), presenting the Chinese enterprises, infrastructures and years of effective start of the construction of each project is not providing us with all the information about some of the projects, because our sources could not or are not having those data as for the Chinese enterprises and some dates absent.



Nevertheless, wherever such information is lacking and we could get the projects we had just to mention them as such.

From looking at the distribution of the infrastructures to the regions of Cameroon, there is also an escalating increase in the realisation of infrastructure by Chinese companies in Cameroon over the years. There has been an escalating increase in the number of infrastructural structures as years go by and as the relationship between Cameroon and China are being strengthened year after year. Figure sixteen (16) paints a clear picture of the increasing involvement of Chinese firms in the construction sector in Cameroon over the years.



**Figure 16: The Increasing Involvement of Chinese Firms in the Construction Sector in Cameroon over the Years**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Fifteen (15)

As seen in figure sixteen (16), over a period of five (05) years from 1986 up to 1991 one infrastructure was realised by the Chinese in Cameroon that was followed by another five (05) years period of non-realisation of any structure by Chinese in Cameroon. After this season of silence, came a progressive increase in the involvement of the Chinese in the infrastructural development of Cameroon. From 1998 to 2003, one structure was constructed. This lone structure was followed by five (05) structures within another period of five (05) years from 2004 to 2009. 2010 to 2015 saw the greatest construction of infrastructures by Chinese firms in Cameroon. Between these five (05) years, eleven (11)

structures were put in place by the Chinese enterprises in Cameroon. These infrastructures were ranging from rehabilitation of abandoned structures, construction of low-cost social housing, agricultural pilot centres to communication structures like the optical fibre projects and construction of auto roads or high ways. From this period there is a slight drop in terms of the number of projects over the five (05) years after the boom. This drop is witnessed with a reduction of the number of projects from eleven (11) to nine (09) from 2016 to 2021. Generally, we can notice that over the years the Chinese- Cameroonian relationship at the level of infrastructural development is gaining grounds with the number of infrastructures put in place by Chinese in Cameroon increasing in geometric progression.

## **2.5 Conclusion**

In a nutshell, chapter two (02) discussed documentary research carrying out analysis on data collected from various documents. Some of the information presented in this chapter have to do with accords signed between China and Cameroon. The accords signed between these two (02) countries presented in this chapter range from commercial and technical accords, medical accords, infrastructural accords, communication accords, to agricultural and financial accords signed between China and Cameroon. Apart from accords, we also had to look for documents that talk about the mobility of officials to both countries. At this point, we analysed official visits between China and Cameroon. This was done by examining the Cameroon's presidents' visits to China as well as the Cameroon's officials' visits to China and the diplomatic putting in place of the Cameroon's embassy in Beijing China. We ended up balancing the equation by also analysing the China's president's visit to Cameroon as well as the China's officials' visits to Cameroon too. From the presentation of findings in this chapter, it is evidently clear that the Chinese imprint in the infrastructural sector in Cameroon is at an increase. The increasing presence of the Chinese in the infrastructure sector in Cameroon is an indication that the implementation of the "win-win relationship" is setting to motion many social activities that affect interaction and individuals as well as societal functional systems in one way or the other.

This chapter and the previous chapters, form the bed rock for main hypothesis which states that: The implementation of the "win-win relationship" between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development in the country in general and Yaoundé in particular is faced with short comings that need adjustments from both parties

for the cooperation to reflect its appellation. These two (02) chapters deal with the first part of the main hypothesis that talks of the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. The implementation is seen in the active involvement of the citizens of both countries in one way or the other from travelling as well as signing accords and putting in place of the structures. So, the first part of the main hypothesis which states “*the implementation of the ‘win-win relation’ between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructure in the country in general and Yaoundé in particular*”, is validated. The second part of this research work will handle the other part of the main hypothesis which is, “*is faced with short comings that need adjustments from both parties for the cooperation to reflect its appellation*”, that generated the other hypotheses, that will guide the development of part two and the rest of the chapters of this research work.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **CO-CONSTRUCTION OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” BETWEEN CHINA AND CAMEROON**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The emphasis of this chapter lies in the potential for Chinese projects at the level of infrastructure to contribute towards addressing the challenges of employment, production and environmental protection. As far as Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular are concern, it is hoped that increasing Chinese investment especially in the area of infrastructural development would help create more job opportunities for young people and transform lives. There is much debate regarding the impact of Chinese investments in Cameroon especially in the area of infrastructural development. China has highlighted the mutual benefits to be reaped from its relationship with Cameroon and its approach to their bilateral “win-win relationship”. It is, therefore, appropriate to assess the nature of China’s commitment to Cameroon and the outcome of its engagement with the country. Thus, the aim of this chapter is to explore the rhetoric and the reality of Chinese investments at the area of infrastructure in Cameroon and its impact on the inhabitants of the localities where these projects have and are being carried out.

#### **3.2 Co-construction through Cameroonians Involvement at Conception Level in Chinese projects in Yaoundé**

This section handles how Cameroonians are involved during conception of the structures to be, or constructed by the Chinese in their localities. This involvement has to do with the awareness and the engagement of the Cameroonians before the proper starting of the construction of the structures by the Chinese in the localities where these structures are earmarked and carried out.

##### **3.2.1 Ownership and Occupation of Land**

The first thing that links inhabitants of the locality where a project is to be carried out with the authorities in charge of the execution of a given project is land matters. Land matters range from the ownership of land, land certificates otherwise land titles to the occupants of the land in question.

According to the *land ordinance law of 1974*, especially *ordinance law 74-1*, the state is the guardian of all lands in the territory of Cameroon. This guardian role of the state is to ensure the rational use of land in the imperative interest of national defence or the economic policies of the nation. Stretching from the semiarid Sahalian zone in the north to the farmed grass fields and cocoa forests of the west, and from the extensive tropical rainforests in the south and east to offshore oil reserves, Cameroon has a diverse, varied landscape. Nevertheless, Cameroon land is divided into three (3) categories.

The first category is Public Lands. This category is consisting of roads, rivers, the sea side and other lands for public use. Where ever the road or river passes, that piece of land is owned by the state. No individual can claim ownership of those areas. This enlightens us of the fact that roads in Cameroon are never allowed to be constructed or tarred by an individual no matter how much wealth or money you may have in your possession. It is the responsibility of the state and the communities to construct and maintain roads in the Republic of Cameroon as a republican state.

The second category is private lands. This consists of privately-held lands under title and private state lands. Private state lands include lands acquired by the state for instance, to support public buildings, gazetted lands and rural lands left unexploited or abandoned by the owner or custodian. In Cameroon, it is possible for individuals to own land rights. For you to have rights of ownership of a piece of land, you are to possess a land title. Lands with land titles are called titled lands. These are lands those individuals have followed the procedures to obtain a land title that indicates that the piece of land in question is owned by that individual. These procedures range from contacting the local authorities of the area where this piece of land is located through the SDO, MINDCAF Divisional Delegate, Divisional Officer to the Ministry in charge of land in Cameroon, which is the Ministry of State Property, Surveys and Land Tenure.

The third category is national lands. This national land is also referred to as residual category. It consists of land that is neither private nor public, and is considered as land reserve. This land is administered by the state for the public good. The law explicitly includes untitled lands occupied or used by rural communities as national lands. Some of these land reserves include forest reserves, mountain reserves, parks, and the swampy areas in and out of the cities.

Table sixteen (16) imminently gives us information about lands where the Chinese have or are putting in place infrastructures. Questions five (05), six (06), seven (07) and eight (08)

were meant to discover the owners, those who have land titles and the occupants of the land used for the realization of infrastructures by the Chinese in Yaoundé. It was also to explore what the lands were formerly used for before the projects were or are being realised on those pieces of land. Talking about what was on the land in other words, is to understand what was destroyed or forgone on the land for the projects to take place. Of the copies of the questionnaire sent out and equally received, the following information was gathered from questions five (05), six (06), seven (07), and eight (08) as presented on table sixteen (16).

**Table 16: Information on Land Occupants, Land Owners and Land Titles**

No	Locality	Land ownership		Land title			Land formerly used		
		Yes	No	Yes	No	No I	Yes	No	No I
1	Ahala	24	08	06	22	04	21	08	03
2	Lobo	17	03	02	15	03	16	03	/
3	Nachtigal	23	09	05	21	06	23	06	03
4	Mvog-Betsi	32	12	10	07	25	22	09	11
5	Mballa 2	28	13	08	25	10	31	09	02
6	Olembe	22	10	08	18	06	26	04	02
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>21</b>

No I = no idea

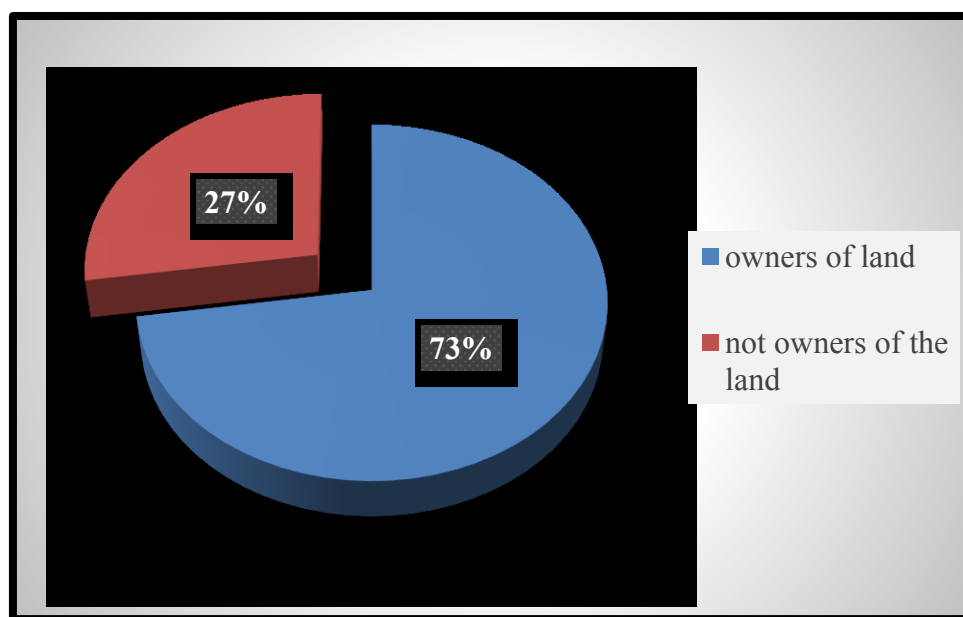
**Source:** Field Work 2020

Table sixteen (16) establishes that the lands where projects were or are being carried by Chinese are not all owned by the state in respect to the provision that individuals can own pieces of land in Cameroon by acquiring a land title. Some of the lands where projects are carried out are private lands. Some lands are state lands, but illegally occupied by the inhabitants ignorantly and it is at this level that we are faced with a lot of challenges. These challenges come when it comes to compensation for material destruction before the putting in place of the structures earmarked by the state.

### 3.2.2 Ownership of Land

To have information or data on the ownership of land, question five (05) was formulated to enquire to know whether the informants were the owners of the land where construction has or is taking place. This question five (05) is a closed question that the informant was expected

just to answer true or false. From table sixteen (16), most of the informants that responded claimed to be the owners of the lands they were or are occupying that are linked to the lands that have to do with the projects being or have been realised by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. Averagely, the greater percentage of those who answered the questionnaire said (choosing true or false to the question) that the lands in question were theirs as presented on figure seventeen (17).



**Figure 17: Percentages (%) of Those Who Own the Lands and Those Who Do Not**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table sixteen (16)

With those who claimed the lands to be theirs, only very few could present the land documents to prove their ownership of the pieces of land. If there is no land title or document to back the ownership of land, what then guarantees their claims to be the owners of the pieces of land? To respond to this question of their claim of ownership, many claimed to have inherited the lands from their forefathers, yet, have not followed to get the land titles. Others could not afford a land title especially those who bought the land from others who accepted that the land title is in the process of being issued. Yaoundé being a metropolis where land is a scarce commodity needed for many different activities, many people are into real estate business. Many who are into real estate are fake and they go on selling lands that belong to the state to individuals in need of land in the city, especially land that the government has not yet earmarked for any project known to the inhabitants of the locality of the land. Some of these business men on real estate produce fake documents to deceive land buyers that the pieces of

land they are selling belong to them. Of those who had no land title some declared that they were deceived by those who sold them state land claiming to be theirs.

In some cases, where the government has compensated the owners of the land for construction or other projects to be carried on those lands, because of the slow nature of the government to execute the projects after compensation, some of the evil-minded land owners go behind to sell the lands to those who are looking for land without the knowledge of the compensation that has already taken place as an informant, a farmer Tambe, (2020) at Nachtigal asserted;

*I was sold this piece of land and I worked here the first season even the neighbours confirmed to me that my vendor was the owner of the land. As I got use to my neighbours it was when the truth came out that the government compensated everybody who had land around this area. I went back to my vendor to give back my money and as I engaged a legal procedure, the guy disappeared from the locality.*

Many working on the lands are aware of the fact that they were working on government land and could be sent away at any moment by the state to put the land to use whenever need arises, the informant quipped;

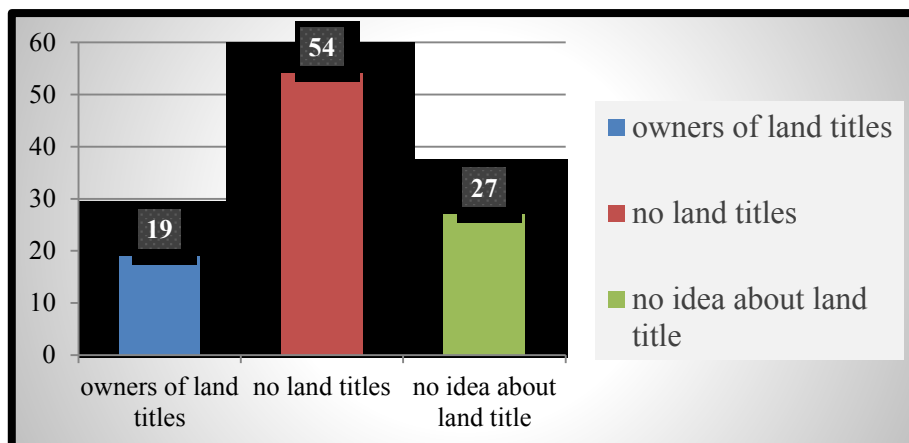
*I was censored and compensated. I have just been working waiting that when the project reaches my area, I quit the plot after I must have benefited at least something. They paid for all the plants that are on my land. I am using the money they gave me to develop another farm elsewhere from this place.*

Of the number that responded to the questionnaire, 73% were for the fact that the land where projects are or have been carried out were their landed property. The rest, 27% stood for the fact that the land where the projects are carried out are not their personal property. Out of this 27% of those who said the land wasn't theirs, some said they were just renting the lands from the land owners. With the greater majority standing for the fact that the land is theirs, the next issue is to find out how authentic are their claims of their ownership of such pieces of land.

### **3.2.2.1 Land with Title**

Whether you are the owner of the land or not we had to interrogate our informants to have knowledge of those who had land titles. Out of those who responded to the questionnaire to the inhabitants the following information was gathered on ownership of land titles as presented on figure eighteen (18) eventually.





**Figure 18: Percentages (%) of Those Who Own Land Titles and Those Who Do Not Have**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table sixteen (16)

Out of the large number that declared the land to be theirs, only 19% answered ‘Yes’, to be having the land titles of the lands they claimed were theirs. About 54% were those who openly declared were not having a land title for the lands they claimed to be the owners. They said the land belonged to them, but could not indicate to be having valid documents for the ownership of the land. An average of 27% of the population that responded to the questionnaire indicated that they had no idea as to whether the lands they were occupying had a land title or not. This group of people were those that were renting the lands from other persons and for that reason they could not declare whether the lands had a land title or not.

From every indication owning a land title is something that many Cameroonians are not well sensitised. Many are ignorant of how to go about to get this document. Some, especially the indigenes, do not see the reasons why they should go for a land title. This ignorance of going for a land title is highly attributed to the traditional land ownership pattern. In this traditional land ownership pattern, land is an inheritance and is passed from one generation to the other as an informant Mbang Tsimi, (2020) at Nachtigal asserted;

*This farm that has been destroyed for the water project was given to me by my father. I have grown up with my father working on this farm. Nobody can come and claim ownership. The whole village is aware that this piece of land belongs to our family and belongs to me.*

The argument goes that this land they are occupying was owned and utilised by their parents. At their point of being about to depart from earth, the pieces of land were distributed among the siblings.

At times parents especially the father decides to give the piece of land he claims to have been given to him by his own father to extended family members as well as to a friend because of their friendly relationship. When the children grow up especially, those who knew that the piece of land was from their father they start to claim back such a land and at times this ends with court cases.

At times the ownership of a piece of land came as a result of borrowing of money from another person to solve a problem in the family and at the end of the day, when there is no means to pay back, they settle on giving a piece of land as compensation to the lender.

It could also be as a result of getting married to another family and you are given a piece of land because you are an in-law.

Some actually beg for land to be working on and finally claim ownership as time goes on, they own the land when the person who gave the land dies. At the end of the day, the children of the beggar will come up to be working on that piece of land and claim ownership. As time goes on and land has become more and more visibly an economic asset and a source of income than ever before in these localities from the sale of it, the awareness of owning a land title is becoming a necessity.

Land title is a guarantor that if any infrastructure is to be carried out on the piece of land by the government, the owner of the land would be compensated or paid indemnities. In case there is no land title compensation may come based on certain criteria as to what is on the piece of land to be used by the state to carry out this or that project. According to JICA guidelines<sup>14</sup>;

*Cameroon legislation acknowledges modern as well as customary law, but landowners must have a title to their land to prove their status, because Cameroon legislation does not provide scope to compensate those who lack a land title or a document proving that the process of acquiring the said title is underway.*

When there is no land title in most cases the project will only include compensation for immovable and/or farming property situated on the land in question. After the occupants are paid they are to leave the land for the project to commence. One thing remains, which is that to know how both those who have land titles and those who do not have were using the land

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<sup>14</sup> Republic of Cameroon: Yaoundé-JICA, (2015), [[www.jica.go.jp](http://www.jica.go.jp)], pg. 12, visited 23-08-2020

before the coming of the projects to be put in place by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon.

### **3.2.2.2 Utilization of Land Before Projects**

Land is a fixed asset on which many social activities can take place. Being a fixed asset, at one moment or another, one or many socio-economic activities can be carried out on a particular piece of land. In our questionnaire to the inhabitants where Chinese structures are realized, questions seven (07) and eight (08) were to gather data on the land utilization. These questions were to collect information in two main areas of land usage. The first area was to acquire information based on what the land was actually used for before the coming of the structure and the second was to find out what was actually destroyed or eliminated for the infrastructure to be put there.

### **3.2.2.3 Land Occupation before Projects**

Most of the lands where the carrying out of the projects by Chinese have taken place were not all virgin lands or reserves as per say. Some of the places were mostly used for cultivation of crops, taking into consideration that according to statistics most Cameroonians are employed in the domain of agriculture. The agricultural activities range from family small holdings which dominate farming to plantation agriculture which is a mixture of state plantations and private owned plantations. Family smallholdings farming often rely upon manual effort and casual labour and use few or no external inputs. Livelihood is highly depended on these smallholdings as they act as their employers and offices as most of the owners spend time on these farms doing one farm-activity or the other.

Some of these places where projects involving the Chinese especially the construction of transport infrastructures, were first occupied by untarred roads and temporal bridges. These roads were mostly made up of farm to market roads that were in very bad state and others were roads linking different parts of the towns of Cameroon. With those linking different parts of the cities, some were muddy roads and some poorly tarred sections of the roads. Most, if not all these road paths, especially in the city were created without the respect of the dimensions of a normal road. Many inhabitants have constructed and come so close to the road such that the roads are very narrow. When some do not construct too close to the road, they go on with other options like planting agricultural plants or food trees on the lands so close to the road. Many plant fruit trees such as mango, pear, plum, and orange trees just to name a few. With this behaviour of constructing too close to the road, construction of the road becomes very

difficult. This difficulty is followed by the destruction of these farms and their plants for the passage of the road and in case of houses and other infrastructures, the structures are to be demolished for the newly constructed roads put by the Chinese to take place. For this destruction to take place, some measures are put in place by the government for the displacement of the occupants of these areas where work is to commence or take place.

#### **3.2.2.4 Co-construction at the level of Displacement of Occupants and Owners of Land**

For any work to take place, the occupants and the owners of land have to give way. For the occupants and owners to leave, at least there should be some notifications and considerations before demolition and the putting in place of the new infrastructures. Article B301.3 of *'Cahier des Clauses Techniques Particulières (CCTP) pour les Travaux de Réhabilitation de Voirie'*, talks about the presence of the public interest network. According to this article, the contractor has to notify the neighbourhood and the concerned community as well as the parties interested to examine beforehand on the conditions of displacement or protection of the project. Before the notification from the company, the Cameroon constitution in its preamble provides that “no one shall be deprived of his property except for public purpose and under the condition of compensation under conditions determined by law”. To substantiate this, the following decrees, and orders as well as ordinances have been put in place by the government for the regulation of land matters in Cameroon as shown below;

- The *decree of July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1932* establishing the land registration regime in Cameroon,
- *Decree N° 59-47 of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1959* governing land and land titles in Cameroon and,
- *Decree N° 59-181 of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1959* organizing the recognition of customary land rights exercised by Cameroonians.
- *Decree N° 64-8-COR of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1964* organizing the regime of incorporation of the private domain of the state for a public purpose of customary lands subject to non-recognized rights,
- *Constitution of 2 June 1972* mindful of *law N° 73-3 of 9 July 1973* authorising the president of the Republic to establish by ordinance rules governing land tenure and government owned landed properties,
- *Order N° 71/1 of 6<sup>th</sup> July 1974* fixing the tenue, its subsequent amendments and texts that it has repealed in their provisions,

- Ordinance *N° 77-1 of 10 January 1977* holders of land register books or certificates forfeiting their rights to convert the book into land certificates,
- Law *N° 80/21 of 14 July 1980* to amend certain provisions of ordinance *N° 74/1 of 6 July 1974* to establish rules governing land tenure system in Cameroon,
- Decree *N° 85/9 of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1985* on the expropriation on the basis of public utility and compensation terms and earlier texts which it has repealed their provisions otherwise,
- Decree of *July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1992* regulating the procedure of expropriation on the basis of public utility in Cameroon,
- Decree *N° 2003/418/PM of February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003* fixing the compensation rates to be awarded to owners, victims of destruction for reasons of public utility of cultivated crops and trees.

The expropriation scales and compensation rates are as well set by the government of the Republic of Cameroon. These scales and rates are in accordance to the Decree number *2006/30232/PM on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2006* on housing compensation, and the Decree number *2005/418 PM on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2005* for agricultural property. These decrees have the following compensation and expropriation unit price for housing in Cameroon as presented on table seventeen (17).

**Table 17: Compensation Unit Price for Housing, community buildings and fruit trees in Cameroon**

No	Type of housing	Description of housing	Amount in FCFA/m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Individuals' buildings</b>			
1	High standing	Housing built in high level, villa or apartment in permanent materials of high-quality finishing	145,000
2	Standing	Housing built in high level, villa or apartment in permanent materials of medium quality finishing	From 90,001 to 145,000
3	Standard	Villa or apartment in standard quality finishing	45,001 to 90,000
4	Half hard house	Construction in half hard materials in medium quality finishing	From 20,001 to 45,000
5	Temporary	Construction with temporary materials and brief finishing	From 7,000 to 20,000
6	Kitchen	Kitchen in temporary and semi-hard materials	7,767/49,920 respectively
7	Hangar	Hangar temporary material	3,391
8	Toilets	Toilets hard material	112,500
9	Business places	House in temporary material	10,940
10	Houses under construction	Houses under construction with temporary materials, half-hard and hard materials	5,470/35,155/ 61,225 respectively
11	Tombs	Ordinary tombs, cemented, and tiled tombs	25,000/75,000 100,000 respectively
<b>Community buildings</b>			
1	School building	School building on hard materials	112,500
2	Church buildings	Church building on temporary, half-hard and hard materials	10,940/70,310 112,500 respectively

3	Modern bow hole	Estimate of the bow hole and water tank	7,000,000
<b>Fruit trees</b>			
1	Pear tree	Young and adult pear trees	5,000/35,000 respectively
2	Citron tree	Young and adult	5,000/50,000
3	Breadfruit tree	Breadfruit tree	25,000
4	Badamier tree	Badamier tree	25,000
5	Coconut tree	Coconut tree <3 and >3 years	2,500/10,000 respectively
6	Soursop tree	Soursop tree young and adult	10,000/25,000 respectively
7	Guava	Guava tree young and adult	10,000/25,000
8	Mandarin	Mandarin tree	50,000
9	Mango	Mango tree young, adult and bush mango	5,000/35,000/5,000 respectively
10	Orange	Orange tree young and adult	5,000/50,000
11	Palm tree	Palm tree <3 and >3 years	2,500/10,000
12	Pawpaw	Pawpaw tree young and adult	1,000/2,000
13	Plum	Plum tree young and adult	20,000/50,000
14	Banana	Simple young and adult, young and adult plantain	800/1,200/1,000/1,500 respectively
15	Cocoa/coffee	Cocoa/coffee plants	25,000
16	Maize	Maize plant	150
17	groundnuts	Groundnuts	500
18	Cassava	Cassava	60
19	Cocoyam	Cocoyam	120
20	Yams	Yams	110

**Source:** Republic of Cameroon, Yaoundé-Brazzaville International Corridor Development Project (Mintom –Lele), Republic of Congo: Yaoundé-Brazzaville International Corridor Development Project (Sembe-Souanke), Resettlement due Diligence Report pg. 6, Ella Ella et al, (2021, P. 86, 94, 97, 98, and 100).

All these provisions set the ground for compensation displacement and destruction of what is to be destroyed for work to go on. The question that follows is to understand exactly what is destroyed for Chinese to go on with work given them by the Cameroon authority.

### 3.2.2.5 Property Destroyed Before Projects

There is a saying as presented by an informant – the third-class chief at Mvog-Betsi that “*you cannot make omelettes without breaking your eggs*” referring to the destruction that took place before the tarring of the road in his locality. If the infrastructures Chinese are putting in place in Cameroon is the cake or omelettes to be eaten by Cameroonians, what are the eggs that are to be broken or are already broken for the cake to be made? Many inhabitants where construction works take place have been crying for the destruction of their belongings. Whether compensated or not, many of the inhabitants where projects have and are taking place have had a lot of material damage. As an informant Onguene, (2020) assistant chief in Lobo said;

*Compensation may come for resettlement, but for this resettlement to effectively take place many of us have suffered, others are still to and some are still suffering a great deal as a result of the destruction carried out for the water project to take place in our locality that expropriation indemnisation payment can ever replace or pay for really.*

Some have lost plantations that took time to mature to fruition. According to Zambo, (2020) an informant at Nachtigal;

*The token given as compensation if can permit the opening of other plantations, cannot give satisfaction as the former plantations provided. For the new plantations to grow to fruition especially cocoa plantations, it must take a farmer who is a hard working one for that matter at least five (05) years. The changes in climate that are to the detriment of the farmers bring about untold suffering before a plant grows to the bearing stage. My God, the long dry seasons and scanty rainfall during the rainy season cause most of the newly planted crops to dry up and most of us spend time doing replanting over and over on the same piece of farm land.*

Apart from the untold suffering by farmers, according to Bekoua, (2020), a mechanic, an informant at Ahala where Chinese are constructing the Yaoundé-Nsimalen high way quipped;

*Some of the houses of inhabitants destroyed have been in strategic business positions that even with the compensation, the issue of the strategic position is completely wiped out and no amount of money can ever be paid for. To*



*resettle economically becomes very difficult and at times impossible and one is wiped out of business.*

As a consequence of the demolitions taking place, many have become jobless and unemployment is at an increase.

Many who are affected at times are forced to migrate to new sites for settlement. Migration to new locations is not all that very easy to adapt to new conditions of life offered by the new environment. Some who first occupied the road sides for and the business was very booming and, they could make a living from such undertakings are obliged to migrate to some areas with the coming of the new infrastructures put in place. This migration away from the booming business location has rendered the business men jobless and poverty has set in. Below are some of the areas snapped during field work to illustrate some of the things that were destroyed for the new structures to be put in place.



**Photo 2a: Part of cocoa plantation**  
destroyed at Nachtigal

**Source:** Mnkong, 14/09/2020



**Photo 2b: Part of buildings destroyed**  
at Mvog-Betsi

**Source:** Mnkong, 05/09/2020



**Photo 2c:** Part of farm land used for the construction of residence for workers at Nachtigal

**Source:** Mnkong, 15/09/2020



**Photo 2d:** Tombs demolished and demarcation for construction planted at Lobo

**Source:** Mnkong, 06/09/2020

## **Plate 2: Property Destroyed for New Infrastructures to be put in Place by the Chinese**

The rest of the pictures or photos taken on the field on materials that have been destroyed and other important structures and information are presented on the appendix at the end of this research work.

Many who had their houses and were using as a place of habitat as well as means of lively-hood have lost the houses for the construction projects earmarked by the state and carried out by the Chinese. Some of these houses were given out on rents and that could provide enough means for the owners to survive.

The destruction of these houses in other words simply implies the destruction of the livelihood of these individuals. With the destruction of these structures and plantations, some who were able to survive in town have been forced by these circumstances to go back to the villages. For instance, many who constructed on state land sold to them by dubious real estate dealers are obliged to migrate back to the villages. This is so especially with some who had hard earned money over a long period of time in the town before settling for buying of a plot and then working very hard to raise money for the construction of their houses unfortunately on state lands.

The destruction of these structures do not only lead to migration, change of city and misery, but has caused loss of lives. Some people have committed suicide after seeing what they have worked for over the years being destroyed in the twinkling of the eye. With the destruction of these infrastructures, some have developed some health issues just because of the loss of these structures. This body of information about the initial use of the land and what was actually occupying the lands used for infrastructure, put in place by the Chinese paved the way for investigation on the implication or the involvement of the Cameroonians during the realisation of infrastructures to be or realised by Chinese in Yaoundé.

### **3.3 Co-construction during the Realisation of Structures by Chinese in Yaoundé**

This section handles how Cameroonians are implicated in the realization of the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship”. To verify how the inhabitants are involved in this construction works, this part is divided into two sections. The first section is presenting how Cameroonians in Yaoundé are implicated directly through direct employment by the Chinese in these work places. The second part handles how members of the communities where these projects are realized or are on-going are involved indirectly in the realisation of the structures through the creation of self employment tactics and other socio-economic activities.

#### **3.3.1 Cameroonians Implicated Through Direct Employment**

In order to get data on direct employment of Cameroonians, questions nine (09) and ten (10) were formulated to verify on the number of the inhabitants of the localities where these projects are carried out were employed for the execution of these projects by the Chinese. Question nine (09) was formulated to find out from the informants whether they are or were recruited to work with the Chinese in realising the structures in their communities. Question ten (10) on the other side was formulated to examine from those who responded to the questionnaire whether their family members were or are recruited to work in the Chinese enterprises carrying out work in their localities. The statistical information gotten from these questions are presented on table eighteen (18) successively.

**Table 18 : Table 18: Those Employed and Family Members Recruited from the Localities for the Realization of Infrastructures by Chinese**

No	Locality	Individuals employed from the locality		% of those employed	Family members employed		% of family members employed
		Yes	No		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	02	26	7.14	10	18	35.71
2	Lobo	07	13	35.00	12	08	60.00
3	Nachtigal	14	16	38.89	11	17	39.28
4	Mvog-Betsi	/	44	00.00	/	44	00.00
5	Mballa 2	13	27	32.50	04	36	10.00
6	Olembe	/	32	00.00	/	32	00.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>18.92</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>24.17</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Unemployment is one of the highest problems faced by the society today, especially the urban population. This is due to the rapid increase of the urban population that is caused by high birth rates and low death rates as a result of improvement in medical care. Apart from the increase in birth rate, the increase in urban population is also attributed to rural exodus especially in the African continent.

People migrate to the city for many reasons. Some for the purpose of education, tourist reasons, visit to family members and finally live there. Others do migrate in their attempt to run away from intertribal conflicts, family problems, and spiritual issues like witch craft. One of the main reasons is to flee from the miserable lifestyle in the villages where the main economic activity is agriculture. Low level of providing the rural areas with social amenities, poor communication infrastructure network, low level of the electrification of the rural areas contribute to the poor life style in the villages.

Despite government efforts to provide some of these amenities directly through the subsidisation of agricultural inputs, provide loans interest free, conditions of life in the village is not yet the best. The government has gone as far as creating banks to facilitate small and medium size enterprises like the Small and Medium Enterprise Bank (SMEs Bank) according to (Belibi, 2015:3), went operational on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015, as a fulfilment of a promise made during the 2011, Agro – pastoral show in Ebolowa by the head of state. The government has even

gone as far as bringing herself closer to the people through the process of decentralisation. By decentralisation it implies, the government giving more powers to the local councils to take care of their municipalities. This is a socioeconomic and strategic opportunity to fight against poverty by councils in Cameroon.

The miserable lifestyle in the rural areas causes many to migrate to the cities with the hope of getting employment. These migrants have caused the populations of the cities to increase so rapidly. For instance, Ela, (1983:18), quipped;

*Yaoundé was founded in 1895. In 1926 the population was about five thousand eight hundred and sixty-five (5,865), sixty-three thousand (63,000) inhabitants in 1957. As from 1960, this population went up to seventy thousand (70,000) and four hundred thousand (400,000) inhabitants in 1978.*

As of 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021, at 4 pm Cameroon time the estimated population of Yaoundé stood at one million two hundred and ninety-nine thousand, three hundred and sixty-nine (1,299,369).<sup>15</sup> Unfortunately, the economic expansion had not followed this urban population explosion.

This population explosion not followed by economic expansion, has contributed much to the high level of unemployment. Not only unemployment is surfacing, many social ills are also showing up their ugly faces. Many people are ready to do whatsoever possible for them to get a job. Both qualified, unqualified, English speaking, French speaking, literate and the illiterate, the young as well as the old alike are among those that make up the population of Yaoundé. This is just to show that those who are looking for jobs are diversified. That is, in the domain of qualification and competency.

This population is a mixture of both sexes, skilled, unskilled, as well as educated and uneducated individuals who have left the villages, other towns and countries. Table nineteen (19) shows the characteristics of the population living in Yaoundé.

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<sup>15</sup> Cameroon Population, (2021), Worldometer, [<https://www.worldometer.info/world-population/cameroon-population>], visited April 13, 2021

**Table 19: Characteristics of the Population of Yaoundé as of the Official Population Census of 2005**

YEARS	Yaoundé 1993	Yaoundé 1994	Yaoundé 2001	Yaoundé 2005
<b>Characteristics of the population</b>				
<b>Men%</b>	51.4	51.2	50	50.3
<b>Women%</b>	48.6	48.8	50	49.7
<b>Migrants%</b>	50.9	50	50	51.9

**Source:** National Institute of Statistics (INS), (2010)

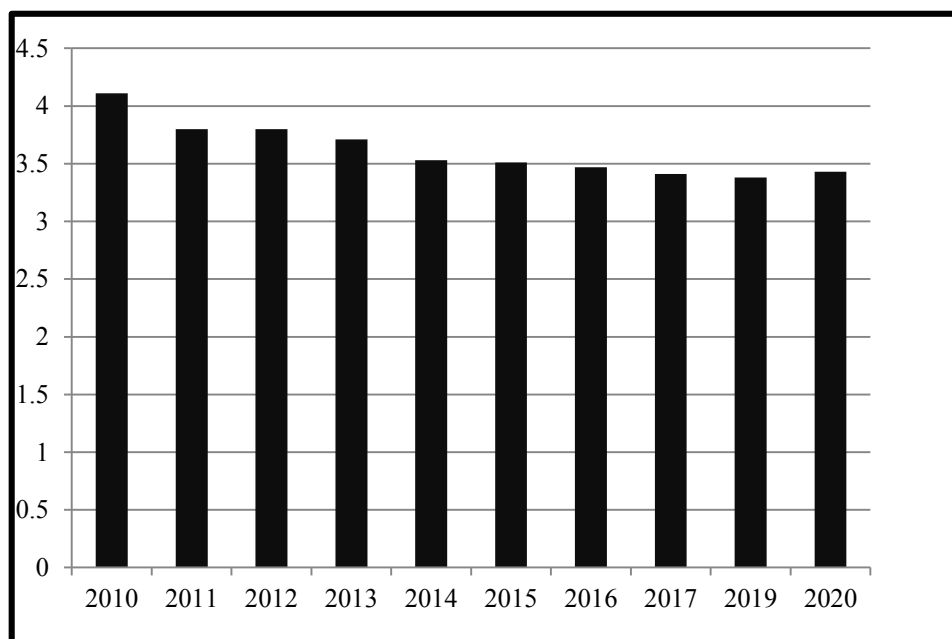
Many out of this population are looking for jobs. Job seeking is a complex and diversified phenomenon. Many people are out to look for jobs. Many are specialised in doing particular jobs. These are specialists in particular fields. Others are looking for jobs just after completing a certain level of education. Yet they are others who are neither educated nor have received any training for any job, but are looking for employment in order to make a living out of the job they are looking for. All these people are commonly referred to as the unemployed.

A number of youths coming out from professional and training institutions are seeking employment. Some have not attended any technical education and many are those with a First School Leaving Certificate (FSLC), Ordinary Level Certificate, and Advanced Level Certificate or with a university certificate are both searching for employment. In effect, whether with or without a certificate, these youths think of how to get a job secured and keep live moving.

Certainly, there are hundreds of thousands of youths who have written the entrance examination with the view of being recruited in big schools of administration such as ENAM, EMIA, ENS ENSET, TTC and Polytechnics just to name a few. With many who do not succeed in these schools they converge toward the employment offers and vacancies in the projects carried out by Chinese. The majority of these youths are essentially unemployed. Montalembert et al, (2013:42), asserted, *“An unemployed is a person looking for a job and ready to work”*. According to Ela, (1983:56), *“About nine hundred thousand (900,000) young Cameroonians are found in towns without professional qualification and eight hundred thousand (800,000) are searching for jobs.”* The certified youths in the greater part are inexperienced. For instance, according to Belibi, (2015:9), in 2014, fifty-six thousand six hundred and seventeen (56,617)

succeeded the Baccalaureate. In 2015, this number went up to ninety-six thousand seven hundred and twenty-six (96,726). Most of these students are not going to continue to higher institutions of education due mostly to financial constraint. Many move on to search for jobs to make them useful to themselves as well as to the entire society.

Most of these young individuals are not only inexperienced, but also without competency in relation to the type of work they are looking for. This is because they are just coming out of the classroom. The certificates they have and the experience needed in these projects carried out by the Chinese make them unqualified. Those who have just had a few months of internship in some enterprises or those who are fit among others are recruited. A majority of these youths go unemployed. The number of the unemployed varies from time to time, place to place and from town to town. Akerlof and Main, (no year:6), quipped, “*Unemployment episodes depend on the seasons (...)*” The rate of unemployment in Cameroon has been the worry of the National Institute of Statistics and others. The results of their findings from 2010 to 2020 statistics are as presented on figure nineteen (19).



**Figure 19: Percentages (%) Rates of Unemployment in Cameroon from 2010 to 2020**

**Source:** Adopted from National Institute of Statistics (INS) / Aaron O’Neill, April (2021)

Figure nineteen (19) illustrates the rate of unemployment from 2010 to 2020. “*The unemployment rate measures the number of people actively looking for a job as a percentage*

of the labour force”<sup>16</sup>. Figure twenty (20) shows that in 2010 unemployment rate stood at 4.11%. As statistically presented, unemployment rate in Cameroon remained at unchanged average of 0.13% in 2012 as was in 2011. Unemployment rate in Cameroon averages 3.52% from 2010 to 2020. From 2010 to 2020, 2010 records the highest rate reaching an all-time height of 4.11% and record lowest of 3.36% in 2018. From these figures, youths are the highest group affected with those ranging from the ages of twenty (20) to twenty-nine (29) years.

The drop in the unemployment rate to the stable level of an increase of 0.13% in 2011 and 2012 is thanks to the consideration and the strategic place given to employment in the “Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) by the government within the framework of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative.”<sup>17</sup> It is also thanks to the programme of Cameroon emergence by 2035 policy. This policy has made Cameroon a ‘chantier’ as described by the president of the republic. 70% of this ‘chantier’ official structuring projects in Cameroon is carried out by the Chinese companies. In fact, today the relationship with China is presented in Yaoundé as strategic. The strategic nature of the relationship is made clear as seen that, according to Cabestan, (2015:10), “90% of the road construction or restoration projects have been won and carried out by Chinese Companies.” They have contributed although not as many are expecting in the employment of young talented Cameroonians are in need and are searching for work to do.

Cameroonians have gained employment in most of the Chinese companies. According to Mnkong, (2016:41), “more than 400 Cameroonians are employed by CFHEC and CSYIC who were constructing the highway linking Yaoundé – Douala and the 1500 Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe respectively.” The number is not fixed as you move from one project site to another over time. This fluctuation in the number of employees in Chinese project sites according to Mnkong, (2016) is because Chinese employ labour as need arises and in respect to seasons.

During the dry season, many people are employed in the Chinese project sites than in the rainy season. When there is need for labour, an advert is written and pasted on the main entrances into the project sites. When you come and request for the job you are given some work to do. This is in respect of what the national convention address as the testing period

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<sup>16</sup> Cameroon Unemployment Rate, (2021), Data-2022 Forecast- 1991-2021 Historical Chart, [<https://www.tradingeconomics.com/cameroon/unemployment-rate>], visited 29-04-2021

<sup>17</sup> Institut National de Statistique du Cameroun, [<https://www.TRADINGECONOMICS.com/institut-national-de-statistique-du-cameroun>], visited 29-04-2021



which ranges between two (02) weeks to one (01) month. After this testing period, there is need for the both parties (that is the employer and the employee) to discuss on certain issues before effective work starts. Some of these negotiation points make up the content of what is commonly referred to as the contract of work. The contract of work is made up of so many items which are both beneficial to the employer and the employee. The contract also acts as an engagement and a backing between the worker and the employer.

This engagement is marked by a letter of engagement which is written in two (02) copies which is signed by both the employer and the employee. In the engagement letter, there are items of great importance. In the first place, we have the name, sex, date and place of birth, residence and the nationality of the worker. This is for easy identification. The date of taking effective service, period of testing, and when the contract will expire are also some of the items in the engagement letter. The date when the contract expires in tend is to bring to light the duration of the contract. Eventually, the certificate of work, the nature of employment (permanent or temporal worker), professional category as well as salary grade attributed to the worker are also taken into consideration. The employment office and the place where the contract is to be executed are also taken into consideration.

As for the Chinese, after the testing period you will know that you are recruited only when at the end of the month you receive a salary. When you are tested, and you are not capable you are sent away. For those recruited, there is nothing like having a moment of the negotiation of salary or benefits to gain as a worker working with the Chinese. A contract letter is later given that you just need to sign the two (02) copies, one for the worker in question and the other for the office. The contract is drawn up by the recruitment office.

The information for the drawing up of the contract is collected from the documents provided by the employee during his search for a job. For instance, CFHEC-CO has posted a list of documents to be deposited at the employment office by anyone who is searching for employment. Some of those documents include among others CV, hand written application, photocopy of National Identity Card, driving licence (for drivers and heavy engine controllers), certificate of work, and a lay off letter of the last employment. Those with CNPS registration number can present a personal detailed card. Those without CNPS registration number should bring along passport photo size 4\*4 and a copy of birth certificate signed by a judicial police office. In many cases if not all, the contract Letter given to be signed by the workers is always

showing the right information, but the pay package is not respecting the information in the contract.

According to Mnkong, (2021), “*Cameroonians employed by Chinese firms range from the age of sixteen (16) to twenty-nine (29) years.*” This age group makes up about 75% of the total recruited Cameroonians. This age group is the age group highly affected by unemployment. Other affected group include women and university graduates. The latter group is swimming in an unemployment rate of 36.5%. Those of age above thirty (30) years occupy the remaining 25%. In the same vein, underemployment rate was found to be 69.8%.<sup>18</sup> The many unemployed graduates and others have been accepting some job offers not because that is their level, but just because they have nothing doing. This accounts for the high underemployment. Underemployment refers to a situation where you are recruited below your capacity or at low-skilled, poorly paid job that one is trained for.

Despite the number of Cameroonians employed by the Chinese to work with them, the inhabitants of the localities where Chinese are doing work are not highly involved. From table twenty (20), among those who answered the questionnaire, many were of the fact that they are not being employed to work with the Chinese except at Natchtigal where many inhabitants are recruited to dig trenches for pipes to be put for the bringing of water from River Sanaga to Yaoundé city. In some cases, like the tarring of the road at Mvog-Betsi none of the inhabitants from that area were recruited in the road construction.

In most areas despite the fact that some Cameroonians are recruited to do minor activities in the project sites where Chinese companies are carrying out projects, not all that are employed are from the localities where work is going on. For instance, from table twenty (20), an average of 18.92% of the informants indicated to have been employed to work with the Chinese. Some who were recruited were said to have resigned because of harsh conditions of work when it comes to working with the Chinese. Some stopped work because of what they considered as a low pay package. Some who answered the questionnaire were still working with the Chinese. From this percentage, Natchtigal took the highest share of people that were employed from the community to work with the Chinese. The lowest locality where inhabitants were not considered working with the Chinese was at the rehabilitation of the Mvog-betsi road where no single individual from the locality was recruited by the Chinese to work with them.

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<sup>18</sup> **Cameroon Unemployment True Figures**, <https://www.cameroon-info-net/stories/0117687,@,unemployment-true-figures-out.html>, visited 29-04-2021

From every indication from the highest figure recruited to the lowest, there is low consideration of the involvement of the inhabitants at the level of employing them to participate in the building of their localities. Some are not recruited to work directly with the Chinese but, they have gained something doing as a result of the coming of the projects to their localities. This brings us to the point of looking at how Cameroonians are implicated indirectly in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” in the area of infrastructural development.

### **3.3.2 Cameroonians Implicated Indirectly during Execution of Chinese Projects in Yaoundé**

Question eleven (11) handled the collection of information on how the members of the communities are indirectly implicated where projects involving the Chinese because of the “win-win relationship” are being executed. This indirect involvement is evaluated or observed at the level of the engagement of the inhabitants in functions that have come into action with the coming of the putting in place of infrastructures by Chinese. From the observation carried out, there are socioeconomic activities in which the inhabitants are involved in as a result of the construction works going on. To have data about those involved, we put forward the question to know whether there are individuals that have been self-employed as a result of the coming of the Chinese to construct in their localities. The responses to the question about self-employment gave us the data presented on table twenty (20).

**Table 20: Those Indirectly Implicated in the Execution of the Projects Realized by the Chinese**

No.	Locality	Self employed		% self employed
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	02	16	11
2	Lobo	05	15	25
3	Nachtigal	08	19	29.6
4	Mvog-Betsi	07	36	16.3
5	Mballa 2	09	31	22.5
6	Olembe	06	26	18.7
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>20.5</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Question eleven (11) revealed that individuals in the localities where projects are on-going or were realized by the Chinese because of the “win-win relationship” were self-employed. From all the areas where the copies of questionnaire were distributed, they were individuals that have been involved indirectly at the level of the execution of the projects realised by the Chinese, though not many inhabitants had the opportunity to have something doing with the realisation of the infrastructure. From statistics from table twenty-one (21), the highest percentage of inhabitants that have been indirectly involved is 29.6% from Nachtigal and the lowest percentage is 11% from Ahala where the Chinese are constructing the auto road Yaoundé – Nsimalen. Number of those involved are important yet, the greater expectation is to have an idea of the various functions performed by inhabitants indirectly as a result of the realisation of the infrastructures. Those who were engaged indirectly in the execution phase of the projects to be realised by the Chinese had different activities to carry out. Some were or are engaged into the transportation sector, where they had to be carrying those working with the Chinese to and fro the work places.

Indirect involvement is noticed in the transportation sector with the carrying of workers. This carrying of personnel had to do with those who were or are not privileged to be staying in the camps provided by the Chinese for their workers. Some individuals employed by the Chinese had to stay in the quarters and work in the projects’ sites, and for them to get to work, they needed a means of transportation. Some who had worked with Chinese for some time stopped working and bought their bikes as an informant in the name of Mbida, (2020) accounts at Lobo; *“after working with the Chinese for some time I stopped, paid my bike and now I am involved in the transportation of workers and others in the quarter”*. These bikes were or are now used for the transportation of workers as well as many others in the quarters. Some saw bike riding to be more profitable than working with Chinese.

Apart from serving at the level of transportation of workers to and fro work sites, some of the inhabitants benefited or are benefiting from the coming of the projects during the execution phase by renting houses and plots. Workers that are not the inhabitants of where work is being or have been carried out are obliged to rent, especially in situations where there are no camps for the Cameroonians. Some Cameroonians working with the Chinese prefer to rent their houses and stay in than, stay in the camps, with the claim that the camps provided by Chinese for the Cameroonians are not of good standards. Some have complained that there are a lot of dysfunctional activities like stealing in the camps. Many have as well said that health

situations in the camps are not the best. With these deviant activities and health issues, the camps meant for rest at times is seen as a place of unrest and insecurity.

Furthermore, many in the localities where Chinese are carrying out projects have given out their plots on rents for Chinese to construct their camps or keep their equipment. Some have gotten into agreements that the houses the Chinese have constructed as their camps will be given to the owners of the plots at the end of the projects. Discussing with Chief Bekada Nkwa, (2020) an informant at Nachtigal said, *“I have signed an agreement with the Chinese to give me the structure they have constructed as their residential area after the project is over.”*

Moreso, a good portion of the inhabitants who have been indirectly implicated during the execution phase of the construction of structures in Cameroon are those who have been into retailing, the selling of food and food stuffs to the workers working in these projects. Most of those in this sector are mostly of the female sex. Many women had to be cooking food and selling in projects sites. Some sell food stuffs like banana, pear and sugar cane. The selling of food and food stuffs had brought in a level of agreement between the women selling and the workers. Since workers are being paid at week-ends, they register their names to those selling food and eat every day.



**Photo 3: The Selling and Buying of Food during Break**

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020

On the day workers are to be paid, the women come with their books and the cost of the food eaten by those who registered their names to pay when they are paid is calculated and

payment is done. One of the food vendors Milingi, (2020) at Ahala asserted “*Some who take food and promise to pay when they receive their wages do not respect the agreement and some end up disappearing without paying for what they consumed*”. The agreements between the food vendors and the workers have been of great benefit to the workers despite the misbehaviour of some of the workers. The selling of this food to the workers also assist the vendors in many ways. One of such ways is the profits from the sales that enabled them carry out some of the economic endeavours and also put food on their tables. An informant Enama, (2020) quipped;

*We are able to pay school fees of our children, feed and dress them thanks, to selling in Chinese work sites. We are into daily savings with the micro finance structures thanks to the petit business we carryout at projects sites. We are capable of paying weekly quarter meetings dues commonly called “njangi” as we sell at the projects’ sites. This daily, weekly and at times monthly savings enable the members to carryout projects in and out of the city.*

Not only food and food stuffs were or are being sold as a means of getting indirectly involved at the level of the execution of the projects by Chinese in Cameroon. Some of the inhabitants sold some of their properties thanks to the execution of the projects in their environment. For instance, laterite for the construction of roads discovered in some plots, fetch a lot of money to the owners of the plots as the Chinese had to give compensation before the digging of the material could take place. Concerning laterite, an informant in the name of Noubissi, (2020) a farmer asserted;

*Laterite was discovered in my plot and the Chinese paid for before digging it. This brought dispute between me and my landlord who sold me the land years ago. When the laterite was discovered, he claimed he sold the land and not what was underground. I took the matter to the Divisional Officer (D.O.) and the problem was solved as the D.O. asked my landlord to distance himself from the land if not legal measures would be taken against him as I explained the situation and presented my agreement letter with my landlord.”*

In fact, the construction of structures by Chinese also led to the creation of secondary roads in the localities where projects are being carried out. Some of the localities have benefited the rehabilitation of their roads easing transportation of people, goods and services, just because the contractors with their equipment had to pass through those areas in search of materials for the execution of these projects. Such materials among others include stones for gravel, and the digging of laterite for the construction of some infrastructures like roads and houses.

Apart from material and physical involvement in the construction face, question twelve (12) was formulated to get other ways through which the inhabitants have been involved during the construction phase of projects put in place by the Chinese. As to other ways through which the inhabitants have been involved, some of them considered to have been actively present in the construction through their moral lessons to the rest of the community members not to be against the coming of the Chinese to their localities to do work.

These teachings had to do with encouraging the inhabitants not to strike against the work going on as it happens in other places. The teachings also had to go towards indicating the benefits of the infrastructures to the community where work is taking place. The spirit of solidarity and welcoming of new comers is also one of the elements in the teachings. Meetings had to be organized just to talk to see that the work to be carried out by the Chinese is good for the community. These meetings led to no opposition from some villages against the realisation of the projects after the lectures. This has prompted some of the villagers to gain positions of middlemen between the Chinese, administrators and the inhabitants where work takes place.

To some, they have been paying their taxes regularly and that is their level of being indirectly involved in the construction phase of the projects carried out by Chinese in the Cameroon territory. Some agreed to have opened their workshops like garages to repair the cars and engines used by the Chinese in the construction work. After getting how inhabitants have been directly and indirectly implicated in the construction works in Cameroon involving the Chinese, in the following subheading, we are going to get to understand how the locals will be or are involved after the realisation of the infrastructures.

### **3.4 Co-construction after the Realisation of Structures by Chinese in Yaoundé**

In order to gather information on the implication and co-construction of the Cameroonians after the realization of infrastructure realized by the Chinese in Yaoundé, questions thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) were drafted. The information obtained had to handle three (03) levels of implications of the inhabitants. These three (03) levels have to do with what the people see as benefits, losses and the advantages of the infrastructures after their realization in those localities.

#### **3.4.1 Positive Co-construction on the Implication of the Cameroonians**

Question thirteen (13) was to investigate to understand what the inhabitants have gained where projects carried out by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” have been

realized or are still on-going. This had to do with the privileges from the construction of the structure in their localities. Here we are concentrated on how the putting in place of the structures have modified or changed the behaviour of the people and or how the behaviour of the people has affected the putting in place of the structures in line with urban ecology models from the Chicago school of sociology that stipulates that *“human behaviour determines the overall layout of the urban environment, which in turn affects human behaviour”*.

So, we are to see how these structures are organized and how the organisation of these structures by the Chinese in Cameroon affects the behaviour of the inhabitants of the localities where these structures are put in place. Information gathered from this question thirteen (13) are presented on table twenty-one (21).

**Table 21: Benefits of the Inhabitants as a Result of the Realization of Projects in Their Localities**

No.	locality	benefited		% of benefited
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	09	19	32
2	Lobo	16	04	80
3	Nachtigal	18	14	56
4	Mvog-Betsi	23	21	51
5	Mballa 2	22	18	55
6	Olembe	15	16	48.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>53.8</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Table twenty-one (21) presents the information on people who consider to have had a positive impact on the social or economic lives as well as have gained material or moral asserts as a result of the realization of the infrastructures in their localities because of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China. The general outcome depicts that over 53.8% of the informants have been or are positively affected with the putting in place of structures in their environment by the Chinese infrastructural companies operating in Cameroon and especially in Yaoundé.



The positive adjustments are in the area of easy mobility from one place to another with the coming of tarred roads. This easy mobility has to do with the inhabitants that the structures put in place had to do with transportation. The roads have eased and given access to the easy circulation of the automobile especially with the coming of the motorbike that is relatively cheap as compared to other automobile like cars. Many individuals have acquired the bikes that are not only serving as a source of income, but as a means of employment.

The coming of these tarred roads has also increased the hygienic conditions of the inhabitants. Before the coming of the tarred roads, during the dry seasons, the people were faced with the problem of dust, that come along with many air borne diseases like cough, skin dryness, and the inhaling of dust that affected individuals in many different ways. When dust comes in the dry seasons, during the rainy seasons, the dust is replaced by mud that hinders movement of both persons and vehicles. With both rainy and dry seasons, none of them favoured the cleanliness of the inhabitants with untarred roads. An informant Nga, (2020) at Mvog-Betsi quipped;

*During the dry season you could not wear dresses for more than one day without washing because of the effects of the dust raised by wind and the cars and bikes that run the road. During the rainy season one could not wear dresses for some many days without cleaning them as mud has a toll on the road.”*

All these conditions did not only affect the hygienic conditions, but also the economy of the people as, they have to be spending on buying soap and other detergents for the washing of dresses, buying of shoes that are easily destroyed especially during muddy seasons as well as payment of medication to help cure the diseases affecting the communities as a result of the dusty nature of the roads.

Inhabitants claimed to have gained financially, especially with the indemnities paid as a result of the destroyed plants and crops for the putting in place of the structures constructed by the Chinese. Although some individuals are of the opinion that what was given as indemnities are not the exact amounts originally presented during the signing after the registration and assessment of the property by the company. According to an informant by name Ze, (2020) an inhabitant at Lobo narrated;

*I, my brother and father had to receive the sum of over nine million (9,000,000) francs CFA as presented during the assessment period, but we received only a sum of six million (6,000,000) Francs CFA and three million (3,000,000) Francs CFA has not been accounted for. My brother’s name was completely absent during the payment meanwhile during the assessment and signing for compensation, he was to receive a sum of one million seven*

*hundred thousand (1,700,000) Francs CFA. My father was entitled to six million (6,000,000) he ended up with five million (5,000,000). As for me, I do not really regret because I was to receive one million three hundred thousand (1,300,000) and finally I was given one million (1,000,000) Francs CFA.*

From the results gotten from the collection or payment of indemnities, many claimed that the authorities of the localities manipulated the payment of the real figures. This figure manipulation finally landed some of the authorities of the localities in prison like the mayors and some government officials transferred and demoted from their posts of responsibilities as the Divisional Officers.

For some, the coming of the infrastructures act as a catalyst for the boom in their businesses. Some had the privilege to have their workshops, shops, garages and stores located at positions of easy contact with the customers. This is as such because the structures put in place especially roads, opened the places for many businesses to function. Many can circulate around the quarters and move from place to place bringing along customers to buy from the business units.

The coming of the structures to some localities have acted as a way to open and disenclave these localities. These places are now open to the rest of the city as well as the rest of the country, thus improving the development of the localities. This development comes along with the beautifying of the environment with modern as to formal locally produced artefacts. Some of the areas that could not be easily put to use, like the swampy environments, have been reclaimed and nice looking as well as useful and solid resistant structures have been put there by the Chinese. Some of these structures serve as special grounds for some special sporting activities that have affected positively the individuals of the locality as well as the entire country. Some of these structures act as sources for the supply of portable water for the communities where they are constructed.

Generally, many of the inhabitants claimed that the structures put in place have and are acting as means of employment especially at the level of being self-employed. Some can now be involved in lines of employment like restaurant works, bike riding, road side vendors as well as opening of new market places just because of the availability of these structures put in place by the Chinese.

From table twenty-one (21) we can notice that the gap between those who accepted to have gained or be positively affected by the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese and those that are of the fact that they are not positively affected is very narrow. This narrowness can be seen in the percentages. For those who are of the fact that they are affected positively

by answering ‘Yes’ are of the majority of 53.8% and those that answered ‘No’ to say that they have not benefited from the putting in place of the structure are 46.2%. This is an indication that though the infrastructures are important impacting lives positively, they should be more to get to know about the feelings and believes of the people as to the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese. The tiny margin between the two options are far from the absolute majority and this calls for more to be known and considered when it comes to the functions of the societal structure of the communities where these structures are constructed. To have a better understanding of the inside of these individuals as to how important is the structures put in place by the Chinese, question fourteen (14) was formulated as a follow up of question thirteen (13). This follow up is what we shall be presenting in the subsequent write up.

### 3.4.2 Usefulness of Chinese Built Infrastructure

Question fourteen (14) was to investigate to understand how useful is the infrastructures put by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” to inhabitants after completion. The inhabitants might have benefited some things from the construction of the structures, but the structures themselves might not be or might be very useful to the individuals in the localities. Table twenty-two (22) gives us a summary of the information obtained from question fourteen (14) that is about the how useful are the infrastructures put by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” to inhabitants after completion.

**Table 22: Inhabitants with the Consideration on how useful are the Structures Put in Place by the Chinese in their Localities**

No.	locality	Usefulness of the infrastructure		% of those for
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	25	03	89.3
2	Lobo	16	04	80
3	Nachtigal	23	09	71.8
4	Mvog-Betsi	39	05	88.6
5	Mballa 2	18	22	45
6	Olembe	11	21	34.4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>68.18</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Table twenty-two (22) above presents the information about the understanding of people who considered the structures put by Chinese to be useful to them or the localities, as

well as those who are of the opinion that the structures are not useful for them or the localities where they are constructed. From the results of data collected from the questionnaire distributed, the majority of the population is for the fact that the structures put in place by Chinese are useful to the communities where these structures are constructed. From the data collected, 68.18% of the respondents agreed that the structures are very necessary while the remaining 31.82% stood for the fact that the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese are of less interest to the populations where these structures are constructed.

The usefulness of these structures ranges from personal interest to general interest. At the level of personal interest, many saw the structures to be very helpful at socioeconomic level. The transportation network is highly appreciated by the inhabitants of the communities where transport infrastructures are being put in place by the Chinese construction firms in Cameroon. The construction of a solid tarred road as compared to seasonal and earthen roads that have been in place facilitate socioeconomic activities like business transactions, transportation of goods and services as well as the creation of new business units that act as a source of livelihood to some inhabitants that could not enjoy those privileges before the coming of the tarred roads put in place by the Chinese.

The coming of these transportation facilities also facilitates and bring more customers to some business locations. For instance, more business people can now travel safely and quickly, to buy and sell in some remote areas that were not accessible before the coming of the road. This is like the case with the high way linking Nsimalen and Yaoundé. The farmers of the locality do not have to use the long distances they used to cover to reach Yaoundé again. They now carry their farm products to the market using the new road constructed by the Chinese. An informant in the name of Noutejim, (2020) at Ahala reported *“I am from the North Region and I am into farm work here in Nsimalen. With the construction of this road, I do not need to go round the whole place through Oja before reaching the market as before.”* This also (with the case of the construction and tarring of the Yaoundé-Ntui Road, especially with the building of a bridge over the Sanaga River at Nachtigal) seen as a heavenly gift to the people of this locality. The nightmare of taking many hours to travel and the delay at Nachtigal to cross the vehicles on a bark canoe is a thing of the past. The construction of these roads have contributed to gaining of time by the road users thus, giving them the opportunity to make more money, as the saying goes that time is money.

The cost of buying of land has also been on the rise especially with the putting in place of these structures especially with the construction of the Yaoundé-Douala highway through Lobo. With the passage of this road the prices of land in these areas have increased tremendously as compared to before the coming of the road.

From the socioeconomic aspect, we also had the social, health and hygienic benefits. The provision of water to be tapped at Nachtigal to increase the volume of water supply in the city of Yaoundé, is seen by those close to the project site as a benefit as they will also benefit from the water supply. The quarter where water is being tapped will be supplied with potable water for the inhabitants in the locality.<sup>19</sup>

The rehabilitation of the roads especially that linking the hospital at Mvog-Betsi to the rest of the city of Yaoundé has contributed to the rescuing of so many lives as the transportation of patients to this hospital has been eased with the tarring of the road.<sup>20</sup> Personal hygiene has also been a factor of benefits with the putting of the structures in these communities. These hygienic benefits are seen from cleanliness to the provision of important social amenities notably potable water provided to these communities. Some individuals had to dress and put some dresses to dress later on when going for an occasion out of the community, because when you are to leave the quarters, you would be besmeared with dust or mud. With the coming of the tarred roads, the dressing code of using two dresses – one to go out of the community and the other to dress when you reach your destination had to change.<sup>21</sup> When you leave your house with one dress, you can go and come back still looking neat than was the case before. As the communities celebrate bringing out the benefits, the administrators and civil servants working in some of the structures put in place by the Chinese also have something to say.

#### **3.4.2.1 Co-construction on Civil Servants using these Structures**

To gather information on how useful is the infrastructure put in place by Chinese to Civil servants a questionnaire was formulated. This questionnaire was distributed to government workers working in structures rehabilitated or constructed by the Chinese such as those working at the Ministerial building number one, Sport Complex, and those living in the

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<sup>19</sup> One of the benefits to the inhabitants as presented by the individuals during our focus group discussion at Nachtigal, 2020

<sup>20</sup> Focus group discussion at Mvog-Betsi, 2020

<sup>21</sup> Focus group discussion at Mvog-Betsi, 2020

Low-Cost Social houses at Olembe. The data collected from these places where civil servants are located are presented on table twenty-three (23).

**Table 23: The Civil Servants with the Consideration on How Useful are the Structures Constructed by the Chinese**

No.	Infrastructure	View points of those using the structures					
		SC	SA	A	UN	DA	SDA
1	Ministerial building No 1	II	/	02	01	02	/
		III	/	02	01	02	/
		IV	/	03	01	02	/
		T	/	07	03	06	/
2	Sport complex	II	/	01	02	01	02
		III	/	01	02	02	01
		IV	01	02	01	02	/
		T	01	04	05	05	03
3	Low Cost Social houses	II	/	02	03	/	/
		III	01	02	/	02	/
		IV	/	02	01	02	/
		T	01	06	04	04	/

SC= Section, SA= strongly agree, A= agree, UN= uncertain, DA= disagree, SDA= strongly disagree, T= total

Source: Field Work 2020

Furthermore, the construction and renovation of structures, bring about not only availability of offices, but also provide enough space and offices for some workers that had challenges of space and offices before these construction works. The results from those using the infrastructures are ranging between those that agree, were uncertain and those that disagree or strongly disagree on how important the structures are. Many from the Ministerial Building Number One (01) are those who agree to the fact that the structures rehabilitated by the Chinese were responding to the problem of space in the office. Many were also still for the opinion that; the structure has not solved the problem of space. From table twenty-three (23), information collected is elaborated consequently.

### 3.4.2.1.1 Ministerial Building Number One

The Ministerial Building number one (01) is one of the examples of such structures that have rescued and provided sufficient space to over seven (07) Ministries that were in small and insufficient buildings owned by the private individuals who gave them out for rents. As an informant quipped during an interview;

*The provision of these comfortable working environment, has or is helping in the better organization of office documents thus, facilitating the work tasks of the workers in the various offices. These offices are also equipped with facilities such as the working tables and cupboards for the preservation of documents and the building of better ministries' archives and data base that were difficult to manage before the rehabilitation of this structure<sup>22</sup>.*

This in turn helps those working in the offices and also facilitates researchers who go for some government gazettes in these Ministries to carry out research as we did for this research work in the ministries concern.

This Ministerial Building Number One used to be a hide out for many who carry out deviant behaviours like stealing, smoking of cannabis which is commonly called Indian hemp, or marijuana, as well as a location for rape, kidnapping and even killings. These deviant activities that used to take place under the cover of this building led to the naming of this building by the city duellers as “*Immeuble de la mort*”. With the transformation that has taken place by rehabilitating and renovating this building, its new name is given as “*l’Immeuble de l’emergence*” and not more as it used to be called “*Immeuble de la mort*”.<sup>23</sup>

With the rehabilitation and transformation of the structure by the Chinese, the rate of these deviant activities have been reduced and some totally eliminated as you can freely pass by without any fear of being maltreated by individuals who used to carry out these deviant activities. Now, instead of inhabiting individuals with deviant behaviours, this structure now inhabits many ministries and there is a lot of transactions with many people going into the ministries to handle one situation or the other. Apart from the Ministerial Building Number One, we also have the Social Houses at Olembe neighbourhood.

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<sup>22</sup> Interview of the chef of service in charge of socials in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

<sup>23</sup> Yaoundé : L’ascenseur de L’immeuble Emergence est en Panne – O Cameroun, (2019), La Rédaction, [<https://www.ocameroun.info/56742-yaounde-lascenseur-de-limmeuble-emergence-est-en-panne.html>], visited 09-02-2020

### 3.4.2.1.2 Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe

The other benefit of the structures after completion is the provision of comfortable and affordable residences for average civil servants in the country. This is the case with the putting in place of the Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe in Yaoundé. This initiative of the Low-Cost Social Houses brings about co-ownership of buildings that was enacted by *law No. 2010/22 of December 2010*. This law was followed by its implementation instruments “Guide on co-ownership of buildings in Cameroon”<sup>24</sup>, which talks about one hundred and fifteen (115) important facts about co-ownership. This law is in order to support and regulate the construction of high-rise buildings by the government. The construction of high-rise buildings by the government came as a result of the rapid urbanization and exponential growth in Cameroon’s major metropolis over the past decades that have brought about scarcity in developed areas and building plots. To resolve this problem of limited space, the government has engaged herself in co-ownership which is a situation of ownership of constructed or to be constructed property, belonging to several persons referred to as co-owners; each co-owner owns a lot comprising a unit and a part of the common use called common elements.<sup>25</sup>

Each lot comprises units and parts of common elements of the said building. As such, each co-owner owns a unit (in most cases the apartments and their belongings such as the rooms) for which he or she has exclusive right of enjoyment and shares with the others the ownership of the common elements. These common elements which are necessary for all are indivisible and immovable. This indivisibility and immovability come as a result of constructed property that takes the form of high-rise buildings. The common elements cannot be separated from the main structure. Such include the building and land allocated for use by all or several of the co-owners, for instance;

- The land title and the ground on which is constructed the building or group of buildings, the courtyards, parks gardens and access roads,
- Fences separating the main road and neighbours,
- The carcass (foundations, front walls, gable walls, load-bearing partitions and heavy bulk carriers,
- Flooring carcass, cave floors, roofing of the building and generally, the structural frame of the building,

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<sup>24</sup> Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 2017, Guide on co-ownership of buildings in Cameroon, pg. 1

<sup>25</sup> Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 2017, *ibid* pg. 7



- Separating partitions of two different lots,
- Front ornament,
- Formworks, sheaths, chimney flues and central air-conditioning,
- Common premises, spaces and services (position of meters and house drains, caretakers' lodges, entrance hall and movement premises, staircase, the stairs themselves, doors and windows found in common elements),
- Lifts and accessories,
- Pipes and fittings for distributions of water, electricity, telephone, storm and grey water drainage, except for parts of such pipes and fittings allocated for the exclusive use of a single co-owner,
- General water and electricity metres,
- Lighting, radio and television systems found on the common elements,
- Equipment needed for maintenance of the building,
- Carcass for underground parking facilities, their access ramps and their outhouses.

Generally, all the space and premises which are not allocated for use by a single co-owner makes up part of the common elements. A co-owner has no exclusive right over a common element. The common element is to be used by all the co-owners involved in the co-ownership of the structure.

The common elements are not common as the name may sound. They are common in the sense that they do not belong to a single individual. Without some of these common elements if not all, it will be impossible for effective co-ownership to take place. The common elements play important role in the effective interaction of individuals involved in the co-ownership as they are necessary and very useful to those in the co-ownership. So, common elements are not owned by some individuals in the co-ownership, but by everybody into the co-ownership of the given structure. They do not only have the right to use, but also the responsibility to take care of the co-ownership property and this implies the payment of the cost of maintenance.

There are generally two types of cost which are the general costs and the special costs. On the one hand, the general costs are those contributions relating to the preservation, maintenance, and the administration of the common elements. On the other hand, special costs are those costs occasioned by collective services and elements of common facilities. The costs are fixed by the co-ownership rules and may be modified by the general meeting in accordance

with the majority rule provided for under *section 51, 52 and 53 of law No. 2010/22 of 21 December 2010* relating to co-ownership of buildings.

To make sure that this fact of the usage of the common elements be respected, co-ownership in Cameroon is governed by law and several implementation instruments.<sup>26</sup> These include, particularly, the following instruments;

- law *No. 2010/22 of 21 December 2010* relating to co-ownership of buildings,
- Decree *No. 2011/1131/PM of 11 May 2011* to lay down the conditions for implementation of *Law No. 2010/22 of 21 December 2010* relating to co-ownership of buildings,
- Decree *No. 2011/1332/PM of 11 May 2011* to lay down the conditions for access to and practice of the profession of syndic of ownership,
- Decree *No. 90/2/1870/PM of 4 July 2012* to lay down the conditions for the issuance of the title of ownership within the framework of co-ownership of constructed buildings,
- Order *No. 17/MINHDU of 4 April 2012* to lay down conditions for the calculation of the floor space of a lot in a building in ownership,
- Joint Order *No. 1/MINDCAF/MINHDU of 30 August 2013* to lay down the list of names of buildings in the title of ownership.

With the laws, decrees and orders put in place, three (03) institutions are put in place to manage co-ownership in Cameroon. These three (03) management organs are the syndicate of co-owners, the council of syndicates and the syndic of co-owners. The syndicate of co-ownership is an association of all the co-owners prescribed by law, endowed with legal personality with the capacity to execute deeds necessary for the attainment of its objectives, and also institute proceedings. The syndicate of co-ownership performs its duties through the general meeting, the syndic of co-owners and the council of syndicates. The council of syndicates is formed within each syndicate of co-owners to assist the syndic of co-owners and to control his management. The council of syndicates also accounts for the preparation and execution of the budget, distribution of costs and conditions under which contracts are awarded and executed. The syndic of co-owners on its part is the representative of the syndicate of owners responsible for implementing the provisions of the co-ownership rules and the decisions of the general meeting, administering the building, ensuring its preservation and representing the syndicate of co-owners. The syndic of co-owners carries out these functions with the help of the co-ownership rules, the master deed and the maintenance booklet. The co-

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<sup>26</sup> Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 2017, Guide on co-ownership of buildings in Cameroon, pg. 9

ownership rules are a notarial act established between co-owners, as well as between the co-owners and the syndicate of co-owners to lay down the co-ownership administration rules. The co-ownership rules are established prior to placing the building in co-ownership and each buyer of a lot is bound to subscribe thereto during the signing of the sale transaction.

The provision of these Low-Cost Social Houses and the sale transaction to the civil servants is being done in two (02) ways. The first group of people are those civil servants who could buy an apartment and own it without having anything to offer the government after the payment of the required amount.<sup>27</sup> After they have purchased these apartments, they are now to adhere to being responsible by signing both the copy of the rules appended to his purchase certificate and the original of the said rules kept by the public notary.

The second group are made up of those who could afford to pay an apartment, but their salaries can permit them to pay a given sum monthly for the apartment. That apartment is given to one on conditions that he or she will be paying the amount to the state's treasury on monthly basis.<sup>28</sup> The two (02) groups have had their portions of the co-ownership through the application of the master deed.

The master deed is the document that identifies lots. The description of each lot brings out the name of the property by one or several capital letters, the lot number, the contents of units with precise indications of their cumulative surface area, and the share of ownership of units. This share is expressed in co-ownership dividends. The common elements are divided into equal fractions. Each lot has a corresponding number of such dividends. The totality of the dividends corresponding to a lot constitutes the share of common elements of that lot.

The amount paid to the state's treasury by these individuals who had the opportunity to be selected among other civil servants to be given an apartment is affordable and cheaper. These affordability and cheaper rates are as compared to the amounts paid by city dwellers for apartments of the same sizes and qualities to those that are into real estate business in Yaoundé.

Individuals in the buildings at Olembe also testified to the fact that they are privileged to be having such beautiful structures for such affordable amounts in the city like Yaoundé, where

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<sup>27</sup> Interview of one of the civil servants who was selected to benefit from the Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe site

<sup>28</sup> Interview at Olembe

house rents are very expensive and exorbitant. An informant Nalova, (2020) civil servant living in the Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembé asserted;

*The environment of the apartments is well decorated, with good roads leading to the structures and with enough spacing for parking of cars. There is free mobility in and out of the quarter, well electrified buildings and streets as well as provision of appliances like fixed phones, good modern internal kitchens, airy and well-ventilated sitting rooms and comfortable bedrooms just to name a few.*

In fact, some living in these apartments see the offer as a gift from heaven. Benefits are not only being celebrated by those who are occupying Low-Cost Social Houses, those using sport infrastructures also have some experiences to share.

#### **3.4.2.1.3 Sport Infrastructures**

At the level of the sport infrastructures put in place, the inhabitants are benefiting at the level of creation of petit businesses around the sport complex. Many are into businesses that put food on their tables especially during the organisation of events to take place in these sporting structures. As people gather for both the national and international competitions in these structures, they constitute a market for many vendors and shops in the area. The Sport Complex has not only been for sporting activities. Many other activities such as graduations, celebration of some International Days as well as National Days have been taking place in these structures.

During celebration of these events, there is usually a lot of bustling and businesses of different kinds taking place. A lot of photography and taking of pictures spice most of these events and in turn encourage and boost the photography enterprise in the city. You would see how young men and women are actively taking, printing and selling of photos. These activities have created part-time, freelance as well as full-time employment to the ever-increasing unemployed individuals in the city.

Apart from selling, the people in the locality are also benefiting from the roads linking the sporting structures to the rest of the city. The inhabitants now use the linking roads to travel in and out of the locality with ease. Some of the areas that used to be breeding grounds for mosquitoes and reptiles like the swampy Warda was reclaimed and the Sport Complex constructed, has also acted as a cleansing agent to the city and the locality in particular.

The benefits above projects the picture of what the localities where these structures are put in place see as what is won in the relationship between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. Being a “win-win relationship” and considering the fact that before you win, you have to go through some struggles or challenges as well as incur some losses, or the forgone alternative, question fifteen (15) on our questionnaire to the inhabitants where Chinese construction firms have put in place some artefacts was formulated, and the responses from that question are presented on the subsequent paragraphs on the next sub heading of this research endeavour.

### **3.4.3 Co-construction at the level of Losses Incurred by Inhabitants as a Result of the Putting of Infrastructures by the Chinese**

Question fifteen (15) was to investigate to gather information on what the inhabitants have lost where projects carried out by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” have been realized or are still on going. Data collected from the field with the help of this question fifteen (15) are used to draw table twenty-four (24).

**Table 24: Inhabitants that Have Incurred Loss as a Result of the Realization of Projects**

No.	Locality	Losses incurred by inhabitants		% of those who lost something
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	10	18	35.7
2	Lobo	11	09	55
3	Nachtigal	18	14	56.3
4	Mvog-Betsi	17	27	38.6
5	Mballa 2	25	15	62.5
6	Olembe	14	18	43.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>48.65</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

As presented on point 4.2.3.3, what was destroyed on the land before the putting in place of the infrastructures, many inhabitants where Chinese companies have carried out or are carrying out infrastructural construction have lost a great deal before these structures are realised or are to be realised. Table twenty-four (24) presents the inhabitants who responded to

the questionnaire and were affected or have lost something as a result of the realization of the infrastructures in their locality because of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China.

From statistics on table twenty-four (24), 48.65% of those who responded to the questionnaire were of the fact that they have incurred losses as a result of the construction carried out by the Chinese in their localities, as of 51.35% who stood for the fact that they have recorded no losses as a result of the construction activities. So, there are areas of interest as well as areas of contradiction when it comes to what inhabitants have sacrificed for the structures to be put in place. However, the issues at stake are generally not zero-sum and in any case not completely neglected. This can be observed in areas of destructions and compensations granted to the affected populations.

Many who received compensation or indemnities before the destruction of what was standing on the way of the construction to take place, were of the opinion that they have been paid for what was to be destroyed. So, they can no more stand for the fact that they have lost something because payment for the things have been issued. To them the compensation could and had enabled them to go for the replacement of what had been destroyed. Apart from the destruction of property, the construction of structures by Chinese in Cameroon also come along with the introduction of some dysfunctional manifestations in areas where these structures have been put in place. Our preoccupation below is to examine those dysfunctions.

#### **3.4.4 Dysfunctional Manifestations as a Result of the Coming of Infrastructures Put in Place by the Chinese**

The putting in place of structures in Cameroon by the Chinese has not only witnessed the destruction of what was there, but has also set into motion some happenings which are not generally accepted by the norms and the values governing the local communities. These activities are bringing about disorder in the said communities. To gather information on the dysfunctions brought about by the construction of structures by Chinese in Cameroon, there was need to formulate a question that could help get the information. To do that, Question sixteen (16) was formulated to handle the collection of information on the dysfunctional behaviours of the members of the localities where the projects have been realized by the Chinese. The information gathered through the use of question sixteen (16) on the questionnaire given to the inhabitants where Chinese have done some work is presented on table twenty-five (25).

**Table 25: Dysfunctional Manifestations Seen as a Result of the Coming of Infrastructures Put in Place by the Chinese**

No.	Locality	Functions manifestations		%
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	22	08	73.3
2	Lobo	17	03	85
3	Nachtigal	25	07	78
4	Mvog-Betsi	30	02	93.8
5	Mballa 2	24	16	60
6	Olembe	17	15	53
	<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>73.87</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

The putting in place of the structures whether residential, transportation, sporting or office infrastructures by the Chinese in Cameroon and especially in Yaoundé, bring about functions and dysfunctions in the various geopolitical locations. According to Zerihun, (2005:32), “*talking of the functions here, we imply the positive consequences, and dysfunctions direct us to the negative consequences that come along with the putting in place of these structures*”. Question sixteen (16) revealed that some dysfunctional behaviours are manifesting as a result of the coming of the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese as fruits of their relationship with Cameroonians. From the statistical point of view, we can say that from the population that responded to the questionnaire to the communities where Chinese have or are carrying out construction works, 73.87% are of the fact that there are negative tendencies coming up in the localities.

#### **3.4.4.1 Dysfunctional Manifestations in Project Places**

Easy transportation of individuals to and fro the villages to the nearby cities where the road networks are linking has opened the door for strange happenings. For instance, an informant Elondou, (2020) Sub chief at Lobo said;

*Stolen materials like bags, cars and others are found hidden in nearby villages where road construction has taken place like here in Lobo. Not only stolen materials are found here and there, also the phenomenon of burglary, arm robbery, and assaults of different magnitudes and frequencies are frequently happening.*

The construction of roads in these areas is exposing these localities to the rest of the world through the improvement of the road network to these neighbourhoods. Thieves easily enter and go out of these localities as they want unlike before, where there were no tarred roads. The men of the underworld carry out their operations at night, people are beaten and injured, with those committing these acts going cut free. This is because they can leave far distances, commit their acts and go back to their hidings without being noticed or caught.

Not only is the deviant act of stealing going on, the rate of road accidents has increased with the reckless driving of drivers who run at very high speed with the good nature of the roads. Both car and bike accidents are at an increase. Some areas that have never witnessed car accidents are now having it on a daily basis. This has resulted to an increase in the number of dead cases or increase in the death rate, as well as increase in the number of physically challenged individuals in the localities. Many are seen walking on crutches as a result of road accidents in these communities.

The coming of these structures have brought about unfaithfulness between married people. This unfaithfulness is leading to adultery, fornication and other sexual abuses that have led to unwanted pregnancies, divorce, and rapid spread of sexually transmissible diseases. With the coming of new people in the localities, there has been a sharp change in mentality and behaviour change. This change in mentality has negatively affected the behaviours of many in the localities.

Corruption has set in even with the execution of the contracts as many in the localities where constructions are going on complain of many being exempted from being employed because there was no body to stand for them as god-father. An informant at Nachtigal by name Okala, (2020), an inhabitant commented, *“Those with their god-fathers even with less qualification for the work are recruited while those of us with qualification for the work are allowed and we are roaming round the streets jobless”*. With many who have been recruited, documents presented for recruitment have not been respected as only few technicians are recognised and the rest are recruited as common labourers.

In the area of administration, many administrators who were involved in corruption practices have been imprisoned. Some registered and collected compensations on landed properties that belong to different people. Some of them reduced the amounts that were to be given to those to be compensated and diverted the money to their personal accounts. This has created a lot of in fighting and disorder in the localities where projects were or are being carried



out. Respect of state public authorities is at a decline with the poor character and low integrity manifestation of these public figures when it comes to money.

Chinese being strangers also come with some workers from other parts of Cameroon who are not of the localities where work is taking place. From some informants, they don't have problems with the Chinese expatriates, but with the other Cameroonian workers. There has been differentiation between English speaking and French speaking Cameroonians in the localities with the inhabitants grieved because different people from different localities especially the English speaking are working in their localities while they go on jobless.<sup>29</sup> The workers steal farm produces and other materials from the localities.

There is a lot of black-market taking place in these localities with the realisation of these projects. Some of the materials meant for the constructions are being stolen, both by the Chinese and Cameroonian workers alike. This brings about a lot of insecurity in the environment. This insecurity comes especially with so many people entering and leaving the localities bringing in the phenomenon of anonymity where you do not know who is who.

The physical environment has also suffered a lot with land scape destruction for the provision of space for the construction of these structures. The destruction of land has landed the inhabitants who depend on some provisions from the environment such as medicinal plants to trek distances in search of these plants.

Children have backed out of school in search of fast money. Some have become very rebellious to the parents and the elderly in the localities. The money they have worked for in these project sites acts as a booster to their prideful behavioural pattern as they see that with money, they can afford what they want. Many of such children have got into consuming strong drinks and smoking as well as getting involved in sexual immorality. These activities have aggravated the rate of vandalism, and the appearance and spread of sexually transmissible diseases like HIV and AIDS.

With the coming of these structures, there has been an increase in prices of commodities as well as increase in rents. Those who have landed property for sale or to give out for rents are celebrating while those to buy or rent who make up the majority of the population are

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<sup>29</sup> Focus Group Discussion at Nachtigal, 2020

complaining and crying of increase in the prices of the commodities which are basic and premodial for survival.

#### **3.4.4.2 Dysfunctional Manifestations on Local Contractors Enterprise**

A lot of Chinese firms are involved in the domain of investment in the construction sector of Cameroon as shall be presented eventually in the next chapter of this thesis. These Chinese firms are involved in this domain due to their bidding construction contracts, and time accuracy. The presence of Chinese in this sector poses a serious threat to the local contractors. From the contractors, the coming of the Chinese especially in the area of construction is doing more harm than good to the local contractors. Local contractors are a victim of the Chinese presence as they have a new competitor that brings about challenges as Chinese are even winning local contracts and they cannot bid for Chinese projects and this has brought about frustration in this sector. An informant Jumbo, (2020) a contractor lamented, *“So, winning a contract from the government now is very difficult. This is so, because both the internal and foreign contractors go through the same process to win a government contract”*. Tender for government contracts is guided by the following principles.

##### **1) The general rules guiding project bidding**

When it comes to general rules guiding project bidding, we have, *“Commission Central De Passation des Marchés des Services et des Prestations Intellectuelles (CCPM-SPI)”*. In This Central Commission of the Award of Contracts and The Delivery of Intellectual Services, we have the procedures restricting the international calls for project bidding. This document provides us with general rules and regulations for call for bidding. These rules and regulations are elaborated under the following subheadings of the document;

Clarifications and modifications from the specific documents of call for bidding to be used; there is always a date limit given to the candidates to do modifications on their application files required by the candidate himself where necessary. At any moment before the submission of application proposal files, the master of the project for one reason or the other may call the candidates to do some adjustments in their files where necessary. From the point of clarifications there is a stage called pre-qualification in which the master of the project goes through the files before sending the qualified files to the organ in charge of regulations of public contracts or to the president of the commission in charge of the project in question.

The establishment of both the technical and financial proposals; the candidate or candidates are required to write the application of proposal in the language stipulated by *Reglement Particulier de l' Appel d' Offres (RPAO)* which in other words is the Particular Rules for the Call for Applications.

With the technical proposal, the candidate or candidates are expected to follow the RPAO very strictly. The candidate should also take particular attention in the presentation of his or her capacity to do the work or could associate with other enterprises to make sure they will be able to respect the scope of time needed for the project to be carried out. Indications about the experience and the duration of the specialised personnel are also needed. There is need for a brief presentation of who the applicant is, his experience, his observations and suggestions on project to be realised, and the methodology to be used to accomplish the project.

At the level of the financial proposal, the candidate is expected to make financial allocations to every cost patterning to the mission to be accomplished. All sectors of cost are to be done separately from the taxes and the social insurance. The prices are to be registered in the currency stipulated by the RPAO.

The submission, reception and the opening of the proposal procedures; the candidate is required to produce the number of copies as prescribe by the RPAO. All the originals and the copies of the documents are to be classified in an envelope addressed as demanded in the RPAO.

The enlightenment on the evaluation of proposals procedures; evaluation of proposals is in stages. We have evaluation generalities which restrict all the candidates from having or contacting the members of the commission for the particular project. Any effort to contact the members of this commission will lead to the rejection of the candidate in question. The evaluation of files starts with the evaluation of technical proposals and ends with financial proposals and the candidate selected is called for negotiations.

Negotiations; the negotiations are linked to the address indicated in the RPAO, which is done between the contracting party whose file has been retained and the government representatives of the project in question. The negotiations centre on the discussion on the technical propositions, financial, methodology, and all the suggestions made by the candidate retained.

The rules for the attribution of the contract publication of results; this goes with the respecting of the rules dealing with the publication of who has won the contract. The contract is signed and the results published. Now the candidate can start putting things together to put the commencing date of the project.

The general rules and regulations, and confidentiality have to do with the evaluation of proposals presented by candidates. The process of evaluation and recommendations are confidential and are not to be published by whosoever until the official declarations by the authority that be.

Signing of the contract and definite bond. This is the last stage for the winning of the contract by a candidate. Here, a duration of seven (07) days is given to the candidate to do the signing and if the days are over and he or she has not shown up to sign, the contract can be handed to another candidate.

These are rules that apply to all sectors of construction of the infrastructures in Cameroon. It acts as guide to those contractors both the national or at the international level applying or contesting for contracts of infrastructure construction. For you as a contractor wishing to involve in the construction works in Cameroon must have mastery of this document in order to win contracts.

Failure to master the guides given by this central commission of the award of contracts and the delivery of intellectual services document, is a sign of not being willing or not being apt to win any state contracts, for it is in the application of the instructions from this document that contracts are awarded. When you as a contractor comply with the rules and regulations from the central commission of the award of contracts and the delivery of intellectual services, then, specific documents patterning to the project you are to carry as a contractor is provided.

## **2) The Specific Document Dealing with Rules and Regulations Guiding the Project Bidding of Road Construction.**

When it comes to the specific document, “*Cahier des Clauses techniques Particulieres (CCTP) pour les Travaux de Rehabilitation de Voire*”. That is, “Specific Document of Rules and Regulations for Road Construction”, guides projects patterning to road infrastructures. It puts in place the technical requirements for the construction of roads in Cameroon. It deals with the presentation of the quality of the material to be used in road construction. This

document also puts in place the prerequisite of the mode of execution of the projects of road construction from the starting point of the project to the finishing and other sub-projects attach to road construction. These sub-projects include projects like the construction of bridges as well as the work of arts for the decoration and ‘finishings’ of the road construction. An informant Apongwun, (2020), a contractor asserted;

*As a contractor, you have to compete with the Chinese who are ready to bid for a contract even below the profit margin. At times when you are to go in for an offer because of fear of losing the contract your proposal leads you to carrying out contract without much profit. Contract business in the government sector is not more profitable as usual.*

Glaring examples are the Chinese companies that won the contracts to construct the Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe, the rehabilitation of the Ministerial Building Number One in the central town, the construction of the stretch of road at Mvog-Betsi, just to name a few in Yaoundé and out of Yaoundé like the 13km of road in the economic capital, Douala, for USD eighteen million (18,000,000), defeating other bidders who were at USD thirty million (30,000,000). The construction was very successful and completed on time ahead of the proposed time and appreciated by the donors and project owners. And the question or worry remains which is that of how does a road that others estimate to cost USA thirty million (30,000,000) ends up being realised by the Chinese at almost half the amount proposed by other contractors.

The big gab between proposals from Chinese and local contractors has resulted to discouragement and the closure of construction firms of individuals in this sector. To succeed in gaining a contract from the state, many who are still in the contract business go through the back door to lobby for state contracts. Many have to pay huge sums of money to individuals in the ministries to recommend them for contracts in those ministries. At times this money is taken and at last no contract is suggested and the contractors and the individuals end up in court for the payment of money that cannot be accounted for. During our interview with one of the contractors, he recounted how he gave close to sixty-five million (65,000,000fcfa) to a lady in one ministry who promised connecting the said contractor to the Minister so that when there is a big contract in the ministry, he should be recommended. This transaction took place four (04) years ago before our interview, and up to that day of our interview, no contract has been awarded him and no money given back. When this individual wanted his money back, it became a serious problem as the lady in question confessed not to have ever known that gentleman when the case was taken to the elements of law and order.

This corruption of state personnel to gain contracts is rampant and is causing more havoc in the area of the realisation of the state projects. Some projects are only known in books and had never been realised physically. Those projects realised are poorly carried out because money meant for projects have been misdirected into individual pockets, therefore, contributing to the poor execution of the contracts awarded. This money at times is not collected by an individual, but by a group of individuals through what is commonly known as the government bottle necks.

Therefore, for a project to be executed there is a process to follow. This process implies the contractor leaving from one office to another to follow up the files. As you move from office to office, meeting with different individuals, that is how you as a contractor have to lobby office staff for your file to go through. The lobbying implies spending money meant for the project to bribe those in the offices to treat your file. This explains why many of the state contracts are poorly and lately executed especially when they are awarded to the local contractors. For instance, as reported over the CRTV<sup>30</sup>, many road projects in Cameroon have been heavily delayed because they never attain rate of maturation before they were ever awarded.

In order to handle this problem during the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the National Road Board, the first to be chaired by the Prime Minister Joseph Dion Ngute, examined the issue with the view of contributing to the improvement of road projects in the country. To ensure the improvement, the Minister of Public Works Emmanuel Nganou Djomessi presented technical studies as the core of the maturation of road projects in Cameroon.<sup>31</sup> The technical studies being the core of the maturation of projects, especially road projects are not sufficient enough to handle the issue of improving the maturation of projects.

To clear the air, the counterpart of the Minister of Public Works Emmanuel Nganou Djomessi in charge of Public Contracts, Ibrahim Talba Mala, presented the architecture of contract award from start to the end of the project. From these presentations, the Prime Minister Chairperson of the National Road Board from the start said, Cameroon has recorded improvements on norms governing public contracts, enforce public private partnership and put

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<sup>30</sup> CRTV web, 7:30pm news November 11, 2020

<sup>31</sup> CRTV web, 7:30pm news November 11, 2020

in place mechanisms to accelerate payment of expropriation rates. The PM regretted that other projects such as the Yaoundé-Douala and Yaoundé-Nsimalen motor ways still suffer from poor maturations. He called on state holders of the road sector to conform to public contract rules. Given instructions for the drawing up and vulgarisation of a technical guide on the maturation of road projects in Cameroon.

Reducing the exorbitant costs of building and road construction projects that sometime surpass the normal rates as well as administrative bottlenecks are some of the issues the minister of Public Works has been addressing lately with partners to get good results at the end and on time.

Top on reducing cost of projects in Cameroon, are cost of preliminary studies, cost of indebts studies, disponibility of material notably bituminous tar for which its production unit is being envisaged. Exploitation of cheap material such as plastic to reduce dependent on bituminous tar that is very expensive and being imported into the country is necessary. This will reduce dependent on bituminous tar that adds to the cost of accusation of public work materials as well as payment of their bills to avoid delays.

To keep on addressing the situation of state contracts and contractors, the government officials have been discussing with partners on how to master the cost of construction leading to cost reduction and making the people to adjust themselves in what we are looking for and not what they intend to do for us. Certainly, it is approved that there will be reduction on the cost of projects constructions in Cameroon. If that is the case, can we therefore, say that there are functional manifestations despite the dysfunctions we have enumerated above? Our next subheading will be dedicated to presenting the functional manifestations that these structures are bringing to these localities.

#### **3.4.4.3 Functional Manifestations in Project Places**

Physical structures are put in place by individuals and these physical structures turn to modify the way of behaviour of individuals that live in these structures. This is in line with the explanation by the Chicago school on the study of the urban areas through the use of urban ecology which describes the structure of the city using models. According to Child and Russell, (1997:87), *“The urban ecology approach examines the relationship between people and the urban environment. In essence, this approach argues that human behaviour determines the overall layout of the urban environment, which in turn affects human behaviour.”* Question

seventeen (17) handled the collection of information on the functional behaviours of the members of the localities where the projects have been realized by the Chinese because of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. Statistical information gathered from the field on the functional manifestations are presented on table twenty-seven (26).

**Table 25: Functions Manifestations Seen as a Result of Chinese Projects**

No.	Locality	Functions manifestations		%
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	19	09	67.9
2	Lobo	17	03	85
3	Nachtigal	23	09	71.9
4	Mvog-Betsi	30	02	93.8
5	Mballa 2	32	08	80
6	Olembe	18	14	56.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>75.82</b>

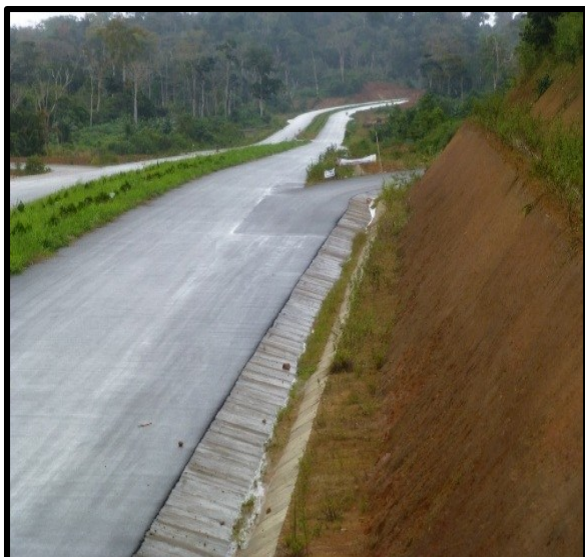
**Source:** Field Work 2020

Statistically, 75.82% of the individuals that responded to the questionnaire were for the fact that the coming of the structures in their communities have and are positively modifying the behaviours of individuals in the said communities. Only about 24.18% were of the fact that there are no functional manifestations with the coming of these structures in their localities.

To begin with, the putting in place of these structures have a positive impact on employment. Many have had something doing to earn a living with the putting in place of these structures. Though many are underemployed and some misemployed, there is a standing fact that these structures have and are acting as a source of employment to many young people that have been roaming around the streets in the localities without something doing. At the level of transport infrastructure development, many are in to bike riding that is making millions of youths busy. The phenomenon of road side vendors is also increasing with the construction and tarring of the roads in these localities.

The tarring has provided clean environment for many to spread out their goods to make them visible for their customers. Fast transportation of individuals as well as goods and services are noticed in the area of transport infrastructure.





**Photo 3a:** Cross section of the Yaoundé-Douala auto road at lobo.

**Source:** Mnkong, 06/09/2020



**Photo 3b:** Cross section of the new bridge and former canoe bark over river Sanaga at Nachtigal.

**Source:** Mnkong, 15/09/2020



**Photo 3c:** Cross section of the Mvog-Betsi road.

**Source:** Mnkong, 05/09/2020



**Photo 3d:** Cross section of the Yaoundé Nsimalen auto road.

**Source:** Mnkong, 02/09/2020

### **Plate 3: New Transportation Infrastructure Put in Place by the Chinese in Yaoundé**

As manifest function, areas where people engage in transportation could only have one trip, now have more because of the improvement of the structures put in place. People are easily transported to go and offer services in some corners of the city and be back to their place of residence the same day, something that could not happen before the putting in place of the structures. All these do not create only employment, but also help in the free circulation of money in the society. Apart from the transport infrastructure, the sporting infrastructure is also creating a lot of impact in its functional perspective.



**Photo 4: Sport Complex in Warda**  
**Source: Mnkong, 03/09/2020**

Different sporting activities are being practiced by many young people with the introduction and construction of sporting facilities. Many are into some sports that have enabled them to shine both nationally and even internationally thanks to the putting in place of these sporting facilities. So, there is transformation going on in the area of sports. Cameroon at the international level is popularly known for soccer, but with the putting in place of these sporting facilities the athletics and gymnastic talents are surfacing and the country is highly being represented by many young Cameroonians at the Olympic Games and many other international sporting competitions.

The country is not only being represented out there, but many other international sporting competitions are being hosted by Cameroon because of the presence and the availability of these sporting facilities especially the Sport Complex constructed by the Chinese. With the coming of these foreigners to the country, we do not only benefit from their presence in the sporting grounds, but also latent functions in other sectors of the economy like in the tourist sector. When these strangers come because of sports, they visit some tourist sites and spent some money as fee that also boost the economy. Sport fans and athletes as well as sport officials also have to spend time in the restaurants and hotels. Some go to the local markets and do shopping thereby buying food from the owners of these shops and vendors.

At the level of putting in place residential and office structures, there is the development of solidarity among fellow Cameroonians. With the introduction of co-ownership especially with the construction of Low-Cost Social Houses, mechanical solidarity which is considered by Durkheim, (1897), to be the type of solidarity practiced

in rural societies is manifesting itself in the city with those living in those co-ownership buildings. A society characterized by mechanical solidarity is unified because all people are generalists. The bond among people is that they are all engaged in similar activities and have similar responsibilities. Mechanical solidarity is solidarity of resemblance. As a member of the same group or collectivity they resemble each other, feel the same emotion, and cherish the same values. The mechanical solidarity prevails to the extent that ideas and tendencies common to all members of the society are greater in number and intensity than those which pertain personality to each member. This solidarity comes in and is manifested from when likeness is at its maximum and collective conscience completely envelops our whole conscience and coincides in all points with it. This solidarity can grow only in inverse ratio to personality. Here individual differences are minimized. In mechanical solidarity we find the strong states of the collective conscience.



**Photo 5a:** Ministerial building n° 1

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020



**Photo 5b:** Conference center (Palais des Congrès) in Yaoundé

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020



**Photo 5c:** Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe

**Source:** Mnkong, 04/09/2020

**Plate 4: Housing Infrastructures Put by the Chinese in Yaoundé**

This mechanical solidarity is manifested in the area of the usage of the common elements as well as in the co-ownership costs especially the general and special costs where the co-owners of a structure are to sit as a family and agree on the preservation, maintenance and administration of the common elements. They also come together to see how to go about to enhance the special cost which is occasioned by collective services and elements of the common facilities. Here we see people living in the city as family members, though they come from different parts of the country.

At the level of the offices, the offices that are hosted by a single structure enhance mechanical solidarity. Many who were separated from their colleagues from the same ministry can now work in the same structure or even in the same office. This has led to the creation of primary groups in the offices. Many in the same office share their personal situations with their colleagues, form meetings that enable them contribute money and assist one another financially and other wise.

### **3.5 Conclusion**

So far, this chapter had as objective to present findings on the implication of the Cameroonians in the realisation of structures constructed by Chinese in Cameroon. Findings were to be carried out in three levels. The first level was to carry out verifications on the implication of the Cameroonians at the level of the conception of the structures realised or to be realised by the Chinese in Yaoundé. The second level was to carry out investigations on how Cameroonians are involved at the stage of concretisation of realisation of the structures put in place by the Chinese. The last and not the least, was to look at how the Cameroonians are implicated after the completion or realisation of the structures put in place by the Chinese in Cameroon.

Specifically, most of the information obtained for this chapter was gotten through the use of questionnaire to the inhabitants, civil servants using the offices as well as those living in structures erected by the Chinese in Cameroon. We also had to interview as well as carry out observation and focus groups discussions to collect the information collected for this chapter.

From the data collected, the general tendency is that, at every level information was gotten. At the level of conception, the government is highly implicated with the inhabitants without any proper knowledge of what is to happen. This limited proper knowledge of what is to happen in the localities is seen for example, at the level of conception where inhabitants resist until it is time for destruction of property before some ever left the project sites. Some

occupy and put permanent and semi-permanent structures on state land and when dismissed from those areas, they claim that the government or her officials and agents are wicked and inhuman in their action to implement the construction of state structures to go on. Many complaints of not being compensated for their property to be or have been destroyed and even those that have been compensated go on with grudges of the fact that what they were due as a result of their property to be destroyed had not been given them.

At the level of being implicated at the executing stage, Cameroonians are engaged in two dimensions. The first area of being involved is at the level of gaining direct employment to work with the Chinese. At this level, very few Cameroonians are implicated in the execution of these projects. This is seen with a 20.62% rate of Cameroonians being employed. The few that are implicated are employed to do just some activities that require only common labour without high technical knowhow. Cameroonians with high technical knowhow are not needed by the Chinese as they have their technicians to do the difficult and highly needed technical knowhow activities. In most cases, these knowledgeable Chinese do not train the Cameroonians as they work with them. Most of their complicated executions are done in the nights when Cameroonian workers working with them have gone home. With those indirectly implicated, we have those who are self-employed and those who give out their property on rents for the execution of these projects. Even at this level just a small percentage of about 17.79% are being self-employed or indirectly implicated.

At the level of being implicated after the completion of the construction of the structures, we focused on the benefits and the losses incurred by the members of the societies where these structures are being put in place. This is in the spirit of “win-win relationship” wherein in order to gain or win you have to forgo one thing for the other. At this point, on the one side, the level of the feeling of losses by the population is at around 53.29%. On the other side the feeling of the benefits as a result of the putting in place of the structures in the localities by the Chinese stood at 69.5%. Benefits and losses were not only observed at the physical artefacts, but also at the level of functional and dysfunctional manifestations. Looking at this direction the dysfunctional activities manifestations are at a rate of 73.4 and functional tendencies are manifesting at the rate of 77.75%. This finding validates the hypothesis which states that; the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development does not fully implicate or involve the lives of local population in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular. The local population feel neglected and not sufficiently involved in the planning, execution and management of the infrastructure.

With these findings about co-construction of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, it is fundamental that we check at the other side of the coin on the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services. This other side of the coin in this “win-win relationship” is to investigate to see how the Chinese are implicated in the realisation of the structures they are carrying out in Cameroon. Chinese implication in the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon will be our preoccupation in chapter four (04).

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” IN COPRODUCTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

#### **4.0 Introduction**

This chapter shows the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services. Kambuudzi, (2013:29-45), characterizes the China-Africa relations in general as a give-and-take process with each side having something to offer and receive. We have seen the co-construction of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development in chapter three (3). In this chapter four (4) we shall verify to see the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services shown through Chinese implication from the point of conception, execution and after the execution of the infrastructures. To gather this information on Chinese, this chapter classifies and analysis from documents, observation and the questionnaire responded to by the Chinese involved in construction works in Cameroon in general and Yaounde in particular.

#### **4.1 Classification of the Questions in the Questionnaire to Chinese**

The analysis of the questionnaire, observation and the interview clarify us on the issues of how the Chinese are involved from the point of conception, execution as well as after the execution of the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese as a result of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon. The first part of this chapter discusses comparative advantage at the level of the implication of the Chinese at the conception stage of the projects. Here we shall concentrate on showing how the Chinese foreign policy easily complies with the conditions of winning contracts in Cameroon. Part two of this chapter shall handle the presence of the Chinese at the level of the execution of the projects and the third part shall handle comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services through the implication of the Chinese even when the execution of the contracts is over.

The sample of the questionnaire to Chinese is found on the appendix of this research work. To have a proper understanding of the activities of the Chinese at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon, the classification of the questions in the questionnaire to Chinese is done in table twenty-seven (27) that follows.

**Table 26: Classification of the Questions in the Questionnaire to Chinese**

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Verification</b>
Section one; 1 to 6	To gather general information on personality about our Chinese informants
Section one; 7 and 8	To collect data on issues that influenced Chinese to leave China for Cameroon
Section two; 1 to 6	To find out the status and the post occupied in the company executing the contract.
Section two; 7 to 9	To find out what Chinese are benefiting as they work in Cameroon and how these benefits extend to China
Section two; 9b-c and section three;5	To collect information on what Chinese are losing as a result of working in Cameroon
Section three; 1 to 4	To find out what will be of benefit to Chinese after completing the projects

**Source:** Author's Conception

The classification of the questions in the questionnaire to Chinese on table twenty-seven (27) is to enable us adequately carry out sociological diagnosis on the functioning of the Chinese in Cameroon especially at the level of infrastructural development. These questions are sub divided into three sections which depict the Chinese involvement in the development of the infrastructures from conception to the execution and their implications after the completion of the construction of the structures. Each section of the questionnaire carries questions that addresses a specific aspect of the Chinese involvement as presented subsequently.

#### **4.2 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Chinese Involvement at the Conception Level of Infrastructures**

The presence of the Chinese in the area of infrastructural development of Cameroon, is a vivid illustration and explanation of their contribution at the level of conception before execution. To have knowledge of the Chinese involvement at the level of conception of these projects is indispensable, yet we are going to start with examining the Chinese informants present on ground before getting to know how they have been involved at the level of conception of these projects. To have an understanding of the personality of the Chinese informants we consulted, we shall look at their social categories as questioned in section 'A' of the questionnaire to Chinese.



#### **4.2.1 The Social Categories of the Chinese Involved in Infrastructure Development in Cameroon**

Questions one (01), two (02), three (03) and four (04) were meant to discover the social category of Chinese working in the area of infrastructure in Cameroon. The social categories here have to do with general personal information that gives us inside of the gender, age, family status and languages spoken by our Chinese informants.

On the one hand, the female gender occupied 13% in the answering of the questionnaire responded to by the Chinese where they are carrying out construction projects. On the other hand, the male gender was the majority of individuals to respond to the questions in the questionnaire to the Chinese. They occupied 87% in the answering of the questionnaire. This brings to board the fact that most of the Chinese who migrate to Cameroon to carry out infrastructure construction are mostly of the male gender. Gender job description plays a lot in the determination of the Chinese gender highly involved in construction work. Construction work has to do with driving of heavy-duty machines, carrying of heavy loads which demand for physical strength that the male gender likely provides than the female gender. So, many who migrate from China to Cameroon in regard to construction work are mostly of the male than the female gender. The number of the female gender that is also into construction works in Cameroon is not all that insignificant. These Chinese of both sexes are of different ages.

In order to have a better understanding of the ages of the Chinese involved in infrastructural development in Cameroon, we classified the ages into five (05) categories. The first category has to do with those who are eighteen (18) years and below. The group is made up of young children and teenagers who are getting towards entering the world of work and early adulthood. From our findings through answering of questionnaire to the Chinese, there are no Chinese working in infrastructural construction in Cameroon that are eighteen (18) years and below. The first category that answered the questionnaire are those of age bracket between nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25) years. The highest number that answered the questionnaire were of this age bracket of between nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25) years. In the continuum of life span, individuals of this age group are directed and attracted towards adulthood in terms of incorporation of achievement values, universalisation and functionally adhering to adult activities

Most individuals that responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese are of the age range of nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25) years occupying 38% of the number that answered the

questionnaire. The labour force consists of all the individuals aged sixteen (16) and above, yet the greater number of the Chinese involved in infrastructure construction in Cameroon are those from nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25) years which are in the age group considered to be opportunists. This age group of opportunists from seventeen (17) to twenty-seven (27) years according to Livinson quoted by (Laverne, 1995:152), consists of two (02) slightly contradictory objectives as the individual is expected to avoid strong commitments that would make it difficult for him to take advantage of new opportunities on the one hand, and on the other hand, the young adult is expected to become a responsible member of the society so as to form a stable life structure. Many who have decided to follow their career have opted to come to Cameroon. This option is also directed to the fact that this age period is also characterised by development of a dream of accomplishment. At this age every effort is put in what one aspires in life as his or her dreams. Here the accomplishment of dreams is at the centre of every activity. You can do and undo just to see that you follow your heart desire. At this stage of life, you see how the influence of the peer group highly dominates the life of an individual as they sort to fulfil their heart desires no matter the cost. Also, individuals at this age at times can accept any condition to get what wanted to achieve in life without looking at the consequences involved in the engagement in the long run. This has to do with determination that at times does not last for long. So, one of the dreams of these young Chinese are to work in foreign countries for international experiences. This should be one of the factors that contributed to their choice of Cameroon, to come such as to gain more experience in their various domains of work as they labour in Cameroon for the infrastructural development of the country.

The next age category is that which range between twenty-six (26) to thirty (30) years. According to social psychologist Livinson, the age range of twenty-six (26) to thirty (30) is considered to be the most active group that is getting into life with a lot of aspirations, but easily give up and change decisions as occasions change. They are a group that change occupations to another so often. Many of them easily give up when faced with changes or difficulties. This category occupies 30% of the Chinese that have migrated and are working in the area of infrastructural development of Cameroon. This percentage of thirty (30) takes the second position after the first category with 38%.

The third age range that answered the questionnaire to the Chinese are those from thirty-one (31) to forty (40) years. This age range of thirty-one (31) to forty (40) years occupied 27% of those that responded to our questionnaire to the Chinese. They occupied second but

last position, as the last percentage that responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese was 5%, occupied by those of age forty (40) and above. The other age group eighteen (18) and below did not occur among those who responded to our questionnaire to the Chinese carrying out construction activities in Cameroon for the infrastructural development of the country.

These expatriates from China to Cameroon involved in construction of infrastructure are of different marital status. We had to check on marital status in three (03) principal domains. These marital domains have to do with those who are either single – that is, bachelors and spinsters, those who are married and lastly, those who have either divorced, or are widows or widowers.

The information on marital or family status as well as the ages give us a clear picture of the type of Chinese working in the area of construction in Cameroon. We now have an idea of the ages as well as their family status and this permits us to go further to understand their living conditions as they stay and work in Cameroon. The living conditions of the Chinese who have migrated to be working in Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development will be our preoccupation in the subtitle that follows.

#### **4.2.2 The Cohabitation of Chinese Involved in Projects**

The people that leave China for Cameroon for construction reasons need habitation. Migrating from one place to another poses the challenge of where to stay. When it comes to the place of habitation, many things come to mind. When you travel especially to an unknown or new environment, the safer place to stay can be a hotel, motel, or an inn. The touristic habitations facilities are very costly especially when you have to be lodged for a long period of time in the places like hotel, motel or inn where people are expected to pass some short period of time in those facilities. With construction works that usually take months and at times years for the project to be accomplished. With the duration for the realisation of construction projects, the contractors prefer constructing temporary habitation structures that can keep workers and materials for the construction work. For those who come for working purposes like those Chinese that we carried out observation, are living in the camps and those camps are presented on plate five (05).



**Photo 6a: Chinese Camp at Ahala**  
Source: Mnkong, 02/09/2020



**Photo 6b: Chinese camp at Mkometou II**  
Source: Mnkong, 15/09/2020



**Photo 6c: Chinese camp at Nachtigal**  
Source: Mnkong, 15/09/2020

### **Plate 5: Chinese Camps in Yaoundé**

Living together have links such as with friends, family members and other relations. There is need to have an understanding of how the Chinese live together in their camps. In the camps, living is strategized. On the one hand, some live alone and some with their friends. On the other hand, some live with family members such as with their parents, wife or husband as well as with child or children. Statistics gathered from the questions on the questionnaire to Chinese that has to do with the residential situation of the Chinese involved in infrastructure construction in Yaoundé are presented on table twenty-eight (28).

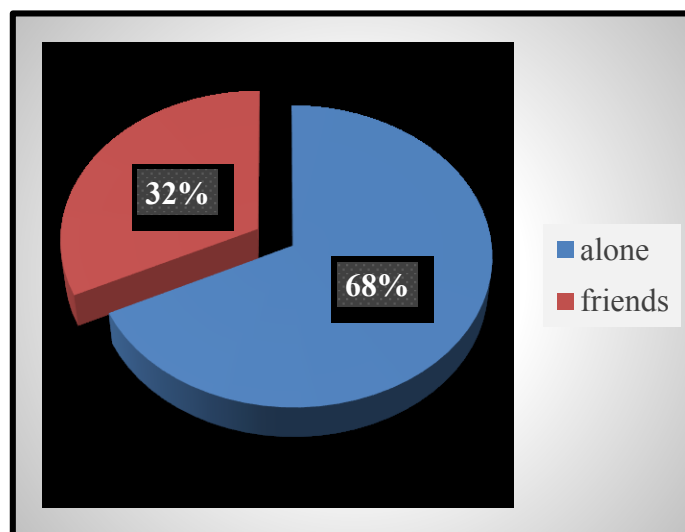
**Table 27: Cohabitation of Chinese Involved in Infrastructure Development in Cameroon**

No.	Locality	Cohabitation of Chinese in Yaoundé					Place of residence	
		alone	friends	parents	wife	Husband	camp	renting
1	Ahala	09	06	/	/	/	15	/
2	Lobo	13	/	/	/	/	13	/
3	Nachtigal	08	07	/	/	/	15	/
4	Mballa 2	08	05	/	/	/	13	/
<b>Totals</b>		<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>00</b>

Source: Field Work 2020

From the information presented on table twenty-eight (28), the Chinese that have migrated and are involved in construction works in Cameroon live in Chinese camps. These camps are constructed by the contractors of the Chinese building construction companies that win contracts in Cameroon. Out of the fifty-six (56) Chinese that answered the questionnaire to Chinese, all of them live in the camps. In order to go into details, we had to investigate to know how Chinese live in their camps. To get this information on how Chinese live in their camps, question five (05), in section 'A' of the questionnaire to Chinese was formulated.

This question was to find out how Chinese cohabit in their camps. Information received showed that in the Chinese camps, most of the individuals living there, live alone or with friends in their various rooms as presented on figure twenty (20).



**Figure 20: Percentages (%) of Living Situation in Chinese Camps of Informants that Answered the Questionnaire to Chinese**

Source: Data Collected from Table Thirty (30)

Those living alone in Chinese camps occupy 68% of the informants that responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese. The second group after those living alone, are those living with their friends. As they stay in the camps, some pair up to live in a single room. Those living with friends occupy 32% of those who answered the questionnaire to the Chinese. No Chinese from those who responded to the questionnaire indicated that they are living with family members. Even those who responded that they are married, their spouses are left back in China as they come to work in Cameroon they do not migrate with their families. Before coming to work in Cameroon, we ought to know how Chinese get to win contracts or are involved at the conception level of the projects they are actively present and taking part in the construction. This is the situation to have an understanding of what facilitates the implication of the Chinese at the level of conception of the infrastructures they construct in Cameroon.

#### **4.2.3 The Facilitating Instruments for the Implication of the Chinese**

One indirect consequence of the laws which allows the free formation of contracts, for example, is that salesmen spend much of their time traveling to solicit and maintain orders from buyers. This is not enforced by the laws of contract, but nevertheless is conditional upon their existence. Generally, according to the project bidding policy adopted by the Cameroon government to give out projects to contractors, the best bidder is awarded the execution of the contract.<sup>32</sup> When it comes to general rules guiding project bidding in Cameroon we have, “*Cahier des clauses techniques particulières (CCTP)*”, *Reglement general de l’appel d’offres (RGAO)*, as well as “*Commission Central De Passation des Marchés des Services et des Prestations Intellectuelles (CCPM-SPI)*”.<sup>33</sup> In this “Central Commission of The Award of Contracts and The Delivery of Intellectual Services,” we have the procedures guiding the national as well as the international calls for project bidding. This document provides us with general rules and regulations for call for bidding for the projects in Cameroon as previously presented in chapter three (03) of this research work.

According to the CCPM-SPI, the authorities of the contract select the candidates that their names are found in the invitation letter that have in line with the specific selection method found in the particular rules and regulations for calls for bidding (RPAO). This is to prove that before we see the Chinese in the field carrying out any project, they must have passed through

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<sup>32</sup> Information from one of the contractors we had an interview with.

<sup>33</sup> Document *Commission Central De Passation des Marchés des Services et des Prestations Intellectuelles (CCPM-SPI)* in the appendices of this thesis.

this first stage of submission. At this level, they are invited to submit an administrative document, technical propositions and financial proposals for the delivery of the necessary services which would serve for the designed mission in the terms of reference.

These proposals would serve as a base for the contract negotiation and during the terms of the signing of the contract with the candidate maintained. The candidate has to be informed of the local conditions and taking into consideration in his or her establishment of their propositions. To have first-hand information on the mission and local conditions, it is recommended to contractors of the national as well as those at international level to take part in the preparatory proposal conference before submitting their proposals. To go forward the contractors or their representatives have to contact the responsible government authorities mentioned in the RPAO to organise for a visit or obtain the complementary directives on the preparatory meeting. They have to make sure that those in charge have signed their visit so as to take appropriate dispositions.

To assist the contractor, on the one hand, the project owner (the government through the ministry in charge of the given project to be realised) provide specific inputs in the terms of reference to help the contractor to obtain the license and the necessary permission for the service delivery and furnish their data as well as reports necessary to the pertinent project. On the other hand, the contractor has to furnish objectives and impartial professional advice in all circumstances to defend the interest of the master of the project without putting within any eventuality cost of later mission. This is such that he avoids scrupulous possibility of conflict with other activities or with the interested activities of the society. In order to do away with conflict, the following are put in place in the RPAO;

- Clarifications and modifications from the specific documents of call for bidding to be used,
- The establishment of both the technical and financial proposals,
- The submission, reception and the opening of the proposal procedures,
- The enlightenment on the evaluation of proposals procedures. This is done from taking into consideration generalities, to the evaluation of technical and financial proposals,
- This is followed by information on negotiations between the contracting party and the government representatives of the project in question. In most cases those who represent the government of Cameroon are from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development or from the Ministry of Public Works,
- The rules for the attribution of the contract publication of results,

- The general rules and regulations, confidentiality, and finally
- Signing of the contract and definite bond.

Before these activities take place, looking at our literature review, much has been put in place to show how accords are being signed for the financing and agreements on this or that structure by the Chinese in Cameroon. So, at the administrative level, before the facilitating document, the “win-win relationship” is shaped in such a way that projects are negotiated between the Chinese and Cameroonian governments before the contractors come in to follow the bidding process that at times is just for public show as Chinese have already indicated in the financial aspects to finance the projects through loans or financial offers of different types from their financial institutions.

From every indication for a contractor to be awarded a contract, he or she must have studied the project and brought convincing presentations for evaluation that attracts the interest of the master of the project. When the conditions required are accomplished then the contract is handed to such a contractor. Many contracts, in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular won by external contractors, are in the hands of Chinese contractors. As they win these contracts they get into realising them. Our next subtitle of this chapter will be to examine the implication of the Chinese during the realisation of the infrastructures constructed by the Chinese in Yaoundé.

### **4.3 Comparative Advantage at the Level of the Implication of Chinese During the Realisation Phase of Structures**

From the outset, looking at things superficially we can say that there is no need seeking to understand how the Chinese are implicated at the realisation stage, since they are those carrying out the construction, which is the visible and clear indication of their active involvement at the realisation stage. Yet, we are to look at the dimension of the Chinese construction firms’ involvement as well as other aspects of the Chinese implication at the realisation stage which is one of the crucial and visual presentations of the presence of Chinese in the infrastructural development of Cameroon. Construction boom and price competitiveness of Chinese firms have led to the proliferation of Chinese contractors working mainly on infrastructure projects. Chinese are involved in a number of ways during the realisation of structures to be realised as a result of “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon



especially in Yaoundé. At the very first stage we have many Chinese companies and entrepreneurs that are actively involved in construction work in Cameroon.

From the activities under the control of these companies and entrepreneurs, come the creation of jobs that bring about the employment of many jobless Chinese. Joblessness and unemployment is a global phenomenon that affects all the societies and nations of the world. Countries in relationship with one another in one way or the other seek to create employment to her citizens in one way or the other. This is without exception of whether it is an industrialised or least industrialised nation. The Chinese involvement in the construction works in Cameroon comes along with the creation of jobs to the citizens of the People's Republic of China.

This job creation comes in two folds – through direct employment during the execution of the projects and indirect employment manifested through activities and activities related to the execution of the projects. Moreover, the execution of these projects bring about direct employment, and instruments and materials needed for this work create some sort of indirect employment to both Chinese in Cameroon and those in China. We shall start to look at the implication of the Chinese at the realisation stage by bringing out the Chinese construction companies and what they have realised or are currently realising in Cameroon. After the presentation of the companies and what they have done or are doing in Cameroon we shall then look at how their activities are bringing about extended multiple effect in China especially at the industrialisation sector.

#### **4.3.1 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Chinese Construction Companies in Cameroon.**

Talking on infrastructural development of Cameroon with the assistance of China without verifying to have an idea of the number of Chinese construction companies operating in Cameroon is injustice on the part of this research work. To do away with this injustice it is crucial to bring to limelight, the Chinese construction companies involved in construction work in Cameroon. There are so many Chinese companies present in Cameroon. Chinese companies in Cameroon are into sectors such as mining, agriculture, businesses of different kinds as well as telecommunication and infrastructural construction. In fact, according to Improved China Africa Partnership Boosts Cameroon China Ties; *“Chinese companies started coming to Cameroon in 1982. We now have 10 Chinese state companies operating in Cameroon, more and more Chinese enterprises, whether public or private, are seeking investment opportunities*

*in Cameroon in various fields.*”<sup>34</sup> That is, these companies are involved in different economic activities. Those of interest to this study are those involved in construction works. From our findings we have over nine (09) Chinese construction companies for now, carrying out construction works at different levels and magnitudes in different Regions and localities in Cameroon and they include among others the following as presented successively in the preceding paragraphs.

#### **4.3.1.1 The China National Society of International Economic and Technical Cooperation of Shenyang (CSYIC).**

The first Chinese construction company in our list is The China National Society of International Economic and Technical Cooperation of Shenyang (CSYIC) which was founded in 1984<sup>35</sup>. Prior to the founding of this organization, was the municipality of Shenyang in charge of public construction works in Shenyang. CSYIC took over directly from the municipality of Shenyang immediately after its creation in 1984.

Shenyang is the provincial capital of Liaoning in the northeast of China. Located in the northeast of China which is the economic and cultural Centre, financial and commercial circle, CSYIC is at a roundabout of advantages. Shenyang is the northeast China’s transport hub, the railroad; the road extends to all directions, Taoxian international airport route to all over the world. This geographical and geopolitical position of CSYIC has an economic favourable climate that constitutes a unique advantage that leads the company to success and to glory. CSYIC is the unique enterprise under the Shenyang municipality for now that has realised projects out of China.

CSYIC has and is still executing many state aids projects or projects financed by the preferential loans of the state of China to other countries like Cameroon. This company is present in more than seventy-five (75) countries of the world. Cameroon is one of these seventy-five (75) countries that have welcomed CSYIC. In Cameroon, the China National Society of International Economic and Technical Cooperation of Shenyang (CSYIC) is disposed of a very strong technical capacity with an enrolment of about three hundred (300) employers or workers. About 90% of these workers are technicians and engineers.

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<sup>34</sup> Improved China Africa Partnership Boosts Cameroon China Ties, [<http://news.cameroon-today.com/china-cameroon-africa/697/#ixzz2yWJE7JPD>], Visited 13-6-2021

<sup>35</sup> 40<sup>eme</sup> Anniversaire des Relations Sino-Camerounaises 1971-2011 p. 22

In Cameroon, CSYIC has realised a number of projects all over the territory. In Yaoundé, CSYIC is involved in the management of the Yaoundé Conference Centre, constructed in the 1970s, and officially handed to Cameroon in 1982. This building was constructed by International Body of Shaanxi Construction Engineering Group Corporation (TIEC). Since the structure was handed to Cameroonians, CSYIC has sent a number of technical mission assistance officials to help their Cameroonian colleagues in their frame work of management and maintenance going on in the Conference Centre.

CSYIC has also helped in the repair of the Yaoundé community hall. The work of repair envisaged by Yaoundé municipality around the community hall was executed by CSYIC in 1999 and 2006. This place has received a new look after the construction of a fountain, the installation of stylish lightning system, and supplementary sound system. In order to strengthen relations between Shenyang and Yaoundé municipalities, using symbols, a magnificent symbolic sculpture of friendship has been constructed by CSYIC in front of the Yaoundé community hall as presented on photo 7b.



**Photo 7a: Conference Centre (Palais des Congrès) in Yaoundé**

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020



**Photo 7b: Symbolic sculpture of friendship between CSYIC and Yaoundé municipality**

**Source:** Mnkong, 03/09/2020

### **Plate 6 : Symbolic Structures Constructed by CSYIC**

In the frame of efforts put in place by the Cameroon government to ameliorate the housing conditions of Cameroonians, CSYIC has been given the project of the construction of one thousand five hundred (1500) Low Costing Social Houses in the cities of Cameroon of

which those of Yaoundé were constructed at Olembe. This project was funded by a preferential loan financed by Exim Bank of China. After the presentation of CSYIC, the second Chinese construction company to present is CFHEC.

#### **4.3.1.2 China First Highway Engineering Cooperation Limited (CFHEC)**

China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd (CFHEC) is one of the Chinese construction firms that founded a branch in Cameroon in 1994. That is, China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd Cameroon Office (CFHEC-CO). It is CFHEC-CO that is involved in the construction of the Yaoundé-Douala Motorway. China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd (CFHEC) was founded in April 1963 with her headquarters in Beijing, capital of China<sup>36</sup>.

To achieve her ambitions in Cameroon, China first highway engineering Co. Ltd created China first highway engineering Co. Ltd Cameroon Office. This office is located at Bastos, opposite the American embassy. This branch office was created to take care of her activities in Cameroon. CFHEC-CO is with general assets of forty-two (42) million USD and total staff accounting for over one thousand five hundred (1500). CFHEC-CO is part of China's communication construction company, that is, one of the fortune global five hundred (500) Companies all over the seven continents of the world.

Founded in 1994 in Cameroon, CFHEC-CO engages not only in various road-bridge-tunnel construction and municipal works, but also in the engineering design and consultancy. In it's more than twenty (20) years in Cameroon, CFHEC-CO has completed more than twelve (12) highway projects. As of 2011, it had over six (6) other projects underway with a total value of over one hundred and eighty (180) million USD. CFHEC-CO is currently involved in the construction of the Yaoundé-Douala Motorway. "At completion, this road is expected to benefit trade for the entire Central African Sub region, particularly Central African Republic and Chad that rely on Douala for much of their trade."<sup>37</sup> It will be the first-grade motorway in Cameroon in particular and Central Africa in general. From the presentation of CFHEC and CFHEC-CO, the next Chinese construction company to be presented is Huawei Marine.

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<sup>36</sup> Information collected from the China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd Cameroon Office (CFHEC-CO) notice board in Nkolokoumou PK0 a neighborhood of Yaoundé.

<sup>37</sup> In.reuters.com/article/2012/07/03/cameroon-china-highway-idINL6E8137UE20120703, visited 8-7-2021

### 4.3.1.3 Huawei Marine

Chinese intervention in the information technology sector in Cameroon is rapidly growing and has the potential to have a much bigger impact on people's daily lives. Huawei Marine was engaged in laying down high-capacity submarine optic fibre cables, known as Nigeria-Cameroon Submarine Cable System (NCSCS) as well as the installation of satellite to enable at least ten thousand (10,000) African villages to have access to television channels.



**Photo 8: Programme for the Installation of Satellite by the Chinese**

**Source:** Mnkong, 09/09/2020

This optic fibre cable runs from Kribi in Cameroon to the main one landing station in Lagos in Nigeria which has been linking Nigeria to Europe since 2012. In May 2018, Huawei Marine, partnering with China Unicom and Cameroon Telecommunications (Camtel) began laying the six thousand (6,000) km-long South Atlantic Inter Link (SAIL) cable system from Kribi in Cameroon to Fortaleza in Brazil.

Huawei has also been the Chinese company putting in place Cameroon's lone optic fibre backbone managed by the state-owned corporation - Camtel, across the national territory. The optic fibre backbone has connected the different towns of the country, universities and other public structures. Mobile telephone network service providers operating in the country, including Orange Cameroon, MTN Cameroon and Nextel (Cameroonian subsidiary of Viettel), have had to rely on Huawei to provide 3G/4G mobile internet services to their subscribers.

### 4.3.1.4 China's Sichuan Telecommunications Construction Engineering Co. Ltd

This is the company that was charged with the production of five hundred thousand (500,000) laptops branded PB HEV (Paul Biya – Higher Education Vision), for the higher

education students in Cameroon. According to (Amindeh, 2018), on one student, one Chinese laptop assert;

*As part of e-National Higher Education Network project being put in place by government, China's Sichuan Telecommunications Construction Engineering Co. Ltd is also tasked to construct, equip and commission nine university digital development centres to facilitate e-learning and e-administration.*

When these structures have been put in place, they will align Cameroon with international digital teaching norms. From the China's Sichuan Telecommunications Construction Engineering Co. Ltd, the next Chinese construction company carrying out construction works in Cameroon is China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd-Cameroon (CHEC).

#### **4.3.1.5 China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd-Cameroon (CHEC).**

It is the engineering contractor providing infrastructure construction, such as marine engineering, dredging and reclamation, road and bridges, railways, airports and plant construction.<sup>38</sup> CHEC is the Chinese construction company that was in charge of the construction of the Kribi Deep Sea Port in the South Region. The Kribi Deep Sea Port is considered the largest seaport in Central and West Africa.<sup>39</sup> From China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd-Cameroon (CHEC), the next company is The China Railway Construction.

#### **4.3.1.6 The China Railway Construction**

The China railway construction had talks with the Cameroonian government on the possibility of tarring the Ebolowa Akom II-Kribi roads. According to (Gwodok, 2019:6), “*contact was made with the China Railway Construction Bureau Group Ltd during President Biya's visit to China during which he invited Chinese companies to invest in Cameroon*”. The company is state owned and is classified among the top five hundred (500) construction companies in the world.

The company has a branch in Cote d'Ivoire and is aiming to establish another in Cameroon. The company is involved in all forms of infrastructural development, railway

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<sup>38</sup> CHEC China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd-Cameroon, [<https://www.cameroun.minajobs.net>], visited 9-07-2021

<sup>39</sup> State Visit of His Excellency Paul Biya to the People's Republic of China, official website of the president of the Republic of Cameroon, [<https://www.prc.cm>], visited 12/08/2020

construction, roads and buildings. After The China railway Construction Company is the China Sinohydro construction company Ltd.

#### **4.3.1.7 China Sinohydro Construction Company Ltd**

This Chinese construction company reached a preliminary agreement to take over the construction of Memve ele hydropower station in the South Region of Cameroon. The Menve ele project involved building a dam on the Ntem River in Cameroon's South Region, a road to the project site, a power plant and electricity transmission lines to link it to the national grid. The construction of this Memve ele hydropower station is not only beneficial to Cameroon alone, but also to the neighbouring countries of the country. The northern parts of Congo Republic, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea are also due to benefit the electricity. China Sinohydro Construction Company Ltd has been rebuilding infrastructures in Angola since the end of its civil war in 2002. It is this company that is in charge of building of ministerial structures at Mballa 2. Next in line after China Sinohydro Construction Company Ltd, is China National Machinery Industry (Sinomach).

#### **4.3.1.8 China National Machinery Industry (Sinomach)**

China National Machinery Industry (Sinomach) is the Chinese construction industry that is in charge of the construction of water system that will tap water from River Sanaga at Nachtigal to increase the water supply in the city of Yaoundé and its environs.

#### **4.3.1.9 Shaanxi Construction Engineering Group Corporation (TIEC)**

Shaanxi Construction Engineering Group Corporation (TIEC) was established in 1950. It is among the best five hundred (500) Chinese corporations operating around the world. The company has constructed projects in more than ten (10) countries and regions, with Yaoundé Stadium in Cameroon rehabilitated in preparation for the 2021 African nations cup. TIEC is a state-owned comprehensive construction enterprise with the highest qualification level and most qualified categories in Shanxi Province of China. It has a registered capital of over one (01) billion Yuan and an annual construction capacity worth more than ten (10) billion Yuan.

From the presentation of the Chinese construction companies working in Cameroon, one thing stands out very clear about them. This common characteristic is that all these companies are parastatal or state-owned Chinese companies. Another clear and common characteristic about these companies is that most of the projects under their control are those

financed by China. We have had the level of involvements of the Chinese at the stage of realisation of the projects constructed by Chinese in Cameroon through the presentation of the presence of the Chinese construction companies which are nine (09) in number to show how active the construction department of China is present and active in Cameroon. The next level which will be our preoccupation in the next subtitle is to see how the presence of these Chinese construction companies are creating employment to Chinese both in Cameroon and China.

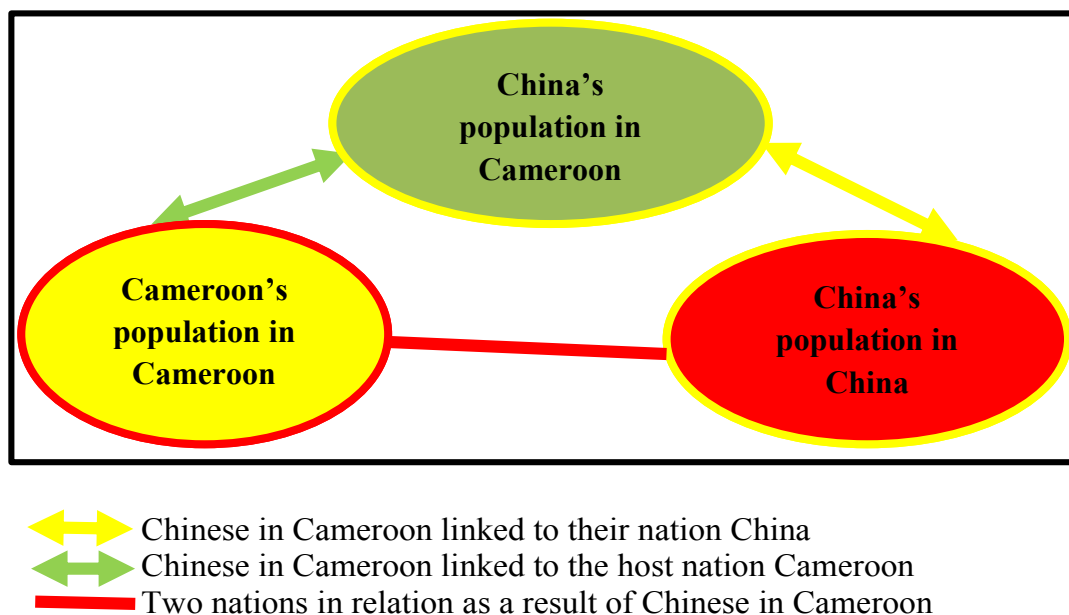
#### **4.3.2 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Implication of Chinese during the Realisation of Structures in Yaoundé**

China's aid is mainly targeted toward financing infrastructure projects built by Chinese companies as noticed from the presentation of the active presence of Chinese construction industries in the realisation of the various projects in Cameroon. The presence of these construction companies act as an eye opener to the notification of the presence of individuals from China in Cameroon. The Chinese population in Cameroon forms part of a triangular social structure.

The triangular social structure is a projection of the involvement of three sets of individuals. These three sets of individuals are the Cameroonians, the Chinese in China and the Chinese living in Cameroon and act as a link to their native country and to the host nation, and is activated by the practice of carrying out infrastructure construction among other things. While these infrastructures may be beneficial for Cameroon, despite its problematic nature in some respect, it is certainly a power strategy and employment avenue for China, which participates in its realisation.

The participation of the Chinese living in Cameroon in the realisation of structures in the country reinforces the situation of solidarity. Within this solidarity, there is an overall triangular social structure that provides the main explanations for the phenomena of international and transnational solidarity between Cameroon and China. The triangular social structure and the phenomena of international and transnational solidarity is better illustrated on figure twenty-one (21).





**Figure 21: Triangular Social Structure and the Phenomena of International and Transnational Solidarity**

**Source:** Author's Conception

The Chinese, who have migrated to Cameroon to carry out infrastructural project either as labourers or contractors, relate with Cameroonians as well as with the rest of the Chinese back in China in one way or the other. In Cameroon, the Chinese interact with Cameroonians at different levels. At the level of infrastructural realisation by the Chinese in Cameroon, Chinese relate with Cameroonians at work either as employers or work partners in construction sites. As people who have migrated for work purposes and will go back to their home country when the tasked they are to carry in Cameroon is over, they think of home and act like strangers in Cameroon with the intention of not staying in Cameroon forever. This mind set brings about ethnocentrism and even shape the way of behaviour of the Chinese in Cameroon as they work and consider themselves and their culture to be superior to that of their Cameroonian counterparts. All these react upon one another and also upon economic basis. This does not mean that at any particular point in time the whole of social life is economically determined or that everyone is guided by economic motives in their actions. This mind set keeps them linked to their home land and the benefits accrue from their labour in Cameroon is transferred to China.

The transfer of these benefits is a strong link between Chinese in Cameroon and those in their home country. At the end of the day, their experiences during their stay in Cameroon also act as a relationship bridge between the two states. As shown on figure twenty-nine (29),

the yellow arrow indicates Chinese in Cameroon linked to their nation and the green arrow shows how the Chinese in Cameroon are linked to the host nation. Thus, because or as a result of their come-together, the red now indicates how the two nations are linked together.

These colours are not selected in disorder as they are found on the national symbols (the flags) of the both countries. The three colours green, red and yellow stand as a symbolic representation of the flags of the two nations. While the red plays a double function of representing part of the colours of the Cameroon flag, it is also outstanding as the mean colour of the flag of the People's Republic of China. That is why the Chinese population in China is in the red circle. The Chinese in Cameroon are in green with an implication that they are out for greener pastures as per say (searching for greener pastures and have found them in Cameroon). That is to say, the Chinese are out for business - looking for where to invest and also for where to gain lucrative jobs and avenues of employment as shall be proven by the data collected from our field work. The idea of Chinese searching for where to invest, takes us to discuss on the issue of job creation to the population of the Peoples Republic of China both in Cameroon as well as to those back in Asia benefiting from what is harvested here respectively at the level of infrastructural realisation in the Cameroonian geopolitical territory.

#### **4.3.2.1 Comparative Advantage in Job Creation for Chinese in Cameroon**

The construction of infrastructures in Cameroon by the Chinese have created job opportunities for the Chinese in Cameroon of different educational levels and professional qualifications. The job market is a market with complex characteristics. In the job market, both nationally and internationally, labour is determined by what individuals can offer. What you can offer depends on your specialisation. Specialists come into function with professional qualifications which is determined by type and level of education (which can either be formal or informal training). Questions one (01) and two (02) of section two (02) of the questionnaire distributed as well as collected from the Chinese handles investigation on the level of education and professional qualification of the Chinese in the construction sites in Yaoundé. Table twenty-nine (29) gives us statistics on these key points about the qualifications and the levels of education of the Chinese doing construction work in Cameroon.

**Table 28: Educational and Professional Qualifications of Chinese Involved in Infrastructural Development in Cameroon**

No.	Locality	Educational qualification					Professional qualification			
		NL	PE	SE	HE	PR	Engi	Tech	Lab	Others
1	Ahala	/	/	/	15	/	08	03	02	02
2	Lobo	/	/	/	13	/	10	02	/	01
3	Nachtigal	/	/	/	15	/	06	05	02	02
4	Mballa 2	/	/	/	10	03	07	03	01	02
	<b>Total</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>07</b>

No = number, N L= no level of education attended, PE = primary education, SE = secondary education, HE= higher education, PR = Professional education, Engi = engineer, Tech = technician, Lab = labour

**Source:** Field Work 2020

From table twenty-nine (29), we can notice that most of the Chinese to Cameroon for the purpose of construction are mostly those who have attended at least higher education. Higher education here refers to those who have gone to the university. Almost all if not all as reflected from the statistics from the field, the Chinese involved in construction work in Cameroon are educated Chinese and not illiterates.

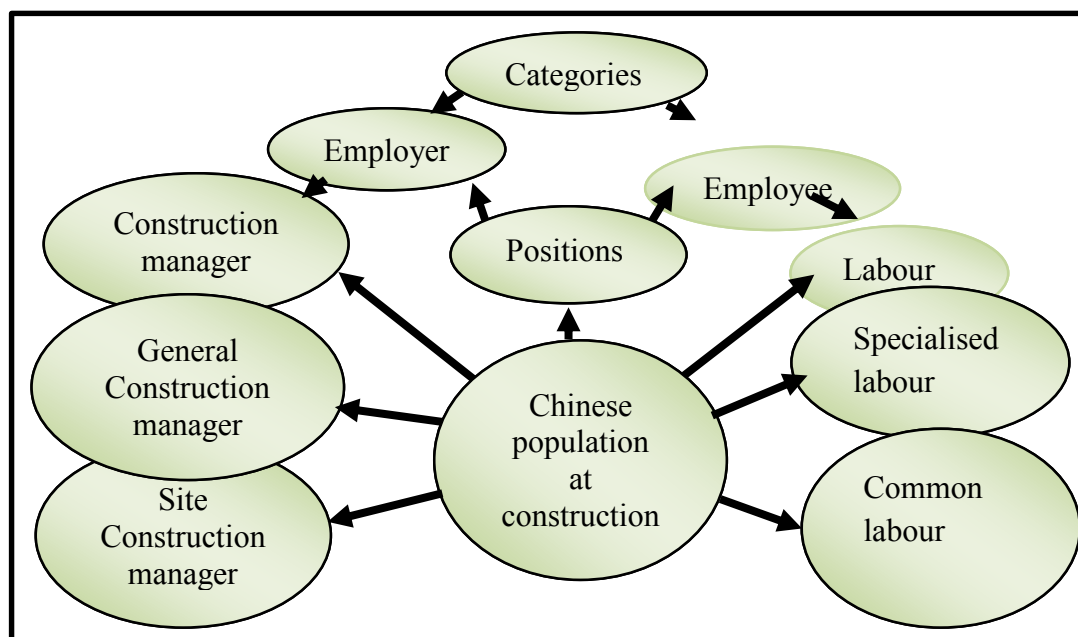
This explains why Chinese construction companies in Cameroon mostly go in for common labour and unskilled labour than skilled labour and technicians in the localities where they carry out projects. Many writers and researchers have always presented the poor or low level of involvement of the localities in Chinese construction works in Africa without bringing out the factors that might be contributing to that behaviour. From the look of things with results showing the labour of China involved in construction work, education plays an important rule. From those who responded to the questionnaire to Chinese, almost all except three (03), had been to the university. The three (03) persons are not illiterates as one may think, instead those particular individuals had under gone professional education.

The educational qualification of the Chinese working in Chinese construction companies provides us with an understanding that the Chinese do not come to look for skilled labour for the contracts they have won in Cameroon, they come to look for job opportunities

for their skilled labour trained from China. So, the winning of a contract by Chinese construction company does not only guarantees financial benefits to the company owner (who in most cases are state owned companies) and other gains, but also ensure provision of employment to the Chinese skilled labour in the construction and other sectors of the economy. The Chinese employed to work in the Chinese construction companies are of different categories and positions as we shall see in the next subtitle of this thesis.

#### 4.3.2.2 Comparative Advantage in Positions and Categories of Chinese Workers in Project Sites

The presence of China in Cameroon under the "win-win relationship" especially at the level of infrastructural development has created and is creating lucrative job opportunities to Chinese individuals. However, these opportunities are not exclusively to the Cameroonian people as we have already seen. It is quite the contrary, as many of these jobs are directly sourced to Chinese from China who immigrate to Cameroon in order to fulfil the labour requirements of these projects. This explains why the Chinese population in Cameroon is increasing at geometric progression over the years. At the level of infrastructural development, where many Chinese construction companies are carrying out work, the Chinese population are divided and spread out into different categories and positions as presented on figure twenty-two (22).



**Figure 22: Positions occupied and Categories of Chinese Workers in Projects Sites in Yaoundé**

**Source:** Author's Conception

There are two categories of Chinese we noticed in project sites. These two categories are employers and employees. The employers are those Chinese that employ both the Chinese and Cameroonians for the projects to be carried out. Some of the Chinese are purely employees who have been employed to carry out specific assignments given to them by their employers.

These employers and employees fall under various different positions in the construction sites. On the one hand, some of them have been given or are handling managerial positions such as construction managers which can be subdivided into general, regional, or site construction managers. On the other hand, some of the Chinese are employed as labour which is subdivided into specialised labour to carry out specialised tasks and common labour to do any type of manual work to be carried out at the projects' sites.

Often with Chinese projects, Chinese labour are given preference for the job opportunities. Chinese who migrate to Cameroon and only speak Chinese need interpreters. In fact, many of the Chinese individuals who have migrated from China to work in Africa do not speak French or English. It is then a necessity for them to have a local person who can assist them in their work with the local population. This type of employment benefits a certain part of the local population though many Chinese are now into the job of interpretation. From field observation, out of the seven Chinese that indicated for other professional qualifications, five (05) were into interpretation and the other two were financial analysts. Many Chinese firms do bring their own labour force for valid reasons including issues of:

Culture and a typical expectation that a Chinese worker will be very dedicated to his or her work and very productive as it is not regularly within their training background to complain or miss work except it is of vital necessity<sup>40</sup>. When a Chinese is to leave China to any African country and Cameroon in particular for any work, he or she is aware of what they are coming to do. According to Ateba Eyene, (2010:79), "*history holds that, Chinese have been slaves for their emperor and colonial masters. These people had worked hard to build China. So, work to Chinese is part and parcel of culture than just a means to earn a living*". As part of Chinese culture, work is not force, but an obligation inculcated in the society.

Another part of culture that influences the coming of Chinese to do work is language. Owing to the fact that Chinese workers from Chinese firms typically speak Chinese, it is considered a burden for some Chinese firms not to be able to communicate with the local

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<sup>40</sup> Almost all the Chinese complain of the phenomenon of Cameroonians coming late to work which is not part of Chinese culture.

workers. As a consequence, they call for work teams from China for many of their projects for communication becomes easier among Chinese than with non-Chinese.

These work teams are made up of workers of different categories and positions in the construction sites. Questions three (03), four (04), five (05), six (06) and seven (07) of section two (02) of the questionnaire to Chinese were framed to investigate about the categories, positions and type of activities in terms of work carried out by the Chinese in various projects sites. The categories and positions of the Chinese working at construction sites in Cameroon are presented on table thirty (30) eventually.

**Table 29: Professional Categories and Positions of Responsibility of Chinese in Projects Sites**

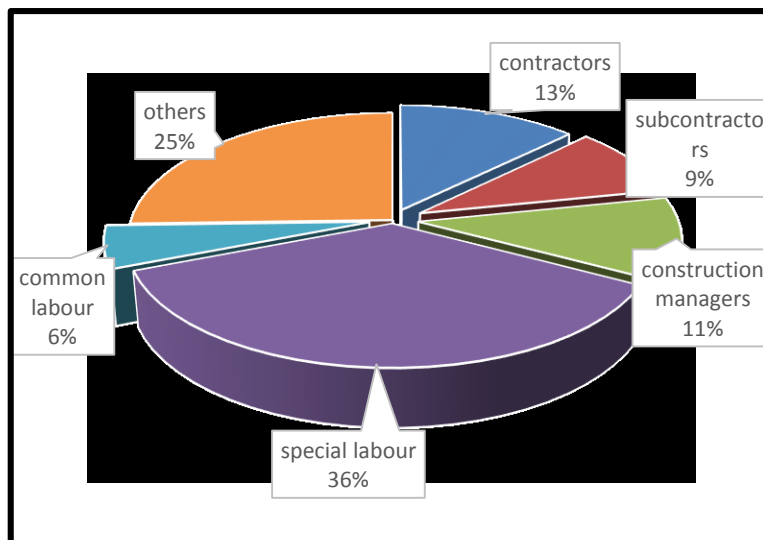
No	Locality	Prof. Cat.			Position of responsibility				
		emyer	emyee	Cont	subcont	Cns ma	Spc La	Cm La	others
1	Ahala	03	12	03	/	03	06	/	06
2	Lobo	/	09	/	03	/	03	/	03
3	Nachtigal	03	12	02	01	01	05	03	03
4	Mballa 2	04	09	02	01	02	06	/	02
<b>Totals</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>14</b>

Prof. Cat. = Professional categories, emyer = employer, emyee = employee, Cont = contractor, subcont = subcontractor, Cns ma = construction manager, Spc La = special labour, Cm La = common labour

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Looking at statistics collected from the field and presented on table thirty (30), we have the employers and the employees. Some of the employers are the contractors and others are subcontractors. Whether contractors or subcontractors, these employers have employed other Chinese as well as Cameroonians to be working under their control. In response to question five (05) of section two (02) of the questionnaire to the Chinese, some of the contractors and subcontractors have others that work under their control from about twenty (20) to over fifty (50) workers. They coordinate the activities of those under them to make sure that the task given is accomplished in due time as expected by the hierarchy of the company in order to meet the dead limit for the project contracted by the main contractor.

With the employees, they carry out different activities as well as hold different positions at the construction sites paying respect to those who are at the head as supervisors. These different posts of responsibilities are illustrated on figure twenty-three (23).



**Figure 23: Percentages (%) of Different Posts of Responsibilities Occupied by Chinese**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Thirty (30)

Specialised labour takes the greatest population of the Chinese working in Chinese projects in Yaoundé. This group of workers occupy 36% of the total population of the positions held by Chinese in the project sites. The next post in terms of majority, is others. Nevertheless, there are positions that do not need so many people as for example, when it comes to administration, we do not need many individuals to be at the helm of leadership. So, naturally, positions of leadership are occupied by a few that direct the masses.

These others are those whose posts of responsibilities were not earmarked by the researcher during the construction of the questionnaire. Nevertheless, there was room for those whose posts of responsibilities were not provided to specify on others. From this point many such as financial assistance, interpreters, and administrators who responded to the questionnaire indicated. That is to say that not only technicians and engineers and other technical names and positions work at the construction sites. The room for others occupied 25% being the second to the biggest population after the specialised labour.

After others in the order of quantity, the next post of responsibility that responded to the questionnaire are the contractors. The contractors are number three (03) in the posts of responsibilities with percentage of 13%.

From the contractors we have the last but not the least group of posts of responsibilities being the subcontractors, the common labour and the construction managers. Construction managers occupied 11% followed by subcontractors occupying 9% of our Chinese informants and finally the last group were the common labour occupying 6% of those who responded to

our questionnaire. All these individuals occupying different positions also carry out different activities. Some of the specific activities as presented by the Chinese informants include;

- Professional Technical Work
- Cost Management
- Interpretation
- Translation
- Secretariat Activities
- Administration
- Assistant Administration
- Architectural Work
- Driving
- Civil Engineering
- Accounting
- Building Construction
- Plumbing
- Electrification
- Carpentry
- Mechanic
- Cooking
- Heavy Engine Conducting, just to name a few.

Having seen the calibre of individuals who migrate from China to work in domains in construction in Cameroon, the next area of understanding we investigated will be to see whether only these people travel from China to Cameroon or they come along with objects. This has to do with the transfer of finished and semi-finished products from China to Cameroon. This is directing us towards seeing how the migration of Chinese to do work in Cameroon also facilitate to create room for the creation of a suitable market for products from China.

The provision of market for products from China empowers the working conditions especially in terms of creating sustainable employment to the Chinese back in China. If the production of goods and services have no market, then the production of such a product as well as the company in charge of the production will be short lived. So, construction work is acting as a chanel through which products produced from China can gain and influence demand and



supply. More about materials or products produced by Chinese industries living China to Cameroon will be our preoccupation in the next subheading.

#### **4.3.2.3 Comparative Advantage in Materials used by Chinese Workers in Projects Sites**

Construction work does not only have to do with technology, but also make good use of materials. These materials can be from the locality as well as can come from elsewhere as the need arises. The materials used in Chinese projects in Yaoundé come mainly from two directions. Some of the materials needed for construction come from the localities and the imported ones are mainly from China. Cameroon government has given the responsibility of checking the materials used in construction of public structures to some ministries and some infrastructure construction organisations in the country.

The ministries in charge of supervision of the materials as well as various state projects include; MINDU, MINMAP, ECOP, SIC, ARMP, and Labo Génie. MINDU and SIC were those in charge to check the materials of the project of the construction of the Low Cost Social Housing.

Generally, MINMAP is the authority that controls all the public contracts. The Ministry has assigned her workers to supervise the various projects of the state. Their main preoccupation is to see into it that the project is executed. L'ARMP (*Agence de Regulation des Marches Publiques*) is the special branch created just for the regulation of the public contracts. Nevertheless, attention in supervision by L'ARMP agent is mostly concentrated around the realisation of the projects than on the conditions of work faced by workers. There is need for the creation of an agent that should be in charge of socio-cultural aspects when it comes to construction of infrastructures in various communities.

As L'ARMP is in charge of the regulation of the public contracts, LABO GENIE is in charge of controlling the materials used in construction. The LABO GENIE controls the state of materials, the texture, and quality of the material used in the construction of works of the state infrastructures.

LABO GENIE also examines the combination or mixing of material. This is to ensure that the work done meet the required standards. From every indication as observed in the field and questioned through questionnaire to the Chinese, materials for construction come from different directions to be used in the realisation of infrastructures and also depending on the type of structures. The imported materials used in Chinese construction sites in Yaoundé are

mainly imported from China. The image of what we are talking about the material usage by Chinese in Cameroon can better be shown by the list of materials presented on table thirty-one (31). The materials mostly used in Chinese projects for construction as well as the countries where they come from is our preoccupation in table thirty-two (32).

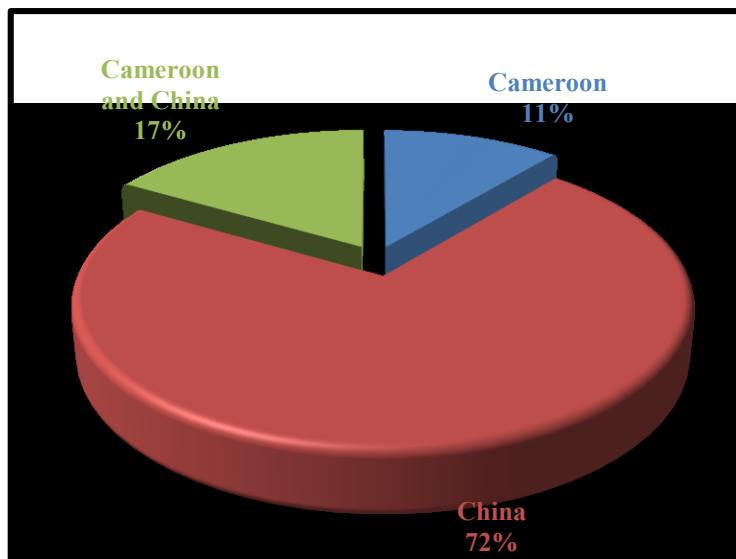
**Table 30: Materials Used in Chinese Projects in Yaoundé**

<b>Name of material</b>	<b>Source of material</b>
Sand	Cameroon
Stone and concrete	Cameroon
Ceiling boards	China
Nails, iron rods and other metals	China/Cameroon
Fuel	China/Cameroon
Bitumen,	China
Cement	China/Cameroon
Doors and windows (louvers)	China
Water supply materials	China
Tiles	China
Paints	China
Ceramics	China
Security equipment	China
Plastic materials	China
Electrical devises	China
Electrical materials	China
Roofing sheets	China
Pipes	China
Wires, cables	China

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Most of the materials used in Chinese projects emanate from China. The materials are shipped to Cameroon from China on command. When the materials reach Douala, drivers then go and collect them for Yaoundé. The few materials that are used, and that are from Cameroon, range from sand to stones that are exploited in the nearby natural deposits of those materials. Apart from these materials almost all, if not all the manufactured materials used in Chinese projects in Yaoundé are imported from China. Hardly will you find Chinese using materials

especially manufactured materials from other countries. A better understanding of the situation is presented on figure twenty-two (24).



**Figure 24: Percentages (%) of the Sources of Materials Used in Chinese Projects Sites in Yaoundé**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Thirty-three (32)

Only about 11% of materials used in Chinese construction sites come from Cameroon. From figure thirty (30), 17% of the materials either come from Cameroon or China and the rest of the material making 72% of the total materials used in Chinese projects sites in Yaoundé come from China. Not only manufactured materials used in Chinese projects sites in Yaoundé are from China, even tools and equipment such as diggers, wheelbarrows to heavy duty machines used in Chinese projects are imported from China. Table thirty-two (32) gives us a presentation of the tools used in Chinese projects in Yaoundé.

**Table 32: Tools and Equipment Used in Chinese Projects sites in Yaoundé**

<b>No</b>	<b>Tools</b>	<b>Source of tools and equipment</b>
1	Trucks	China
2	Bulldozers	China
3	Cars	China
4	Wheelbarrows	China
5	Spades	China
6	Diggers	China
7	Buckets	China
8	Security papers	China
9	Mechanical equipment	China
10	Builders' equipment	China
11	Carpenters' tools	China
12	Plumbers' tools	China
13	Computers	China
14	Office tools	China
15	Kitchen equipment	China
16	Electrical equipment	China
17	Heavy duty machines	China

**Source:** Field Work 2020

From the biggest engine equipment to the smallest security paper tools, all are sourced from China to equip the Chinese companies and workers who have migrated from China to Cameroon to carry out infrastructure construction works. All these tools and equipment used by Chinese workers are produced by Chinese industries in China. By supplying them to be used in Cameroon directly or indirectly creat jobs for Chinese in and out of China. So, it would not be wrong to talk of what Chinese are gaining when it comes to their involvement in the infrastructural development of Cameroon. Therefore, from the presentation of materials as well as the tools and equipment used for construction works in Yaoundé, it is necessary to get or have the knowledge of what China or Chinese benefit or are gaining as they go on with the construction of these infrastructures in a foreign land and city – Yaoundé.

#### 4.3.2.4 Chinese Gains or Losses in Projects Carried Out in Yaoundé

As to what Chinese are gaining or losing in Chinese projects in Yaoundé, question nine (09) of section two (02) of the questionnaire to Chinese was formulated purposely for that focus. Information collected from that question are presented on table thirty-three (33).

**Table 31: Chinese Gaining or Losing in Chinese Projects in Yaoundé**

No	Locality	Gaining	%	Losing	%
1	Ahala	15	100	/	00
2	Lobo	13	100	/	00
3	Nachtigal	15	100	/	00
4	Mballa 2	13	100	/	00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

From every indication, all the Chinese working in projects in Yaoundé counted the cost and with aquanimity saw that they are to gain before daring to come to Cameroon. From the data collected all who responded to the questionnaire stood on the position that they are benefiting from their stay and work in Cameroon. To get to know more about what they are gaining in Cameroon, many reasons were put forward by those who responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese. Our next subheading will be to handle those areas of gain to the Chinese as they carry out construction works in Yaoundé.

##### 4.3.2.4.1 Comparative Advantage in Chinese Gains in Yaoundé

China and Cameroon relationship qualifies as a “win-win relationship” is an indication that the both parties are gaining something in response to their coming together. Apart from the gaining of employment by Chinese in Cameroon, there are also some avenues that Chinese are benefiting as a result of the “win-win relationship”. These areas of gain include the following. The employment of the Chinese is one of the top gains they receive as a reward of their construction activities in Yaoundé in particular and Cameroon in general that cannot be over emphasized here.

Apart from jobs provided to Chinese as they come to carry out infrastructure construction, one of the vital gains is experience. Job experience is one of the key elements that the world of work looks for before recruitment of a particular labour. In employment

opportunities, one of the requirements is always job experience in that field that they are looking for a worker to occupy. In some professions, if you do not show proof of a certain level of job experience you cannot be promoted or employed into a certain post of responsibility. Many Chinese working in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular are working with one of the main aims to gain international experience. Many have travelled from China to Cameroon to work and gain the experience of working out of their country before going back. The experience acquired would be of additional advantage when presenting their curriculum vitae for employment in the future elsewhere when need arises.

Apart from the gain of experience where almost 90% of the informants mentioned, working in Cameroon is also a testing ground and an opportunity for improvement of the skills of the labour force from China. Many who are working in Cameroon from China are mostly young, single and those just coming out from school. Information from the questionnaire indicated that 67% of the informants were those who just left school and their first job employment opportunity is to work in Cameroon. On the field, many of them put in to practice what is learned in school and also learn so many other new practical skills. Some of the Chinese workers gain promotion to other work ranks as they engage in their work activities here in Cameroon.

From this work, Chinese working in Yaoundé testify that they are out to work money to enrich themselves personally and they are not out for charitable services, as well as the companies that employ them. The revenue gotten as payment of their work in Cameroon goes a long way to assist family members in China. This employment also goes a long way to globally empower China internationally, and boost the morale of the Chinese companies overseas.

Chinese informants testify to the fact that their working in Cameroon gives them courage to work anywhere else in the world. Their success in being in Cameroon for work and the projects being realised act as a booster and makes them develop positive attitudes and to be optimistic in life. In Cameroon they have and are still learning many things how to cope with non-Chinese groups of peoples of the world. It is in Cameroon that many of them have and are learning to speak English and French languages (the two official languages of Cameroon) which are widely used internationally. With those who know how to speak the two languages, their being in Cameroon helps them to improve on their speaking capacity as well as give them room to expand to new horizon at individual basis.

The learning of these official languages (English and French) of Cameroon by the Chinese through practicing as they work with the indigenes or Cameroonians in general go on, there is the development of friendship relationship at individual levels as Lee and Newby, (1983:113), asserted that;

*Productive activity is impossible without human beings entering into relationships with other human beings. Humans were never anything other than social beings and in order to overcome the forces of nature they entered into relationships with one another. Work- that is, production – is therefore always a collective social activity. Individuals produce only by cooperating and mutually exchanging their products. Thus, the social world is created by interacting productive individuals.*

This friendship and relationship provide the Chinese with the opportunity to learn many aspects of the Cameroonian culture as well as spread their own culture to the people they interact with. Many of the young Cameroonians where Chinese are now doing construction inculcate in them the habit of moving along with water containers as seen from Chinese. Some are into smoking, imitating the Chinese as most Chinese workers in the construction side do smoke and one of their best gift, they share freely is a stick of cigarette. Some of the Cameroonians admire and are now learning how to eat using the two sticks system practiced by Chinese in eating. Some have put in place the idea of working without getting tired as they see Chinese work for long hours without complaining. Those Cameroonians that put in this behaviour can be seen as Chinese companies take them from one working locality to another and this creates problems with indigenes of those localities as they see that their people are not employed but others. With ethnocentric tendencies in some work places where work has brought Chinese and Cameroonian workers together, discrimination is even projected during eating time. When food is brought, the Chinese will be the first to eat and after they have finished eating the Cameroonians are now served.

#### **4.3.2.4.2 Comparative Advantage in Chinese Losses in Yaoundé**

To win, there is a struggle and as you struggle there is something you have to give up in order to gain something. In China's relation with Cameroon, there is no doubt that the journey is not all a bed of roses. There are areas of sacrifice that Chinese are going through to make this relationship what it is. Section 'B' of question nine (09) section two (02) of the questionnaire to the Chinese was formulated to investigate to understand what Chinese are missing or losing in their relationship with Cameroon. Although from the mean question of what the Chinese are gaining, no one objected to the fact that the relationship is beneficial, the

follow up question was asked in question nine (09) b. The outcome of the findings show that Chinese are passing through two (02) principal difficulties and losses are a consequence of their relationship with Cameroon in the area of construction of infrastructures for the infrastructural development of Cameroon geared towards her emerging economy goal in 2035.

Many who responded to the question nine (09) b of section two (02) of the questionnaire to the Chinese working in Yaoundé indicated that, choosing the path of profession and to leave their home country to Cameroon is making them miss the family relationship. They have abandoned their families in China and are here in Cameroon because of work. Some have not seen their children and wives or husbands for those who are married for long. Many have not seen their parents and siblings for long. The family which is the starting point for socialisation is the thing of abstract to them. They are missing that family affection.

Many do not only miss their family affection, but also the youthful experience in China. Many are into work and every day you are going to work and most of the times that is all you have to do. The youthful activities they carry out in China is a dream to these Chinese youths that have chosen the side of work and not only work, but work out of the home land.

These two difficulties faced by the Chinese which are that to relate to their families physically as well as enjoy the youthfulness are all tied to the issue of time. Some see their being here for the time to spent so precious. It is like they keep on looking at the clock to see that the two years some have signed in their contracts should come to an end. While some are looking at the clock for time, some are looking for the project to be finished. The question we have is to know whether after the projects are over, will Chinese continue to be in Cameroon? To have an answer and understanding, the next subtitle of this chapter is to look at the implication of the Chinese after the realisation of the structures in Cameroon.

#### **4.4 The Implications of Chinese after the Realisation of Structures in Yaoundé**

Section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese was formulated to investigate what happens when the projects carried out by the Chinese are completed. The reasons for asking these questions were to have an understanding of the stand point of the Chinese as they carry out these projects. Information gathered from this section are presented subsequently.



#### 4.4.1 Chinese Willing or Not Willing to Stay After Projects

Normally when the contracts awarded to the Chinese are realised, if there is no other work for them, they are expected to go back to China. Before a Chinese leaves China for Cameroon, he is aware of what he or she is coming to do. If he or she is coming to work with a Chinese company, he signs his contract. “Most of their contracts range from nine (09) months for those on internship and two (02) years for those who are searching for jobs out of China. The contracts are usually renewable”<sup>41</sup>. Often with Chinese projects, Chinese labour are given preference for the jobs. This preference for the job, given to the Chinese prompt some who initially were coming with the hope to go back when the project is over, keep on renewing their contracts to stay.

##### 4.4.1.1 Chinese Willing to Stay after Projects are over

Question one (01) of section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese was to find out the number of Chinese working in the various projects’ sites willing to stay or to leave after the projects are completed. Table thirty-four (34) gives us the response from the Chinese as whether to stay or not willing to stay when the projects are over.

**Table 32: Chinese willing or not willing to stay after Chinese projects in Yaoundé are over**

No	Locality	Willing to stay	%	Not willing to stay	%
1	Ahala	09	60	06	40
2	Lobo	03	23.1	10	76.9
3	Nachtigal	08	53	07	47
4	Mballa 2	05	38.5	08	61.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>43.65</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>56.35</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

The issue to know about the willingness to stay or not to after the project is completed is to unmask the strategies of the Chinese to maintain the “win-win relationship” in the area of infrastructural development that China is highly involved in, in Cameroon. From the information presented on table thirty-four (34), 43.65% of the informants from China are of

<sup>41</sup> A translator in the auto road Yaoundé – Douala construction explaining why there are fluctuations in the number of Chinese working in the road construction.

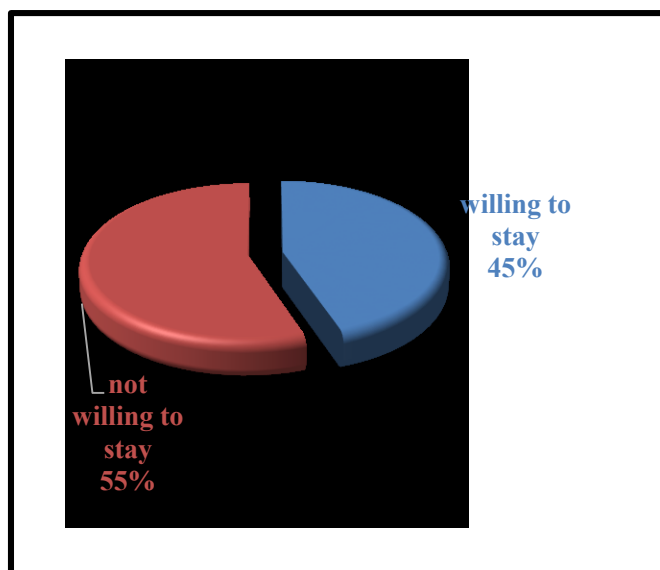
the willingness to stay when their projects are over. This willingness to stay behind when the project is over to some is because they have found that Cameroon is a comfortable place to stay. To them, they have no choice than to stay in Cameroon and enjoy the welcoming and friendly nature of the Cameroonians they have met.

Some are willing to stay in respect of the orders from their companies. They choose to stay until they are transferred to other parts of the world where their companies have created branches. To them whether the work is over or not, they love to obey the decisions of their company. They have pledged allegiance to the hierarchy of their companies and are ready to respect their decisions whenever such decisions come. So, their stay or leaving is not for them to say or attached to how they feel or what they gain, but their being in Cameroon for now is okay for them depending on the choice of their administrators.

Many of the Chinese are willing to stay even when the projects they are carrying out are completed with the hope that the projects will be completed, but work will still be available for them to do in Cameroon. To such, there are high and sure expectations to win more and more contracts in Cameroon and continue to execute them than ever thinking to leave the country for somewhere. So, they do not entertain the idea of leaving Cameroon when the projects are completed. They hope and believe in more contracts and projects to realise in Cameroon in the days ahead as the “win-win relationship” between the countries is being solidified with these construction activities. Therefore, according to these informants many more missions are expected to be executed even when the projects they are still carrying out are over. Cameroon is seen as a fertile ground for the execution of many lucrative construction infrastructure projects. With all these aspirations to stay in Cameroon after the execution of the projects they are carrying, not all Chinese are willing to stay.

#### **4.4.1.2 Chinese Not willing to stay after the Projects are completed**

Not every Chinese working in the projects given to the Chinese contractors are willing to stay when the projects are over. Some love to maintain their contracts they signed before engaging work and do not want the contracts renewed. Figure twenty-five (25) shows the percentage of those who answered the questionnaire and are not willing to remain in Cameroon after the completion of the projects.



**Figure 25: Percentages (%) of the Chinese Not Willing to Stay When the Projects are completed**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Thirty-four (34)

Those not willing to stay when the projects are completed are of the point that they are respecting their terms of contract. According to many of them, by the time the work is being accomplished, the contracts they signed must have expired and they have to leave. This is one of the pertinent reasons why over 55% of those who responded to the questionnaire were of the fact that they are not willing to stay when the projects are executed and not because there is any problem with their stay in Cameroon.

The Chinese who do not desire to stay behind after the projects are executed would leave due to family related reasons. Those Chinese willing to leave Cameroon is because they love to go back to China to meet their families that they have abandoned for over two (02) years and when the projects are over, they would leave to meet their family members in China. For those not married are hoping to go back and get married in China. They love to marry only Chinese and in China not out of their country. Others just want to go to China because of love for the country. Some are going because of love for home and affection as well as to attend to the family and marital needs they have abandoned for work in Cameroon for long. So, when the projects they are involed in their execution are completed, they would not stay here in Cameroon but, would have to leave for China to attend to those needs calling for their attention back home.

For Chinese working in the various projects' sites, some are willing to stay and others are willing to leave as already presented in this write up. For those with the desire to leave, occupied the greater portion of the Chinese that responded to the questionnaire. With those with the intentions to leave not all want to go back to China but, to other countries.

#### 4.4.2 Chinese Willing to Leave for Other Countries When Projects are completed

Concerning the Chinese willing to leave Cameroon for other countries, question two (2) of section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese was framed to verify that and the reasons for that move. Table thirty-five (35) is established to provide us with the statistical information about those willing or planning to leave Cameroon for other countries apart from going back to China after the projects are completed.

**Table 33: Chinese Willing to Leave for Other Countries When the Projects are over**

No	Locality	Willing to leave for other countries	%	Willing to leave for China	%
1	Ahala	03	20	12	80
2	Lobo	03	23.1	10	76.9
3	Nachtigal	09	60	06	40
4	Mballa 2	04	30.8	09	69.2
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>66.5</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Not all the Chinese working here and willing to leave Cameroon desire to go back to China. From table thirty-five (35), 33.5% of those hoping to leave Cameroon after the projects they are carrying out are completed think of going to other parts of the world than going back to China their home country.

Some of the Chinese think of going to other countries like Singapore, Algeria and France just to name a few of many other countries where they have other branches of their construction companies. Some are of the fact that if they are to leave Cameroon, their last bus stop would only be China as we can see from the percentage – 66.5%. These individuals are for the fact that after staying in Cameroon, they should leave this country back to theirs than going elsewhere no matter the case. They see their going back to China as the only choice if they are to leave Cameroon. From the data presented, it is factual that

Chinese working in Cameroon are willing to go back to China while others who are not the majority are willing to stay here and a few are willing to leave Cameroon for other countries of the world.

As these Chinese move back to China and other countries of the world, will that be the end of the “win-win relationship” in the area of infrastructural development? The relationship is strengthened with the presence of China carrying out projects in Cameroon. We loved to know what the Chinese are putting in place to maintain the continuous facilitating and concretising of the “win-win relationship”. To get the Chinese point of view on how continuity is to go on when those who are present are gone, we formulated question three (03) of section three (03) of the questionnaire to the Chinese. Information collected from this question three (03) will be our point of focus in the next subtitle of this chapter five (05).

#### **4.4.3 Comparative Advantage at the level of Chinese to Take Over as Others Leave for Other Countries when the Projects are Completed**

Concerning those leaving Cameroon for China and elsewhere, the question left unanswered is to know whether there is hope for other Chinese to come and continue from where those leaving have ended. To handle this point question three (03) section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese was formulated and the findings are presented on table thirty-six (36).

**Table 34: Other Chinese Will or Will Not Come to Take over When the Projects are over**

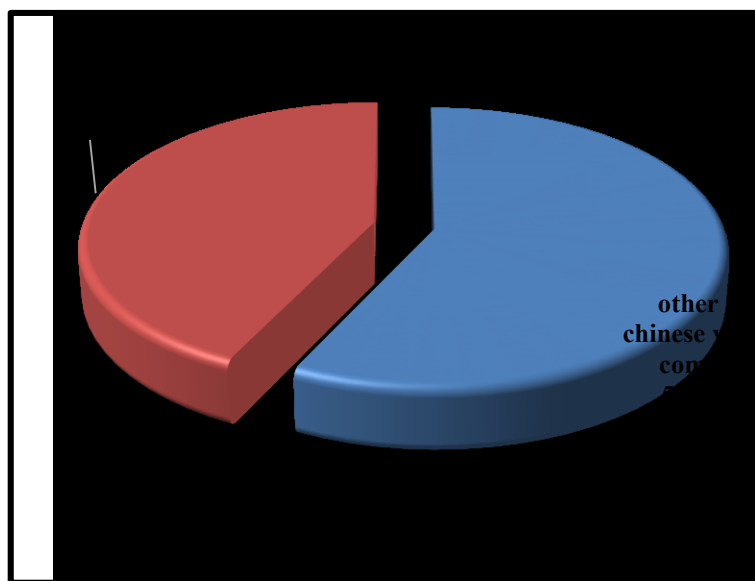
<b>No</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>other Chinese will come</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>other Chinese will not come</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Ahala</b>	09	60	06	40
<b>2</b>	<b>Lobo</b>	03	23.1	10	76.9
<b>3</b>	<b>Nachtigal</b>	10	66.7	05	33.3
<b>4</b>	<b>Mballa 2</b>	10	76.9	03	23.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>43.3</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

The “win-win relationship” in the domain of infrastructural development according to the Chinese in this area of construction of infrastructure is a continuous process. Though

Chinese are coming to Cameroon and thinking of going back to China, they do not admit that their returning to their country marks the end of the relationship whether the projects are over or not.

Our informants have indicated that as they go to China, many other Chinese will come and replace them in Cameroon to continue from where they have ended. The percentage of those who indicated that they believe that as they go to China, others will come to replace them is illustrated on figure twenty-six (26).



**Figure 26: Other Chinese Will or Will Not Come to Take over When the Projects are over**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Thirty-Six (36)

Chinese working in Yaoundé are for the fact that as other Chinese are leaving and others willing to leave Cameroon for other countries when the projects, they are carrying out are completed, room will be created for others to come and take over from where they have ended. According to these Chinese the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon is a chain-like process. As this group comes and are going other Chinese are coming to take over from where those leaving have ended.

According to our informants, the contracts they are executing are not the last contracts for their companies to carry out in Cameroon. They believe that as the contracts are being executed, they will still go in for more other contracts with the Cameroon government. So, as they go in respect of termination of their personal contracts with their companies, their companies will still win other contracts with the government of Cameroon and that will prompt

the coming of other Chinese to take over from them. This is to say that Cameroon is a developing country and will need more infrastructures for her development and China stands the chance to assist the country attend her emerging economy by 2035.

Cameroon still needs the skills and technical knowhow of the Chinese for her infrastructural development. So, more Chinese are expected to flux into Cameroon for the infrastructural development especially at the level of partnership and friendly relationship to be enhanced between China and Cameroon. It is not yet time to begin to think of the Chinese packing out of Cameroon for whatsoever might be the reason. As many go, more are on the way coming to continue from where those going have ended. This explains why over 57% of the informants that responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese were for the fact that as they go many other Chinese are coming to Cameroon.

As many other Chinese come to Cameroon, they will be employed to carry out other projects. The completion of the projects and their going back to China is not a guarantee for the end of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. Looking at the time when China engaged with Cameroon for international relationship in the 1970s and the developing and describing the relationship as a “win-win relationship”, the influx of Chinese constructing companies and the carrying of infrastructure construction projects is at a geometric progression and more is still needed by Cameroon from China in this area.

Furthermore, others will also be coming to fend for their families. When you are working in Cameroon you are highly paid than what you receive in China for the same type of job. Many see it as an opportunity to work out of China and they prefer coming to Cameroon. So as others finish their task in Cameroon and are going back to China many others will be coming in.

#### **4.4.4 View Point of Chinese on Projects Carried out in Cameroon**

As Chinese are coming and others leaving the issue at hand also is to have an understanding whether China is gaining something as the saying goes that China is in a “win-win relationship” with Cameroon. To gather information on that view point to see what China is gaining, questions four (04) and five (05) of section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese were drafted. These questions were formulated to get directly from the Chinese what they think their country is losing or gaining as they carry out infrastructure construction in Cameroon. The findings are presented on table thirty-seven (37), that shows the view points of the Chinese

working on infrastructural development in Cameroon, on whether China is gaining something or not when it comes to putting structures in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular.

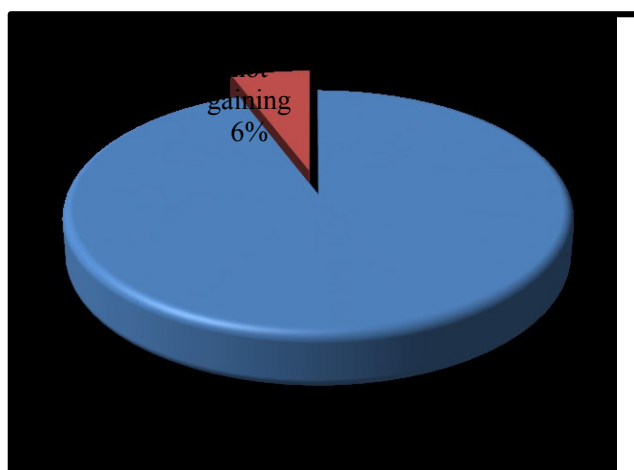
**Table 35: The Chinese on whether China is Gaining or Not as They Carry out Projects in Cameroon**

No	Locality	China is gaining	%	China is not gaining	%
1	Ahala	15	100	/	00
2	Lobo	13	100	/	00
3	Nachtigal	15	100	/	00
4	Mballa 2	10	76.9	03	23.1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>53</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>5.8</b>

Source: Field Work 2020

#### 4.4.4.1 View Point on Gains

From results presented from our research, China is a master winner when it comes to the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon. This being the master is not noticed by others but by the Chinese carrying out the projects in this sector. With aquanimity all the Chinese who responded to the questionnaire to the Chinese agreed to the fact that China is greatly benefiting from her construction activities in Cameroon. Those who were for the fact that China is gaining something occupied the lion share percentage of 94% as presented on twenty-seven (27).



**Figure 27: Percentages of the Chinese on China Gaining as they carry out Projects in Cameroon**

Source: Data Collected from Table Thirty-Seven (37)



The gain that China is receiving as a result of the “win-win relationship” is both politically and economically as shall be presented subsequently.

At the political domain China is gaining grounds in the world with the backing of Africa as seen in international bodies like the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). For instance, it would have proved difficult for China to get the permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) without the support of African states - Cameroon inclusive. FOCAC and Belt of Roads initiative are important platforms for dialogue and an effective mechanism for cooperation between China and Africa, based on solidarity and mutual respect at the international and bilateral relationship levels. Because of the relationship, Cameroon is a member of these groups and their contribution cannot be minimized.

At the economic domain, the company’s performance and China-Africa friendship is highly established with the involvement of the Chinese in the construction process of Cameroon infrastructures. This involvement of the Chinese in construction works, go a long way to deepen the friendly and cooperative relations between China and Cameroon. The construction works is a device of China’s reputation in the “win-win relationship” between the two friendly countries. Thus, the putting in place of the structures stands as a symbol of Cameroon’s friendship with China.

This symbol of friendship between China and Cameroon which is the construction of structures projects and brings out the visibility of the friendly relations to the locals and at the international level. This visibility comes with influencing the presence of the Chinese at the international scene. This goes a long way to the vulgarisation of the Chinese amicable relationship between Cameroon and China as well as making known the market norms at the international sphere and bringing diversity and the enlargement of the Chinese business worldwide.

The Chinese business enlargement is noticed especially at the level of international trade, fabrics, clothes and footwear between 2003 and 2010, China gained a significant increase in market share from 5.4% to 17% of the Maghreb market. During the same period the European Union’s market share decreased from 79.2% to 59.8%. One can notice that China has become the workshop of the world, purchasing raw materials from Africa and Cameroon in particular to feed the factories that developed countries have located in China to boost their businesses all over the world. In order to compensate for these raw materials, they harvest from Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, the Chinese are highly engaged and present in the construction of the infrastructures in Cameroon. Looking at the benefits China gets as a

result of her involvement in the construction industry in Cameroon, it will look as if they are no losses recorded. It is important and necessary to have an observation as to whether China is losing something as they engage in the infrastructure construction in Cameroon.

#### 4.4.4.2 View Point on Losses

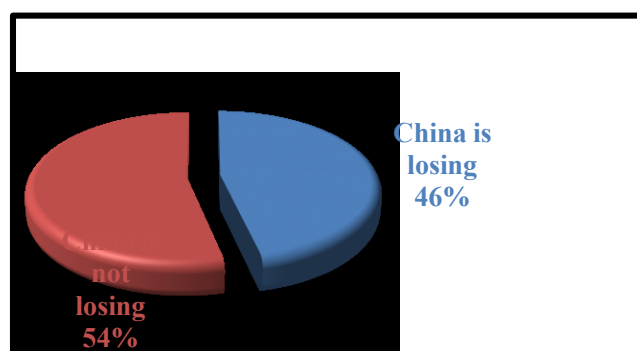
Concerning the view point of Chinese as to whether China is losing something or not as they carry out projects of construction in Cameroon question five (05) of section three (03) of the questionnaire to Chinese was framed to verify that and the reasons for that move. Table thirty-eight (38) gives us the information about the view point of Chinese as to whether China is losing something or not as they carry out projects of construction in Cameroon.

**Table 36: The Chinese on whether China is losing or Not as They Carry out Projects of Construction in Cameroon**

No	Locality	China is losing	%	China is not losing	%
1	Ahala	06	40	09	60
2	Lobo	07	53.8	06	46.2
3	Nachtigal	05	33.3	10	66.7
4	Mballa 2	08	61.5	05	39.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>53.1</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

From all indications, many of the Chinese working at the construction of the infrastructure are not for the fact that China losses at the realisation of the projects they put in place. A better illustration of their view points when it comes to the question of whether China will incur loss after realisation of the projects they are carrying out in Yaounde is projected on twenty-eight (28).



**Figure 28: Projection of the Percentages of Chinese Who are for the Fact That China is losing or Not as They Carry out Projects in Cameroon**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table thirty-eight (38)

Those informants that were for the fact that China will lose something after the realisation of the infrastructure occupy 46%. They are of the fact that time spent in the construction of these infrastructure will never be recovered to be used with the family members as well as the love for country in the country and not out of the country for the years past is considered as losses.

At the international level, China has problems with big European countries as she invests in infrastructure development in Africa in general – Cameroon inclusive. Some of the western powers like United States of America (USA) have issued sanctions on China as one of the consequences of her heavy involvement in construction of structures in Africa. These sanctions from the USA frustrate China's relationship with America, which for long has been the world's political giant. This has provoked tension and unprofitable competition between China and the USA especially when it comes to their international affairs with the African countries.

China is also facing a lot of attack from her adversaries. China is receiving a lot of disagreement from other countries especially developed countries that see China's usage of 'soft power' as a means to recolonise African countries and carry away the raw materials from Africa for their industries back home. All these paints a bad picture about China's presence in Cameroon especially in the area of infrastructure development where huge sums of money are being spent by China.

Financially, China is losing especially when the Cameroon government is unable to pay the loans they are receiving for the construction of these heavy financial draining infrastructure. For instance, in 2018, during President Paul Biya's state visit to China, the Chinese government pledged to cancel part of Cameroon's debt.<sup>42</sup> China also suffers the pain to delay loan repayments for low-income countries like Cameroon especially with the coming of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Some of the structures put in place are paid with interest free loans. In other words, China gives money for the construction of structures and at the end of the day what is expected from the Cameroon government is the exact amount that they received as loan. Instead of investing their funds to make more money, China because of "win-win relationship" offers the

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<sup>42</sup> The Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon, 2018, Paul BIYA's Consensual Encounters with Political and Economic Leaders in China, [<https://www.prc.cm/en/news/travels-and-visits/2756-paul-biya-sconsensual-encounter>], visited 10-02-2021

funds interest free. In addition, in 2018, China promised financial assistance as she has been doing in the past for the construction of three (03) economic development projects as requested by the government of Cameroon through President Paul Biya. These are sacrifices that China undergo to maintain and to improve on the “win-win relationship” with Cameroon. This brings us to the conclusion of chapter five (05) that was dedicated to research on the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of Chinese in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular.

Conclusively, this chapter reveals how the Chinese are implicated in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development from conception, realisation and after the realisation of the projects constructed by the Chinese in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular. Before coming to work in Cameroon, Chinese construction companies win contracts through the processes put in place by the Cameroon government for the award of contracts. ‘The central commission of the award of contracts and the delivery of intellectual services,’ have the procedures guiding the national as well as the international calls including China for project bidding, except for the fact that the Chinese biddings are influenced and come under the cover of the “win-win relationship” she has with Cameroon. This document provides us with general rules and regulations for call for bidding for projects in Cameroon. This is a strong indication that China is highly involved at the conception of every project they are carrying or have carried out, for there is no way you can surface at the construction level when you do not know what is to be accomplished.

At the realisation stage we can observe Chinese of both sexes and of active ages involved in the construction of structures in Cameroon. This realisation stage is that of evident benefits to the individual Chinese here in Cameroon and these benefits spill to the Chinese back in China through the helping of family members and investing there with the hope of getting back home after a fruitful stay in Cameroon. The stay of Chinese in Cameroon to realise structures is not without difficulties and challenges. Nevertheless, these challenges and difficulties are minimal as compared with the benefits Chinese get as a reward of their involvement in the construction of infrastructures in Cameroon. The benefits range from individual benefits to Chinese construction industries as well as China’s national and international enrichment.

At the local or national level, the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China is a lasting phenomenon as Chinese are of the fact that as they finish constructing the present projects, they will still negotiate for many more such endeavours. As one set of Chinese come

and go, they set way for the next group to come and take over from where the last set ends. So the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon is in form of a relay to the construction Chinese companies.

This relay is earmarked in two dimensions. In one way it is through gaining more construction contracts in Cameroon in the future to continue the visible manifestations through their involvement in the construction activities. In the other dimension, the structures put in place by the Chinese are acting as the relay baton for Chinese to continue to surface at the construction of infrastructures in Cameroon. This relay baton is highly envisaged at the level of the maintenance and repairs over time. Chinese have tactfully set in place a mechanism to enable them follow up and carry out repairs and maintenance on the structures they have put in place and are ready as well as doing everything possible to have a say on the issue of keeping these structures functional.

This chapter was to answer our specific research question two (02) which is ‘How is the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of Chinese in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular?’ To answer this question, we formulated the specific hypothesis two (02) which is ‘Chinese are highly implicated at all levels in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development from the conception, realization and management of the infrastructure’. From our findings and presentation in this chapter four (04), the Chinese are highly implicated at all levels in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development from the conception, realization and management of the infrastructures. So, the hypothesis is validated. This takes us to the next chapter to present the findings on the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development.

## CHAPTER FIVE

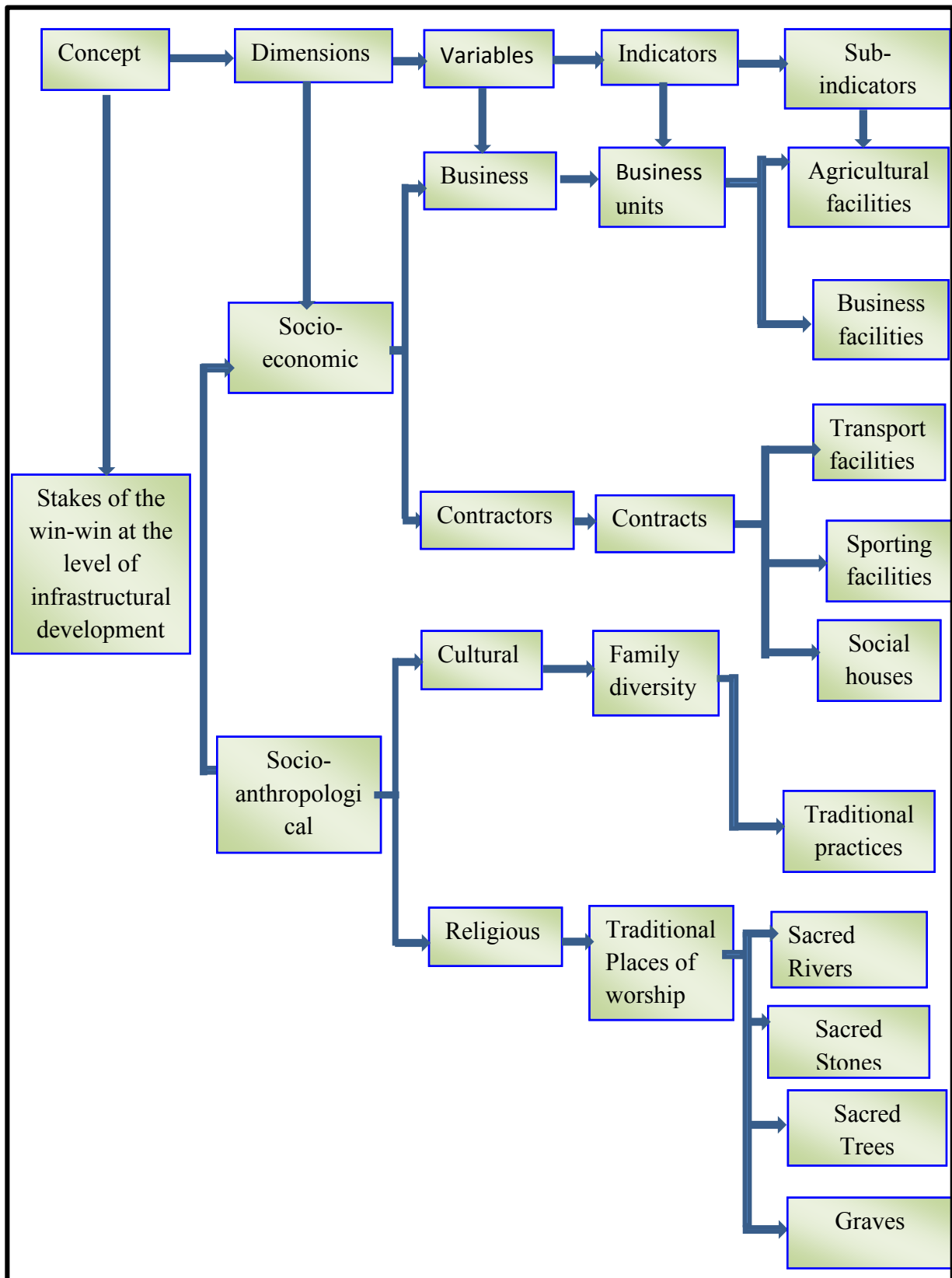
### SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL STAKES OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” AT THE LEVEL OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

This chapter dwells on the analysis of data on the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development. Part of the data for this chapter was collected through the use of section four (04) of the questionnaire to the inhabitants where structures under the Chinese are put in place. We also had enough data for this chapter from the observation as well as the interview carried out in the field. The interview guide for the government administrators as well as that to the Cameroonian contractors also provided a powerful instrument for the collection of data for this chapter.

This chapter is principally divided into two (02) parts. The first part handles information concerning the socio-economic stakes and the second deals with the elaboration of the socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development. We shall begin by contextualising the stakes of the “win-win relationship” as presented in this write up.

#### **5.1 Contextualisation of the Stakes of the “*Win-Win Relationship*”**

The stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is a concept with two (02) dimensions which are the socio-economic and socio-anthropological, with variations, indicators and sub-indicators. As a matter of fact, the individuals and the populations living in areas where structures are erected and roads being constructed as a result of the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, their socio-economic and socio-anthropological dimensions are at jeopardy. The contextualisation of areas of concern on the issue of the “win-win relationship” from concept to sub-indicators are presented on figure twenty-nine (29).



**Figure 29: Contextualisation of the Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” at the Level of Infrastructural Development**

Source: Author’s Conception

Retrospectively with considerations of the presentation of chapters four (04) and five (05) of this thesis which are two (02) faces of the same coin – that is, the implication of Cameroonians and Chinese in the implementation of the “win-win relationship”, the presentation of stakes could not be missing to be part of this research. Social stakes pertaining to elements such as specify community concerns which left unaddressed, can lead to jeopardizing the goals and activities of an organisation or its projects in a community will be our concern in this chapter. Social stakes are high if unattended demands from affected sectors are not addressed and can lead to an organisation’s loss of legitimacy or as well tarnish organisational reputation and intentions. Social stakes range from activities that impact on the environment, culture, economy, and everyday living of one or more communities. Most of these concerns on social stakes may have already been raised by individuals, community groups or other entities who may be affected directly or indirectly. Our attention here shall be directed at the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon.

At the level of socio-economic dimension, we shall focus on the stakes in the area of business units and the contractors of the construction sector in Cameroon. This will pave the way for the presentation on the findings on socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development. At the level of the socio-anthropological dimension, we will present the risk in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development.

## **5.2 Socio-Economic Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” at the Level of Infrastructural Development.**

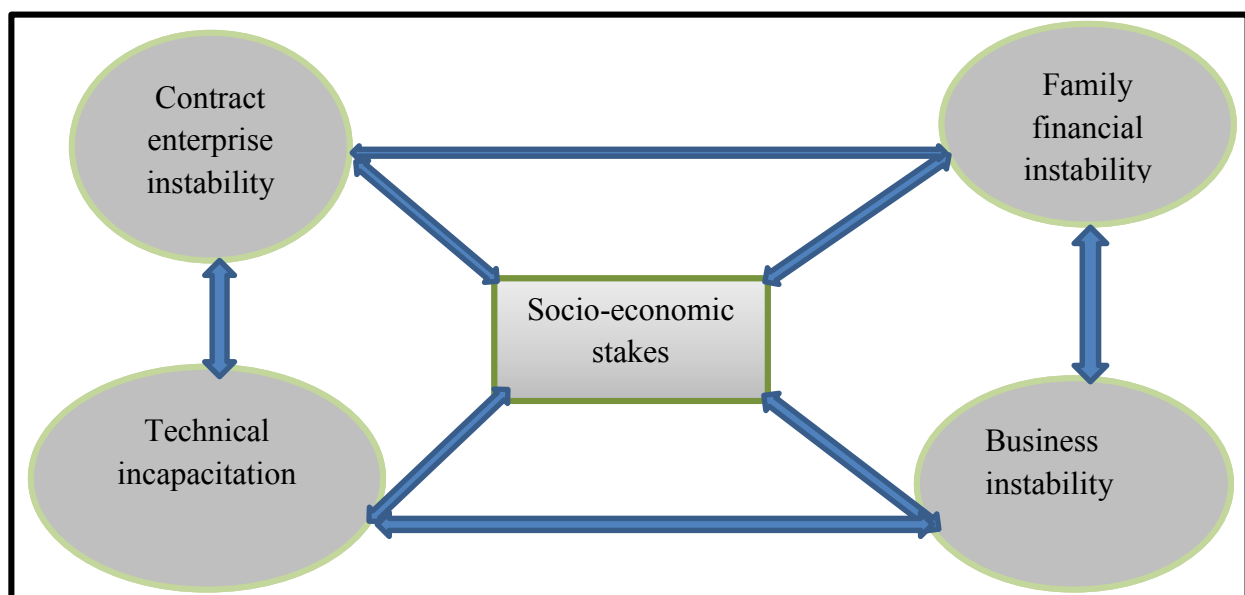
Socio-economic domain is one of the areas highly involved when it comes to the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. This socio-economic domain can be reflected from the individuals’ level to family and company levels. At the individuals’ level, individual businesses as well as economic activities are affected in one way or the other. Wishart, (1970:263-267) quipped, “*With the change of the economic foundation the entire immense superstructure is more or less rapidly transformed.*” This transformation implies that the mode of production of material life conditions, the social political and intellectual life process in general are modified.

That is to say that, when an individual is affected in one way or the other, the family as well as the entire company or economic lines of activities are also affected. This entails those individuals employed throughout the given supply chains and on the community at large. This point brings us to a conclusion on the one hand that without people or individuals, business cannot exist. And on the other hand, Lee and Newby, (1983:113), asserted, “*Unless a society*



*is able to organize the production of its subsistence needs there will be no society at all.*” The society exists on the basis of its organization of the subsistence needs and the organization of the subsistence needs bring about the existence of businesses both at the small and large scales. Whether at a small- or large-scale business, the end purpose is for the goods and services to reach the consumers who are the individuals in the communities.

Consumers buy products that maintain or increase their welfare. Employees work for companies by adding value using their knowledge and skills, with companies supporting their livelihoods in return. The local market places and shops act as retail centres and the final point of the supply of goods and services to the consumer who is believed to be the last stage of production in the production process. In our local contexts the small business units along the road sides play a lot to facilitate the distribution of goods and services in our localities to the final consumer. When these small business units along the road sides are destroyed for the construction of other infrastructure like roads and other public buildings, this action of destruction brings a lot of instability in the communities concerned. Demolition or destruction of structures for others to be put in place as a result of the “win-win relationship” bring about socio-economic stakes and instability. Here we have to or must hear the voices of local constituencies, receive their insights, and meaningfully respond to them. There is need for corporate-community partnership and social risks analysis. Looking into indigenous institutions and customary law on economic and natural resources, instability at the level of the individual, family and the entire economic sector is illustrated on socio-economical domain figure thirty (30).



**Figure 30: Instability at the Socio-Economic Domain at the Level of Individuals, Families and Entire Community**

**Source:** Field Survey 2020

Figure thirty (30) indicates that the socio-economic stakes in the area of infrastructural development put in place by the Chinese as a result of “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, are in four (04) different directions. These four (04) areas include the contract enterprise instability - that affects directly the technical incapacitation of the sector and that results to the families’ financial instability as well as the poor individual’s production output. As the families’ financial domain is not stabilised as a result of the stakes from the contract enterprise instability, the business units are at risk for you cannot talk of business flourishing with the families in poverty. These four (04) areas at risk as a result of “win-win” relationship in the communities where these structures are realised will be our preoccupation down the line in this write up.

### **5.2.1 Destruction of Business Sites**

For the roads, pipes (for the pipe borne water and optic fibres), ministerial buildings, low-cost social houses, sport complexes and some other structures to be put in place by the Chinese in various localities, demolition of former individuals’ structures and properties had to take place. These structures demolished were the sources of livelihood for the owners. The farm lands especially cash crops farm lands like the cocoa plantations, plantains and other fruit trees had to be destroyed for the infrastructures to be put in place. This destruction of former structures to put new public infrastructures have negatively affected the economic life of so many individuals especially those who were not compensated. Even with those compensated, the compensation directed them to reckless life styles like too much drinking of alcohol, fornication for the unmarried individuals of the communities and adultery to the married individuals. With this reckless living the money received as compensation gets finished and many are into untold poverty than they were before the coming of the compensation for the structures to be put in place by the Chinese.

To gather information on whether economic facilities are destroyed as the projects are being realised by the Chinese in Cameroon question twenty-one (21) of section four (04) of the questionnaire to inhabitants where Chinese are putting up structures was formulated. Table thirty-nine (39) shows the information gathered from the questionnaire on those who are for the fact that some economic activities were destroyed with the coming of the infrastructures put in place by the Chinese.

**Table 37: Destruction of Economic Facilities with the Coming of the Structures Put in Place by the Chinese**

No.	Locality	Destruction of business places		% of those for
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	24	06	80
2	Lobo	12	08	60
3	Nachtigal	20	04	83.3
4	Mvog-Betsi	18	26	40.9
5	Mballa 2	22	18	55
6	Olembe	20	12	62.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>63.6</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

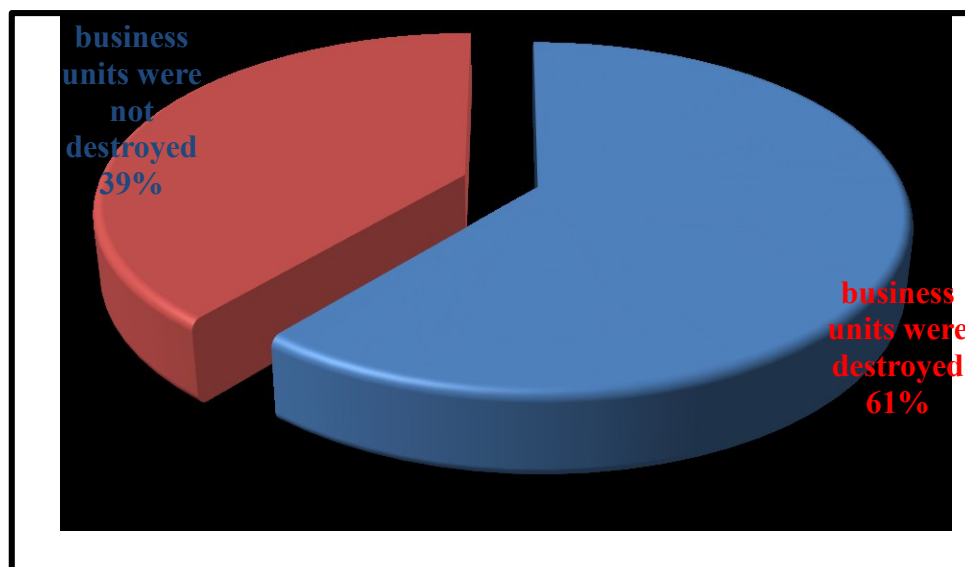
Table thirty-nine (39) presents the information on the business structures destroyed for construction work to take place. Many structures must have been destroyed but our interest is on the business structures destroyed due to the part they play in the lives of the individuals that owned the business units and the society in general.

The business units have social impact which includes the impact on the local public and social services sector as a result of the business's activities. As we all know, social impact is the effect an organization's actions have on the wellbeing of the community.<sup>43</sup>

Looking at the social impact business units provide for the society, the destruction of these units bring a lot of disorder in the functioning of the society where this has taken place. This disorder ranges from the internal social impact brought by the business units which refers to practices related to employees and employment within the business to the external social impact practices which include participating in fair trade practices. At the level of the employees, some who had the business as a source of employment end up jobless. This joblessness come especially when the owner of the business unit does not have another location like that which has been destroyed for new infrastructures put in place by the government.

<sup>43</sup>, Social Impact - Definition, (2011), [https://www.d3fzrw9hn8qa.cloudfront.net/glossary/socialimpact.mp4?\\_ =1](https://www.d3fzrw9hn8qa.cloudfront.net/glossary/socialimpact.mp4?_=1), visited 05/08/2020

From the results gotten from the field, the percentage of the destroyed structures of business units stood at 61% as illustrated on figure thirty-one (31).



**Figure 31: Percentages of Business Units Destroyed During Construction Works by the Chinese**

**Source:** Data collected from table thirty-nine (39)

The percentage of those who showed up that business units were destroyed give us an understanding of the devastating effects on the individuals of these communities where the construction work has or is taking place. A vivid example from our observation in the field has to do with the construction of a bridge over River Sanaga at Nachtigal. From figure thirty-nine (39), only 39% of our informants were for the point that business places were not destroyed. On the other hand, 61% of our informants as presented on table thirty-nine (39) stood for the fact that business places especially local business environments were destroyed and economic activities in some places have come to a standstill or completely wipe out. For instance, with the construction of the bridge over River Sanaga at Nachtigal on the road to Ntui just beside where water is to be tapped to increase the supply of water to the city of Yaoundé, business around this area has collapsed. Many who used to sell at this spot and make a lot of profits from their sales and business transactions of different kinds and magnitudes are now without jobs because of the coming of this bridge (which many are counting and considering to be a blessing to the whole area and Division).

Many who were into transportation by canoes have become jobless. The traditional local business of transporting people and loads showing the capacity and capability of the indigenes to have mastered their environment is lost to the modern technological ability in the

construction of a bridge over a very large river. The bark canoe that used to transport cars from one part of the river to the other creating an atmosphere of manifestation of mechanical solidarity is of no use at this place now. It has been abandoned to itself by the river side and its glory gone with the coming of the bridge. All the small businesses that used to make the place booming and thickly populated with passengers travelling from one side of the river to the other twenty-four hours on seven 24/7 have closed down. The bike business of transporting people from Ntui to Nachtigal as well as other localities like Obala and Bachanga to the river side is a night mare thus, reducing the profits and even rendering bike riders jobless.



**Photo 9: Deserted once upon hot spot at Nachtigal**

**Source:** Mnkong, 09/09/2020

To buy farm produces that used to be sold around the River Sanaga at Nachtigal is a forgotten story as even those who have decided to be selling around the police check point depicts a shadow of departed business glory in that environment. In fact, there used to be buoyant business activities in this place. As the cars stopped to be carried over the river from one side to the other and vice-versa on the bark canoe, passengers buy farm produce and food stuffs from vendors in this locality who come and sell various crops they harvest from their farms around and elsewhere. Not only localities like the example cited above have had the disappearance of the business and the social climate disrupted, families in these localities are those who have direct consequences of the destruction of these merchandises set up for many now are struggling to adapt to the present set up in this locality.

### 5.2.1.1 Destruction of Family Structures

Family structure has to do with the family setting. Families are into two categories where we have the nuclear and the extended family setting (highly valorised and practised in the African and Cameroonian context in particular). At the nuclear level, family is made up of father, mother and child or children. These individuals are highly distinguished by the functions especially the socio-economic activities they play in the family as the basic unit of the society. With the destruction of the business places, family economic structure is affected. Question twenty-two (22) of section four (04) of the questionnaire to inhabitants where Chinese are carrying out construction was framed to investigate how family economic structures are affected. To have results of the answers to this question, table forty (40) gives us a view point of people who were for or not for the fact that family economic structures are affected in one way or the other as projects are being realised by the Chinese.

**Table 38: Destruction of families' economic structures for the Putting in Place of the Structures under the Control of Chinese**

No.	Locality	Destruction of family economic structures		% of those for
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	18	12	60
2	Lobo	09	11	45
3	Nachtigal	18	06	75
4	Mvog-Betsi	13	31	29.5
5	Mballa 2	25	15	62.5
6	Olembe	21	11	65.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>104</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>54.7</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

The division of labour between household and market work is related to the utility function of the individuals within the family who are the husband, wife and child or children. To confirm the function of the various family members according to Blau et al, (2010:57), they asserted;

*In case a family has a greater preference for the goods that can allocate more time to market work and buy goods from the market, if they have tastes*

*for goods that are produced in the household work and consume goods produced within the household.*

These family preferences to choices of goods brings in comparative advantage to decide on who should do what and where in the family. As Becker Gary, (1981:78), quipped, “*women have a comparative advantage in domestic work, while men have a comparative advantage in market work.*” As such the female gender - women mostly carry out household activities and the male gender – men engage in carrying out outdoor activities that bring in income to the family. What is interesting here is that both the male and female genders in the family setting are useful for the functioning especially at the economic wellbeing of the family as a basic institution of the society.

According to such viewpoint, when women specialize in household production and the men specialize in market production, and they share what they produce, both men and women maximize their utilities. Many of the road side vendors that were destabilized were women. Many of them like in Nachtigal were involved in the selling of farm produce and cooked food such as fish commonly called ‘ndomba’, yams, plantains, mangoes, pears, oranges, fresh fish, bush meat, banana, pineapple, vegetables of different kinds etc. The group of women into the business of selling ‘ndomba’ in particular at Nachtigal were believed to have and accused of practicing witchcraft that the effect led to the prolonged period for the construction of the bridge as an informant a village notable by name Ndjana Luc, (2020) asserted;

*The women who used to sell ndomba had to use their magic and witchcraft power from their witchcraft meeting to stop the construction of the bridge. The Ntui chief summoned them and asked them to let the work continue as rumors circulated in the town that they were those responsible for the bridge work not progressing as they were boosting around town that they will see how the bridge will pass. They claimed to have locked the project and the padlock to block the work had been thrown into River Sanaga.*

The ability or claims to stop work by the villagers using African mystic or extra ordinary powers is not only seen here. According to Ella Ella et al, (2021:233), quoting an informant asserted;

*We cannot leave this place. If they try that we will see. They will give you a million, what can they do? They have come to mock at people. Let them come and give us the rest of the money. That is what we are waiting for. If they do not come and give us that remaining money, things will not work well there. When the village cries things will not work well there. Don't you know that they have seen that over there?*

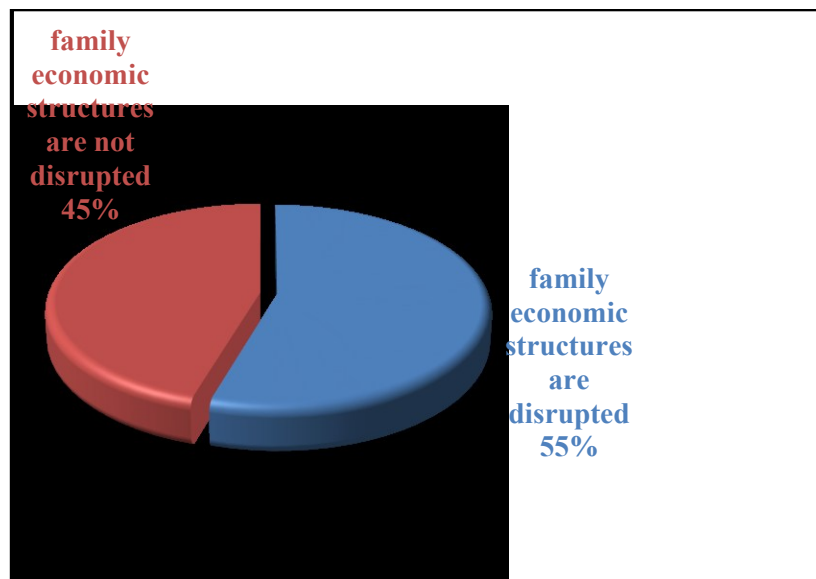
Many attributed the delay in the construction of the bridge to a padlock believed to have been thrown into River Sanaga at Nachtigal by these women who were in to this business that was so flourishing with the traffic around the water side because of lack of a bridge. When this padlock was taken out of the water by these women when they were forced by the local authorities to do so, the bridge was then constructed. And with the construction of the bridge this fish business has died down and many families that got their family members employed by this trade are jobless now. The support these women were giving to the families through this business is no more forth coming. This has created a big vacuum in the family economic structure.

Men on their side are into plantation agriculture especially in the cultivation of cocoa the main cash crop in the locality. Since we shall be presenting more on farm land, the issues defining and surrounding the stakes when it comes to men's contribution to the family economic structure shall be presented. We do not leave out the children and their contribution to the economic functioning of the family.

In the African context, children were and are a source of strong labour to the domestic and agricultural activities which is a problem to children's rights. Children assist their parents in their various tasks. To the women, the female as well as male children assist them in the area of either carrying the cooked food around for sale or in and during the preparation of the food. Here, there is a lot of transmitting of skills, social values and socializing the child with the norms and customs attributed to what they are doing. There is a lot being done through informal training of the child in food preparation and the selling of the food. In the area of assisting the father, children go to the farm and do the clearing and some activities of the farm together with the father. Most of the farm lands are family property.

The ownership of the land is being passed from one generation to another from the same family. With the putting in place of structures by the Chinese in line with the implementation of the "win-win relationship" between Cameroon and China, family land inherited from the parents as well as some family assets are being destroyed. Land is a fixed asset that when it is taken away from you no matter how much compensation is given; you will never get that particular plot. Evidence of the fact that family economic structures are destroyed can be seen from the data presented on table forty (40). Nevertheless, the information and percentages of those who were for the fact that the family economic structure is destroyed with the building of infrastructures by the Chinese in Cameroon are presented on figure thirty-two (32).





**Figure 32: Percentages on Families Economic Structures Destroyed During Construction Works by the Chinese**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Forty (40)

Most individuals as much as over 55% as projected on figure forty (40) in the communities where Chinese have or are carrying out construction works sanction positively the fact that family economic structures have and are being destabilised with the coming of the new structures. As Laverne, (1995:55), asserted, “*The modern world changes at a rapid rate. Each week brings new material goods, new styles of dress, new ways of doing things, and new ideas to challenge existing ideas.*” In fact, children who are to be taken care of by the parents economically in these localities where Chinese are carrying out construction works are seen as potential bread winners for the families from the wages they get as a reward of their labour working with the Chinese. Children challenge their parents financially and take some individual decisions that inflict the whole society of deviant behaviours. According to an informant from Lobo by name Bikaa, (2020) an inhabitant;

*Payment of compensation money have created many problems in our family right to the extent of dead threats. Oh my God! We have had dead threats cases from between my brother and our uncle because of compensation money. My brother has finally escaped the village when he saw that the problems were too much. In fact, compensation money has scattered families. Understanding does not exist again among us.*

The ideology of the father being the bread winner of the family is being highly threatened. Some wives defy their matrimonial beds by going to bed with strangers working

with Chinese. When the immoral sexual relationship yields some financial benefits, such spouses challenge the financial strength of their husbands.

Husbands that have acquired and secured an employment from these Chinese companies doing construction work in these localities at times turn to prostitutes to satisfy their sexual desires. An informant by name Minala, (2020) from Lobo asserted; *“since my husband got work with the Chinese, things started very well but, for now he is doing nothing for the family. When it is payment day, he will take his money and go and drink with prostitutes”*. The wives and children in such families suffer the loss of husband and fatherly love and care. This fatherly love and care are highly developed and well presented in the spirit of the Philadelphia Children’s Network’s (PCN) motto, as BAME, (2000), quipped, *“Help the children. Fix the system.”* So, there is a total destabilisation that has conspicuously meagre into cohere of the family economic structure as a result of the coming in and construction of structures by the Chinese in localities in Yaoundé. The destabilisation comes in and is so projected, especially in the areas where farming facilities and plots have been destroyed as we shall see in the next subheading of this chapter presented.

#### **5.2.1.2 Destruction of Farming Facilities**

People of the Centre Region of Cameroon especially those in Yaoundé and her environs are into cash crop plantation agriculture which is mainly the development of cocoa plantations. Most of these farms are a source of livelihood. Some of these farm lands used for the cultivation of cocoa range from one (1) hectare to ten (10) and above ten hectares. Despite the numerous advantages that come along as the road is constructed in a locality, the construction of the road through a locality is not without stakes and numerous problems.

One of such problems faced by the inhabitants where the road is constructed is that of the destruction of farm lands. With the passage of the road in some of these areas, the farms are divided by the road into two and that makes working the two halves remaining after the road has occupied the rest very difficult. In some areas for instance, Lobo, the edges of the Yaoundé-Douala highway are blocked with wires to prevent people and animals from crossing the road anywhere and at any time. According to an informant Elouga, (2020), a farmer at Lobo quipped;

*One part of my farm is at the other side of the road and the rest this other way. For me to go to the other part of the farm I have to trek about a kilometre where there is an entrance before walking again the other side about a kilometre before I can enter the part of this very farm that is on the other side of the road. Was the road coming to help or to punish us? We do*

*not understand why these people are punishing us this way. What crime did we commit? After seizing my land and little or nothing is given in return as compensation, now they are blocking us from freely moving from one part of our farms to another with an iron fence that we do not know what they are even blocking.*

This restricts some of the farmers from just crossing the road to the other part of their farms. This wired fence covers kilometres before allowing a passage space only in case there is a road crossing the main high way. Examples of such type of destruction of cocoa farms are presented on plate seven (07).



**Photo 10a and b: Part of cocoa plantation destroyed at Obala for pipe borne water**

Source: Mnkong, 14/09/2020



**Photo 10c: Part of cocoa plantation destroyed at Nachtigal**

Source: Mnkong, 14/09/2020

**Plate 7: Photos of Farming Facilities Partially Destroyed for Construction Works to Take Place in Localities in Yaoundé**

This brings the individual or family that owns the farm to point zero where he or she has to start again to develop another farm land. For cocoa to grow and start yielding cocoa fruits, it must at least take up to three (03) to five (05) years depending on the type of seedling specie planted by the owner of the farm in question. The issue might not only be that after three (03) to five (05) years a new farm will start producing. The farms destroyed in these localities at times are farm plots that have dated more than ten (10) years and their productivity used to be very high. As years increase and the plants grow older and bigger, the more they bear and productivity increases.

Some of these cocoa farms destroyed have not been planted by those working in now. Many are family inheritance. It takes patience and endurance and hardship with a lot of financial and manual labour from the owner of a land to develop a cocoa farm to fruition especially with hash climatic conditions nowadays.

Many of those that their farms are destroyed, risk being kept out of the business of being farmers especially with the fact that the climatic conditions now are not at all favourable for the development of new cocoa farms. Many are those who have loaned money to develop cocoa farms and have ended up abandoning or selling back the farms without any profits as a result of the obstacles around or surrounding developing a cocoa farm to the level of harvesting from such a plantation. That is why you see the government putting in subsidies and negotiating with financial institutions to assist the farmers especially in the cocoa and coffee sector. Such cases of negotiating with banks and financial institutions for assistance is like the convention signed by the Finance Ministers (Louis Paul MOTAZE) with the local banks to give loans of up to 200 billion Francs CFA with low interest rates to farmers who are into cocoa and coffee cultivation as announced over the Cameroon Radio and Television (CRTV).<sup>44</sup> Not only cocoa farmers and farming facilities as well as plots are at stake. Some family business structures and facilities have disappeared to give way for the construction of roads, sporting facilities and government houses and offices by the Chinese who are to implement the “win-win relationship” in the area of infrastructural development of Cameroon.

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<sup>44</sup> CRTV news, 2021, 7:30PM news 22/07/2021

### 5.2.1.3 Destruction of Family Business Structures

Families do not only live together but also do things as well as business together. This is just an item to confirm the saying that human beings are social beings and love living together. With this interrelationship between individuals, Elias, (1970:135), quipped;

*As social units become bigger and more stratified, new forms of emotional bond will be found. As well as interpersonal bonds there will be bonds connecting people to the symbols of larger units, to coats of arms, to flags and to emotionally-charge concepts.*

This brings us to the point of seeing individuals as complex and diverse in behaviour and interaction. According to Munch, (1982:771-826), citing Talcott Parson, said, “*the core of the action theory is the assertion that every action is to be understood as a product of the interaction of dynamizing and control of forces.*” The construction of houses along the roads by inhabitants where Chinese companies mostly carry out construction works are for multiple functions that are to be studied to have an understanding. These multiple functions are in line with Parsons organized social systems in terms of action units, where one action executed by an individual is one unit.

To these multiple purposes that bring about multiple actions from individuals in the society, each action is seen as a social system with network of interactions between actors. This makes us through Parson’s eyes to view society and especially the family as a system. According to Munch, (1982), asserted;

*Here this social system is made up of four action systems which are social, cultural, personal systems and behavioral organism. (...) any social system has four basic functional prerequisites which are adaptation, goal attainment, integration and pattern maintenance. These can be seen as problems that society must solve if it is to survive. We can use AGIL to enlighten ourselves of these four basic functional prerequisites. -A= Adaptation- a system must adapt to its environment. -G= Goal attainment- a system must define and achieve its primary goals -I= integration- a system must maintain a relationship with its other parts and -L= Latency- a system must maintain and renew both the motivation of individual. Adaptation to the environment is at the center of our presentation.*

The human interdependence has also acted as a catalyst and influenced the living together of individuals in well-defined different settlements.

The living together of human beings has brought about different forms of human settlements and human settlement has become one of the interesting areas of study to social scientist. According to Fouda, (2015), “*from the results of these studies, the distribution of human settlements in specific regions and land scape is not a random phenomenon, throughout*

*time and space settlement locations have been influenced by different factors.*” This distribution of human settlements has given birth to three different principal types of settlements which might include nucleated settlement pattern, spaced or dispersed settlement, and linear settlement. These settlements are different in their appearance and operation or functioning of individuals in these different patterns.

Reviewing environmental impact and best practices, linear settlements are usually oriented or follow the river bounds or as well road sides. As for the case of the Centre Region of Cameroon especially in Yoko Sub Division in the Mbam and Kim Division and her environs according to FOUUDA, (2015), asserted; *“all settlements nowadays are concentrated along the main road and the ancient architecture has receded in favour of modern forms”*. To construct by the road sides, there are rules and regulations to be followed. With a view to prevent congestion and ensure safety, there are guidelines permitting building near District, state and National as well as International Highways.

According to Raju, (2021), quipped;

*For buildings near Expressway, you should be located at a distance of 15m from an expressway (the distance between the centre of the road and building will be 60m). For the national highway, buildings should be located at a distance of 3m to 6m from the road (the distance between the centre of the road and the building will be 60m). When constructing on the state highway, buildings should be located at a distance of 4.5m away from the state highway (the distance between the centre of the road and the building should be 20m). And finally, when constructing a house, the building should be located at a distance of 4.5m from the district highway (the distance between the centre of the road and the building will be 15m).*

Many people who construct along the road sides at times do not respect the dimensions given when you are to build beside the road. With high rural urban migration in Cameroon especially with many escaping crisis Regions to the centre Region, many have rushed to quarters where town planning has not previewed for construction and are carrying out construction works in those areas. Little or nothing is respected in terms of dimensions of the road as many acquire land from landlords who are those to decide the portions to be allocated for the roads in the quarter and areas under construction. Town planning is facing a lot of problems as it is the population opening the forest and going and the government is coming behind. At times, the former road is too small and the distance to be observed before constructing beside the road are obeyed by those constructing just for the government to come out with another design for a new road to replace the small and narrow former road. When

government decides and such a road is to be enlarged, the consequences will be the destruction of houses that have not respected the given dimensions for the construction of houses beside the road as we see demolition everywhere in the city.

Some of these houses are homes and some are meant for business. In fact, most of the houses so close to the roads are business houses. These houses have been acting as the source of revenue to the owners and the users alike. Some of these houses are either stores or residential homes for those on rents. Some of these houses are used as stores and shops, and play a double rule when it comes to financing. Most of these shops and stores are not used by the owners for business. On the one hand, many of the shops and stores are given out on rents.

These rents are a source of income to the owner of the building who gives out the building for rents. On the other hand, those renting the structures as shops and stores also make up a living from the profits they make from the sale of goods and services they render in those structures. Thus, the making up of a living from the shops and stores come from the profits and gains from the sale of items kept in these structures. Nevertheless, many types of mini businesses take place on these road side buildings, kiosk and shades. Some of such mini businesses in these structures include bars, tailoring workshops, hair dressing salons, food stores, restaurants, photo studios, cyber cafés, call boxes, garages, and cool stores just to name a few as we can see when moving along the streets in the various urban areas.

The demolition of these structures brings about misery and the high stakes of increasing rates of unemployment and misemployment that these people are already going through. The issue of the risk of increased unemployment and misemployment is not only facing those at the road sides but also the construction contract enterprise in Cameroon especially with the coming of Chinese and their involvement in the construction of infrastructures in the country.

### **5.2.2 Risk of local Contract Enterprise Instability**

One of the stakes that is very vital and necessary to dig into understand when it comes to the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon is in the contract, especially the construction contract enterprise of the country. An informant by name Apongwun, (2020) a contractor asserted;

*Profit making projects of the government are given to the Chinese and other international construction companies like RAZEL and ARAB Construction. Only chaffs in the name of contracts are given us. At times you borrow from the bank to carry out a project and at the end of the day you are unable to*

*even pay back the money loaned from the bank and the financial institution is on your neck reimburse the money.*

The local construction contract enterprise is under threats with the coming and carrying out of projects by Chinese construction companies in Cameroon. For more understanding of what contract enterprise is, it is necessary to note that a construction contract provides a legal binding agreement, for both the owner and the contractor, that the executed job will receive the specific amount of compensation or how the compensation will be distributed. According to Rodriguez, (2019), *“there are several types of construction contracts used in the industry, but there are certain types of construction contracts preferred by construction professionals”*. Among these many construction contracts are the following common types of construction contracts that are mostly practiced in Cameroon the lump sum or fixed price contract type, cost plus contract, time and material contracts when scope is not clear, and unit pricing contracts;

#### **1) Lump Sum or Fixed Price Contract Type**

The lump sum type of contract involves a total fixed price for all construction-related activities. It is called lump sum because the contractor is required to submit a total and global price instead of bidding on individual items. All the activities to be carried out are under the sponsorship and care of the contractor. What the owner expects from the contractor at the end of the day is the job done. For this to be done, this contract is applied when the risk needs to be transferred to the contractor and the owner wants to avoid change order for unspecified work. The lump sum therefore, reduces the owner’s risk. The contractor includes some percentage cost as compensation with carrying that risk. This percentage is hidden in the fixed price. Apart from this type of contract we also have the cost-plus contract.

#### **2) Cost Plus Contracts,**

As the name implies, the cost-plus contract involves payment of the actual costs, purchases or other expenses generated directly from the construction activity. Here, the contract must take into consideration specific information about a certain pre-negotiated amount as labour cost and covering contractor’s overhead and profit.

There are multiple variations of cost-plus contracts and the most common are cost plus fixed percentage, cost plus fixed fee, cost plus with guaranteed maximum price contract, and cost plus with guaranteed maximum price as well as the bonus contract. From the cost-plus contracts, we have the time and material contracts when scope is not clear as presented subsequently in this write up.



### 3) Time and Material Contracts When Scope is not Clear,

Time and material contracts are usually preferred if the project scope is not clear, or has not been defined. The owner and the contractor must establish an agreed hourly or daily rate, including additional expenses that could arise in the construction process. Away from the time and material contracts when scope is not clear, we have the unit pricing contracts.

### 4) Unit Pricing Contracts.

Unit pricing contracts is probably another type of contract commonly used by contractors and in federal agencies. Unit price can also be set during the bidding process as the owner requests specific quantities and pricing for a pre-determined number of unitized items. Unit price can easily be adjusted up and or down during scope changes, making it easier for the owner and the contractor to reach into agreements during change orders.

When a contract is awarded to a contractor, he or she can, for the sake of time go in for what is called sub-contracting. If not for time consciousness, some specific tasks require specific specialist and for these tasks to be carried out the contractors go in for sub-contracting. At times it is the lack of some equipment by a particular company and for the work to go on there is need for sub-contracting.

Under the sub-contracting, the sub-contractor might not be bound to respect some of the rules of the main contractor. For instance, a sub-contractor might not be obliged to pay his or her workers such amounts as expected from the main contractor. The amount to pay workers working under the sub-contractor is the sole responsibility of the sub-contractor.

With the clarification of the various types of contracts involved in the construction contract enterprise, it is necessary to present the risk or the stakes faced by this sector with the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development of Cameroon. Before going into look at the stakes, it is necessary to bring out a list of Cameroon contracting companies that are facing these stakes. They include amongst others the following;

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -GROUPEMENT PRISMASARL    | -ECTA BTP                   |
| -GROUPEMENT EGIS CAMEROUN | -EGIS ROUTE                 |
| -BRETCAM                  | -ECTA BTP                   |
| -REGIE                    | -STE VICKY AND SONS SARL BP |

-CADEK  
 -ETS PAPSON ET FILS  
 -ECODIS SARL  
 -HECOTRAPE  
 -GRPT MEDCOM  
 SERA SARL  
 SOCIETE NONA TRADING SARL  
 -ETS LA CONCORDE  
 -ETS OYOKI BUSINESS  
 -Y-CONSULT  
 -LABOGENIE  
 -COBA CONSTRUCTION  
 -ETS KOURRA SERVICE  
 -ETS NDJEMBE SARL  
 -ETS CAMEROON GOOD MARKS  
 -SOCIETE VINC & AYA SARL  
 -ETS GFPV  
  
 -ETS DELTA BTP  
  
 -ETS NELKA  
 -AGAMAR  
 -ETS LEKONG ET CIE  
 -ETS NCHINDA  
 -SOMABEL CONSTRUCTION  
 -BUNS SARL  
 -TOBOH BATIMENT ET SERVICES  
 -TAMSO  
 -ETS ABOMO & FILS  
 -ETS PATHERSON  
 -GROUPE DANA SERVICE SARL  
 -GROUPE ETS GLOBE STAR  
 TRADING  
  
 -SOCOPSER SA  
 -ETS NEW SERVICE JJR  
 -ETS CIBS CAMEROUN BP14 YDE  
 -CABONCOR CAMEROON  
 -SOGETRACOM  
 -ETS FCG-SIC  
 -ETS LE CONQUERANT  
 -ETS CRISTEL CLAIR  
 -ETS MARA  
 -ETS FRANFER  
 -MGBATOU  
 -SIDNEY CGES  
 LAND SERVICE SARL  
 -ETS ALMOBI ET FILS  
 -ETS SATRAC  
 -ETS GE GROUP SARL  
 -GROUPE BERNARD ET FILS BP 3969  
 YDE  
 -GROUPEMENT GROUPE AFRICA  
 TECHNIC  
 -ETS TARMARK BUSINESS SARL  
 -ETS MAX BTP  
 -FIRST TOOL  
 -ETS SAT  
 -ETS GROUPE PHENIX LE BEST  
 -LOUIS BERGER SA  
 -DDTP/HS  
 -SOCIETE KETS SARL  
 -ETS BATRAP  
 -ETS Y-CONSULT  
 -GROUPE AKIM  
 -DETEK TP SARL

-ETS MARTONY	-ETS AFA
-ETS FRANTER	-SOCATRACO SARL
-GRPT BOFAS	- SERTA BTP
-ARSUCK SARL	-CETP SARL
-BEC LA ROUTIERE	-GROUPEMENT INTEG
-AFRIC PROMO SARL	-GENERAL ENGINEERING
-ETS NORD CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE	

Having presented the list of these constructing Cameroonian companies and enterprises, our preoccupation is now to have the tip of an ice-berg of the risks and stakes they are passing through with the coming of the Chinese construction firms under the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China.

#### **5.2.2.1 Contractors Technical Unemployment**

Cameroon’s Contractors and contract enterprise in general are negatively affected with the coming of the Chinese to carry out construction work in Cameroon. Many contractors do not have the capacity to compete with the international contractors especially contractors from China who are mostly state owned and as well subsidised contractors. This incapacity to compete with the international contractors especially contractors from China has caused the national or the Cameroonian local contractors to be running out of business in this sector that is still poorly developed and invested into by Cameroonians. The few Cameroonians that have invested in this sector when they cannot stand the strength of the international firms in this sector, they are pushed out of business and they become unemployed. An informant lamented;

*As a contractor I’m just struggling to survive. It is not easy with us my son. Can you imagine, my son I gave over sixty-five million (65,000,000) to a lady in the ministry who promised connecting me to the minister so that when there is a big contract in the ministry, I should be recommended. This transaction took place four (04) years ago, and up till today as we are talking, no contract has been awarded in my name and no money given back. Every day she keeps on promising me the contract will come to no avail. Now that I have discovered that she is just playing over me, when I wanted my money back, it has become a serious problem as the lady in question confessed not to have ever known me when the case was taken to the elements of law and order. It was when she was picked up that her husband came begging that they will look for my money and that the issue be treated as a*

*family matter and for the sake of long-time friendship. I have nothing doing for now as a contractor and one is playing with my money, can you imagine!*

This unemployment of contractors is effectuated as huge or big government contracts that could boost the constructing contract sector in Cameroon are given to China and other western contractors. Through the bidding method of awarding contracts to contractors, the local contractors have a low capacity to compete with these giant contractors from Asia and Europe continents. They are highly technically equipped with heavy duty machines and highly qualified human resource personnel.

Not only do they have these machines and personnel in place, they also have a huge financial capital that can enable them carry out projects without waiting for government funding before they ever start work like with the case with the local contractors that even when a contract is already awarded them, they still wait for the government to finance before the project will ever start. In most cases, when work is given to the local contractors it ends up not well executed because of so many reasons. Some of these reasons include the government bottlenecks through which the contract is supposed to pass through before execution, low human resource capital and inadequate technical equipment just to name a few.

These government bottlenecks also take into consideration the flow of finance through many hands before reaching the contractors and at every bottleneck, some sort of liquidation slangs such as, ‘*oiling of the government officials’ mouths*’ is carried out. At the end of the day huge sums of money are spent out of the total sum meant for the execution of the project. That is what we call corruption especially in the area of infrastructural development in Cameroon. To this corruption, according to Can, (2018), President Paul Biya said, “*corruption is not only a moral crime, but also an economic crime as it steals in a large proportion of our financial possibilities and deprives us of the profound necessities to the realisations due to unacceptable mismanagement.*” The end result of this deviant behaviour of the state workers, is poor execution of the projects and low-quality results from the execution of the projects especially executed by the local or national contractors. As Emmanuel, (2018), quipped “*Although the fight against corruption in the past decades is gradually being inscribed in the collective psyche of the citizenry, a lot still has to be done*”. The issue of corruption has landed many civil servants in prison. In the area of infrastructural development many government officials have answered present in courts and in prisons because of this deviant behaviour. A vivid example is seen as many civil servants that have been involved in the process of compensation which is just one aspect of carrying out projects have been to prison according the daily news,

newspapers in Cameroon. According to Ella Ella et al, (2021:153), quoting the Daily News, News Paper quipped;

*Some individuals are actually held in detention in the Central Prison of Kondengui in Yaoundé; such as Jean Francois Villon, former D.O. of Ocean Division on retirement, his second assistant now the S.D.O. of Bangante Sub-Division, Joseph Andre Eyebe, Hubet Bassala former S.D.O. of Kribi 1, Ngoun, and Divisional Delegate of Agriculture for the Ocean Division, Placide and Belobo a geometre.*

In addition, Ella Ella et al, (2021:153), quoting Mbassi, of the daily newspaper Cameroon Tribune, also confirms here that;

*Compensation of the Kribi Deep Sea Port alone have sent ten (10) people, Thursday 05 May early morning to the Central Prison of Kondengui in Yaoundé. this implies different administrative authorities of the Ocean Division who are today on retirement such as Jean Francois Villon, the then D.O. of Ocean Division, but also the former S.D.O. of Kribi 1, the assistant S.D.O. of Kribi 1, and the first assistant S.D.O. of Kribi 1. On the list is added the new S.D.O. of Bangante Sub-Division Joseph Andre Eyebe, installed last 25<sup>th</sup> April to his functions. The six (06) other persons questioned or under detention are the Divisional Chief of Service of the MINCAF and that of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. It means all the members of the identification commission and the censuring of the victimised population of expropriation in the frame of the said project.*

When output is highly affected by this corruption in the contracting sector, the citizens suffer the poor performance from the contractors and the contractors are faced with the difficulties of executing the contracts they have been given.

With the coming of the Chinese and her ‘Soft Power Policy’ that has facilitated her activities and easy access to gaining contracts in Cameroon, the local contractors who have been barely surviving are at the verge of collapsing. Many of them now run from one government office to another in search of contracts to no avail. Even small as well as big projects are awarded to foreigners especially foreigners from China. Small projects right down to road maintenance are in their hands. They grapple everything that comes their way as a project. This has made the availability of projects to the local contractors very difficult. This low availability of contracts awarded to local contractors create an atmosphere of unemployment in this sector of activities to the contractors though, Cameroon is ‘a chantier’ as once said by the President of the Republic of Cameroon in 2012 end of year speech but, these construction sites are in the hands of foreigners and the local contractors are spectators when it comes to the execution of these projects.

This does not only affect the contractors, but also the technical sector as many of the Chinese contractors come along with their technicians to execute the tasks given them. They

have not only limited themselves to the bringing of only the technicians but right down to the common labour. When there is the shipping of technicians and labour from China to Cameroon to do construction work the end results on the Cameroonian technicians and labour side are unemployment and as well misemployment. This unemployment and misemployment bring about technical unemployment in the country.

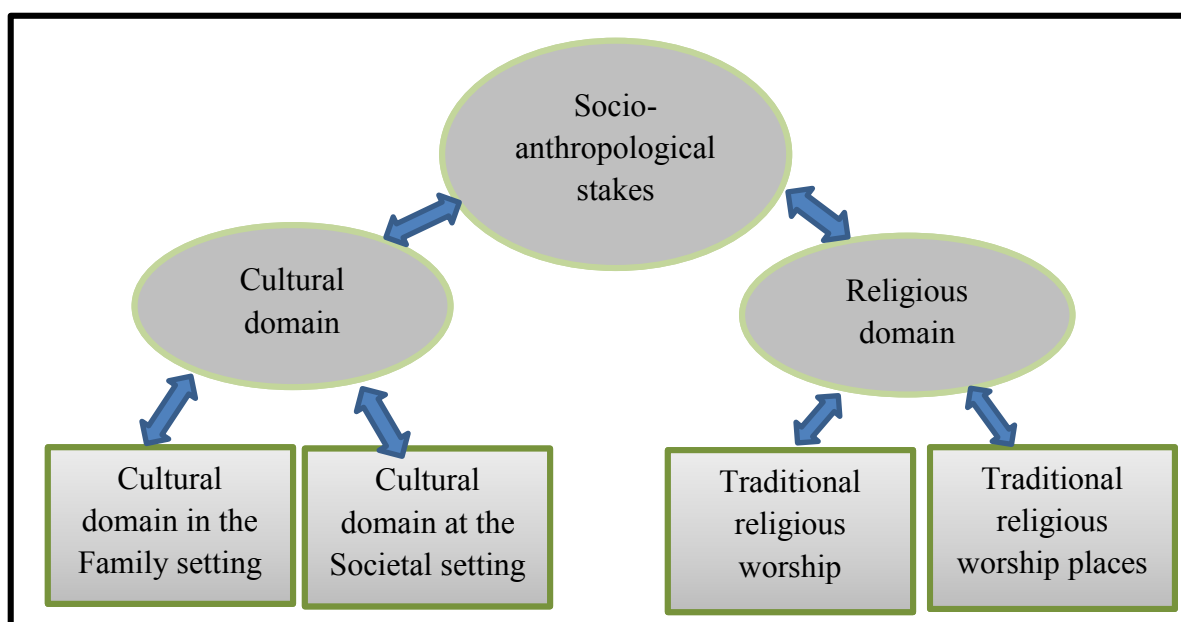
### **5.2.2.2 Technical Unemployment of Local Engineers**

As Chinese construction companies come both with the machines and the human resources to assist Cameroon in her endeavour to develop in the area of infrastructure, danger looms at the locally trained engineers and technicians for this sector. One of these dangers is increase unemployment. One of the focuses of the state towards the citizens is to create jobs and employment. According to Njio tang, (2018), this is confirmed by the speech of The Head of state President Paul Biya in Douala on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1997 who said, *“as usual, within the past thirty years, the state has been the first investor and the first employer, thanks to her services and also thanks to her establishment or putting in place or creating the public sector and the parastatal sectors”*. That is why we hear of after the state as the number one employer in Cameroon is the CDC. The state employs through recruitment of civil servants, contract workers, and state agents and through parastatal organisations. With the giving out of contracts for the construction of state infrastructural facilities, jobs are also being created. When the construction of these state infrastructures that create jobs are in the hands of foreigners, they direct these job opportunities especially highly paid positions to their workers from their countries. The lowly paid positions are then handed to the local specialised as well as non-specialised labour. This brings in class conflict at the work sites.

Class conflict occurs not only over the division between wages and profits, but over the labour process itself and the authority relations associated with it. The ability of one class to exploit the other is to a large degree defined by the capacity of the exploited class to prevent it. The trading approach that China has adopted is that which where all, including services, come from China without transfer of technology to a greater extent is a serious call for concern. How do we sustain when we don't have the know-how? The cry and the lamenting situation with the coming of Chinese in the development of infrastructure in Cameroon is not only limited to the socio-economic stakes but also extended to the risks at the socio-anthropological level in the areas where Chinese are and or have carried out construction projects.

### 5.3 Socio-Anthropological Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” At the Level of Infrastructural Development.

Cameroonians welcome the process of societal modernization on the one hand and on the other hand lament on the cultural stakes provided by the facilitating factors of this modernism. Much of the work on developing the infrastructure concentrates on economic issues while much damage is being done at the level of maintaining the beliefs, culture and norms of the communities where these structures are being erected. The diversity of the socio-anthropological stakes involved in the Chinese construction of structures in Yaoundé is elaborated as illustrated on figure thirty-three (33).



**Figure 33: Diversity of the Socio-Anthropological Stakes**

**Source:** Field Survey 2020

Figure forty-one (41) indicates that the socio-anthropological stakes in the area of infrastructural development put in place by the Chinese as a result of “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon that we shall be talking on are in two (02) different areas. These two (02) areas include the cultural instability that affects directly the Cultural domain in the Family setting that its influence extends to the Cultural domain at the societal level. The second area is the traditional religious domain. The traditional religious stakes range from the destruction of traditional worship places and artefacts to the distortion in the traditional religious worship practices. We shall start by examining the socio-anthropological stakes at the cultural domain before getting to see the areas where traditional

religious places and beliefs are distorted or destroyed with the construction of structures by Chinese in Cameroon.

### 5.3.1 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain

To gather information on the socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development at the cultural domain, question twenty-one (21) section four (04) of the questionnaire to the inhabitants of the localities where Chinese are or have carried out construction work was formulated. Information collected with the help of this question is presented on table forty-one (41).

**Table 41: Cultural Aspects Affected as a Result of the Putting in Place of the Structures by Chinese**

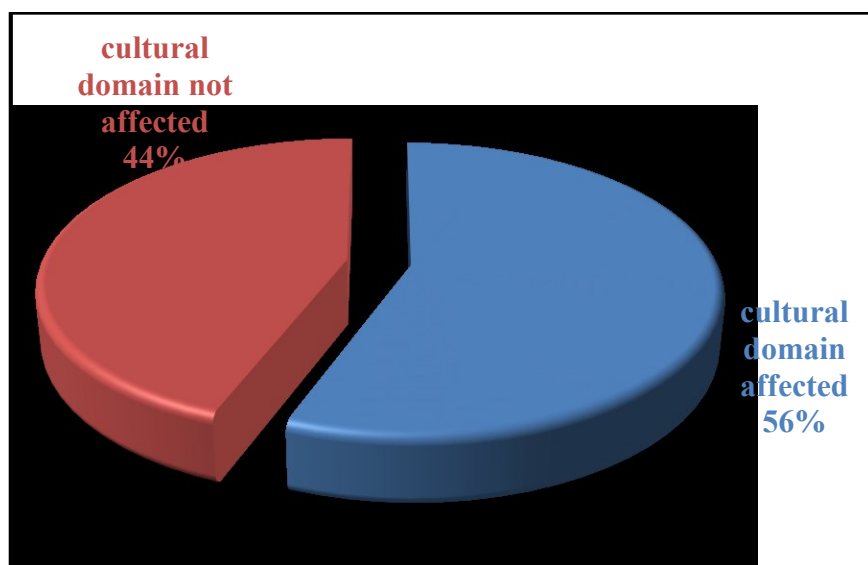
No.	Locality	Cultural aspect affected		% of those for
		Yes	No	
1	Ahala	12	15	40
2	Lobo	10	07	50
3	Nachtigal	21	03	87.5
4	Mvog-Betsi	13	21	38
5	Mballa 2	11	13	45.8
6	Olembe	19	09	67.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>54.85</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

Taking into consideration that culture is the shared products of human groups which could be material artefacts and nonmaterial as well as physical objects or abstract human creation, there is no doubt that the coming of the new structures put in place by the Chinese in Cameroon, will bring about the uttering of the culture of those localities where these structures are produced. In fact, the construction of these structures automatically brings about a change in the material physical objects of the localities. Nevertheless, we still have other nonmaterial abstract components of culture of these localities that are affected with the coming and presence of the Chinese in those localities. Such areas of culture that are affected include among others the symbols, language, values and norms of those areas where Chinese have and are carrying out construction work.



From statistics presented on table forty-one (41), 54.85% of the informants were for the fact that they have or are witnessing a change in their cultural domain. Some of the informants decided to be mute about the issue of getting to know whether their culture is affected or not. The rest of the informants were of the point that the coming of the Chinese and carrying out construction work has not or is not affecting their culture in one way or the other. Concerning the percentages of the response to this investigation on how the culture is affected with the coming of the Chinese, with data from table forty-one (41), figure thirty-four (34) has been put in place to give us a better understanding.



**Figure 34: Percentages of Cultural Aspects Affected with Construction Works by Chinese**

**Source:** Data Collected from Table Forty (41)

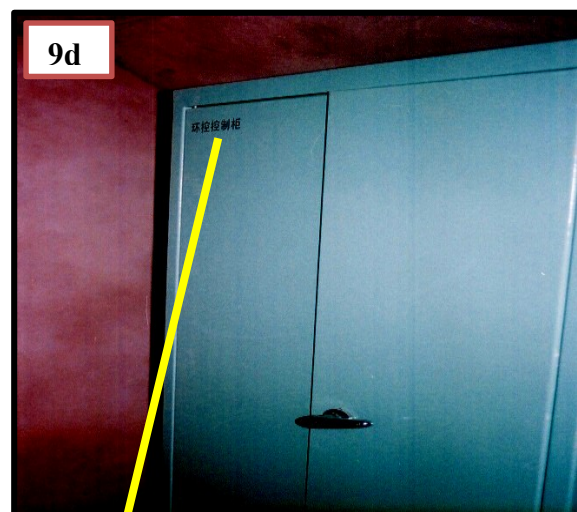
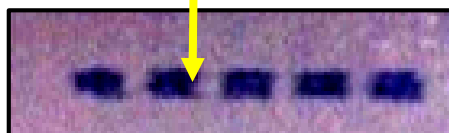
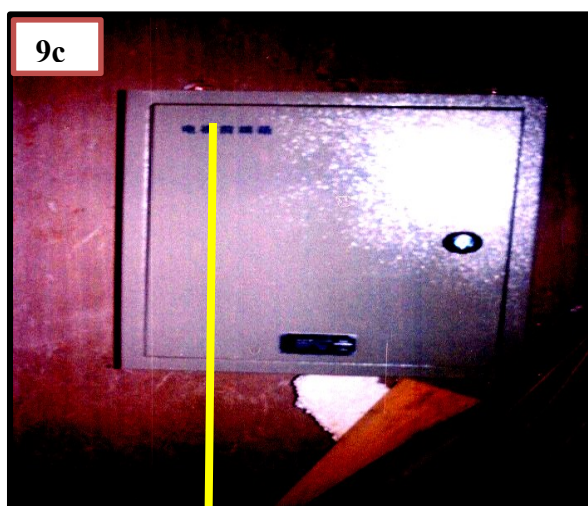
Generally speaking, the culture in the area of symbolic representation has witnessed increasing notification of the public through the use of sign boards with Chinese inscriptions. Where ever the Chinese are working, their sign boards are designed with the use of Chinese native language handwriting, French or English language and the use of drawings. In most cases the highly visible presentations are in the Chinese native language handwriting and at times not followed by the English or French languages that are the official languages of Cameroon as shown on plate eight (08).



**Photo 11a: picture of the entrance into the construction carried out by the chinese behind the Ministry of Justice.**



**Picture 11b: Road sign board at Ahala.**



**Picture 11c and 11d: Represent permanent instruments labelled in Chinese language at Olembe.**

**Plate 8: Sign Boards and Instruments all Written in Chinese Language**

Source: Mnkong Unity 8-09-2015/ 14-10-2020

The structures with these instruments labeled in Chinese language are to be used by Cameroonians. ‘9c’ is an electric system box and ‘9d’ is a water system box all labeled in mandarin to be used by Cameroonians most of whom do not know how to speak or write Chinese. Every sign of communication has a significant meaning attached to it. If the meaning of the sign cannot be understood by the receptor, then, communication has not taken place. For these Chinese writings to have meaning to the Cameroonians who are to be using these structures, they should be translated into French and or English - the official languages of the Republic of Cameroon. If this is done, some of these language barriers will be broken as Chinese associate with the Cameroonians.

Nevertheless, due to the persistence use of Chinese language by Chinese workers in interacting with Cameroonian workers, Cameroonians are gradually getting acquainted to the speaking of the Chinese language. For instance, many Cameroonians working with the Chinese as an informant a worker at Ahala by name Ngala, (2020) asserted; *“I can greet, “ni hao”, as well as I can name some of the common tools we are using and say good bye in Chinese language”*.

The acquisition of the Chinese language is not only the affair of the work place. A Chinese language centre was created to help the interested Cameroonians to learn how to read and write the Chinese language. The Confucius Institute is the group in charge of the teaching of the Chinese language. The head office of this institute was created in IRIC in 1996. This institute has around 08 (eight) centres all over the country. Some of these teaching centres include;

- 1) University of Maroua in Maroua,
- 2) Saint Andrew Bilingual School Douala,
- 3) IRIC, University of Yaoundé II, and
- 4) International School Complex La Gaité Yaoundé.

The activities of the institute were first launched in the Higher Teacher Training College of Yaoundé (ENS Yaoundé). With the interest shown by the students, the activities were extended to the University of Maroua where another Confucius Centre was created. After the creation of this centre in the Far North Region, other centres have been created in Douala and Buea. Now many secondary schools have opened their doors for the teaching of the Chinese language. Like other foreign languages, the Chinese language is taught in Lycée d’Emana and other lycées in the country. Many who are learning the Chinese language in Cameroon are students, who want to further their education in China. Apart from students we also have

business men who want to carry out their business transactions with the Chinese. Others are simply learning the Chinese to increase their chances of being employed in Chinese firms in Cameroon. For instance, an informant by name Babong, (2020) interpreter at Nachtigal quipped;

*I and my friend are interpreters of the Chinese language in this work place. We are from the North of Cameroon. We studied Chinese language in the University of Maroua and now we are working with the Chinese here in Nachtigal as interpreters. We interpret when ever a visitor comes and wants to talk with the Chinese. We also help give explanations to the Cameroonian workers as chinese chiefs of service give instructions on how a particular task is to be carried out by this workers. Also we read and interpret letters and official documents to the Chinese.*

So, many go for studies at the Confucius institutes with different intentions for the purpose of learning the Chinese language.

Some even go because they want to become Chinese language teachers. To this effect, some of the activities in this language teaching learning centre include; Chinese Cartography competition, Chinese food festival and the lantern garden parties, Taijiquan Course, Chinese speaking Contest “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition, and Crayon Drawing Competition for the Primary Pupils.

Despite the ample increase in the learning and teaching of Chinese language in Cameroon confucius centres and schools, note should be taken that, there are thousands upon thousands of Cameroonians that cannot offer a single word or even greet in Chinese language. When one is moving around some of the Chinese projects sites, there are permanent instrument labels only in Chinese writing. The permanent instruments labels only in the Chinese language is the case with the sign boards and instruments shown in plate eight (08), pictures 9a, 9b, 9c and 9d as presented previously in this write up.

### **5.3.1.1 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain in the Family Setting.**

With the coming of the infrastructure put in place as a result of the “win-win relationship”, the way of life in societies where these structures are put in place have not remained the same as in the past. Their way of behaviour and believe as well as the way they make their lives meaningful is changing to suit the order of the day. The win-win relation has torn away from the family relations its sentimental veil, and has reduced the family relation to a mere money relation. Like quipped Karl Marx and Frederick Engels quoted by Anthias and

Kelly, (1995) “*All fixed, fast-frozen relations, with their trains of ancient and venerable prejudices and opinions, are swept away, all new formed ones become antiquated before they can ossify.*” At the level of the family setting, there have been some influences especially when it comes to the female gender. The labourers especially the Negroids (hardly do you see the Mongoloids doing love to the Negroids women) that work with these Chinese companies develop interest to make love with the ladies in localities where these structures are put in place.

The end product of most of these love affairs is unwanted pregnancies. When work is progressively getting finished or like is in the case of road construction, when these men leave for other areas, some of them abandon these mothers with their children. An example is one of our informants by name Ngalona, (2020) at Lobo, who said;

*Since the construction of the stretch of the Yaoundé-Douala auto road through this locality ended and the workers went to the neighbouring localities to continue work over there, I have not seen or heard from the father of my child. The guy has stopped calling and sending me things and money for the child. I have been the only one taking care of the child. I am still trusting God that one day he will come to us again.*

This and many other cases are leading to rise in the rate of single parenting. Single parenting with most of the ladies without a sustainable job that can enable them live well with the children that their fathers have abandoned and disappeared into thin air. This is bringing in untold poverty and increased illiteracy rates as the ladies drop out of school and the children they have will not be chanced to be educated as well because the single parents can not afford to sponsor their children to school.

Some of the women or female sex, have ended up detaching themselves from their families to follow their husbands that came because of work and finally fell in love that ended up in marriage.

Not only children and marriages are taking place, at times the labourers fall in love with the villagers’ wives and this result to divorce and the destruction of marriages. Many marriages are in jeopardy due to this action of the workers committing adultery with the wives of the men in these villages. One of the factors that contribute to this act of adultery is the spending of money by these guys in the localities where work is going on especially on pay days. Many of these workers spend much of their money paid to them as wages for their work with the Chinese on women and as most of the villagers are of poor backgrounds their wives easily fall into the

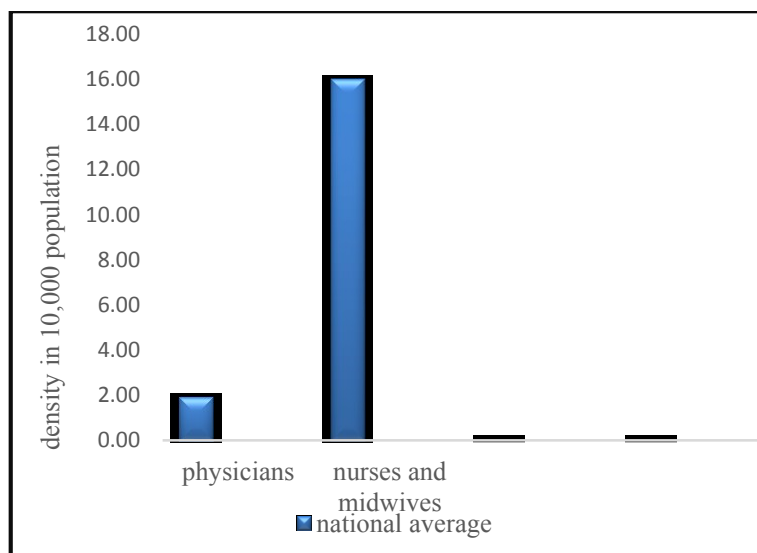
temptation to accept the stranger's money for sexual pleasure that end up in most cases with unwanted pregnancy. When the pregnancy occurs, it acts like an exhibit of infidelity.

Apart from the infidelity, sexually transmissible diseases are also one of the stake at the family level with the construction of these infrastructures. As workers move from one job area to another and meeting different sexual partners, most of them end up being infected. One of the courses of these infections is that many of them do not use contraceptives when having sex with strangers. As they have sex with the villagers and leave for the other site, those villagers that their relations with these strangers do not end up in married are left in their villagers. At the end of the day, the male villagers also fall in love with those who have been infected and the end result is the spread of these sexually transmissible diseases. When this transmission happens, it does not only affect the health of the infected but also the economic and social life of the infected individuals.

At the economic level, the infected persons do not have the energy and the good health to carry out economic activities that can provide the finances for the smooth running of the family. This also hinders and reduces the progress of those depending. This category of dependence includes the children for those who have siblings, the old and even the parents that could be expecting from these young infected persons and forced to get into struggling to see how the sick can be treated. For them to be treated at times, a lot of time is wasted as the patient is to be taken to the hospital. According to the global health workforce alliance, the WHO/Cameroon reports according to 2010 fact sheet, Cameroon is one of the African nations experiencing a crisis in human resources for health. There are 1.1 physicians and 7.8 nurses and midwives per 10,000 population WHO AHWO Cameroon Fact Sheet, (2010)<sup>45</sup>. The national average of nurses, nurses and midwives' ratio is provided on figure thirty-five (35).

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<sup>45</sup> WHO / Cameroon, [<https://www.who.int/who-cameroon>], visited on 7 /08/2020



**Figure 35: Human Resource for Health Population Ratio in Cameroon**

**Source:** Adapted from WHO / Cameroon, <https://www.who.int>

With the limited hospitals not to talk of the ratio between doctors to patients, the process of treatment takes a lot of time especially where at times a whole Sub-Division has no medical doctor, a lot of time is consumed and wasted for no good reason.

Socially stigmatisation of the infected persons with some popular diseases like HIV/AIDS, have led some of the patients to stop taking their medications regularly. Some of these patients even stopped taking their appointments with their doctors or medical personnel. Personnel in charge of screening HIV/AIDS Yangsi, (2020) asserted;

*When some of the infected patients are called by the various hospital personnel, they will claim that the hospital has made a mistake with an excuse that they are not sick. Some have abandoned the hospitals for spiritual means in some of the churches that are claiming to have divine powers from the supernatural to cure those suffering from these sexual transmissible diseases.*

With the stakes at the individual and family's level, it is also very vital to go further to see how the construction of infrastructures in Yaoundé in particular and Cameroon in general by the Chinese construction firms are affecting the cultural domain at the societal or global setting.

### 5.3.1.2 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain at the Societal Setting

At the societal level, there is the issue of the development of ethnocentrism, which is the tendency to view one's culture and group as superior. The Chinese manifest the idea that they are superior to the individuals in the societies where they are carrying out construction works. This manifestation in some areas, are projected in the camping and the feeding of workers. For instance, when you compare, most of the Chinese camps are well constructed than those inhabiting the Cameroonians.

In all the Chinese projects sites there are camps for the Chinese. Their camps are mostly iron houses and well-constructed cement block houses. These camps are separated from those camps for the Cameroonians. Plate nine (09) is made up of pictures to show the clear image of the camps in Chinese projects in Yaoundé.



**Photo 12a: Outside view of Cameroonien camps.**



**Photo 12b: Inside view of the Cameroonien camp**



**Photo 12c: The Chinese Camp**

Source: Mnkong Unity 2020

**Plate 9: Photos of Chinese and Cameroonien Camps**



Photo twelve (12)a is the outside view of the Cameroonian camps constructed with planks. They are constructed out of the main gate and fence of the project site. The roofs are poorly made in such a way that during the rainy season they leak whenever rain falls. To remedy this situation plastic papers are spread on the roofs and supported with sticks. As if that is not enough some of these houses do not have both the windows and the door posts as projected on photo twelve (12)a of plate nine (09). Having a look at the inside, the evidence is clear as you see in photo twelve (12)b plate nine (09). With the nature of their exposure there is free entry in the camps for Cameroonians. Free entry is not the case with the Chinese camps that are mostly surrounded by a fence as illustrated in photo twelve (12)c plate nine (09) and photo six (06)b and six (06)c plate five (05) of this research work.

Strangers are restricted from entering Chinese camps. The Chinese camps are in the fence. They are well constructed and secured. In these camps, at most 05 (five) people are entitled to a room. Some Cameroonians as well as Chinese are employed to do the preparation of food in Chinese camps. One of the most common things or behaviours noticed among the Chinese in and out of their camps is that of smoking.

Almost all the Chinese workers are smokers of cigarette. Whenever they see you, when smoking, they are willing that you should share with them in their smoking. Smoking to Chinese workers is a common habit. Most of the cigarette taken by the Chinese is imported from China just like the rest of the manufactured things they use. From research findings an informant Mbang, (2020) quipped, *“the cigarette taken by the Chinese is graded. Some of the cigarettes are very strong while some are very weak, with different types of perfumes. The weak content cigarette is for the young, and the strong content is for the adult”*<sup>46</sup>. So, there are so many choices of cigarette and all is left for you to decide on which type to smoke. Apart from smoking an informant Mbang, (2020) asserted, *“Chinese prefer drinking pipe born water than the water from the wells they have dug in the camps. Each of the Chinese has his bottle in which he treats his or her water before drinking. Their water is treated with Chinese concoctions”*. Smoking of cigarettes and drinking of water from portable bottles are part of the Chinese subcultures we see in the localities where there are carrying out construction works that the local population are imitating.

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<sup>46</sup> An interpreter in the auto road Yaoundé – Douala construction explaining why there are a great number of Chinese working in the road construction are into smoking.

These Chinese subcultures are penetrating into the localities where they are carrying out construction works. Many of the youths in these localities, especially those working with the Chinese are seen behaving like the Chinese in some aspects. For instance, many youths have copied the smoking habits of the Chinese as well as being seen carrying water bottles from one place to another.

In fact, many changes are occurring in the cultural domain in the societies where Chinese are carrying out construction works. Some of them move around with bottles as you will see Chinese moving around with their bottles of water around the project sites. Many who are not even going to work, wear working attires and move around the environment. They have changed their dressing code and are mostly dressed like those working in the job sites.

Changes are not only manifesting in the cultural domain at the family and societal level. There is also much to say when it comes to the traditional religious domain. The traditional religious domain is our next preoccupation.

### **5.3.2 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Religious Domain**

The religious practices have also been affected with the putting in place of these structures. Traditional worship grounds have been destroyed. Some sacred places have been defiled according to the traditions of the people. Trees as well as sacred stones, caves and even graves of the ancestors put on the way of these infrastructures have been dealt away with for the constructions to take place.

#### **5.3.2.1 Destruction of Shrines**

Taking into consideration that traditional holy places are so dear to the people of the locality, Question twenty-two (22) section four (04) of the questionnaire to the inhabitants where projects carried out by the Chinese was framed to collect information on how and what are the traditional sacred religious worship places destroyed for the putting in place of modern structures by the Chinese. This question helped us gather information from our informants in the localities where Chinese are carrying out construction works. Information collected with the help of this question is presented on table thirty-nine (39).

**Table 39: Traditional Religious Aspects Destroyed as a Result of Chinese Projects**

No.	Locality	Traditional religious aspects affected		
		Yes	No	No idea
1	Ahala	07	14	06
2	Lobo	10	03	04
3	Nachtigal	16	03	05
4	Mvog-Betsi	10	17	07
5	Mballa 2	11	10	03
6	Olembe	11	09	08
<b>Total</b>		<b>65</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>33</b>

**Source:** Field Work 2020

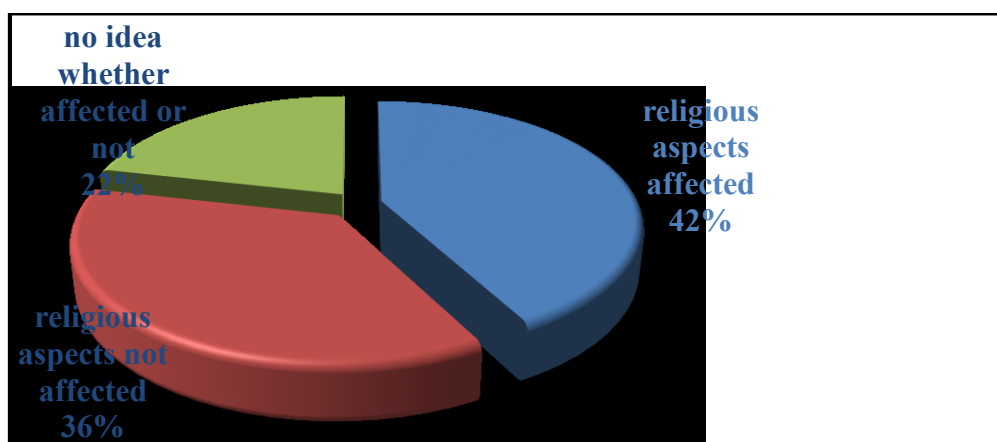
When we talk of traditional religious aspects affected by the carrying out of construction works by the Chinese, what comes to mind is, how the lives of the localities are affected spiritually as these spiritual activities are the force behind the behaviour and societal organisation. The issue of spirituality comes along other aspects of human behaviour especially at the level of the feelings about life and death. In regards to life and death, Laverne, (1995:361), quipped, *“Throughout time and in all places, human beings have searched for answers to the ultimate questions of life and death.”* Most of the human beings if not all settle on the religious aspects for answers to this question of life and death. In the area of life and death interestingly, we might talk about our life experiences but, it is not all that possible for an individual to talk about his or her death experience as Ziegler, (1975), will put it.

In talking about one’s death experience, Ziegler, (1975:14), asserted, *“in other words said, if death is to be apprehended intellectually, my conscience will never understand her own death but, the agony of confronting that of others”*. So, human being and societies at large have struggled with the needs to give meaning to human existence and are still searching even nowadays. In order to have a better understanding of life and death, according to Ziegler, (1975), societies universally have attempted to satisfy these needs by making sharp distinction between the sacred and the profane. Moreso, Mebenga, (2015), quips that the human world today pass through so much than in the past. Laying more emphasis, Mebenga, (2009), writes that the environment in which the realisation of burial rites of the dead take place in the Cameroonian towns needs to be looked into. This sharp distinction between the sacred and the

profane as well as the environment and conditions of burial are at the heart of every form of religion in the world. In Africa in general, Cameroon in particular and Yaoundé typically, especially in localities where Chinese have and are carrying out construction works, some of the sacred things in their religions include water bodies like rivers, lakes, and streams, stones, portions of the forests as well as trees, and tombs just to name a few which are very important and considered by the villagers to be part of their lives. According to Ella Ella et al, (2021:204), quoting Sa Majeste ESSO ATYI, the village chief of Biton asserted;

*There is a river at the end of the village that is for us a sacred place. Besides is found a sacred stone that carries an imprint of the planting of a human foot of someone we do not know. Our parents were born, and they saw that there where it is now. That river is all for us. It permits us to settle all our problems in this village. For example, if a child of this village has a problem at the job site, it is just for him or her to go wash his or herself in that river and come back to the village without looking at his or her back, and that is how his or her problem is solved.*

Many of these sacred things have suffered destruction to give way for construction works to take place. Looking at information presented on table forty-five (45) many informants were for the fact that sacred things were destroyed in their areas. Some who also made up a big number had no idea as these sacred places and things are not made known to everybody especially when your beliefs are towards other religions like Christianity and others. With the rapid growth in the Christianisation of Africans and with a negative mentality when African religion is mentioned, some of the informants just responded that they are Christians and have nothing to do with such things when it comes to traditional religious sacred places and things related to that domain in question. Nevertheless, information from table forty-two (42) can be better illustrated on figure forty-six (36).



**Figure 36: Percentages on Religious Aspects Affected with the Presence of Chinese**  
**Source:** Data Collected from Table Forty-two (42)

From every indication there is a clarion awareness that traditional religious artefacts are being destroyed for structures to be constructed by the Chinese. This clarion awareness is seen from the percentage scored by the informants that responded to our questionnaire. From figure forty-four (44) 42% being the highest percentage indicated that their traditional religious sacred instruments have been destroyed and affected as a result of the construction work taking place in their localities. The next group of the informants were those who were for the fact that their traditional religious sacred things are not destroyed and thus their traditional religion is not affected with the coming and construction of structures by the Chinese. The last group of those who responded to our questionnaire on the issue of traditional religion being affected were those who had no idea whether the traditional sacred things were destroyed or not. This last group scored 22%. Most of them were those who first of all do not believe in traditional religious practices and care less to know whether they exist or are being destroyed or not. Talking of the traditional religious artefacts destroyed or not, some of them include rivers, stones, trees, caves and tombs of family members who had died.

One of the visible examples of the places of traditional religious worship place that was destroyed for construction works to take place is around River Sanaga at Nachtigal where water is tapped to be distributed in the city of Yaoundé. One of our informants Ngono, (2020) a village notable said that;

*The catchment area where this water is being tapped to be distributed in the city of Yaoundé is where we used to go and call the gods as well as carry out some incantations to communicate with our ancestors and the spirit world. Our forefathers were using this place, initiated us and handed it to us, and now it is destroyed by the Chinese for work to take place. We don't know what to do now as this place has been destroyed.*

When more was being asked to know what the next step will be with this place already destroyed, he refused communicating further with the pretext that “*only the gods will tell us what to do next*”. He Ngono, (2020) went further to say that;

*even the place where we used to carry water spiritually that act as medication for any sickness believed to be mystical has also been destroyed. People used to come to this locality when faced with sicknesses believed to be mystical and they are given water collected from this river by traditional practitioners of whom I am one of them. Apart from the sick, when your daughter has reached a certain age and nobody is coming to ask for her hand in marriage or she is married and the child is not forth coming, you just have to go for this water for healing and deliverance from the strange forces blocking the fortunes of the victims.*

Away from the river considered as one of the most sacred places that has been destabilised, the destruction of tombs has been another calamity in the religious belief system of these people. At Lobo concerning the destruction of tombs as a sacred indisputable place, one of our informants Ayissi, (2020) a notable of Lobo recounted that;

*Many people fainted when the tombs of their loved ones were destroyed for the auto road Yaoundé-Douala to pass. Tombs are communication links between the living and the dead. When there are serious issues in the family especially when strange happenings are taking place, many are those who go to the tombs of their parents and forefathers to present the cases to them to react. During marriages some also go to talk to the death in the tombs to bless their marriage. Celebrations are carried out before the tombs. We believe that the dead have more powers than the living. The destruction of these tombs is cutting the link between the living and the death. A tomb is a link that cannot be replaced oh my God!*

This belief in the tombs being a link between the living and the death, has brought trauma to those the tombs of their departed loved ones were buried. Many of these tombs believed to be so sacred and important to the lives of the living were destroyed. In respect of the dead and sanctity for the living concerning the parts of the human body whether dead or alive, a locality was allocated for the exhuming of the graves and the bones of the dead are transferred and there is a carrying out of mass burial. Such is an example of what happened in Nachtigal as presented on signboard on photo thirteen (13).



Photo 13: Displacement of Tombs from Project Site

Source: Mnkong, 09/09/2020

The displacement and destruction of these tombs and other traditional sacred places as seen retrospectively in this research work consequently, brings about instability of traditional religious worship. It is therefore important for us to check to see and have an understanding of the instability of traditional religious worship in places or localities where Chinese construction companies are carrying out projects in Yaoundé. The checking of instability of traditional religious worship will be our preoccupation subsequently in this write up.

### **5.2.2.2 Instability of Traditional Religious Worship.**

When places and things of worship are destroyed, there is no doubt that the worshippers will be destabilised in the worship activities. Before worship could take place in some of these worship places there were a lot of activities that took place for the establishment of these places and cannot be repeated with the destruction or displacement of these sacred places and things. Like Ziegler, (1975:26-27), will have it that;

*In the internal field as delimited, they do not exist any direction, no norm, no institution, nor human, either individual or collective individuals, of their body, thoughts as well as dreams that can determine, fashion, or invest in one way or the other by the experience of death. Death throws its shadow on each and every one. There is no portion of social life that can escape the experience of death, as well as no project that can be accomplished without it. Death inhabits the innermost part of our thinking.*

With the experience others have in relation to the death of others, different gestures and actions do take place. As death throws its shadow on each and every one, societies and communities also react differently. All these actions and behaviours are always mostly directed towards offering the death a befitting burial. When our dear one dies, we do all to give such a one a befitting burial.

In Yaoundé and among the indigenes of this place they have some general ways that are particular to them to bury their loved ones who have passed away to eternity. During burial, sympathisers put hands on the head to go and view the corpse (as illustrated on picture 11a) and after that, before they put down their arms and go and sit in their various groups. (Atangana, 2020) a notable at Nkometou 2, *“The putting up of hands and putting them on the head is a sign of being perplexed and shocked with news of the death of the loved one. It is also a sign of grieving for the departed”*. The following photos or pictures snapped in one burial occasion

give us a clear picture of what happens before one is buried traditional in Yaoundé indigeneous communities.



**Photo 14a:** Mourners going to view corpse



**Photo 14b:** Food items contributed by mourners



**Photo 14c:** Traditional drum played in intervals of the program



**Photo 14d:** Traditional dance group





**Photo 11e:** Presentation of the eulogies



**Photo 11f:** Traditional consultation on the relationship between the deceased and the entire village



**Photo 11g:** Name-sake and the male sons of the deceased dancing



**Photo 11h:** The wife of the deceased under her veil

**Plate 10: Photos of Practices During Burial of Loved Ones in Yaoundé**

**Source:** Mnkong Unity 2020

Before burial, groups provide food for their group members, an informant by name Yisseh, (2020) a villager in Nkometou 2 asserted;

*Groups always contribute what to support the family with and then buy their own food and drinks to use before the family ever offers anything. This food is from part of what the group collects from group members to assist the bereaved. The bereaved, from what groups and individuals have contributed, provides feeding to mourners, friends, villagers, invited groups and well-wishers who attended the burial. Picture 11b is an example of such groups that gather their food items before the entertainment from the bereaved family ever show cases.*

As people gather for the burial many activities culminate the burial program. Each activity is made known to the population first of all through the use of a traditional drum.

The drumming during bereavement passes information as well as announces the coming of another presentation of further information. An informant by name Ngono, (2020) a villager at Nkometou 2 quipped;

*The beating of the drum is also believed to be a signal for the calling of the ancestors to come and take the ghost of the departed person immediately when the individual dies. When it is an elderly person in the village the beating of the drum has to take the whole night. During the burial day, drumming is used to indicate or to introduce the start of the traditional ceremony commonly called 'Nsili AWU' in the Eton language.*

Taking a look at Picture 11c, is the photo of the drums, drummers and some family members dancing as the drums are being played. Nowadays, things have changed and not only the traditional drums are used but also the modern ban is used to accompany the traditional drums as observed in this burial programme.

During 'Nsili AWU', the children, especially male children, and villagers come up to dance with leaves and branches as illustrated on picture 11d and as asserted by an informant Tchalala, (2020), "*dancing with this leaf during burial is symbolical. It symbolises distress. It is also a sign of driving away death. To drive away the spirit of death, they dance round the boundaries of the compound of the deceased*". As observed in the field at Nkometou, the male children of the deceased would dance and keep on sitting on the floor with bare feet until the village dance group will conclude on their activities before they can now go and change the dresses to continue with the rest of the mourners. Picture 11g is the photo of the eldest son and his younger ones dancing with the villages' dance group that will give orders for them to go and dress up.

When people who had known the deceased come to testify or present eulogies, they would call the name of the person that has died and there is an elder from the family of the deceased that will respond before the speaker starts talking about his relation with the departed. Before you are given the room to talk, you offer some offering which in most cases is money. You can talk as an individual or on behalf of a group as presented on picture 11e. After each speaker, the drummers would play the drum to announce the end of one speech and the coming of another presenter.

When the list of those who are to testify or present eulogies are over, there is a particular group made up of villagers of both sexes as seen on picture 11f. An informant Anaba, (2020) a village notable at Nkometou 2 explained;

*They can stop the whole occasion for some hours until they say and do what they have to do. If the deceased was not collaborating with the villagers in doing community work in that locality or if he or she had abandoned the village and did not care about what ever thing was happening to the inhabitants of the community, the bereaved would have to pay fine on his or her behalf before his or her burial takes place.*

If he or she was highly involved in the collective conscience of the locality, when everything was alright between the villagers and the deceased, they will dance round the boundaries of the compound of the deceased with the first boy and other boys of the man who has died and then come to the centre of the area where the mourners have gathered and dance there for some time. As they move to the centre, the children of the deceased go back to sit beside the drummers on a bare floor, all of them bare feet. Where they are sitting is where the leaves – be them single palm fronts or the strong part of a banana leaf used for dancing by others are being parked.

As observed in the field, after the dance, the name-sake of the deceased would be brought to the centre of their group where they are dancing. Dancing would continue until the bereaved and the mourners bring an acceptable gift for the group. When the gift is presented, the group takes the name-sake of the deceased to where the drummers are playing the drum. There, the name-sake is set free, the people who were sitting on the floor are lifted up and they are free to go and redress properly and the dancing stops for the mass or the church to take over if the deceased was a Christian.

For more enquiry to understand how those closely related to the deceased behave, and as presented by an informant by name Yisseh, (2020) a villager in Nkometou 2 quipped;

*When it is a man who has died, the wife or wives have to stay beside the corpse for days without taking a bath. Her hands are said to be closed, that is why she does not greet whosoever with the hands. The greeting of people with the hands by the wife or wives of the deceased is forbidden.*

She also has to put on a veil that covers her face as observed in the field and as seen presented on picture 11h.

A mass takes place and the inhumation and collation conclude the whole matter. People eat and go to their various destinations. This does not mark the end of the programme for burial rites an informant by name Mvogo, (2020) the quarter head of Nkometou 2 quipped;

*Traditionally, seven (7) days after burial, another gathering takes place to end the funeral. From there now, after a year there is another gathering which is a memorial service and that is how the separation and the memories about the deceased are being forgotten by the living and what remains of him is his resting place the tomb. Any communication believed to reach the deceased is only through his or her grave or tomb.*

Decorating or building and tiling of the grave is an imitation from the Whiteman's bringing of the religion and the cemetery especially in the Catholic Church. The coming of the government public as well as the catholic mission cemeteries encourages the villages to also put in place family cemeteries that are seen in front of houses in communities in Yaounde. This imitation has led to the historical keeping of records of the family members that have died and when they died. This is depicted on the dates that are carved and written on the tombs by the family members of the deceased as a point of indication when the deceased was born and the year he died. Not only the dates are being inscribed as names are part of the writings on tombs, we see around us which is a powerful communication tool to those who do not know much about the departed individual buried in the grave.

Apart from building of the tomb by the family members of the deceased, in some funerals, there is the building of a small grass house. This house at times is constructed before burial takes place. In some cases, it is after burial that this grass or leaves house is built and candles or incense are burned in them. According to an informant by name Mvogo, (2020) the quarter head of Nkometou 2, *"the houses are not built to any type of deceased individual of the community. It is constructed to the death of the initiated ones and if you are not initiated, during your funeral or after your burial such a house would not be constructed"*.

Not only traditional houses are built in respect of the initiated deceased love ones, people cherished those who have passed on to eternity and the only thing they can do to show gratitude and in line with giving them befitting burial is to make sure their tombs are nicely decorated with tiles and many other durable materials. Cementing and tiling of tombs is a new idea which is an imitation from the Roman Catholic cemeteries that the people of the society who cannot bury the corpse of their love ones in the church do in their homes and in their family cemeteries as one may present it.

An informant by name Mvogo, (2020) the quarter head of Nkometou 2 in line with building and cementing tombs asserted, *"before the imitation of the whiteman in building and*

*tiling of the graves, when burial took place, a ridge was made on the grave. When this ridge went down after some years, the villages led by the family members would celebrate”.*

One thing remains like in many African cultures, a Yaoundé person believes that the death of a family member is not the end of that person’s life. They believe that when you die, you have more powers than the living. Because of this belief, whenever things are not moving well in the family, or when there is an important meeting in the family, they go and speak on the tomb of the departed. When these tombs are destroyed, this destabilises the smooth relationship between the living and the death.

During the construction of roads and other public structures, there is provision for a space to exhume corpses that their tombs are on the land where the construction work is going to take place, inhabitants are traumatised with this activity and their culture and belief system as well as relationship, between the living and the death are tampered with.

During the construction of structures especially roads and the creation of channels for the putting of pipes to add to the supply of water to the city of Yaoundé, some tombs were destroyed. During the destruction of these tombs strange happenings were taking place. For instance, in Lobo an informant by name Mbezelle, (2020) a notable quipped, *“Many people fainted and were taken to the hospital. Some went off and as we are talking now some have not recovered. Many are still behaving like mad people. In fact, this thing is above us. Only God can help us out of this situation”*. To some of these behaviours an informant by name Enouga, (2020) a notable at Nkometou 2 explained;

*Those fainting at the destruction of tombs are or may be those who are carrying out mystical practices at the tombs or those who have powers that are collected from the tombs that are being demolished. When these tombs are destroyed or the exhuming of corpses take place their source of power or spiritual habitats are tampered with in one way or the other.*

The destruction of these tombs distorts their spiritual activities and relationships they have created between the death and the living in one way or the other, thus, bringing about instability in the traditional religious worship. This brings us to the conclusion of chapter six (6) that had as preoccupation to talk about the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon.

The study on the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development has been the preoccupation of this chapter. These two (02) areas of stakes provided us with the challenges, difficulties as well as the risks involved in by the localities as well as the construction contract enterprise in Cameroon where Chinese have and are carrying out construction works. These stakes were looked into from the individual’s level, and family, as well as at the general communities taken into considerations.

As for informants’ knowledge of the existence of the stakes in the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development cannot be over emphasized. Statistically, as seen from the data collected from the field about the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development, it is proved that the stakes are evident and are affecting the socio-economic and socio-anthropological aspects of these communities where these projects are and have taken place under the control of the Chinese.

While a minority of the informants show up that globally there are a limited socio-economic and socio-anthropological stake of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development. It is also evident that despite the fact that we have stakes in some areas, especially in the area of infrastructural development, that Cameroon as well as China are benefiting in one way or the other as the relation forges ahead.

At the socio-economic domain we have seen how construction activities are negatively affecting individuals, families and the communities. Family economic stabilities and ancient paradigm of functioning are being challenged at different levels with various negative consequences. We have also seen how the agricultural, especially the plantation agriculture, typically the cocoa sector of individuals who have been into this business following the ancestral inheritance are being strangled for the construction to take place.

Not only are plantations being destroyed, but also houses used for multipurpose economic activities are also being demolished and rendering the owners and the families and communities in economic jeopardy at the micro economic level, especially the social aspects provided for by these economic activities.

As for the socio-anthropological stakes, focus was given to the evaluation of the cultural domains that are being affected as a result of this relationship between Cameroon and China.

Findings show that the cultural aspects of the various localities where construction work is or has taken place by the Chinese construction firms have suffered modifications and change. We looked at the cultural domain in the areas of deviant activities that the localities are facing now which were not there before the construction works. There is a remarkable increase in the rise of deviant activities into the localities with the coming of structures of modernization put in place by the Chinese.

Focus was also directed towards the stakes at the level of traditional religious worship. Attention was on the sacred artefacts destroyed for construction of modern structures to take place. The destruction of these sacred places and things indicated instability in the worship practices of the people. This brought us to the confirmation and proving positive the hypothesis which states that the stakes in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development range from environmental, financial, socio-cultural and socio-anthropological domains.

## GENERAL CONCLUSION

### Summary of Research Findings

This study has analysed the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development in Yaoundé. Taking into consideration that international relationship between nations is one of the ample strategy put in place by nations to develop, this research was guided by research questions, hypotheses and objectives set at the beginning. The study was aimed at revealing how the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development is faced with short comings that need adjustments from both parties for the cooperation to reflect its appellation.

The analysis of the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development was to unveil how the relationship does not fully implicate or involve the lives of local population in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular and how the local population feel neglected and not sufficiently involved in the planning, execution and management of the infrastructures. It was expected from this study to show how Chinese are highly implicated at all levels in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon in the area of infrastructural development from the conception realization and management of the infrastructures. The stakes in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development was also to be established at the end of this study.

To be able to obtain the expected results for this study, an exhaustive existing thematic integrative and comprehensive literature review on China’s international relationship with Africa in general and Cameroon in particular enlightened the complex and complicated as well as diverse involvement of the Chinese in the African continent. For more in-depth understanding of research by other researchers in this domain, the review of literature was divided into three parts. The first part analysed the migration, presence and the general investments of the Chinese and finally the involvement of Chinese in the area of African infrastructural development. The second part presented the Chinese foreign policy in the China-African relations. We looked at the China’s norms on post-conflict intervention, China and African non-interference policy, and the Chinese policy of soft power. The third part of the



review of literature had to do with the presentation of the African policy in the China-African relation. Three policies are put in place by the African countries to relate with the Chinese, especially at the level of infrastructural development. These three are; the policy of the local content requirement, the policy of project bids and the policy of private investment.

This study is supported by a conceptual framework and related theories by different authors, which then paved the way for imminent conceptualization. The methodology adopted for the study was meticulously chosen not to miss out on strategic aspects and stakes of the involvement of the Chinese and individuals of the localities where Chinese are or have carried out construction works. Figure two (02), page thirty-two (32) presents the flow chart showing data collection and analysis methods.

The generic nature of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China was tackled with the following broad spectrum research questions; how is the state of the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular? Based on the context of this study, appropriate findings were gathered from the following perspectives of the “win-win relationship” between Cameroon and China in the domain of infrastructural development; China’s Infrastructural Imprints in Cameroon, the co-construction in the domain of the implications in implementation of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development on Cameroonians on the one hand, and the comparative advantage in the implications and implementation of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development on the Chinese on the other hand. The involvement of these two parties bring about socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development.

Talking about China’s Infrastructural Imprints in Cameroon, the government’s involvement is vividly pictured in the interaction from the signing of accords between China and Cameroon as presented on figure seven (07) page one hundred and thirteen (113) to the realisation of infrastructures. The signing of accords between the two friendly nations has brought about serious mobility of states representatives to and fro of the countries. Figure twelve (12), page one hundred and thirty-six (136) present findings of the ‘web-type official visits by both China and Cameroon to the both countries.

On the Cameroon side, His Excellency President Ahmadou Ahidjo visited China twice and His Excellency President Paul Biya has made six (06) official visits to China. We discovered that there has been a progressive increase in the number of visits to China by the Cameroonian officials over the years. Figure fourteen (14) page one hundred and forty-two (142) presents the increasing percentages of number of visits of Cameroonian officials to China per decade over the years from 1972 to 2018.

Nevertheless, we also found out that only one Chinese president has visited Cameroon since 1972. Out of the twelve (12) top leaders of the People's Republic of China, only one (1) of them has paid an official visit to Cameroon. The one Chinese President is His Excellency President Hu Jintao who paid a visit to Cameroon in 2007. Comparatively, from 1972 to 2018 Cameroon officials have paid over twenty-four (24) official visits to China as presented on figure thirteen (13), page one hundred and forty-two (142) and table thirteen (13) page one hundred and forty-four (144) on the one hand and China's officials have paid over twenty-eight (28) official visits to Cameroon as projected on table thirteen (13) page one hundred and fifty-one (151) that talks about the Chinese leaders and officials that have visited Cameroon from 1978 to 2019 on the other hand. All these official visits figures do not take into account the ambassadors and embassy workers of the two countries.

With the movement of these officials from these two countries, China has signed many accords in different domains and sectors with the Cameroon government. As presented on table seven (07) page one hundred and fifteen (115), over four (04) commercial and technical accords are signed between Cameroon and China. Table eight (08) page one hundred and nineteen (119) presents four (04) medical accords that have brought about medical functional interaction between Cameroon and China as presented on figure nine (09) page one hundred and twenty (120). China has also signed accords in the domain of agriculture, communication and infrastructure with Cameroon. Infrastructural accords have guaranteed construction works by Chinese in Cameroon that have enabled the mobility of the highest personality of the country from one part of the country to another. Over seven (07) outings from 2011 to 2014 as presented on table nine (09) page one hundred and twenty-three (123) were made by the head of state to different construction sites under the direction of Chinese construction firms in the country.

Among all the accords signed between China and Cameroon, the financial accords have recorded the highest number of thirty-eight (38) as presented on table eleven (11) from page one hundred and thirty (130) to one hundred and thirty-one (131). The number of these financial

accords signing fluctuates over the years with the highest number ever signed in 2007 as presented on figure ten (10) page one hundred and thirty-two (132). Financial accords are divided into four types as follows; loans with conditions, preferential loans, financial donations and financial agreements with no clear-cut differentiations – occupying the highest percentage of 34% as seen on figure eleven (11) page one hundred and thirty-three (133).

Further findings based on the China's Infrastructural Imprints in Cameroon, showed that from 1986 to 2018, over thirty –four (34) projects have been carried out by Chinese in Cameroon. Out of these thirty-four (34) projects carried out by the Chinese in Cameroon, about 62% of those projects have been realised or are on-going in Yaoundé as projected by figure sixteen (16) page one hundred and fifty-two (152), with the highest level of realisation from 2010 to 2015 with a number of eleven (11) projects. The assurance of the China's Infrastructural Imprints in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular takes us to the answering of the first specific research question.

This study was guided by the first specific research question on the how is the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of local population at the level of infrastructural development in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular. However, the tackling of this question was in three (03) levels which are the implication of the individuals of the localities where Chinese are or have carried out projects at the conception of the projects, realisation of the projects, and how the local population are implicated after the realisation of the projects. From this question the following findings from the study are appealing.

Findings and observations gathered in the field revealed that at the conception point of the projects, it is the government that stands for the people and the local population where these projects are to take place are neglected to a certain extent as they only realise or come in when it has to do with the execution of the projects.

From table sixteen (16) page one hundred and fifty-seven (157), it is established that the lands where projects were or are being executed by the Chinese are not all state-owned lands. Some lands are state owned lands and illegally or ignorantly as well as dubiously occupied by the inhabitants and some other Cameroonians. Challenges come up especially during compensation period by the government for the material destruction of the structures earmarked by the state. From our findings 77% of people occupy lands that do not belong to

them. Only about 16% operate on lands with land titles, 27% have no land titles but are aware of the issue of owning one and about 57% have no idea about land title or procedures of acquiring one as presented on figure seventeen (17) page one hundred and fifty-eight (158).

Investigation on the utilisation of land before the construction of infrastructures constructed by the Chinese, also indicated that not all lands used for these construction works were or are virgin lands. Some of the lands are mostly occupied for agricultural purposes as the greater working population of Cameroon is employed by farming activities. Some of the inhabitants had constructed houses, and planted fruit trees on some of the lands allocated for the construction of government structures. For the demolition to occur, displacement modalities and compensation unit price for individual houses, community structures and fruit trees and plants in Cameroon are as presented on table seventeen (17) page one hundred and sixty-five (165) are to be applied and that is not always the case practically. To have a visual picture of the demolished artefacts, plate two (02) page one hundred and sixty-nine (169) to one seventy (170) are photos of some of the things that were destroyed for new infrastructures to be put in place by the Chinese in Yaoundé. The act of the destruction of these structures have contributed to unwanted migration, change of city and misery as well as have cost the lives of some that committed suicide and that brings about the socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of the “win-win relationship”.

Findings on the co-construction of the “win-win relationship” at the level of the implication of the inhabitants in the construction works carried out by the Chinese in Cameroon, has been looked into, in two (02) dimensions which are direct and indirect implications. In the area of direct implication, results show that some of the inhabitants are employed to work on projects sites. In terms of having a job, 17.67% are those who have gained employment directly and 23.57% are those that their family members are or have worked with the Chinese as presented on table twenty (20) page one hundred and seven-eight (178). Apart from direct employment, 17.79% have been implicated indirectly by gaining indirect employment or being self-employed as the construction works are going on. Some of the implications are in the transportation of workers by bikes and cars owners, retailing businesses of food items to the renting of plots to Chinese to build their camps. Community meetings are being held and teachings are carried out on the importance of the projects to the localities by some of the elites from those localities.

In the area of co-construction of the “win-win relationship” at the level of implication of the Cameroonians after the realisation of the structures, focus was directed towards the benefits of the projects on the inhabitants. In fact, 53.29% of the inhabitants have benefited one thing or the other with the coming of the projects to their localities as results presented on table twenty-one (21), pages one hundred and eighty-three (183). More so, 69.5% of the population identified or indicated that the structures put in place are useful to the entire population as presented on table twenty-two (22) pages one hundred and eight-six (186).

In the transportation sector, there is the facilitation of mobility of goods and people into and out of the localities. Low and affordable prices for those in the low-cost social houses, availability of offices as well as enough spaces that were some of the challenges of some civil servants. Provision of offices to over seven (07) ministries that were renting in private buildings all over the city. Implementation and putting into experience co-ownership through the use of low-cost social housing that is acting now as a workshop for mechanical solidarity in the city. We have new sporting facility that has brought about new sporting experiences and practices as well as the development of various business units in the sporting world. All these have brought about some functions manifesting in the localities where these structures are constructed that were not existing. Results from the research indicate that 77.75% as presented on table twenty-five (25) page two hundred and seven (207) of the population are witnessing better and some new functions in the communities that were not there before the coming of these infrastructures in those areas. We have easy traveling and more profits by car owners, gaining of more time by travellers, clean environments, coming in of new businesses as well as practicing of new sporting activities that are taking the young people to national and international manifestations. There is also the building up of strong collective consciences in those living in new buildings as projected on plate four (04) page two hundred and ten (210) showing housing infrastructures put in place by the Chinese in Yaoundé.

There is a serious battle between functions and dysfunctional manifestation with the putting in place of infrastructures by the Chinese in Yaoundé. Being a win-win endeavour and realisation of infrastructures, there are things to forgo in order to win. Table twenty-four (24) page one hundred and ninety-six (196) shows the percentage of inhabitants that are disgruntled with the execution of these projects in their localities by the Chinese. 46.6% indicated discontent with the coming of the projects. Plantations and houses are being destroyed and business places being demolished. There is a rate of over 73.4% of the population that have

noticed or experienced dysfunctional manifestations as shown on table twenty-five (25) page two hundred and seven (207). These dysfunctions include among others sexual immorality; school drop out of children to go for provision of labour in the construction sites mostly through self-employment as well as the local contracting sector running out of the contracting business.

The second specific research question guiding this study capitalizes on how is the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon implicating the lives of Chinese in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular? However, the tackling of this question was in three (03) levels which are the comparative advantage at the level of implication of the Chinese at the conception of the project, realisation of the project, and how the Chinese will be or are implicated after the realisation of the projects. From this question the following findings from the study are appealing.

Looking at the comparative advantage of the “win-win relationship” in coproduction of goods and services, the Chinese are highly involved at the conception level of the projects they carry out in Yaoundé. This Chinese highly involvement at the conception level is because of the facilitating instruments put in place by the Cameroon government for that to happen. The facilitating instruments for the implication of the Chinese at the conception level include amongst others the Cameroon project bidding policy that permits both nationals and non-nationals to compete for government contracts award. The general rules for bidding in Cameroon are found in the CCTP and CCPM-SPI. So, the Chinese study the projects, bring convincing presentations for evaluation that attract the interest of the master of the projects who are Cameroon government representatives from various ministries. Many contracts in Cameroon in general and Yaoundé in particular won by external contractors are in the hands of Chinese construction firms.

For the realisation of the projects, we have over nine (09) Chinese construction firms actively involved in construction works in Cameroon. These companies and entrepreneurs create jobs that bring about the employment of many jobless Chinese in and out of China in two folds. On the one hand, the execution of work by Chinese who have gained employment and migrated from China to Cameroon and on the other hand, through the use of equipment and construction materials produced by Chinese companies back in China. Over 90% of the materials used in Chinese projects in Yaoundé come from China. The usage of these materials from China provides a huge market for Chinese companies in their country that employ billions of them thanks to construction works taking place in Cameroon.

As for the Chinese who are working in Cameroon, they are of different social categories as presented on table twenty (29) page two hundred and thirty-seven (237). Almost all the Chinese working on construction works live in camps at the projects' sites in Yaoundé. Plate five (05) page two hundred and nineteen (219) are pictures of the Chinese camps in Yaoundé. From the results, 69% of the Chinese live in camps alone in single rooms and some also share their rooms with friends. The active involvement of the Chinese in the area of infrastructure in Cameroon creates a triangular social structure that brings about the phenomena of international and transnational solidarity as better illustrated on figure twenty-one (21) page two hundred and thirty-two (232).

There are job creations to Chinese in Cameroon and job creation to Chinese in China, facilitated by the construction mechanism in Cameroon. The Chinese that come to work in Cameroon are highly educated with almost all of them attending Higher education and with a professional qualification. Figure twenty-three (23) page two hundred and thirty-eight (238) illustrates the various positions of responsibilities and categories of Chinese workers in projects sites in Yaoundé, with special labour taking the majority of posts of responsibilities given to Chinese as presented on figure twenty-three (23) page two hundred and thirty-eight (238). With these posts of responsibilities, there are many different areas of specialities in the projects' sites. We could identify over eighteen (18) different activities carried out by the Chinese in the construction sites.

To authenticate the creation of jobs in China with work done in Cameroon, the projection of materials and equipment from Chinese industries in China used in Cameroon is very necessary. Coming to materials used in projects sites carried out by Chinese firms, almost all the manufactured materials are imported from China to Cameroon as projected on table thirty (30) page two hundred and forty-one (241). Only raw materials and few semi-finished products used by Chinese are from Cameroon. The percentages of the sources of materials used in Chinese projects in Yaoundé are presented on figure twenty-four (24) page two hundred and forty-two (242). All the tools and equipment used in Chinese projects sites in Yaoundé are from China. From the biggest engine equipment to the smallest security paper tools, all are sourced from China to equip the Chinese workers who have migrated from China to work in Cameroon. Thus, strengthening the industries producing all these things in China, by providing market to their goods and guaranteeing the employment of the Chinese working in those

industries providing the materials as shown on table thirty (30) page two hundred and forty-one (241).

With all these indications, there is a 100% clarion assurance that the Chinese are gaining as personally indicated by Chinese on table thirty-one (31) page two hundred and forty-four (244) that talks of the Chinese with the fact that they are gaining something in Chinese projects in Yaoundé. It is not all about jobs that we say Chinese are gaining. Apart from jobs created to Chinese, one remarkable thing Chinese with aquaminity are not playing with in their being in Cameroon is their experience especially as their working in this country gives them international working experience. Working out of their country of origin to the Chinese is an additional advantage when presenting their curriculum vitae for employment elsewhere in the near future out of Cameroon. Working in Cameroon for many Chinese is a testing ground of the skills after school. This is seen by the fact that, 67% of the Chinese working in Cameroon were those who just left school and their first job employment opportunity was to work in Cameroon. Chinese construction works in Cameroon goes a long way to globally empowers China internationally and boost the morale of the Chinese construction companies overseas.

To win, there is always a struggle and as you struggle there are things you have to give up in order to gain something else. Choosing the path of their profession and to leave their home land for Cameroon, is causing Chinese to miss physical expression of family love relationship with family members in China. The Chinese are also decrying youthful experiences they have abandoned to work in Cameroon as most of them working here are youths.

Despite all these regrets, 43.65% of the Chinese working in Cameroon are willing to stay after the projects are over. Just about 55% are not willing to stay back. Those willing to stay believe that after these projects, others will be negotiated between their companies and the Cameroon government. Some of them are of the fact that they will stay to keep maintaining the structures they have put in place in Cameroon. With those willing to leave Cameroon, only 33.5% of them in Yaoundé are planning to leave Cameroon for other countries and not for China. In fact, 66.5% are willing to go straight back to China. As 43.65% are willing to stay, those willing to go are not thinking to discourage other Chinese from coming to Cameroon. 56.7% Chinese are of the fact that as they leave Cameroon, their fellow countrymen are coming to take over from where they have ended. Only 43% are of the fact that other Chinese will not be coming as they leave Cameroon.



From individuals to the whole nation, 94.2% of the Chinese are for the fact that China as a nation is gaining a great deal from her operation in construction works in Cameroon. Only about 6% of the Chinese are for the fact that China is not gaining as they carry out construction projects in Yaoundé. The gain that China is receiving as a result of the “win-win relationship” is both politically and economically. China is a member of some international organizations like the UNSC, FOCAC, and Belt of Roads just to name a few, with Cameroon throwing more weight to guaranteeing Chinese membership in those groups. Economically, the symbol of friendship between China and Cameroon is highly illustrated by the construction of structures. These structures project and bring out the visibility of the friendly relations to the locals and at the international levels China’s economic capabilities are projected at various fronts.

Is China as a nation losing something as she engages in the construction works in Cameroon? Table thirty-six (36) page two hundred and fifty-seven (257) gives us the information that about 46.9% of the Chinese working in Yaoundé are of the point that China is losing something as she carries out construction projects in Cameroon. On the other side, 54% of the Chinese stood for the fact that China is not losing as she embarks in the infrastructural development of Cameroon. Nevertheless, as China has engaged in the infrastructural construction of Africa in general and Cameroon in particular, she is facing a lot of problems with big European powers. Western countries like the USA have issued sanctions on China as one of the consequences of her heavily involvement in construction of structures in Africa. She is also facing a lot of attacks from her adversaries as well as recording a lot of financial losses through cancelation of debts, like the promise she made to Cameroon in 2018 when the President of Cameroon paid a visit to China.

The last research specific question guiding this study is; what are the stakes in the implementation of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development? As a matter of fact, the stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is a concept with two dimensions which are the socio-economic and socio-anthropological domain. These domains are with variations, indicators and sub-indicators.

Socio-economic stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is observed at the economic instability at the level of the individuals, families and the entire economic sector of the communities where projects have been and are being carried out by the Chinese. Demolition of structures for construction of state infrastructures have led

to the destruction of economic facilities as shown on table thirty-seven (37) page two hundred and sixty-six (266). Figure thirty-one (31) page two hundred and sixty-seven (267) projects that 61% of the inhabitants where Chinese have or are carrying out projects indicated that business units were destroyed during construction works. With the destruction of business places, families' economic structures are affected.

Specifically, at the level of the family, 55% of the inhabitants indicated that their family economic structures were disrupted and some destroyed during construction works by the Chinese in their localities. This has influenced change of role play and challenges in some families as children are now providing for the parents from their wages obtained from working with the Chinese or through self-employment. Some of these challenges include increasing phenomenon of the disrespect of parents by some of these children that work money with the coming of construction works in their communities and some of these children take decisions that inflict the whole society of deviant behaviour.

The ideology of the father being the bread winner of the house is being challenged and highly threatened with some wives defying their matrimonial beds by going to bed with strangers for money. Many families especially the fathers or husbands as the case may be suffer some of these challenges because their only source of income is demolished or rendered to zero productivity and they have nowhere to go. Plate seven (07) page two hundred and seventy-four (274) are photos or pictures of farming pieces of land destroyed for construction works to take place in those localities in Yaoundé.

Apart from pieces of land used for agriculture being destroyed, houses demolished that were constructed by the road sides were also centres for petit businesses in these localities. These houses were acting as sources of revenue to the owners who gave out the structures on rents and to the users as sources of employment who used the facilities as stores and shops that served and provided necessary commodities to the inhabitants of those areas. The putting away of these structures bring about increasing rates of unemployment and underemployment that some of these inhabitants are already going through.

Another threatening stake is at the level of the local or national construction contract enterprise. This enterprise is under threats of being eliminated with the coming and carrying out of contract projects by the Chinese giant, experienced, performant and well-equipped state-owned construction companies in Cameroon. The coming of the Chinese and focusing on construction of structures is bringing about contractors' technical unemployment. Due to the

involvement of the Chinese in the construction sector in Cameroon, corruption has been on the rise in this sector as many who can not compete with the giant, experienced and well equipped Chinese construction firms bribe to win state contracts. Many of these bribing strategies are based on percentages of what the contract offers. So, many local contractors now spend much money to win a contract and the effect of these huge sums gone for bribery yield the fruit of incomplete projects as well as high poor execution of state projects by local contractors. The price of this poor execution of state projects is suffered by the masses and with boomerang effects on the local contractors.

This bad performance is also playing very badly on the trained engineers in the country. There is technical unemployment of Cameroonian trained engineers and technicians in this field especially as a result of Chinese carrying out state projects. With the giving out of contracts of construction of state infrastructures, jobs are being created. When the construction of the state structures that create jobs are in the hands of Chinese, they direct these job opportunities, especially highly paid positions to their workers from China. The lowly paid positions are then handed to the local specialised and non-specialised labour thus, bringing about technical unemployment.

On the socio-anthropological stakes, it is noticed that much of the work on developing the infrastructures concentrates on economic issues while, much damage is being recorded at the level of maintaining the beliefs, cultures and norms of the communities where these structures are being erected. The main two areas of the socio-anthropological stakes are at the cultural and traditional religious domains affected as illustrated on figure thirty-six (36) page two hundred and ninety-nine (299).

Results from table thirty-nine (39) page two hundred and ninety-eight (298) indicated that 54.85% of the inhabitants acknowledged the fact that cultural aspects of their localities are affected in one way or the other. Generally speaking, culture in the area of symbolic representation has witnessed increasing notification of the local population through the putting in place and the usage of sign boards with only Chinese inscriptions that have no meaning but important information to be known by the public as seen on plate eight (08) page two hundred and eighty-nine (289). Some of the sign boards and even instruments in some buildings that are very important to have instructions written on are all done in Chinese language that is not mastered by those to be using the structures in question.

From findings, we also noticed that there is also an increasing phenomenon of single parenting. Many girls in the localities where Chinese have or are carrying out construction works fall in love with some of the workers and the fruit of their love are children that are later abandoned to the mothers as the workers migrate to other areas as the work progresses

especially with road construction works. Infidelity and sexually transmissible diseases in most cases considered as strange diseases are at an increase in these localities.

At the societal level, there is the issue of the development of ethnocentrism highly practiced in the camps with the Chinese camps well-constructed and more comfortable than those of the Cameroonians working with the Chinese. One of the most common things noticed amongst the Chinese is their smoking habit. Almost all the Chinese in the construction sites do smoke cigarettes and love sharing to those around them. They also carry around their bottles of drinking water. These Chinese behaviours are gradually penetrating into the localities where they are carrying out construction works. Many of the youths in these localities especially those that are working with the Chinese are integrating through socialisation the behaviours they copy from the Chinese.

Furthermore, traditional religious artefacts in the localities where Chinese are or have carried out construction works have been destroyed. Most of these artefacts include trees, rivers and tombs that have been considered to be sacred, persevered and worship from one generation to the other. Table thirty-nine (39) page two hundred and ninety-eight (298) present findings based on the fact that traditional religious aspects and artefacts have been destroyed or destabilised the worship of these spiritual monuments long preserved and practiced with the construction of structures by Chinese in these localities.

There is a clarion awareness by the locals that their traditional religious sacred instruments have been delt away with and affected as indicated on figure thirty-six (36) page three hundred and nine-nine (299). The remarkable traditional religious worship places destroyed includes the catchment area of the tapping of water from River Sanaga at Nachtigal to increase the volume of water supply to the city of Yaoundé by the Chinese and also the massive destruction of tombs all over the city of Yaoundé as the roads are being enlarged and tarred. All these destructions are affecting the traditional beliefs and worship of these inhabitants especially their relationship with their ancestors or family members who have journeyed to the land of no return. This happens especially when they have taken time and finances as well as carried out well defind cultural activities during the burial of their loved ones, whom they usually tend to talk to in both the excellent moments or in challenging periods through the tombs, that are now being demolished for construction works to take place.

In a nutshell, this study set out to investigate the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. The main focus was and is on the implication of both parties involved in this win-win relation in the area of infrastructural development from the conception, realisation and after the

realisation of the projects. The main idea behind the tracing of the implication of the parties involved was to find out how this important contact point between Chinese and Cameroonians really reflect the terminology “win-win relationship” when it comes to the involvement of the beneficiaries who are the inhabitants of the localities where these projects are executed.

After collecting, presenting, classifying and analysing the data for this study, the different tests administered, different results have been registered that can give a general notion about the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development of Cameroon. It has been discovered that on the one hand, the Cameroon government officials are highly involved at the conception stage of the projects through visiting and signing of different forms of accords and carrying out necessary negotiations with China before the execution of the projects by the Chinese take place. Through the expression of our informants, the inhabitants of the localities where these projects are carried out are not highly involved at the conception stage of the projects and this exclusion from conception brings a lot of challenges faced by the inhabitants of the localities where these structures are realised. During the execution and after the execution of the projects, the inhabitants are not properly and knowledgeably implicated as they are faced with many stakes in the communities with the construction of these structures in their localities. Many of the inhabitants are faced with both socio-economic and anthropological stakes with the construction of the structures in their localities. Their level of winning from the “win-win relationship” statistically are still turning around an average both from conception, realisation and after the realisation of the projects by the Chinese in their localities.

On the other hand, Chinese officials as well as their construction companies and labour for the execution of the projects are highly implicated from conception, execution and after execution of the projects. From the signing of accords by the Chinese officials, to the provision of facilitating documents by the Cameroon government for the Chinese construction companies for project bidding, and the signing of contracts with the Chinese labour, prepares the Chinese before the take-off of the execution of the projects. During the execution, the Chinese are highly valorised with financially profitable posts of responsibilities that make them have a very high level of winning from the “win-win relationship” statistically turning around excellent. With the execution of the projects, they also create room for maintenance and repairs with the hope to continue even after the execution of the projects they are carrying out now – thus, enabling an atmosphere of continuity either with the aspiration of more projects to be executed by

themselves or the coming of their fellow countrymen from their homeland or country to take over from where they have ended in Cameroon.

All in all, we can clearly say that the implication and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is a matter not to be lightly handled. Most importantly being a win-win type of relationship Cameroon should put more efforts to bring a balance on her side between their partnering with China in this domain. We hope that the results of this research will usher the Cameroon government planners to take a critical look at how the inhabitants should be properly and beneficially involved from conception, execution and after the realisation of projects in their localities by the Chinese construction companies carrying out the construction work if they must be those to do that.

### **Suggestions for Further Research**

The area of study that focuses on relationships especially “win-win relationship” at the level of infrastructural development is a very inspiring research field which has not been hidden from the world of research as many researchers have written in this domain as can be seen from the review of literature of this study yet, much is still to be done after this work. In the spirit of continuity with research, this study therefore opens up a fertile ground for further research on the following proposed areas;

Research work could be carried out on other areas of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon, for instance, business or trade sector, mining sector, educational as well as communication and others.

A comparative study could be carried out on “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development and other Cameroon infrastructural development partners like France, Japan and the Arab Countries.

Studies could also be done on the implication and stakes involved in different infrastructural construction companies (both local or internal and external construction companies) in Cameroon.

Further research studies could be carried out on the stakes in the economic and cultural domains involved on the reliability of the state on foreign investors in the infrastructural development sector of the country.

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## **DECREES, LAWS AND ORDERS**

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Decree *N° 59-181 of October 07<sup>th</sup>, 1959* organizing the recognition of customary land rights exercised by Cameroonians.

Decree *N° 59-47 of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1959* governing land and land titles in Cameroon.

Decree *N° 64-8-COR of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1964* organizing the regime of incorporation of the private domain of the State for a public purpose of customary lands subject to non-recognized rights.

Decree *N° 85/9 of July 04<sup>th</sup>, 1985* on the expropriation on the basis of public utility and compensation terms.

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Law *N<sup>o</sup>. 2010/22 of 21 December 2010* relating to co-ownership of buildings.

Law *N<sup>o</sup>. 96-06 of January 1996* to amend the Constitution of 02 June 1972 of The Republic of Cameroon.

Order *N<sup>o</sup> 71/1 of 06<sup>th</sup> July 1974* fixing the tenue, its subsequent amendments and texts that it has repealed in their provisions not otherwise states including.

Order *N<sup>o</sup>. 1/MINDCAF/MINH DU of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013* to lay down the list of names of buildings in the title of ownership.

Order *N<sup>o</sup>. 17/MINH DU of 04<sup>th</sup> April 2012* to lay down conditions for the calculation of the floor space of a lot in a building in ownership.

## INFORMANTS LIST

NO	NAME OF INFORMANT	LOCALITY	POST OF RESPONSIBILITY	DATE OF CONSULTATION
01	Mr Mbang Tsimi Robert	Nachtigal	farmer	03/11/2020
02	Mr Tambe Victor	Nachtigal	farmer	03/11/2020
03	Mr Zambo Roger	Nachtigal	farmer	04/11/2020
04	Mr Bekada Nkwa	Nachtigal	Village chief	04/11/2020
05	Mr Okala Noah Urban	Nachtigal	Inhabitant	03/11/2020
06	Mr Ndjana Luc	Nachtigal	Village notable	04/11/2020
07	Mr Babong Marc	Nachtigal	interpreter	03/11/2020
08	Mr Ngonon Adrien	Nachtigal	Village notable	04/11/2020
09	Mr Noumbissi Jacque	Nachtigal	farmer	07/11/2020
10	Mr Onguene Rene	Lobo	Assistance chief	15/09/2020
11	Mr Mbida Jean-Paul	Lobo	Bike owner	15/09/2020
12	Mr Elondou Christophe	Lobo	Sub chief	15/09/2020
13	Mrs Minala Daniella	Lobo	Inhabitant	15/09/2020
14	Mrs Ngalona Ange	Lobo	Inhabitant	15/09/2020
15	Mrs Ayissi Marlene	Lobo	notable	15/09/2020
16	Mr Mbezelle Marcelle	Lobo	notable	15/09/2020
17	Mrs Bikaa Sharon	Lobo	Inhabitant	15/09/2020
18	Mrs Ze Yvonne	Lobo	Inhabitant	15/09/2020
19	Mr Elouga Samson	Lobo	Farmer	15/09/2020
20	Mr Noutejim Pierre	Ahala	Farmer	03/09/2020
21	Mrs Milingi Marie	Ahala	Food vendor	03/09/2020
22	Mr Ngala Richard	Ahala	Worker	03/09/2020
23	Mrs Mbang Marceline	Ahala	Interpreter	13/09/2020
24	Mr Bekoua Joseph	Ahala	Mechanic	03/09/2020

25	<b>Mrs Enama Bridgette</b>	Ahala	Food vendor	03/09/2020
26	<b>Mr Jumbo Nicolas</b>	Emana	Contractor	15/10/2020
27	<b>Mr Apongwun Joseph</b>	Tongolo	Contractor	16/10/2020
28	<b>Mr Njembe Ernest</b>	Nyom	Contractor	15/11/2020
29	<b>Mrs Yangsi Susan</b>	Mballa 2	Health personnel	23/09/2020
30	<b>Mr Atangana Paul</b>	Nkoumetou 2	Notable	05/11/2020
31	<b>Mr Yisseh Martin</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Villager	05/11/2020
32	<b>Mrs Tchalala Marian</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Notable	05/11/2020
33	<b>Mrs Ngono calixte</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Villager	05/11/2020
34	<b>Mr Anaba Gaston</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Notable	05/11/2020
35	<b>Mr Mvogo Yanick</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Quarter head	05/11/2020
36	<b>Mr Enouga Jean</b>	Mkoumetou 2	Notable	05/11/2020
37	<b>Mrs Leudjou Yamba Joelle</b>	MINHDU	DEPC	25/11/2020
38	<b>Mrs Foncha Rose</b>	MINHDU	Support staff	25/11/2020
39	<b>Mrs Khan Beatrice</b>	Olembe	Civil servant	14/11/2020
40	<b>Mr Nalova Gustave</b>	Olembe	Civil servant	14/11/2020
41	<b>Mr Kunju Joseph</b>	Olembe	Civil servant	14/11/2020
42	<b>Mrs Nga Chantal</b>	Mvog-Betsi	Vendor	16/09/2020
43	<b>Mrs Ngassam Emeline</b>	MINHDU	Civil servant	26/11/2020
44	<b>Mr Ndjombe Mbella Georges</b>	MINTP	Civil servant	09/11/2020
45	<b>Dang Denis</b>	MINTP	Inspector general	09/11/2020

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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE INHABITANTS WHERE CHINESE CARRY OUT PROJECTS

UNIVERSITE DE YAOUNDE I  
\*\*\*\*\*  
CENTRE DE RECHERCHE ET DE  
FORMATION DOCTORALE  
EN SCIENCES HUMAINES,  
SOCIALES ET EDUCATIVES  
\*\*\*\*\*  
UNITE DE RECHERCHE ET DE  
FORMATION DOCTORALE EN  
SCIENCES HUMAINES ET  
SOCIALES  
\*\*\*\*\*



UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE I  
\*\*\*\*\*  
POST GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR  
SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL  
SCIENCES  
\*\*\*\*\*  
DOCTORAL RESEARCH UNIT  
FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES  
\*\*\*\*\*

This questionnaire seeks to verify how the inhabitants where Chinese carry out projects as a result of the win-win relationship are involved from conception, realization and after realization of the structures. It is strictly for academic reasons, so please; your accurate responses will help me complete my research. I therefore rely on your co-operation and active participation; promising to be confidential as far as your identity and responses are concerned. Tick the correct response where required on the spaces provided.

#### Questions

#### SECTION ONE: How Cameroonians are involved at the Level of Conception of Infrastructure to be realized by the Chinese in Yaoundé

- 1) Sex: Male\_\_\_ Female\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Age: a) Below 18years\_\_\_ b) 18-25\_\_\_ c) 26-30\_\_\_ d) 31-40\_\_\_ e) Above 40 years\_\_\_
- 3) What is your family status? a) Bachelor\_\_\_ b) Married\_\_\_ c) Divorced\_\_\_ d) Widow/Widower\_\_\_
- 4) What is your level of education? a) No level\_\_\_ b) Primary\_\_\_ c) Secondary\_\_\_ d) Higher education\_\_\_ e) Professional\_\_\_
- 5) Are you the owner of the land where this project is to be realized? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_. If no, who is the owner and how did you get it? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Do you have the land title of the land used for the construction of infrastructure by the Chinese as a result of the win-win relationship?
  - a) Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_. If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

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b) If yes why? \_\_\_\_\_

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7) What was the land formally used for? \_\_\_\_\_

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8) What was destroyed on the land? \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION TWO: Verification on the Implications of Cameroonians during the Realisation of Structures to be realised by Chinese in Yaoundé**

9) Were you employed to take part in the construction of the infrastructure? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.

If yes, what were you employed to do? \_\_\_\_\_

10) Are they some of the members of your family that were employed for the realization of the infrastructure? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_. If yes, how many of them? \_\_\_\_\_. What were they employed to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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11) Were you self-employed during the construction of this infrastructure? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.

If yes, in which domain were you employed? \_\_\_\_\_

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12) In which other ways have you participated in the construction of this infrastructure?

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**SECTION THREE: Verification on the Implications of Cameroonians after the Realization of Structures to be realized by Chinese in Yaoundé**

13) Have you gained anything as a result of the coming of this infrastructure to this locality?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_. If yes, what have you gained?

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14) Is the infrastructure put in place by the Chinese useful to you? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

a) If yes, how will this infrastructure be useful to you after completion? \_\_\_\_\_

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b) If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

15) Have you lost anything as a result of the coming of this project to your locality? Yes \_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_. If yes, what have you lost? \_\_\_\_\_

16) Are they negative things happening in this locality with the coming of this infrastructure?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.

a) If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

b) If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

c) Name some negative things happening here with the coming of this infrastructure

17) Are they positive things happening in this locality with the coming of this infrastructure?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_.

a) If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

b) If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

c) Name some positive things happening here with the coming of this infrastructure

**SECTION FOUR: Verification on the Socio-economic and socio-anthropological stakes of The “Win-Win Relationship” At The Level of Infrastructural Development.**

18) Is there any destruction of some economic facilities with the coming of this structure put in place by the Chinese? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

a) If Yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_



- b) If No, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Are there some business places that have been destroyed for these Chinese structures to be put in place? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
- a) If Yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) How many of the business places have been destroyed? \_\_\_\_\_
- c) If No, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 20) Are the family economic activities affected with the putting in place of this structure by the Chinese? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
- a) If Yes, how is it affected? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) If No, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 21) Are there some cultural aspects of the society that have been affected as a result of the structure put in place by the Chinese? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
- a) If Yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) If No, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 22) Are there some traditional sacred places that have been destroyed with the coming of the structure put in place by the Chinese? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
- a) If Yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) Where were they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX 2: QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CHINESE CARRYING OUT  
CONSTRUCTION WORK IN CAMEROON**

UNIVERSITE DE YAOUNDE  
I  
CENTRE DE RESEARCH ET  
DE FORMATION  
DOCTORALE (CRFD)  
EN SCIENCES HUMAINES,  
SOCIALES ET  
EDUCATIVES  
\*\*\*\*\*  
DEPARTEMENT DE  
SOCIOLOGIE



THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE  
I  
RESEARCH CENTER AND POST  
GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR THE  
HUMAN, SOCIAL AND  
EDUCATIVE SCIENCES  
\*\*\*\*\*  
DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIOLOGY

**QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CHINESE CARRYING OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK  
IN CAMEROON**

This questionnaire seeks to verify how the Chinese carrying out projects of construction (as a result of the win-win relationship) are involved from conception, realization and after realization of the structures. It is strictly for academic reasons, so please; your accurate responses will help me complete my research. I therefore rely on your co-operation and active participation; promising to be confidential as far as your identity and responses are concerned. Tick the correct response where required on the spaces provided.

**Questions**

**SECTION ONE: How Chinese are involved at the Level of Conception of  
Infrastructure to be realized by the Chinese in Yaoundé**

1. Sex: Male.....Female.....
2. Age: a) Below 18years..... b) 18-25..... c) 26-30..... d) 31-40..... e) Above 40years.....
3. In which language can you express yourself better? a) English..... b) French..... c) Others..... d) Precisely.....
4. What is your family status? a) Bachelor.... b) Married..... c) Divorced.... d) Widow/Widower.....
5. Who do you live with in Cameroon? a) Alone..... b) Parents..... c) Friend.... d) wife/husband.....
6. Where do you live? a) camp..... b) renting.....
7. Did you have a job in China before coming to Cameroon? Yes..... No.....

- a) If yes, what were you doing in there? .....
- b) If no, why were you not working? .....
- .....
8. Why did you choose to leave China for Cameroon? .....
- .....

**SECTION TWO: Verification on the Implications of Chinese during the Realisation of such Structures**

1. What is your level of education? a) No level..... b) Primary..... c) Secondary.....  
d)Higher education..... e) Professional.....
2. What is your professional status? Engineer.....Technician..... Labourer.....  
Others....Precisely.....
3. What is your professional category? Employer..... Employee.....
4. What position do you hold in this project? Contractor..... subcontractor.....  
construction manager..... specialised labourer..... common labourer..... Others....  
Precisely.....
5. How many workers work under you?.....
6. What type of activity do you carry out in this project? .....
7. What did you do to be employed here? .....
8. Are there materials brought from China to carry out this project? Yes.....No
- a) If Yes, what are they? .....
- .....
- b) If No, why.....
- .....
9. Do you gain anything working in Cameroon? Yes.....No.....
- a) If Yes, what do you gain working in Cameroon? .....
- .....
- .....
- b) If No, what are you losing working in Cameroon? .....
- .....
- .. Why are you not gaining anything working in Cameroon? .....
- .....
- .....

**SECTION THREE: Verification on the Implications of Chinese after the Realization of Structures to be realized by Chinese in Yaoundé**

- 1) When this project is over will you remain in Cameroon? Yes..... No.....
  - a) If Yes, why? .....
  - .....
  - .....
  - b) If No, why? .....
  - .....
  - .....
- 2) Do you think of leaving Cameroon for another country? Yes.....No.....
  - a) If Yes, which.....
  - b) If No, Why.....
- 3) Will some Chinese be employed to work here after the project is over? Yes.....No.....
  - a) If Yes, what will they be doing after the completion of the project? .....
  - .....
  - .....
  - .....
  - b) If No, why? .....
  - .....
  - .....
- 4) Will China gain anything after realizing this project? Yes.....No.....
  - a) If Yes, what will China gain? .....
  - .....
  - b) If No, why will China not gain anything? .....
  - .....
- 5) Will China lose anything after realizing this project? Yes..... No.....
  - a) if Yes, what will China lose after the project? .....
  - .....
  - b) If No, why? .....
  - .....

### APPENDIX 3: QUESTIONNAIRE TO CAMEROONIANS CIVIL SERVANTS

Dear respondent,

I am a student at the doctoral level in Sociology in the University of Yaoundé 1. I will be grateful if you answer the questions below. The questions are for the purpose of research on the implications and the stakes of the “win-win relationship” between China and Cameroon at the level of infrastructural development. Information given will be treated only for that purpose. Thanks in advance.

You are required to put a tick  in the box(es) against the statement to show your level of agreement or disagreement to the statements in the sections that follow.

Key; Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Uncertain (U), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD).

#### SECTION ONE: Respondent's identification

1. Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Sex: male  female
3. Age: below 18years  18-25  26-30  31-40  above 40years
4. Do you understand Chinese? Just a bit  Very well  not at all
5. What is your family status? Bachelor  married  divorced  widow/widower
6. What is your level of education? No level  primary  secondary  higher education  professional
7. What is your post of responsibility? \_\_\_\_\_

#### SECTION TWO: verification on the implications of Cameroonians at the level of conception of structures to be realised by Chinese in Yaoundé

- 1) Cameroon conceives the idea and shares with China on what to be done. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 2) Cameroon proposes to China the structures to be constructed. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 3) Cameroon designs the structures for China to realise. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

- 4) The location for the realisation of the structures is determined by Cameroon. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 5) The projects to be realised in a locality is primordially beneficial to the inhabitants of the society. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 6) Considerations are taken in regards to the cultural practices the inhabitants of the locality perform on the site where the project is to be located. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 7) Cameroon decides on the source of the funding of the projects. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 8) Cameroon decides on the criteria for the repayment of the funding. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 9) When it comes to strategizing during the time of conception, measures are taken on what the community will lose for the project to be realised. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

**SECTION THREE: verification on the implications of Cameroonians during the realisation of structures to be realised by Chinese in Yaoundé**

- 10) There are provisions to ensure that the inhabitants where the projects are to be realised are involved in the realisation of the projects. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 11) The remuneration of the property destroyed during construction is ensured. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 12) Measures are taken to solve or control the problems to be faced by the community during the construction of the infrastructure. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 13) Inhabitants occupy highly paid positions in the job site where projects are going on. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 14) There are provisions for Cameroonians to acquire the Chinese know-how during the construction of the infrastructure. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 15) The structures put in place by the Chinese are to solve city problems like house shortage and not to boost the industrialisation of Cameroon. Strongly Agree  Agree  Uncertain  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

**SECTION FOUR: verification on the implications of Cameroonians after the realisation of structures to be realised by Chinese in Yaoundé**

- 16) Measures are taken on how the community can adapt to the new innovations brought about by the construction of the structures. Strongly Agree      Agree  
 Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 17) The infrastructure put in place enables the transformation of primary produce from the locality. Strongly Agree      Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 18) Many inhabitants gain employment in the infrastructure constructed. Strongly Agree  
 Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 19) The infrastructure put in place by the Chinese promotes industrialization. Strongly Agree      Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 20) Are you enjoying the structures put in place by the chinese? Strongly Agree  
 Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 21) There is enough space and equipment in the office rehabilitated by the chinese.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
- 22) We have difficult in using some of the equipment put in buildings by the Chinese.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Uncertain      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

**APPENDIX 4: PHOTOS OF STRUCTURES CONSTRUCTED BY CHINESE IN YAOUNDÉ.**



**Entrance into the construction site Behind Palai de Justice**



**Construction site behind Palai de Justice**



**Sign board into the construction site at Nsemanlen- Yaoundé High way**



**Cross road of the Yaoundé- Douala high way , at Lobo**



**Cameroonian Enterpreters' camp at Nachtigal**



**Chinese camp inside the fence at Nachtigal**





**Cross section of a demolished cocoa farm along the Ntui constructed high way**



**Deserted once upon hot spot at Nachtigal supervisor**

**Cameroonian workers and Chinese**



**Destruction of farm lands for the putting of water pipes**



**Water channels constructed by Chinese to control drainage in Yaoundé**



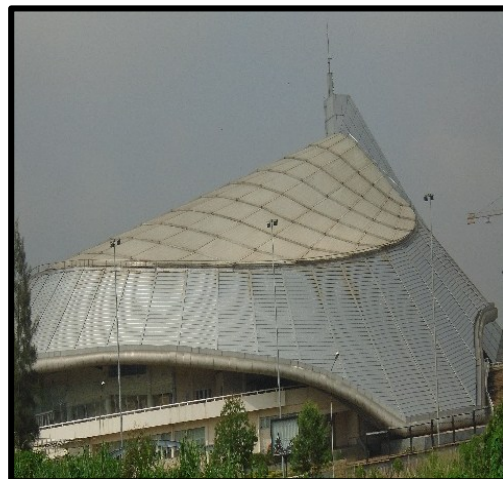
**Ministerial building no 1**



**Conference Centre**



**Relationship symbolic structure  
in front of the Yaoundé municipality**



**The Sport Complex in Warda**



**Low-Cost Social houses at Olembe**



**Construction site at Mballa 2**



**Programme for the installation of Satellite by the Chinese**

## **APPENDIX 5: CAHIER DES CLAUSES TECHNIQUES PARTICULIERES (CCTP) POUR LES TRAVAUX DE REHABILITATION DE VOIRIE**

### **SOMMAIRE**

#### **ARTICLE B 100 – GENERALITES**

- Article B 101 – Objet du présent cahier des prescriptions techniques
- Article B 102 – Abréviations
- Article B 103 – Normes et règlements
- Article B 104 – Descriptions des études
- Article B 105 – Descriptions des travaux

#### **ARTICLE B 200 – QUALITES ET PREPARATIONS DES MATERIAUX MIS EN ŒUVRE**

- Article B 201 – Granulats pour mortier et bétons
- Article B 202 – Liants hydrauliques
- Article B 203 – Adjuvants
- Article B 204 – Produits de cure
- Article B 205 – Composition des bétons et mortiers
- Article B 207 – Eau de compactage et de gâchage
- Article B 207 – Aciers pour armatures de béton armé
- Article B 208 – Profilés et aciers divers
- Article B 209 – Coffrage
- Article B 210 – Parpaings
- Article B 211 – Façonnage des armatures pour béton armé
- Article B 212 – Matériaux pour remblais
- Article B 213 – Matériaux pour couche de fondation et de base
- Article B 214 – Matériaux pour imprégnation de couche de base, couche d'accrochage et revêtements de chaussée
- Article B 215 – Matériaux pour remblais sous fondation
- Article B 216 – Matériaux pour dispositifs filtrants
- Article B 217 – Dispositifs d'étanchéité
- Article B 218 – Tuyaux en béton
- Article B 219 – Tuyaux en pvc
- Article B 220 – Fontes de voirie
- Article B 221 – Enrochements
- Article B 222 – Peintures routières
- Article B 223 – Hydrofuges

#### **ARTICLE B300 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX TRAVAUX PRELIMINAIRES – TERRASSEMENTS – VOIRIE**

- Article B301 – Dispositions d'ordre général
- Article B302 – Implantation générale
- ARTICLE B310 – TRAVAUX PRELIMINAIRES**
- Article B311 – Débroussaillage
- Article B312 – Vides
- Article B313 – Scarification des chaussées existantes
- Article B314 – Démolition
- Article B315 – Décharges

**ARTICLE B 320 – TERRASSEMENTS**

Article B321 – Décapage de la terre végétale

Article B322 – Mouvements des terres

Article B323 – Purge des terres de mauvaise tenue

Article B324 – Prescriptions applicables aux terrassements en déblais

Article B325 – Carrières et emprunts

Article B326 – Prescriptions applicables aux terrassements en remblais

Article B327 – Tolérance sur les terrassements

Article B328 – Compactage

Article B329 – Réglage des plates-formes

Article B330 – Voiries

Article B331 – Finition des fonds de forme

Article B332 – Exécution de la couche de fondation

Article B333 – Exécution de la couche de base

Article B334 – Essais de contrôle de mise en œuvre de la couche de fondation et de la couche de base

**ARTICLE B340 – REVETEMENTS DE CHAUSSEES ET TROTTOIRS**

Article B341 – Mode d'exécution des revêtements multicouches

Article B342 – Revêtements en enrobés denses

Article B343 – Contrôle du profilage et des épaisseurs

Article B344 – Modalités du contrôle

Article B345 – Obligation du cocontractant vis-à-vis du contrôle.

Article B346 – Moins-values éventuelles pour non-respect des clauses techniques

**ARTICLE B400 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX D'ASSAINISSEMENT DES EAUX FLUVIALES**

Article B401 – Indications générales

**ARTICLE B410 – TERRASSEMENTS**

Article B411 – Exécution des tranchées et fouilles

Article B412 – Exécution des tranchées à l'aide d'engins mécaniques

Article B413 – Etalement et blindages

Article B414 – Drainage sous canalisation et ouvrage

Article B415 – Remblaiement des tranchées

Article B416 – Mise hors d'eau des travaux

Article B417 – Mise en œuvre des dispositifs filtrants

**ARTICLE B420 – RESEAUX DE DRAINAGE**

Article B421 – Pose des canalisations et de leurs accessoires

Article B422 – Regards de visites et avaloirs

Article B423 – Epreuves des canalisations

Article B424 – Essai général des réseaux d'assainissement enterrés

Article B425 – Construction des caniveaux et dalots

Article B426 – Entretien pendant le délai de garantie

**ARTICLE B500 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES OUVRAGES D'ART**

Article B501 – Terrassement

Article B502 – Fabrication et transport des bétons

Article B503 – Mise en œuvre et durcissement des bétons

Article B504 – Parements

Article B505 – Ouvrages en béton armé

**ARTICLE B600 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES AMENAGEMENTS PARTICULIERS**

Article B601 – Dispositif de sécurité pour les piétons

Article B602 – Dispositif anti-stationnement

Article B603 – Glissière de sécurité

Article B604 – Garde-corps

Article B605 – Tranches pour câbles et fourreaux

Article B607 – Fourreaux – gaines souples

Article B607 – Grillage avertisseur

Article B608 – Chambre de tirage

**ARTICLE B609 – MASSIF D'ANCRAGE**

Article B610 – Bordures

**ARTICLE B700 – SIGNALISATION HORIZONTALE**

Article B701 – Qualités et essais des matériaux constitutifs

Article B702 – Prescriptions générales sur les fournitures

Article B703 – Procédés et contrôle de fabrication

Article B704 – Essais des ouvrages

Article B705 – Consistance des travaux

Article B707 – Produits employés

Article B707 – Délai de garantie

Article B708 – Marques sur chaussées

Article B709 – Travaux de nettoyage

Article B710 – Mode d'exécution des travaux

Article B711 – Conditions d'exécution

**ARTICLE B800 – MODES D'EXECUTION DE DEPLACEMENTS DES RESEAUX**

Article B801 – Généralités

Article B802 – Tranchées de reconnaissance

Article B803 – Exécution des travaux

**ARTICLE B900 – MODES D'EXECUTION DES PLANTATIONS**

Article B901 – Provenance et qualité des arbres et arbustes

Article B902 – Mode d'exécution des travaux

Article B903 – Engazonnement

Article B904 – Nettoyage

Article B905 – Garantie et entretien

Article B907 – Pavage

Article B907 – Aménagement du dalot existant

Article B908 – Signalisation

Article B909 – Plots en béton.

**ARTICLE B1000 – DIRECTIVES ENVIRONNEMENTALES.****ARTICLE B1100 – DIRECTIVES POUR L'UTILISATION DU *CON AID/CBR PLUS*****ARTICLE B 100 – GENERALITES****ARTICLE B 101 – OBJET DU PRESENT CAHIER DES CLAUSES TECHNIQUES PARTICULIERES**

Le présent Cahier des Clauses Techniques Particulières a pour but de spécifier les normes applicables aux matériels et matériaux incorporés dans les travaux d'entretien de certaines voiries dans la ville de Yaoundé (Zone Sud).

## ARTICLE B 102 - ABREVIATIONS

Les abréviations employées dans le présent Cahier des Prescriptions Techniques ont les significations suivantes

- C.P.S ou Cahier des Prescriptions Spéciales ou Cahier des Clauses
- C.C.A.G : Administratives Générales ;
- C.P.T ou Cahier des Prescriptions Techniques ou Cahier des Clauses Techniques
- C.C.T.P : Particulières ;
- C.P.C : Cahier des Prescriptions Communes ;
- A.S.T.M : American Society for Testing Materials;
- A.A.S.H.O : American Association of States Highway Official;
- O.P.N. : Optimum Proctor Normal;
- O.P.M. : Optimum Proctor Modifié;
- C.B.R. : Californian Bearing Ratio;
- LABOGENIE : Laboratoire National de Génie Civil du Cameroun ;
- L.C.P.C : Laboratoire Central des Ponts et Chaussées de France ;
- C.E.B.T.P : Centre Expérimental du Bâtiment et des Travaux Publics, Manuel édition 1980, Ministère Français de la Coopération ;
- CDE : Camerounaise des Eaux ;
- AES/SONEL : Société Nationale d'électricité du Cameroun ;
  
- C.U : Communauté Urbaine

## ARTICLE B103 – NORMES ET REGLEMENTS

Les normes applicables sont celles en vigueur dans la République du Cameroun ou à défaut, les normes françaises en vigueur dans le domaine du BTP.

D'autres normes seront acceptées si leur qualité est équivalente ou supérieure à la norme spécifiée après soumission à l'approbation de l'Ingénieur de Contrôle.

Les provenances, qualités, types, dimensions, poids, et caractéristiques, ainsi que les modalités d'essais, de marquage, de contrôle et de réception des matériaux et de fournitures, devront répondre aux normes en vigueur au moment de la signature du Marché.

Le Cocontractant est réputé connaître ces normes et en particulier les documents suivants :

B103.1 Cahier des Clauses Techniques (C.C.T. ex-C.P.C)

- Fascicule N° 1 : Dispositions générales et communes aux diverses natures de travaux
- Fascicule N° 2 : Terrassements généraux
- Fascicule N° 3 : Fourniture de liants hydrauliques
- Fascicule N° 4 (Titre 1): Acier pour béton armé
- Fascicule N° 7 : Reconnaissance des sols
- Fascicule N° 23 : Granulats routiers
- Fascicule N° 24 : Fourniture de liants hydrocarbonés employés à la construction et à l'entretien
- Fascicule N° 29: des chaussées
- Travaux, construction, entretien des voies places et espaces publics, pavés et dallés en béton ou en roche naturelle
- Fascicule N° 26 : Exécution des enduits superficiels
- Fascicule N° 31 : Bordures et caniveaux en pierres naturelles ou en béton et dispositifs de retenue des bétons
- Fascicule N° 32 : Construction de trottoirs.
- Fascicule N° 35 : Travaux d'espaces verts, d'aires de sport et loisirs
- Fascicule N° 50 : Travaux topographiques, plans à grande échelle

- Fascicule N° 61 :
  - Titre 4 : Actions climatiques
  - Titre 5 : Conception et calculs des ponts et constructions métalliques
- Fascicule N° 62 (Titre 1 – Section 2) : Règles techniques de conception et de calculs des ouvrages et constructions en béton armé suivant la méthode des états limites
- Fascicule N° 63 : Exécution et mise en œuvre des bétons non armés, confection des mortiers
- Fascicule N° 64 : Travaux de maçonnerie d'ouvrage de génie civil
- Fascicule N° 65 : Exécution des ouvrages de génie civil en béton armé ou précontraint
- Fascicule N° 66 : Exécution des ponts et autres ossatures métalliques de technique analogues
- Fascicule N° 67 : Etanchéité des ouvrages d'art
- Fascicule N° 68 :
  - Titre 1 : Exécution des travaux de fondation d'ouvrages
- Fascicule N° 70 : Canalisations d'assainissement et ouvrages annexes
- Fascicule N° 71 : Fourniture et pose de canalisations d'eau, accessoires et branchement  
Le Cahier des Prescriptions Communes applicables à la réalisation d'un réseau d'éclairage public de Mars 1974.  
Toutes les règles techniques éditées par l'UTE dans leur édition à jour pour les installations électriques.

#### **ARTICLE B104 – DESCRIPTIONS DES ETUDES**

Immédiatement après notification de l'ordre de service de démarrage des travaux, le Cocontractant délimitera l'emprise des travaux et entreprendra la délimitation des constructions à l'intérieur de ces emprises après accord ou selon les instructions du Maître d'Œuvre. Ensuite, il établira à partir des plans et documents d'appel d'offres le projet d'exécution complet définissant l'adaptation des ouvrages aux conditions réelles d'exécution.

Le projet d'exécution comprendra toutes les modifications ou variantes proposées par le Cocontractant ainsi que les notes de calcul et dessins visés à l'article A 327.3 du Cahier des Prescriptions Spéciales.

Le projet d'exécution devra être remis au Maître d'œuvre avec copie à l'Ingénieur du marché dans un délai de sept (07) jours avant la date de début de la partie des travaux correspondante. Le Maître d'Œuvre disposera d'un délai de quinze jours pour approuver le projet d'exécution ou pour faire connaître ses observations dans les conditions définies dans le Cahier des Prescriptions Spéciales. Le projet d'exécution comprendra :

Plans de situations au 1/500<sup>e</sup>

Tracé des emprises au 1/500<sup>e</sup>

Plans d'implantation au 1/500<sup>e</sup> des voies et ouvrages avec l'assainissement eaux pluviales,

Projets et plans des déplacements des réseaux (CDE, AES-SONEL, CAMTEL) au 1/500<sup>e</sup>,

Cahier des profils en travers au 1/100<sup>e</sup> (un profil tous les 10 m),

Profils en travers type au 1/50<sup>e</sup>,

Plans des carrefours au 1/200<sup>e</sup> avec l'assainissement,

Plans de coffrage et de ferrailage des ouvrages d'assainissement au 1/20<sup>e</sup> (dalots, regards, têtes d'ouvrages, etc.),

Plans de détail au 1:50<sup>e</sup> (bordures de trottoirs, etc.),

Toutes notes de calcul des ouvrages d'assainissement,

Notes de calcul de l'assainissement et débouché des ouvrages,

Programme, plan et résultat des essais géotechniques (sols de fondation, déblais réutilisables en remblais, purges, niveau de la nappe phréatique, essais de déflexion, etc.),

Avant-métré détaillé par section et ouvrages.



## **ARTICLE B105 – DESCRIPTION DES TRAVAUX**

Les travaux à réaliser comprennent les opérations suivantes :

### **a) Travaux préparatoires**

- Installation du chantier
- Projet d'exécution

### **b) Travaux préliminaires**

Débroussaillage  
 Implantation des voies,  
 Nettoyage du terrain y compris enlèvement des décombres s'il y a lieu,  
 L'abattage des arbres y compris dessouchage  
 Les études géotechniques,  
 Les démolitions.

### **c) Terrassements**

La mise en forme de la plateforme y compris la création des fossés et exutoires ;  
 La mise en œuvre de la couche de fondation et de la couche de base.

### **d) Revêtements des chaussées et trottoirs**

#### **e) Assainissement des eaux pluviales**

Construction des caniveaux en BA, des fossés maçonnés, des cunettes, le cas échéant.  
 Construction des regards  
 Fabrication et pose des dalles de couverture,

### **f) Les déplacements (ou le rétablissement des branchements) des réseaux des concessionnaires (ENEO, CAMTEL et CAMWATER), le cas échéant.**

## **ARTICLE B 200 – QUALITES ET PREPARATION DES MATERIAUX MIS EN ŒUVRE**

### **GENERALITES**

Les essais de contrôle et études d'exécution prescrits dans le présent CCTP seront à la charge du Cocontractant qui est tenu d'en soumettre les résultats à l'approbation du Maître d'Œuvre. Des échantillons des matériaux et équipements qui auront été retenus par le Maître d'Œuvre seront conservés dans les locaux du maître d'œuvre sur le chantier.

## **ARTICLE B201 – GRANULATS POUR MORTIERS ET BETONS**

Les granulats pour mortiers et bétons devront répondre aux prescriptions des normes françaises citées dans les fascicules 65 du C.C.T.G. (voir B103.1). Les granulats seront d'une qualité uniforme et sans excès de morceaux plats ou allongés, de poussière ou d'impuretés.

En outre, il est précisé que la dimension des gravillons pour bétons sera au plus égale à 25 mm. Cette grosseur maximale sera réduite à 15 mm dans les zones frottées.

Toutefois dans les ouvrages massifs et sur accord expresse du Maître d'œuvre la grosseur maximale pourra être portée à 40 mm.

Le béton 0/25 sera constitué d'au moins trois classes de granulats, les courbes granulométriques étant prises dans les séries suivantes de dimensions de passoires, exprimées en millimètres : 2 – 4 – 6,3 – 10 – 20 ou 3 – 5 – 8 – 12,5 – 15 – 25.

Les sables seront de bonnes qualités, stables, propres et exemptes de poussière, de débris schisteux, argileux ou organiques. Ils ne devront pas contenir plus de 5 % d'éléments fins passant au tamis de 80 microns.

Aucun grain ne devra être de dimension supérieure à 6,3 mm. L'équivalent de sable sera obligatoirement supérieur à 70.

Le stockage des granulats se fera de façon à ce que les différentes classes ne puissent se mélanger. La contamination par boue et poussière devra être évitée. Un bon drainage des stocks devra être assuré.

La qualité et la granulométrie des granulats devront être soumises à l'agrément du Maître d'Oeuvre. Cet agrément ne sera acquis qu'après que les essais de résistance sur des éprouvettes de béton réalisées avec les granulats proposés se seront révélés satisfaisants.

#### **ARTICLE B202-LIANTS HYDRAULIQUES**

Le ciment entrant dans la composition des bétons ordinaires ou armés et des mortiers sera de la classe

CPA 325 ou CPJ 35. L'utilisation de ciment d'aluminium ne sera pas autorisée de même que le mélange de ciment.

Le ciment devra être emmagasiné dans les locaux secs, bien aérés et efficacement protégés contre les intempéries. Le radier des locaux en bois ou en béton se trouvera à au moins 20 cm au-dessus du sol pour éviter toute remontée d'humidité. Chaque approvisionnement devra être stocké séparément pour qu'il puisse être identifié et contrôlé facilement.

Le ciment devra être utilisé dans l'ordre de livraison ou suivant les indications du Maître d'Oeuvre. L'entassement du ciment en sacs se fera sur une hauteur maximale de 2 mètres.

Le tonnage de ciment stocké devra être suffisant pour assurer une consommation d'au moins un mois en période d'activité du chantier. Tout ciment présentant des traces d'humidité ou de prise sera obligatoirement évacué du chantier.

#### **ARTICLE B203 - ADJUVANTS**

L'emploi éventuel des adjuvants pour la confection des bétons sera soumis à l'approbation de l'ingénieur de contrôle. Les adjuvants devront être utilisés conformément aux prescriptions du fascicule 65 du C.C.T.G notamment en ce qui concerne le dosage maximal, les précautions à prendre et les contre-indications. Les adjuvants au chlore sont interdits, les entraîneurs d'air devront être agréés par le Maître d'Oeuvre.

La mise en œuvre de l'adjuvant devra être telle que l'on soit garanti contre toute concentration anormale, à cet effet, le mélange de l'adjuvant et de l'eau de gâchage aura lieu dans le réservoir ou dans un réservoir auxiliaire qui sera muni d'un dispositif autonome de brassage suffisamment puissant et en mouvement permanent.

Les adjuvants éventuellement utilisés par le Cocontractant et approvisionnés par lui sur le chantier devront donner lieu à la présentation d'un certificat d'origine, indiquant la date limite au-delà de laquelle ces produits devront être mis au rebut.

#### **ARTICLE B204 – PRODUITS DE CURE**

Les produits de cure éventuellement utilisés pour les bétons seront soumis à l'accord préalable du Maître d'Oeuvre et seront conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule 65 du C.C.T.G.

**ARTICLE B205 – COMPOSITION DES BETONS ET MORTIERS B205.1 Bétons**

Les bétons utilisés pour la construction des ouvrages répondront aux spécifications suivantes :

Désignation	Dosage en ciment au m <sup>3</sup>	Destination	Résistance à 28 jours - Compression - Traction mini	Rapport E/C maximal
Béton courant (B.C)	200 kg	Béton de propreté		0,70
Béton de qualité 1(BQ1)	250 kg	Béton de forme	18 MPa 1,8 MPa	0,60
Béton de qualité 2 (BQ2)	300 kg	Pour les parties d'ouvrages non armés ou légèrement armés	23 MPa 2,05 MPa	0,55
Béton de qualité 3 (BQ3)	350 kg	Pour ouvrages ou parties d'ouvrages en béton armé	27 MPa 2,32	0,55

La dose de ciment indiquée dans le tableau ne peut être diminuée même si les résistances des essais dépassent les valeurs prescrites.

**a) Consistance**

La consistance des bétons de qualité BQ2 et BQ3 sera mesurée au cône AGTM, les affaissements seront inférieurs à 5cm. Le Cocontractant devra dans tous les cas, disposer du matériel nécessaire de sorte à assurer une vibration satisfaisante du béton.

**b) Composition**

L'étude de la composition des bétons incombe au Cocontractant.

Le Cocontractant devra présenter au Maître d'Œuvre ses propositions et soumettre à son agrément la composition granulométrique et les volumes d'eau à incorporer par mètre cube et cela en temps utile pour respecter le délai d'exécution contractuel.

Le Cocontractant dispose d'un délai de quinze (15) jours ouvrables à compter de la notification du marché pour présenter la composition des bétons.

Le Maître d'Œuvre formulera ses observations ou donnera son agrément dans un délai de sept (07) jours ouvrables à compter de la date de la réception des propositions du Cocontractant.

Suite à l'approbation par le Maître d'Œuvre des compositions de bétons proposées, le Cocontractant procédera à des essais de mélanges pour chaque qualité de béton indiquée. Les essais devront correspondre aux conditions de fabrication sur le chantier.

Le Cocontractant n'appliquera que les mélanges approuvés par le Maître d'œuvre.

**B205.2. Mortiers**

Selon leur destination, les mortiers auront les compositions ci-après :

<b>M400 :</b>	Mortier à 400 kg de ciment par mètre cube de sable. Il sera employé à la réalisation des enduits des parements vus des ouvrages (dallettes de couverture des regards, ouvrage en superstructure).
<b>M500 :</b>	Mortier à 500 kg de ciment par mètre cube de sable additionné de produit Sika N1 suivant dosage prescrit par le fabricant et soumis à l'agrément du Maître d'Oeuvre. Ce mortier sera utilisé pour les enduits intérieurs étanchés des ouvrages.
<b>M600 :</b>	Mortier dosé à 600 kg de ciment par mètre cube de sable. Il sera employé pour tous les scellements (échelons de descente profilés métalliques, etc.) et pour le rejointoiement des perrés maçonnés

Les mortiers seront fabriqués mécaniquement ou exceptionnellement, manuellement pour de très petites quantités. Les appareils de fabrication devront assurer les mêmes garanties de dosage que pour les bétons.

Tout mortier qui aurait commencé à faire prise ou qui serait desséché sera rejeté et ne devra pas être mélangé avec du mortier frais.

### **B205.3 Contrôle des bétons**

Le Cocontractant a la responsabilité de procéder aux épreuves d'études et aux épreuves de convenances en temps utile pour respecter ses obligations contractuelles relatives aux délais d'exécution quels que soient les résultats desdites épreuves.

Les éprouvettes seront réalisées dans des moules agréés. Le transport au laboratoire de contrôle des éprouvettes de contrôle de convenance et d'information sera effectué par les soins du Cocontractant.

Le contrôle des bétons se fera suivant les prestations du tableau ci-après :

<b>Classe des Bétons</b>	<b>Nombre d'éprouvettes à prélever</b>	<b>Compression</b>	<b>Fréquence des essais Traction</b>	<b>Consistance béton frais</b>
BQ2 300 kg	Par journée de bétonnage - cylindres	2 essais à 7 jours	2 essais à 7 jours	1 par ½ journée de bétonnage
	6 prismes	4 essais à 28 jours	4 essais à 28 jours	
BQ3 350 kg	Par journée de bétonnage 10 cylindres	3 essais à 3 jours 2 essais à 7 jours	3 essais à 3 jours 2 essais à 7 jours	1 par ½ journée de bétonnage
	10 prismes (à la demande de l'Ingénieur)	5 essais à 7 jours	5 essais à 28 jours	

Les ouvrages ou parties d'ouvrages, pour lesquelles les essais ainsi effectués feraient apparaître des résistances inférieures de 15 % aux résistances exigées, seront refusées.

### **ARTICLE B207 – EAU DE COMPACTAGE ET DE GACHAGE**

La fourniture d'eau incombe au Cocontractant. La proportion des matières en dissolution ou en suspension dans l'eau de compactage doit être suffisamment faible pour qu'elle ne soit pas la cause d'un amoindrissement des qualités des terrassements de la chaussée.

L'eau utilisée tant pour le malaxage que pour le compactage devra avoir les propriétés physiques et chimiques fixées par la norme définie dans les prescriptions du fascicule 65 du C.C.T.G. Elle ne devra pas dépasser une température de 30 °C et ne devra pas contenir plus de 2 g de sel dissout par litre.

Les eaux douteuses seront soumises à l'analyse chimique par les soins et aux frais du Cocontractant.

### **ARTICLE B207 – ACIERS POUR ARMATURES DE BETON ARME**

Les aciers employés pour le béton armé seront les suivants :

Aciers à la haute adhérence Fe400 conforme aux normes citées dans le fascicule 4 au titre 1 du C.C.T.G.

Limite d'élasticité minimum : 400 MPa

Pour chaque approvisionnement d'aciers destinés aux travaux, le Cocontractant fournira des certificats indiquant les résultats d'essais subis par les matériaux. Si des résultats d'essais ne sont pas disponibles, le Maître d'Oeuvre pourra refuser son utilisation. Les aciers seront solidement attachés en faisceaux. Sur les faisceaux devront être clairement marqués le fournisseur, la qualité, la date de livraison et la longueur, le diamètre et le nombre de barres.

Les aciers pour bétons armés seront stockés sur des supports au-dessus du sol et seront protégés contre la rouille, l'huile et autre influences nuisibles.

#### **ARTICLE B208 – PROFILES ET ACIERS DIVERS**

Les profilés divers, tôles, plats, barres, tubes seront en acier doux laminé, de qualité soudable, non cassant, malléable, exempt de pailles, stries, gerçures, fissures. Les pièces devant recevoir un revêtement de protection de zinc seront galvanisées par trempage à chaud. Le poids de zinc ne sera pas inférieur à 200 grammes par mètre carré (simple face). Ils seront conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule 4, titre 3 du C.C.T.G.

#### **ARTICLE B209 – COFFRAGE**

Les coffrages seront constitués par les éléments métalliques, en bois ou par tout autre matériau équivalent. Ils seront soumis à l'agrément du Maître d'Oeuvre.

Les coffrages de dalles, radiers et parois qui resteront en vue seront lisses, assurant des surfaces lisses et régulières. Ils seront conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule 65 du C.C.T.G.

#### **ARTICLE B211 – FACONNAGE DES ARMATURES POUR BETON ARME**

Les conditions d'emploi des armatures devront être conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule 4, titre 1 du C.C.T.G.

L'article 21 du fascicule 65 du C.C.T. est complété comme suit :

Lorsqu'il y a lieu de constituer une armature avec plusieurs barres, les joints sont répartis sur une certaine longueur de telle sorte que, dans une section, il y ait au moins 2/3 des barres continues étant admis que le recouvrement des armatures à adhérence améliorée sera conforme aux prescriptions des règles béton armé en vigueur.

Immédiatement avant la mise en place, les aciers seront propres et sans rouille. Les armatures seront bien fixées de façon à ce qu'il n'y ait pas de risques de déplacement pendant le coulage du béton. Sont interdits:

le pliage et le dépliage délibérés des armatures,

L'assemblage des armatures par soudure.

#### **ARTICLE B212 – MATERIAUX DE REMBLAI**

##### **B212.1 – Indications générales**

Les matériaux utilisés en remblais devront avoir les caractéristiques suivantes :

Teneur en éléments végétaux inférieure à 1% ;

Granulométrie : pas d'éléments supérieurs à 100 mm ;

Indice de plasticité : inférieure ou égale à 40 ;

Portance : l'indice portant CBR immédiat (W naturelle) devra être supérieure ou égale à 10 pour compactage à 95 % de O.P.M. L'indice portant CBR est mesuré après 04 jours d'imbibition ;

Gonflement linéaire : inférieure à 3 %.

Il incombe au Cocontractant de faire à ses frais toutes les études géotechniques sur les sols en place et sur les lieux d'emprunt dont il aura recherché les sites. Les études géotechniques qui pourront être mises à la disposition du Cocontractant par le maître d'œuvre ne sont données qu'à titre indicatif.

En ce qui concerne les sols dont la teneur en eau, au moment de la mise en œuvre est trop élevée pour permettre l'obtention de la compacité minimum admissible indiquée à l'article B328 du présent CCTP, le Cocontractant prendra toutes les dispositions utiles pour aérer et réduire la teneur en eau à une valeur voisine de l'optimum.

En outre, dans les zones inondables, la base des remblais sera exécutée jusqu'à la hauteur des plus hautes eaux avec du sable ou avec tout autre matériau équivalent afin d'accélérer la consolidation des sols en place et de constituer une couche drainante permettant la circulation des eaux. Le matériau drainant ne devra pas contenir plus de 10 % d'éléments fins. Cette disposition n'est pas valable pour les remblais servant de digue pour lesquels les matériaux devront être soumis à l'approbation de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

### **B212.2 – Matériaux pour corps de remblais**

Les corps de remblais seront réalisés avec les matériaux provenant des déblais (terre végétale et micacée exclues). En cas de mauvaise qualité ou d'insuffisance, il sera utilisé des matériaux provenant des meilleurs emprunts agréés par le Maître d'Œuvre, conformément aux articles B212.1, B325 et B326 du présent document.

### **B212.3 – Fond de forme**

Le fond de forme est défini comme la partie de l'ouvrage sur laquelle la chaussée est placée. Il s'agit soit de la forme résultant des déblais compactés, soit de la surface de la route existante. L'épaisseur du fond de forme est considérée comme étant égale à 30 cm. Les matériaux constituant ce fond doivent répondre aux caractéristiques ci-après sauf dérogation accordée par le Maître d'Œuvre:

Teneur en matière organique :	< 2 %
Granulométrie :	150 mm maximum
Pourcentages de fines :	< 40 %
Limites d'Atterberg :	limite de liquidité < 60 indice de plasticité < 40
Indice portant CBR (mesuré après 4 jours d'imbibition) :	CBR > 10 pour une densité sèche correspondant à 95 % de l'O.P.M.
Gonflement linéaire :	tolérance 2 % maximum

Dans le cas où le terrain naturel n'aurait pas ces caractéristiques, le Cocontractant serait tenu de réaliser une couche de forme répondant à ces normes.

La rémunération de la présentation du fond n'est pas spécifiée séparément dans le bordereau de prix, mais est considérée comme étant incluse dans les autres prix unitaires.

### **ARTICLE B213 – MATERIAUX POUR COUCHE DE FONDATION ET DE BASE**

La définition des structures de corps de chaussée sera arrêtée définitivement en accord avec le Maître d'Œuvre avant le démarrage des travaux.

### **ARTICLE B214 – MATERIAUX POUR IMPREGNATION DE COUCHE DE BASE, COUCHE D'ACCROCHAGE ET REVETEMENT DE CHAUSSEE**

Les liants utilisés seront conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule N° 24 des C.C.T.G. "Fourniture de liants hydrocarbonés employés à la construction et à l'entretien des chaussées.

Les granulats utilisés seront conformes aux prescriptions du fascicule N° 23 des C.C.T.G. "Granulats routiers".

### **ARTICLE B215 – MATERIAUX POUR REMBLAIS SOUS FONDATION**

Les matériaux pour remblais sous fondation d'ouvrages ou de canaux doivent provenir d'un emprunt agréé par l'Ingénieur de Contrôle.

Les matériaux devront être propres et sains et répondront aux caractéristiques suivantes :

Teneur en éléments végétaux inférieure à 1 %.

Granulométrie : pas d'éléments supérieurs à 100 mm.

Indice de plasticité : inférieure ou égal 40.

Portance: l'indice portant CBR immédiat (W naturel) devra être supérieur ou égale à 10 pour compactage à 95 % de l'O.P.M.

Gonflement linéaire inférieure à 3 %.

### **ARTICLE B216 – MATERIAUX POUR DISPOSITIFS FILTRANTS**

Les matériaux des couches filtrantes proposées sous les canaux et les ouvrages seront constitués de matériaux tout-venant criblés de rivières ou de carrières agréées. Les matériaux seront débarrassés des éléments de diamètre supérieur au diamètre maximal de grain admis pour la constitution du filtre ou de la couche de fondation.

Les filtres verticaux pourront être constitués de matériaux filtrants type ENKADRAIN SK 20 ou similaire.

#### **Article B 216.16.1 SABLE**

Les sables constituant le filtre devront être propres, sains et durables et ne contenir en quantité notable ni plaquettes ni aiguilles.

#### **Article B 216.16.2 GRAVIER**

Le gravier utilisé dans les filtres devra être propre sain et durable. La granulométrie dépend du sable utilisé pour le filtre et devra être conforme aux caractéristiques suivantes :

(D 50 gravier/D 50 sable) compris 12 et 58

(D 15 gravier/D 85 sable) compris 5 et 10

(D 50 gravier D 15 sable) compris 12 et 40.

L'Entrepreneur présentera au Le Maître d'œuvre un échantillon du gravier +qu'il se propose d'utiliser pour le filtre.

#### **Article B 216.16.3 GEOTEXTILE**

Le géotextile devra répondre aux spécifications suivantes :

- \* Poids supérieur à 200 grammes par mètre carré
- \* Résistance à la traction supérieure à 100N/cm
- \* D/90 inférieure à 200 microns.

#### **Article B 216.16.4 BARBACANES**

Les barbacanes sont en P.V.C. de diamètre 25,4 mm. Elles seront appliquées pour le drainage des

filtres (canaux rectangulaires et dalots). La longueur des tuyaux est égale à l'épaisseur de la paroi

majorée de la moitié de l'épaisseur de la couche filtrante.

### **ARTICLE B217 – DISPOSITIFS D'ETANCHEITE**

Les joints d'étanchéité pour dalots et canaux rectangulaires devront avoir les caractéristiques suivantes :

- Résistance à la traction supérieure à 20,4 N/mm<sup>2</sup>
- Allongements à la rupture supérieure à 400 %
- Largeur minimale : 260 mm
- Epaisseur minimale : 9 mm.

**ARTICLE B218 – TUYAUX EN BETON**

Les tuyaux en béton devront répondre aux normes françaises spécifiées dans le fascicule 70 du C.C.T.G. Ils seront en béton armé du type à collet avec caoutchouc, série 135 A.

**ARTICLE B219 – TUYAUX EN PVC**

Pour les canalisations et les fourreaux seront utilisés des tuyaux en PVC série assainissement. Ces tuyaux devront répondre aux normes françaises spécifiées dans le fascicule 71 du C.C.T.G. notamment aux normes AFNOR T54-002, T54-003, T54-016, T54-028, T54-029 et T54-038.

**ARTICLE B220 – FONTES DE VOIRIE**

Les tampons de regard, grilles d'avaloir etc. situés dans l'emprise de la chaussée seront en fonte à graphique sphéroïdal non alliée, classe 400.

**ARTICLE 221 – ENROCHEMENTS**

Les enrochements seront de dureté N 4, qualité demi-ferme, et conformes aux normes du fascicule 64 du C.C.T.G.

**ARTICLE B222 – PEINTURES ROUTIERES**

Les produits utilisés pour les marquages devront être rétro réfléchissants, et devront être homologués dans leur pays d'origine. Les fiches d'homologation seront soumises à l'agrément préalable du Maître d'œuvre.

**ARTICLE B223 – HYDROFUGES**

Les parements enterrés des bétons seront recouverts soit d'un goudron désacidifié, soit d'un bitume à chaud, soit d'une émulsion non acide de bitume.

**ARTICLE B300 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX PRELIMINAIRES – TERRASSEMENTS – CHAUSSEES****ARTICLE B301 – DISPOSITIONS D'ORDRE GENERAL****B301.1 Généralités**

Le Cocontractant prendra toutes les dispositions nécessaires pour éviter les accidents de toute nature qui pourraient survenir du fait des travaux.

L'accès au chantier devra être formellement interdit au public ou à toute personne étrangère au chantier. Des panneaux indicateurs avec inscription en gros caractères seront placés aux entrées principales du chantier.

Le Cocontractant devra se soumettre en outre, à toutes les mesures réglementaires de sécurité. Il sera responsable de tous les accidents survenus sur le chantier et occasionnés par les travaux à des tiers, à son personnel et aux agents fonctionnaires de l'administration.

Toutes les précautions seront prises par le Cocontractant et à ses frais pour maintenir sans danger la circulation sur les itinéraires objets des travaux. Il soumettra à l'agrément du Maître d'œuvre les dispositions qu'il envisage de prendre pour l'établissement des déviations et de l'entretien de tous les itinéraires utilisés pour assurer la circulation pendant la durée des travaux.

**B301.2 - Evacuation des eaux**

Le Cocontractant devra, sous sa responsabilité, organiser son chantier de manière à se débarrasser des eaux de toutes natures, à maintenir les écoulements et à prendre toutes les mesures utiles pour que ceux-ci ne soient pas préjudiciables aux ouvrages provisoires nécessaires à l'évacuation des eaux de ruissellement ou d'infiltration.



Le Cocontractant est tenu d'avoir sur le chantier des pompes d'épuisement en nombre et puissance suffisantes.

Le maître d'œuvre pourra limiter ou interdire les épuisements s'ils sont de nature à entraîner des désordres à des installations voisines.

### **B301.3 – Présence de réseau d'intérêt public**

Lorsque des travaux devront avoir lieu, en tout ou en partie, au voisinage des réseaux existants, le Cocontractant en avertira les sociétés concessionnaires et services intéressés afin d'examiner avec eux en temps utile les conditions de déplacement ou de protection des ouvrages.

Le maître d'ouvrage fournira tous les renseignements en sa possession mais ne sera tenu pour responsable des erreurs, omissions, modifications, concernant la présence et l'implantation des réseaux existants. Les études d'exécution et les frais de déplacement des réseaux sont à la charge du Cocontractant.

Le tracé des réseaux et ouvrages existants sera reconnu par le Cocontractant avant le démarrage des travaux. Pendant la durée de ceux-ci, le Cocontractant prendra toutes les dispositions pour assurer la protection de ces ouvrages, et assurer le raccordement des riverains.

## **ARTICLE B302 – IMPLANTATION GENERALE**

Avant tout commencement des travaux, le Cocontractant procédera au balisage des axes de voies et délimitera les emprises afin de procéder aux démolitions des ouvrages existants après accord du Maître d'Œuvre.

### **B303.2 – Piquetage de base**

Après préparation de la plate-forme et avant tout commencement des travaux de terrassements, le Cocontractant plantera les points de base du piquetage principal (implantation des axes) à partir des données du plan d'implantation du dossier d'appel d'offres et de la polygonale, qu'il aura préalablement vérifiées.

Il sera ensuite procédé contradictoirement à la vérification de cette implantation solidement fondée en forme de pyramide tronquée à la base carrée de 0,50 m de hauteur, portant en leur axe une tige de fer à béton scellé. Chaque borne portera le numéro caractéristique du point qu'elle matérialise.

Le Cocontractant reste responsable de cette implantation et supportera tous les travaux inutiles qui résulteraient d'une mauvaise implantation, avant comme après vérification de celle-ci.

### **B302.3 – Levée du terrain naturel – Piquetage complémentaire**

Lorsque le piquetage principal sera accepté, le Cocontractant procédera à ses frais à un levé contradictoire du terrain naturel (TN) le long des axes des voies sur tous les profils en travers et partout où des ouvrages faisant partie de ses prestations devront être exécutés. Le levé devra comprendre des points côtés tous les 5 m au maximum sur les profils en travers, espacés au plus de trente (30) mètres.

En outre, le piquetage de l'axe des voies devra être déplacé et repéré par des bornes solides sur une ligne parallèle à l'axe d'un seul côté à une distance fixe et hors de l'emprise des terrassements.

Après l'exécution du piquetage général, le Cocontractant effectuera le nivellement de ces points, rattachés au nivellement général du Cameroun. Il devra fixer le long du tracé des repères côtés solides et aussi nombreux qu'il sera nécessaire pour la bonne exécution des travaux.

Le Cocontractant devra se prêter à toute vérification que déciderait de faire effectuer le Maître d'Œuvre. Il tiendra à la disposition du Maître d'Œuvre le matériel, les appareils et le personnel habilité pour effectuer ces opérations de contrôle.

**B302.3 – Conservation du piquetage**

Le Cocontractant est tenu de veiller à la conservation des points de piquetage et de nivellement, de les rétablir ou de les remplacer en cas de besoin soit à leur emplacement initial, soit en les déplaçant si l'avancement des travaux l'exige, mais en donnant toutes références sur les modifications ainsi apportées.

**ARTICLE B310 – TRAVAUX PRELIMINAIRES****ARTICLE B311 – DEBROUSSAILLEMENT**

Le Cocontractant procédera au débroussaillage général du terrain, à l'abattage des arbres et à leur dessouchage, ainsi qu'à l'évacuation de tous les éléments correspondants hors du chantier, en un lieu agréé par le Maître d'Œuvre. Sur indications de l'ingénieur de contrôle, certains arbres pourront être conservés pour autant qu'ils ne constituent pas un obstacle à l'exécution des travaux.

**ARTICLE B312 – VIDES**

Toutes les cavités naturelles ou artificielles telles que les puits, puisards, fosses septiques, emplacement des souches situées dans l'emprise des travaux seront vidangés et remblayés avec du sable compacté après l'accord du Maître d'œuvre.

Seules les superficies au sol des cavités de plus de 1 mètre de profondeur à traiter seront prises en compte dans les attachements.

**ARTICLE B313 – SCARIFICATION DES CHAUSSEES EXISTANTES**

Dans certaines zones, la scarification des chaussées existantes peut être nécessaire. Ces zones ainsi que la profondeur de scarification seront fixées par le Maître d'Œuvre. L'utilisation éventuelle des matériaux scarifiés ne pourra se faire qu'après accord du Maître d'Œuvre.

**ARTICLE B314 – DEMOLITION**

Le Cocontractant procédera à la démolition des endommagés en béton armé ainsi qu'à l'évacuation de tous les éléments correspondants hors du chantier, en un lieu agréé par le Maître d'Œuvre.

**ARTICLE B315 – DECHARGES**

Tous les produits et matériaux à évacuer hors du chantier pourront être mis en dépôt aux frais du Cocontractant :

A la décharge publique en accord avec le Maître d'Œuvre et la Mairie,

En un lieu spécifié par le Maître d'Œuvre sur le territoire communal,

En un lieu proposé par le Cocontractant avec l'accord du Maître d'Œuvre

Les déblais mis en dépôt permanent seront égalés et nivelés suivant les indications du Maître d'Œuvre.

**ARTICLE B320 – TERRASSEMENTS****ARTICLE B321 – DECAPAGE DE LA TERRE VEGETALE**

Le cocontractant procédera au décapage de la terre végétale dans l'emprise des zones terrassées non décapées, y compris les opérations suivantes :

L'extraction et le chargement

Le transport et la mise en dépôt en des lieux agréés par le Maître d'Œuvre en vue de la réutilisation pour des opérations de plantation

**ARTICLE B322 – MOUVEMENTS DES TERRES**

Le Cocontractant soumettra à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre dans un délai de quinze (15) jours à compter de la date de démarrage des travaux, un projet de mouvement des terres.

Ce projet devra indiquer particulièrement les zones de dépôts, les distances de transport, les volumes de terre transportés et la qualité des matériaux, définie par des essais géotechniques à charge du Cocontractant.

### **ARTICLE B323 – PURGE DES TERRES DE MAUVAISE TENUE**

Dans les zones où la nécessité sera reconnue par le du Maître d'oeuvre, l'entrepreneur procédera à l'enlèvement des terres de mauvaise tenue.

Les zones et la profondeur seront établies sur place contradictoirement entre l'entrepreneur et le du Maître d'oeuvre. Les terres seront évacuées du chantier dans les mêmes conditions que les produits de démolition.

### **ARTICLE B324 – PRESCRIPTIONS APPLICABLES AUX TERRASSEMENTS EN DEBLAIS**

#### **B324.1 – Indications générales**

Les déblais se feront conformément aux plans d'exécution, établis par le Cocontractant et approuvés par le Maître d'Œuvre, pour la réalisation des plates-formes et encaissements.

Le profil définitif sera réalisé en une seule opération continue jusqu'au niveau de l'arase des terrassements. Les talus seront réglés à leur profil définitif.

Le Cocontractant devra maintenir une pente suffisante à la surface des parties excavées et exécuter en temps utiles les saignées, rigoles et ouvrages provisoires.

Les eaux de pluie ou de ruissellement seront dirigées hors du chantier par des dispositions ne provoquant aucun trouble chez les riverains ou installations existantes.

Le Cocontractant devra faire approuver par le Maître d'Œuvre la procédure garantissant la préparation des fonds de fouille sous remblais suivant l'article B326. La prise en attachement des déblais ne sera effectuée qu'après parfait achèvement des remblais.

Les déblais non réutilisés en remblais du fait de leur mauvaise qualité seront évacués à la décharge publique ou en des lieux agréés par le Maître d'Œuvre.

#### **B324.2 – Différentes catégories de déblais**

Les déblais sont classés en cinq catégories :

1 <sup>ère</sup> catégorie : Déblais pour purges	Entrent dans cette catégorie les matériaux pour couche de forme ayant un $I_p > 10$ et un $CBR > 10$
2 <sup>ème</sup> Catégorie : Déblais réutilisables en remblais	Entrent dans cette catégorie les matériaux pour couche de forme ayant un $I_p < 40$ et un $CBR < 10$
3 <sup>ème</sup> catégorie : Déblais non réutilisables en remblais	Entrent dans cette catégorie les matériaux pour couche de forme ayant un $I_p > 40$ et un $CBR < 10$
4 <sup>ème</sup> catégorie : Déblais réutilisables en corps de chaussée	Entrent dans cette catégorie les matériaux pour couche de forme ayant un $I_p < 35$ et un $CBR < 40$ (fondation)
5 <sup>ème</sup> catégorie : Déblais rocheux	entrent dans cette catégorie les matériaux non rippables par un tracteur de 270CV.

#### **Remarque:**

Le Cocontractant ne pourra effectuer de déblais en terrain rocheux qu'avec l'accord préalable du Maître d'Œuvre. Les terrains meubles avoisinants seront alors suffisamment dégagés pour permettre une évaluation précise des volumes des déblais rocheux à prendre en compte. Un attachement contradictoire devra être dressé avant tout commencement d'exécution.

#### **B324.3 – Mode d'exécution des déblais**

##### **Déblais en terrains meubles**

Les déblais en terrains meubles correspondants aux quatre premières catégories désignées ci-dessus seront exécutés à l'aide d'engins mécaniques. Ils seront triés et mis en dépôt à proximité de leur lieu de réutilisation ou évacués à la décharge s'ils ne sont pas réutilisables. Le

compactage de la forme sera obligatoirement conduit de manière à obtenir sur une épaisseur de 30 cm une densité égale à 95 % de L'O.P.M.

Si les purges sont nécessaires, les excavations seront exécutées jusqu'à la profondeur fixée par le Maître d'Œuvre. La côte théorique des déblais sera rattrapée par apport de bon sol qui sera mis en place comme il est dit à l'article B326 ci-après pour les remblais.

### **Déblais en terrain rocheux**

A proximité des constructions, les déblais en terrain rocheux seront exécutés au marteau pneumatique. La côte de profil théorique sera rattrapée par apport de déblais rocheux fins.

### **ARTICLE B325- CARRIERES ET EMPRUNTS**

Dans le seul cas où le Cocontractant serait dans l'obligation de recourir à des emprunts de matériaux, du fait d'un manque de déblais réutilisables en remblais, l'exploitation des carrières et lieux d'emprunts ne pourra commencer qu'après autorisation écrite du Maître d'Œuvre. Cette autorisation pourra être retirée à tout moment si le Maître d'Œuvre estime que le gisement exploité ne donne plus de matériaux de qualité satisfaisante.

Le Cocontractant ne pourra de ce chef réclamer aucune indemnité. Il est précisé que, si les carrières et emprunts s'avéraient insuffisants ou si, la qualité des matériaux était telle que le Maître d'Œuvre soit amené à les refuser, le Cocontractant fera son affaire de recherche de nouvelles carrières.

Les matériaux de ces nouvelles carrières seront soumis à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre en cas de non acceptation, le Cocontractant sera tenu de reprendre à ses frais la recherche de carrières ou gîtes de matériaux répondant aux prescriptions fixées et aux quantités nécessaires.

Le Cocontractant supportera toutes les charges d'exploitation des lieux d'emprunts et de carrières et notamment:

l'ouverture et l'aménagement des pistes d'accès ;

le débroussaillage et le déboisement, l'enlèvement des terres végétales ou des matériaux de couverture indésirables et leur mise en dépôt hors des limites de l'emprunt ;

la remise en état des lieux après exploitation de la carrière.

Le drainage des chambres d'emprunt devra être fait de façon efficace.

Toutes les dispositions devront être prises pour que l'eau de ruissellement puisse s'écouler normalement en dehors des limites des zones d'emprunts.

### **ARTICLE B 326 - PRESCRIPTIONS APPLICABLES AUX TERRASSEMENTS EN REMBLAIS**

#### **B 326.1 – Différentes catégories de remblais**

Les remblais sont classés en quatre catégories :

- Catégorie 1 :	Remblais compactés (IP < 40 et CBR > 10)
- Catégorie 2 :	Remblais en zones inondables ou marécages (IP < 40 et CBR > 10) avec interposition d'une couche drainante
- Catégorie 3 :	Remblais pour couche de forme (IP < 40 et CBR > 15)
- Catégorie 4 :	Remblais mis en dépôt (IP > 40 et CBR < 5).

**B 326.2 – Origines des matériaux**

Les matériaux entrant dans la constitution des remblais proviendront soit des déblais soit des carrières ou des zones d'emprunt proposées par le Cocontractant et agréées par le Maître d'Œuvre.

**B 326.3 – Préparation des terrains sous les remblais**

La préparation complémentaire de compactage est effectuée, si nécessaire, sur toute la largeur de l'emprise des remblais.

Le compactage sera conduit de façon à obtenir une densité sèche du sol compacté au moins égale à 90 % de la densité sèche de l'Optimum Proctor modifié sur une épaisseur de 25 cm au moins.

Sous les remblais, le piochage et le labourage sur 0,10 m d'épaisseur maximum seront obligatoires dès que la pente transversale du terrain sera supérieure à 10 %. Si cette pente dépassait 20 %, il serait pratiqué des redans d'accrochage disposés conformément à l'avis de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

La préparation des terrains sous remblais sera réceptionnée avant remblaiement. En cas de venue d'eau sous l'emprise des remblais, le Cocontractant exécutera les drains éventuellement nécessaires ; le mode d'exécution et le type de drains à utiliser seront soumis à l'agrément de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

**B326.4 – Mode d'exécution des remblais**

Les remblais en terrain ordinaire devront être conformes aux spécifications de l'article B212.1. Ils seront régalez sur toute leur largeur pour exécution des talus (ou par moitié éventuellement), en couches ayant une pente de

2 %, sur lesquelles les engins de terrassement et de transport ayant été affectés à leur exécution circuleront de manière à exercer sur elles une compression répartie aussi uniformément que possible.

Les matériaux seront mis en œuvre par couche d'épaisseur maximale, mesurée après compactage, de 20 cm sur toute la largeur du remblai jusqu'aux côtes fournies par les plans et profils.

Le profil des talus sera obtenu par la méthode du remblai excédentaire, le dressage devra être soigné afin que n'apparaissent ni jarrets, ni irrégularités. Les talus devront être compactés à 90 % de l'O.P.N. (Optimum Proctor Normal).

Les travaux doivent être conduits de telle manière qu'après tassement ou compression, les profils indiqués soient réalisés aux tolérances fixées par l'article B 327 ci-après.

Il est expressément spécifié que les travaux de terrassement seront recommencés chaque fois que le degré de compactage exigé à l'article B328 du présent C.P.T. n'a pu être obtenu. Les matériaux seront mis en œuvre avec une teneur en eaux supérieure de 1 % à la teneur optimale et avec une tolérance de plus ou moins 3 %.

Les talus seront protégés contre l'érosion jusqu'à leur réception.

**B 326.5 – Essais sur remblais mis en œuvre**

	<b>Catégories 1 et 2</b>	<b>Catégorie 3</b>
Granulométrie, proctor modifié, indice de plasticité, densité en place et teneur en eau.	1 essai pour 500 m <sup>3</sup>	1 essai pour 250 m <sup>3</sup>
Identification et CBR	1 essai pour 1 000 m <sup>3</sup>	1 essai pour 500 m <sup>3</sup>

## ARTICLE B 327 – TOLERANCES SUR LES TERRASSEMENTS

Les tolérances d'exécution des terrassements sont ainsi fixées :

Terrassements	Profils de la forme	Talus	Profil sous couche de forme
Déblais en terrain ordinaire	+ ou – 2 cm	+ ou – 10 cm	+ ou – 5 cm
Déblais en terrain rocheux	+ ou – 4 cm	+ ou – 20 cm	+ ou – 10 cm
Remblais	+ ou – 2 cm	+ ou – 5 cm	+ ou – 5 cm

Les pentes théoriques des talus sont les suivantes :

en déblais 1/3 (1 de la base pour 3 de hauteur) ;

en remblais 2/3 (2 de la base pour 3 en hauteur).

Toutefois ces pentes pourront être modifiées à la demande du Maître d'Œuvre en fonction des caractéristiques des matériaux rencontrés ou mis en œuvre, et en vue des résultats des essais de sol.

## ARTICLE B 328 – COMPACTAGE

Sauf dérogation précise accordée ou prescrite par le Maître d'Œuvre, les remblais seront méthodiquement compactés par des couches d'épaisseur maximale, mesurée après compactage, de 25 cm d'épaisseur. Chaque couche sera réceptionnée avant l'exécution de la suivante. Le mode d'exécution du compactage sera soumis à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre.

Tous les engins que le Cocontractant se propose d'utiliser figureront sur la liste du matériel qui sera jointe à l'offre. Cette liste fera mention des caractéristiques techniques des engins. Avant tout commencement d'exécution, le Cocontractant procédera à l'étalonnage de son matériel de compactage, le Maître d'Œuvre contrôlera les résultats de cette opération.

La teneur en eau des sols avant la mise en œuvre sur le chantier devra pouvoir être reconnue de façon régulière, continue et sûre. Le compactage sera contrôlé journalièrement et à toutes demandes du Maître d'Œuvre.

Les matériaux agréés qui constituent les couches régaliées au déchargement devront être homogénéisés et scarifiés. S'il y a lieu, au motorgrader et à la herse. Les matériaux seront ramenés dans la fourchette de teneur en eau nécessaire à l'obtention de la densité sèche prescrite compte tenu de l'énergie de compactage nécessaire (diagramme d'essai chantier), s'ils sont trop secs, les matériaux seront arrosés de façon régulière avant et pendant les opérations de compactage. Au contraire, si les matériaux se révélaient trop humides, le Cocontractant pourra les ramener à une teneur acceptable par dessiccation préalable activée par une aération mécanique, hersage ou passage de charrue. A défaut de quoi le chantier sera arrêté faute à l'entreprise d'accepter la sujétion d'ouvrir un nouvel emprunt réputé satisfaisant. En tout état de cause, ces sols, ne seront mis en œuvre qu'avec l'accord du Maître d'Œuvre qui pourra prescrire leur évaluation hors du chantier et qui demeure seul juge de la durée d'arrêt du chantier. Celle-ci sera prolongée jusqu'à ce que les sols à mettre en œuvre soient dans les conditions nécessaires à l'obtention d'un compactage satisfaisant sans que le Cocontractant puisse s'estimer fondé à réclamer quelque indemnité que ce soit pour immobilisations.

Il est expressément spécifié que les travaux de terrassements seront interrompus chaque fois que le degré de compactage exigé au présent article ne pourra être assuré. Les matériaux seront mis en œuvre à une teneur en eau voisine de la teneur en eau optimale à plus ou moins 2 % près. Il devra être tenu compte de l'évaporation qui en saison sèche, est importante.

Les différents degrés minima de compactage à réaliser seront pour 90 % de mesures dans tous les cas supérieurs aux valeurs suivantes :

	<b>Mini</b>	<b>Tolérance (10 % de mesure)</b>
- Sol recevant les remblais	90 % OPM	88 % OPM
- Corps de remblais	90 % OPM	88 % OPM
- Dernière couche de remblais (couche de forme épais. 30cm)	95 % OPM	92 % OPM
- Couche de fondation	90 % OPM	95 % OPM
- Couche de base	95 % OPM	96 % OPM

En cas de détérioration due au tassement des remblais ou à l'insuffisance de leurs caractéristiques, le Cocontractant ne pourra en aucune façon se retourner contre le Maître de l'ouvrage et devra reprendre à ses frais les zones détériorées.

#### **ARTICLE B 329 – REGLAGE DES PLATES-FORMES**

Après terrassement, les plates-formes et les talus devront être réglés et nettoyés dans l'emprise des travaux.

Toutes les dispositions seront prises pour assurer l'évacuation des eaux de ruissellement sans ravinement et sans nuire aux propriétés riveraines.

#### **ARTICLE B 330 – VOIRIE (PLATE-FORME)**

##### **ARTICLE B 331 – FINITION DES FONDS DE FORME**

Après compactage, le profil de la plate-forme, des accotements et des abords sera réglé de façon à ne pas laisser apparaître d'écart supérieur à 2 cm sous la règle de quatre mètres.

L'Entrepreneur demandera par écrit au Maître de l'Œuvre la réception des plates-formes. Il devra fournir un registre des contrôles de densités sur le tronçon considéré : deux contrôles tous les 50 m ou un contrôle par profil en alternant les mesures.

##### **ARTICLE B 332 – EXECUTION DE LA COUCHE DE FONDATION**

Les couches de fondation seront conformes aux prescriptions de l'article B213. Il est précisé que les épaisseurs seront données à titre indicatif. Il appartient au Cocontractant de faire exécuter à ses frais sur les matériaux qu'il propose d'utiliser, tous les essais nécessaires. Au vu des résultats de ces essais, le Maître d'Œuvre pourra éventuellement prescrire d'autres épaisseurs.

Après l'agrément par l'Ingénieur de contrôle de la plate-forme des terrassements, le Cocontractant mettra en œuvre la couche des matériaux sur toute la largeur de la plate-forme et sur l'épaisseur minimale requise, par couche de 15 cm d'épaisseur minimum et de 25 cm d'épaisseur maximum en fonction de la granulométrie.

La teneur en eau in situ de compactage ne devra pas excéder de deux points la teneur en eau optimale donnée par l'essai proctor modifié.

Le compactage sera mené de façon à obtenir une densité sèche in situ au moins égale à 97 % de la densité maximale donnée par l'essai proctor modifié. Il sera exécuté avec rouleau à pneus, à pieds dameurs ou vibrants.

Le Maître d'Œuvre procédera également à des contrôles des épaisseurs minimales prescrites. Ces contrôles pourront être réalisés aux emplacements des mesures de densité en place ou à des emplacements différents désignés par le Maître d'Œuvre.

Les épaisseurs minimales de la couche devront en tous points de cette dernière être respectées ; la tolérance altimétrique est de plus ou moins 2cm par rapport à la côte du projet. Si ces épaisseurs minimales et la tolérance altimétrique prescrite n'étaient pas respectées, le Cocontractant serait tenu de reprendre à ses frais la section concernée, soit par apport de

matériaux, soit par élimination en déblai des matériaux. Dans les deux cas, il devra procéder à une scarification de la couche et à son recompactage.

Le Cocontractant prendra toutes les dispositions pour éviter le feuilletage.

## **ARTICLE B 333 – EXECUTION DE LA COUCHE DE BASE**

### **B 333.1 – Couche de base en latérite sélectionnée améliorée au ciment**

Sans objet

#### **B 333. 2 - Couche de base en grave concassée**

Après réception de la couche de fondation par le Maître d'Œuvre, le Cocontractant mettra en œuvre la couche de base par couches de 10cm minimum et de 15cm maximum après compactage.

Les matériaux utilisés seront les graves 0/31,5 entièrement concassées dont les caractéristiques sont définies à l'article B334.

Le taux de compactage en place devra être supérieur ou égal à 98 % de l'O.P.M. pour 90 % des mesures. Le reste sera dans tous les cas supérieur à 97 % de l'O.P.M.

Le Maître d'Œuvre procédera à des contrôles d'épaisseur de la couche de base. Ces contrôles pourront être réalisés aux emplacements des mesures de densités en place ou d'autres emplacements désignés par celui-ci.

L'épaisseur minimale de la couche de base devra en tous points de cette dernière être respectée. La tolérance altimétrique est plus ou moins 1 cm par rapport à la côte projet. Si l'épaisseur minimale et la tolérance altimétrique prescrite n'étaient pas respectées, le Cocontractant serait tenu de reprendre à ses frais la section concernée. Dans les deux cas il devra procéder à une scarification de la couche de base et à son recompactage.

Le Cocontractant déterminera, à partir de planches d'essais, la teneur en eau qui lui, permettra d'obtenir une densité sèche in situ supérieur à 98 % de L'O.P.M., compte tenu des moyens de compactage qu'il doit mettre en œuvre et des caractéristiques des matériaux de la couche de base.

Quelle que soit la teneur en eau obtenue, le Cocontractant prendra toutes les dispositions afin d'éviter toute ségrégation des matériaux au cours de l'approvisionnement, la mise en place et le compactage de ces derniers. A cet effet le Cocontractant devra veiller à ce que la hauteur du stockage des granulats en carrières n'excède pas 6 m et que les matériaux soient transportés avec une certaine teneur en eau initiale.

### **B33.3 – Couche de base en grave-bitume**

Sans objet

#### **B 333.4 – Couche de base en grave latéritique naturelle**

Après réception de la couche de fondation par le Maître d'Œuvre, le Cocontractant procédera à la mise en œuvre de la couche de base par couches d'une épaisseur après compactage de 10cm minimum et de 20 cm maximum, conformément aux prescriptions de l'article B213.

Le Maître d'Œuvre procédera à des contrôles de l'épaisseur minimale prescrite de la couche de base. Ces contrôles pourront être réalisés aux emplacements des mesures de densités en place ou d'autres emplacements désignés par celui-ci. L'épaisseur minimale de la couche de base devra en tous points de cette dernière être respectée.

La tolérance altimétrique est de plus ou moins 2 cm par rapport à la côte du projet. Si cette épaisseur minimale et les tolérances altimétriques prescrites n'étaient pas respectées, le Cocontractant serait tenu de reprendre à ses frais la section concernée. Il en est de même en cas de non-respect des prescriptions en matière de dosage, de CBR, de compacité, feuilletage ou de fissuration autres que de retrait. Dans ces cas, il devra procéder à une scarification de la couche de base, au rajout de ciment, au malaxage et à son compactage.



Le Cocontractant devra prendre toutes dispositions pour s'assurer de la bonne liaison entre la couche de base et la couche de fondation. En cas de malaxage in situ, il veillera à pénétrer la couche sous-jacente de 1 à 2 cm.

Toutes dispositions conservatoires devront être prises par le Cocontractant et à ses frais, pour tenir compte des sujétions de cure des matériaux naturels sélectionnés et du maintien de la circulation.

### **Transport et épandage du matériau**

Le transport et le épandage du matériau pourront être faits au moyen de camion ou scrapers suivis de la niveleuse qui devra donner à la couche à stabiliser les caractéristiques géométriques du projet en tenant compte de la diminution de l'épaisseur dérivant du compactage.

### **Compactage préliminaire**

La couche de matériaux ainsi répandus recevra un compactage préliminaire ou pré compactage destiné à permettre la circulation des engins.

### **Compactage**

Il est spécifiquement rappelé que toutes les opérations de compactages devront être commencées immédiatement après le mélange et terminée avant la prise du ciment, en tout cas, à moins de trois heures du mélange. A cet effet, le Cocontractant devra disposer des engins de compactage en nombre et type suffisants pour obtenir, dans les temps susdits, la densité sèche prescrite du mélange. Si pour des raisons quelconques, les opérations de compactage ne sont terminées en temps utile ou la densité prescrite n'a pas été rejointe, le Cocontractant devra, à ses frais, évacuer la couche stabilisée sur tout le tronçon en question et déposer le matériau hors de l'emprise en des lieux agréés par l'Ingénieur de Contrôle.

### **Finition**

Avant que le liant n'ait commencé la prise, le Cocontractant devra procéder aux opérations de finition pour conférer à la couche stabilisée le profil du projet tant longitudinal que transversal comme indiqué sur les plans.

Si nécessaire, après le passage de la niveleuse qui donne le profil définitif, un compactage des fermetures des parties superficielles sera exécuté, de préférence cette opération sera faite avec un rouleau à pneus.

### **Reprise de construction**

Toutes les fois que l'opération de stabilisation sera reprise après la fin du temps de prise (donc au moins à chaque reprise de journée de travail), les opérations de mélange devront être précédées par un piochage de la partie terminale déjà exécutée, jusqu'à l'élimination de tout matériau qui, par la nature même des travaux, ne présente pas les caractéristiques d'homogénéité et de dureté propres du sol – ciment. Toutes les dispositions seront prises pour éviter le feuilleteage.

### **Couche d'accrochage**

Immédiatement après la finition du compactage du matériau stabilisé, il sera procédé au répandage de la couche d'accrochage conformément à l'article B 214 du présent C.P.T.

### **Calendrier de pose et ouverture de trafic**

La circulation sera interdite sur la couche compactée pendant sept (07) jours environ. Les délais précis de compactage et d'ouverture à la circulation seront déterminés au laboratoire.

**Répartition de dosage :**

Grave latéritique : 100 %

**ARTICLE B 334 - ESSAIS DE CONTROLE DE MISE EN ŒUVRE DE LA COUCHE DE FONDATION ET DE LA COUCHE DE BASE**

Les essais de contrôle de mise en œuvre des corps de chaussées sont consignés dans le tableau ci-après:

Nature des travaux	Nature de l'essai	Résultats exigés	Nombre d'essai à réaliser
Compactage de la couche de fondation	Compacité en place	Supérieure ou égale à 97 % de la densité sèche de l'O.P.M*.	1 tous les 250 m <sup>2</sup>
Compactage sur emprise de trottoirs	Compacité en place	≥ à 97 % de la densité sèche de l'OPM*	1 tous les 500 m <sup>2</sup>
Compactage de la couche de base	Compacité en place	Supérieure ou égale à 98 % de la densité sèche de l'OPM*	1 tous les 250 m <sup>2</sup>
Contrôle de la quantité des matériaux pour couche de base	Epaisseur	Epaisseur mise en place ne doit pas être inférieure de plus de 1 cm par rapport à épaisseur théorique indiquée sur plans ou définie par l'Ingénieur	1 tous les 250 m <sup>2</sup>
Mise en œuvre de la couche d'imprégnation ou de la couche d'accrochage	Dosage du liant	Ecart autorisé par rapport au dosage théorique ne doit pas excéder plus ou moins 0,05 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
Tolérance d'exécution	Viagrape	80 % des valeurs 10mm de pénétration	1 longitudinale par voie

\* pour au moins 90 % des mesures effectuées.

Pour les cas des couches de base en grave-bitume, les essais et contrôles des seront identiques à ceux effectués sur les enrobés denses (voir article B342 ci-après).

**ARTICLE B 340 – REVETEMENTS DE CHAUSSEES ET TROTTOIRS**

Le revêtement de chaussée consistera en la mise en œuvre des pavés de béton dosé à 400kg/m<sup>3</sup> (12 à 15 centimètre) sur la chaussée.

L'Entrepreneur soumettra à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre la liste du petit matériel qu'il compte employer pour l'exécution des revêtements

L'Entrepreneur devra:

déterminer les emplacements des dépôts des matériaux intermédiaires s'il y a lieu en tenant compte d'un minimum de débroussaillage,

prendre les dispositions de drainage pour éviter le transport des agrégats par les eaux,

éviter le stockage des pavés sur le passage piétonnier,

**ARTICLE B 341 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES REVETEMENTS EN PAVES DE BETON****Mise en œuvre**

Avant la mise en œuvre de la couche de sable d'une épaisseur de 5cm, de granulométrie 0/5 centimètres, le Titulaire sollicitera, par écrit, l'autorisation du Représentant du Maître d'œuvre qui jugera de l'état de la couche de base, en particulier, de sa fermeture et de son degré d'humidité. Si celui-ci s'avérait excessif et s'il est reconnu que la couche de base ne peut

retrouver un degré d'humidité acceptable par simple évaporation superficielle, le Titulaire devra scarifier et l'aérer pour la ramener à une teneur en eau satisfaisante. Une remise en forme et un nouveau compactage seront ensuite exécutés, tous ces travaux supplémentaires étant à la charge et aux frais exclusifs du Titulaire.

Après la mise en œuvre de la couche de sable d'épaisseur 5 (cinq) centimètres, le Titulaire disposera de manière esthétique les pavés sur toute la largeur de la chaussée en respectant le devers de 2,5%. Le mortier de joints d'épaisseur relative de 2 centimètres dosé à 400 kilogrammes par mètre cube devrait combler les vides entre les pavés.

#### **ARTICLE B 341 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES REVETEMENTS MULTICOUCHES**

Les enduits superficiels seront réalisés conformément aux prescriptions du C.C.T.G., fascicule N-26 "Exécution des enduits superficiels".

a) Dosage :

- Bi-couche

1ère couche : 10 L/m<sup>2</sup> de gravillons 6/10 ou 8/12

1,100 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600

2ème couche : 7 L/m<sup>2</sup> de gravillons 4/6 ou 4/8

0,900 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600

- Tri-couche

1ère couche : 12 L/m<sup>2</sup> de gravillons 10/14 ou 12/18

1,200 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600

2ème couche : 10 L/m<sup>2</sup> de gravillons 6/10 ou 8/12

1,000 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600

3ème couche : 6 L/m<sup>2</sup> de gravillons 4/6 ou 4/8

8,800 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600

- Monocouche

8 L/m<sup>2</sup> de 6/10 ou 8/12

1,00 kg/m<sup>2</sup> de cut-back 400/600.

b) Mise en œuvre

- Le revêtement superficiel ne sera exécuté qu'après séchage complet du liant d'imprégnation de la couche de base ou de la couche d'accrochage.

- Le liant sera mis en place à l'aide d'une répandeuse tous liants à jets multiples, munie d'une citerne de 3000 l minimum.

- Les reprises de répandage de liant se feront avec les bandes de papier kraft pour éviter les "placards".

- Le liant sera répandu en une seule fois sur toute la largeur de la chaussée à revêtir à une température de 125 °C minimale.

- La régularité du répandage du liant sera vérifiée. La vitesse de répandage sera régulière et d'environ 5 km par heure.

- L'intervalle de temps entre le répandage du liant et l'épandage du granulat ne doit pas dépasser 5 minutes.

En aucun cas, une partie de chaussée ou le liant aura été répandu ne devra être abandonnée par cessation de travail sans avoir reçu la totalité du matériau de couverture. La régularité du répandage des gravillons sera vérifiée conformément aux indications du tableau ci-après :

Le cylindrage sera effectué immédiatement après le gravillonnage. Il sera exécuté au moyen d'un compacteur

à pneus de 1,5 tonne minimum par roue. Les pneumatiques étant gonflés uniformément à une pression comprise entre 4 et 5 bars. La vitesse de compactage ne devra pas être supérieure à 6 km à l'heure.

Après l'ouverture à la circulation, le rejet sera régulièrement éliminé par balayage mécanique.

## c) Essais et contrôles de mise en œuvre des revêtements

Les essais, contrôles, processus et résultats exigés sont donnés dans le tableau ci-après :

Essai de mise en œuvre des revêtements superficiels

NATURE DES ESSAIS	RESULTATS EXIGES			NOMBRE D'ESSAIS
DOSAGE DU LIANT	Chaque opération de contrôle comportera 4 mesures dans un même profil transversal effectuées à l'aide d'éprouvettes en tôle. La régularité du répandage sera évalué d'après la valeur du quotient $R=D-d/d+d$ dans lequel « d » est le dosage maximal et « d » le dosage minimal observés dans le profil. Cette valeur sera inférieure à 20.			A la demande de l'ingénieur de contrôle.
DOSAGE EN GRANULATS	Chaque opération de contrôle comportera 3 mesures dans un même profil transversal. Les gravillons seront isolés dans les cadres rigides en tôle de 0,25 m de coté puis ramassés et pesés par 10% en plus ou moins des quantités théoriques à répandre.			A la demande de l'ingénieur de contrôle.
	NATURE DU LIANT	TEMPERATURE STOCK	TEMPERATURE REPANDAGE	A la demande de l'ingénieur de contrôle
	Cut-back (0/1)		60°C	
	Cut-back (400/600)	70 – 80 60 - 70	125°C 130°C	
	Emulsions		Température telle que 11°C	

**ARTICLE B342 – REVETEMENTS EN ENROBE DENSE**

Granulats :

La granulation du matériau de construction s'inscrira dans le fuseau de références suivant: (donné à titre indicatif)

Tamis (mm)	0,08	0,20	0,315	1	2	4	6	10
% Passant	5 – 9	8 – 14	10 – 18	20 – 32	30 – 45	50 – 60	65 – 75	90 – 100

Les granulats devront avoir une excellente granularité et un indice de concassage égal à 90.

L'équivalent de sable mesuré sur la fraction 0/6,3 du mélange reconstitué sera au moins égal à 60, sur la fraction 0/4 du sable ; l'équivalent de sable sera supérieur à 40.

La dureté par l'essai Los Angeles sur la classe 6/10 sera inférieure à 35.

La teneur en liant devra se situer dans la plage 5.5 à 6.5 pour les bétons bitumineux et 3.5 à 4.5 pour les graves bitumes.

Filler : La teneur en eau filler sera comprise entre 5 et 9 %. Le rapport filler/bitume sera compris entre 1,1 et 1,4.

Bitume :

Le liant sera du bitume pur de pénétration 60/70 ou 80/100.

Les bitumes de dureté supérieure à 150 ou inférieure à 50 sont à déconseiller.

Formules types pour enrobés denses :

L'Entrepreneur formulera la composition des enrobés dense qu'il envisage de mettre en œuvre.

#### **ARTICLE B343 – CONTROLE DU PROFILAGE ET DES EPAISSEURS**

Ces contrôles se feront en présence du Cocontractant et du représentant du Maître d'Œuvre. Ces points seront matérialisés par des pointes métalliques arasés au niveau de la chaussée et signalisés par une marque circulaire de peinture blanche de 0,10 m de diamètre avec numéro de profil correspondant au projet.

##### **a) Profil en long**

Aucun point de l'axe de la chaussée finie ne devra s'écarter de plus de 1cm en plus ou en moins par rapport au profil en long au projet approuvé. Ces vérifications seront faites tous les 200 m. La fréquence peut être augmentée à la demande du Maître d'Œuvre.

##### **b) Profil en travers**

Pour les rues où la largeur n'excède pas 7 m, une cerce au profil théorique de la chaussée, appliquée dans un plan perpendiculaire à l'axe, ne devra pas mettre en évidence des points situés à plus de 2 cm sous le bord de la cerce.

Il est précisé que ce contrôle sera effectué une seule fois sur toute la largeur de la chaussée au moyen d'une cerce complète et non au moyen d'un demi-cercle appliqué successivement sur la partie droite et la partie gauche.

Lorsque la largeur de la chaussée ne permettra plus l'utilisation du gabarit, le contrôle se fera à l'aide d'un niveau.

En règle générale, aucun point de la chaussée ne devra se trouver à plus ou moins 2 cm de la côte théorique.

##### **c) Epaisseur**

Ce contrôle sera effectué par trois sondages dans les différentes couches sur le même profil en travers, un sondage dans l'axe de la chaussée à 1 m du bord du trottoir. Les profils seront espacés de 100 m les uns des autres sauf prescriptions contraires du Maître d'Œuvre. En aucun cas, l'épaisseur réalisée ne pourra être inférieure à l'épaisseur prescrite ou définie par le Maître d'Œuvre. Si l'épaisseur moyenne de la section est inférieure de plus de 0,25 cm et de moins de 1 cm, il sera appliqué une réfraction de prix.

Au-delà, le Cocontractant devra mettre en œuvre une couche supplémentaire au moins compensatrice dont l'épaisseur ne pourra pas être inférieure à 3 cm.

#### **ARTICLE B344 – MODALITES DU CONTROLE**

Les contrôles visés au tableau de l'article B341.1 pourront être prescrits par le Maître d'Œuvre. Le contrôle visé à l'article B342.2 sera effectué en principe avant la mise en place de la couche de surface.

Le Maître d'Œuvre pourra cependant le prescrire, même après l'exécution de cette dernière s'il y a lieu de craindre une insuffisance des couches inférieures et en particulier si la chaussée présente des signes de défaillance.

#### **ARTICLE B345 – OBLIGATION DU COCONTRACTANT VIS-A-VIS DU CONTROLE**

Pendant la durée des travaux, le Cocontractant devra disposer en permanence sur le chantier du matériel nécessaire aux contrôles (en particulier : régie, cerce, niveau de maçon, indicateur de pente). Il devra également disposer du personnel nécessaire pour la manutention de ces instruments.

#### **ARTICLE B346 – MOINS-VALUES EVENTUELLES POUR NON RESPECT DES CLAUSES TECHNIQUES**

Lorsque les tolérances sur les moyennes seront dépassées, le Maître d'Œuvre pourra prescrire au Cocontractant d'effectuer un nouveau réglage de la centrale de fabrication.

Si après avoir donné l'ordre de procéder à un nouveau réglage, le Maître d'Œuvre constate, à l'expiration du délai fixé, que les tolérances sur les moyennes sont encore dépassées, les moins-values suivantes seront appliquées à toute la fabrication faite entre le moment ou de nouveaux réglages auront été prescrits et le moment du prélèvement précédent ayant donné des résultats satisfaisants : par 0,1 % d'écart du dosage du liant, 1 % de réfaction sur le prix du m<sup>2</sup> mis en place avec maximum de 5 %, par 0,1 % d'écart du dosage de filler au sable, 1 % de réfaction avec maximum de 5 % pour le total des deux réfections pour filler et sable, par 0,1 % d'écart du dosage de granulats, 1% de réfaction avec maximum de 5 % pour le total des réfections sur les granulats.

#### **ARTICLE B400 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX D'ASSAINISSEMENT DES EAUX FLUVIALES**

##### **ARTICLE B401 – INDICATIONS GENERALES**

Le réseau d'assainissement des eaux sera réalisé avant l'exécution des corps de chaussées, revêtement et trottoirs.

Le Cocontractant devra vérifier toutes les côtes et indications des plans qui lui seront fournis et s'assurer de leurs concordances sur les différents plans et dessins.

Avant l'ouverture des tranchées, le Cocontractant matérialisera par tous piquets et chaises, les axes d'implantation. Cette implantation fera l'objet d'un procès-verbal de réception.

##### **ARTICLE B410 – TERRASSEMENTS**

##### **ARTICLE B411 – EXECUTION DES TRANCHEES ET FOUILLES**

Les tranchées sont établies en chaque point à la profondeur indiquée sur le profil en long, augmentée de la hauteur du lit de pose pour les canalisations circulaires et de l'épaisseur du radier pour les caniveaux et dalots ; le fond de fouille, constitué d'un matériau conforme à l'article B212.3 sur 0,30 m d'épaisseur, sera réglé au côté du projet après compactage à 90 % de l'OPM.

Lorsqu'une tranchée est ouverte sous route ou sous trottoirs existants, le Cocontractant commence par découper soigneusement sur l'emprise de la tranchée les matériaux qui constituent le revêtement ainsi que ceux de la fondation, sans ébranler ni dégrader les parties avoisinantes.

Les matériaux seront triés net et déposés parallèlement à la tranchée de façon qu'ils ne puissent se mélanger, ou être transportés aux lieux de dépôts. Au fur et mesure de leur extraction, les déblais seront mis en attente avant leur réutilisation en remblais.

Lorsque des bancs rocheux sont rencontrés dans les tranchées, ils doivent être arasés à 20 cm au moins en dessous du fond de fouille et remplacés sur cette épaisseur par la terre fine ou sable.

La largeur de la tranchée devra être en tous points suffisante pour qu'il soit aisé d'y placer les buses, soit d'y confectionner les ouvrages et les joints et d'y effectuer convenablement les remblais. La largeur de la tranchée sera au moins égale à celle de l'ouvrage ou du diamètre extérieur de la canalisation majorée de 30 cm de part et autre.

Sauf si le terrain est sableux, le fond des tranchées sera arasé à 15 cm au moins en dessous de la côte prévue pour la génératrice extérieure inférieure de la buse. Cette épaisseur sera remplacée par un lit de pose constitué de sable contenant moins de 12 % de particules inférieures à 1/10<sup>e</sup> de mm. Le lit de pose sera nivelé suivant la pente du projet. La surface sera bien dressée pour que le tuyau ne repose sur aucun point dur ou faible si la nature des joints les rend nécessaires, des niches pour faciliter la confection des joints seront aménagées dans les parois et le fond des tranchées.

En terrain inondable, la longueur maximale des fouilles qui peuvent rester ouvertes avant remblaiement est fixée à 100 m ; en terrain ordinaire cette longueur est de 200 m.

Toute sur profondeur du fond de fouille due à l'entreprise sera soigneusement remblayée et damée par couches successives avec des matériaux conformes aux articles B212 et B326, à la charge du Cocontractant

Lors de l'exécution des terrassements, le Cocontractant devra prendre toutes dispositions nécessaires et conformes aux règles de l'art pour assurer le bon achèvement des travaux notamment, il fera son affaire :

du déroctage ou de toute autre disposition permettant de fragmenter ou d'ameublir les terrains rocheux ou très durs,

des épaissements, étaitements, blindages, travaux confortatifs de toute nature pour assurer tant la sécurité du personnel que la possibilité d'exécuter correctement les ouvrages prévus.

des dispositifs permettant la bonne conservation des ouvrages et des canalisations.

toutes sujétions sont à la charge du Cocontractant, même si elles ne sont pas explicitement mentionnées dans les pièces du marché.

Les moyens à mettre en œuvre et les modes d'exécution sont laissés à l'initiative du Cocontractant mais le Maître d'Œuvre se réserve le droit de refuser son agrément à toute disposition qu'il jugera inapte ou dangereuse.

#### **ARTICLE B412-EXECUTION DES TRANCHEES A L'AIDE D'ENGINS MECANIQUES**

L'emploi des engins mécaniques est autorisé sauf sur certains tronçons qui seraient précisés par le Maître d'Œuvre au cours du piquetage en fonction du voisinage de certains bâtiments, ouvrages, canalisations, ou câbles existants.

#### **ARTICLE B413 – ETAIEMENT ET BLINDAGES**

L'entrepreneur doit, si nécessaire, étayer les fouilles par tous les moyens, en vue d'éviter tous les risques d'éboulement et d'assurer la sécurité du personnel conformément aux règles en vigueur.

Dans le cas des sols fluents ou susceptibles de le devenir au cours des travaux, le soutènement doit être jointif. Dans les autres cas, les intervalles peuvent être laissés entre les éléments de soutènement en contact avec le terrain. Toutefois, ces intervalles ne peuvent excéder le double de la largeur moyenne de ces éléments.

#### **ARTICLE B414 – DRAINAGE SOUS CANALISATION ET OUVRAGE**

Lorsqu'il y a lieu de consolider les terrains et le lit de pose des canalisations et ouvrages en raison de l'instabilité des sols, l'Entrepreneur est tenu d'exécuter les drainages voulus suivant les règles de l'art à l'aide des drains placés sous la canalisation ou l'ouvrage, le tout étant entouré d'une épaisseur suffisante de graviers ou de matériaux appropriés. L'exécution de dalles de propreté en béton, en vue d'assurer le nivellement très précis, ou dalots de répartition pour consolider les conduites ou les ouvrages dans les terrains peu consistants, peut être imposée par l'Ingénieur de Contrôle.

#### **ARTICLE B415-REMBLAIEMENT DES TRANCHEES**

Lorsque le Maître d'Œuvre aura reconnu que les épreuves des canalisations (voir article B423) sont satisfaisantes et que les pentes prévues au projet ont été respectées, il autorisera le Cocontractant à procéder au remblaiement des tranchées, avec des remblais de catégorie 1 (voir article 326). Le remblaiement de la tranchée, jusqu'à une hauteur uniforme de 15 cm au-dessus de la génératrice supérieure extérieure de la canalisation, sera effectué manuellement avec précaution, avec la terre des déblais expurgée de tous éléments susceptibles de porter atteinte à la conduite ou avec tout autre matériau convenable agréé par le Maître d'Œuvre (sable, terre

franche ou végétale expurgée de pierres, gravier, débris végétaux, etc.) que le Cocontractant est tenu d'approvisionner dans les cas où les déblais des tranchées ne conviendraient pas.

Cette première couche de remblais, appelée remblai de calage, sera soigneusement damée, afin d'assurer un calage efficace de la canalisation. Au-delà de cette première couche, le remblaiement pourra se poursuivre à l'aide d'engins mécaniques.

L'épaisseur maximale des couches successives de remblais ne sera pas supérieure à 30 cm et le compactage obtenu ne devra pas être inférieur à 90 % de l'OPM. Le degré de compactage de la dernière couche devra être égal à 95 % de l'OPM pour 90 % des mesures et dans tous les cas, supérieur à 92 % de l'OPM.

Le Cocontractant est tenu de trier et d'enlever les blocs de rocher, débris végétaux ou animaux etc. qui ne doivent pas être enfouis dans les tranchées, l'excédent de déblais sera évacué aux lieux de dépôt suivant les directives du Maître d'Œuvre.

Le Cocontractant demeure responsable, jusqu'à la réception définitive, des déformations ou tassements qui pourraient se produire aux abords des tranchées remblayées et qui seraient la conséquence des travaux. Il doit procéder aux opérations d'entretien et déférer sans délai aux injonctions du Maître d'Œuvre.

#### **ARTICLE B416 – MISE HORS D'EAU DES TRAVAUX**

Les opérations de déblai pour drains et ouverture de fouilles pour ouvrages risquent de rencontrer la nappe phréatique. L'organisation des travaux se fera de l'aval vers l'amont de façon à utiliser les parties de drains et ouvrages déjà réalisés pour l'évacuation des excédents d'eau. L'entrepreneur est tenu d'exécuter tous les travaux de terrassements et construction complètement à sec. Outre le maintien des écoulements superficiels en dehors du chantier, ceci impliquera le rabattement de la nappe phréatique. L'entrepreneur doit mettre en œuvre tout le matériel nécessaire tel que drains horizontaux, filtres, tuyaux d'aspiration, pompes, etc. Le fond des fouilles devra avoir les mêmes caractéristiques que le fond de forme défini à l'article B212.3. Le travail de rabattement est inclus dans les coûts de terrassements

#### **ARTICLE B417 – MISE EN ŒUVRE DES DISPOSITIFS FILTRANTS**

Après l'exécution des travaux de terrassement sous le niveau de la nappe phréatique, des filtres seront mis en place conformément aux prescriptions de l'article B216.

- Filtres horizontaux ; Les filtres sont composés d'une couche de 10 cm de sable drainant surmonté d'un géotextile type BIDIM U 24 ou similaire et d'une couche de gravier de 25 cm d'épaisseur.
- Filtres verticaux ; Les filtres verticaux seront constitués de matériaux filtrants type ENKADRAIN SK 20 ou similaire mis en œuvre conformément aux instructions du fabricant.

#### **ARTICLE B420-RESEAUX DE DRAINAGE**

#### **ARTICLE B421 – POSE DES CANALISATIONS ET DE LEURS ACCESSOIRES**

##### **B421.1 Généralités**

##### **Manutention et stockage des tuyaux**

La manutention des tuyaux de toutes espèces doit se faire avec les plus grandes précautions. Les tuyaux sont déposés sans brutalité sur le sol ou dans le fond de la tranchée et il convient d'éviter de les rouler sur des pierres ou sur le sol rocheux sans avoir au préalable constitué des chemins de roulement à l'aide de madriers.

Tout tuyau qu'une fausse manœuvre aurait laissé tomber de quelque hauteur que ce fût, doit être considéré comme suspect et ne peut être posé qu'après une nouvelle vérification.

Les tuyaux devront être provisoirement stockés sur le chantier sur une aire plane. Des cales en bois seront déposées sous le lit inférieur au moins tous les mètres de manière à ce que les



emboîtures ne soient pas en contact direct avec le sol. La hauteur de stockage ne devra être supérieure à 1,5 m, des piquets ou ridelles latérales de maintien seront prévus.

En ce qui concerne les tuyaux PVC, toutes précautions devront être prises pour les tenir à l'abri de l'action directe du soleil.

#### **Examen des tuyaux avant la pose**

Au moment de leur mise en place, les tuyaux seront examinés à l'intérieur et soigneusement débarrassés de tous corps étrangers qui pourraient y avoir été introduits. Le Cocontractant à l'entière responsabilité de cette vérification.

#### **Coupe des tuyaux**

Selon les exigences de la pose, le Cocontractant a la faculté de procéder à la coupe des tuyaux. Toutes les précautions doivent être prises pour que l'opération ne soit faite qu'en cas de nécessité absolue et aussi peu fréquemment que possible.

La coupe doit être faite avec des outils bien affûtés ou avec des tronçonneuses ou scies, de façon à obtenir des coupes nettes.

La chute portera toujours du côté mâle et le Cocontractant veillera avec le plus grand soin à ce que le nouveau bout mâle produit par la coupe soit lisse et qu'il fournisse avec l'emboîtement au tuyau voisin un joint aussi solide qu'avec un bot ordinaire.

#### **Pose des canalisations en tranchées**

Après réception des fonds de fouille par le Maître d'Œuvre, les tuyaux seront soigneusement descendus dans la tranchée et bien présentés dans le prolongement les uns des autres, en facilitant leur alignement au moyen des cales provisoires constituées de mottes de terre tassées ou de coins en bois. Le calage provisoire au moyen de pierres est interdit.

Les tuyaux seront posés en file bien alignée et avec une pente régulière entre deux regards consécutifs.

Les tuyaux seront posés à partir de l'aval, et sauf prescriptions contraires du Maître d'Œuvre, l'emboîture, lorsqu'elle existe, sera toujours dirigée vers l'amont.

A chaque arrêt de travail, les extrémités des tuyaux en cours de pose seront obturées pour éviter l'introduction de corps étrangers. Il est interdit de profiter du jeu des assemblages pour déporter les éléments de tuyaux successifs d'une valeur angulaire supérieure à celle qui est admise par le fabricant. Sauf dispositions particulières agréées par le Maître d'Œuvre, la pose des conduites en tranchées sera effectuée de manière à assurer, après remblaiement, une couverture de terre d'une hauteur minimale de 70 cm au-dessus de la génératrice supérieure extérieure de la canalisation lorsqu'elle est posée sous trottoir et de 1 m sous chaussée.

#### **Façon – Assemblage – Pose des joints**

Avant la mise en place, les bouts mâles et femelles seront nettoyés. Avant l'emboîtement, les joints et les embouts mâles et femelles seront lubrifiés, si nécessaire, avec une pâte spéciale.

Après confection du joint, il devra subsister, entre les extrémités mâles et femelles, à l'intérieur de l'emboîture, un jeu longitudinal permettant les dilations ou les retraites des tuyaux.

#### **Tolérance de pose des tuyaux**

Les collecteurs devront être réalisés conformément aux côtés "fil d'eau" du projet d'exécution avec comme tolérance sur les côtes mesurées à chaque regard de visite consécutif :

Pour les pentes supérieures à 0,003 m/m, la tolérance d'exécution par rapport à la côte du projet est de plus ou moins 1 cm.

Pour les pentes inférieures ou égales à 0,003 m/m, la tolérance d'exécution par rapport aux côtes du projet est de  $\pm 0,5$  cm.

La régularité de la pente du collecteur entre deux regards consécutifs sera contrôlée avec les mêmes tolérances que ci-dessus.

Les côtes tampons seront calées par rapport à la chaussée ou le terrain naturel avec une tolérance de  $\pm 0,5$  cm.

#### **B421.2 – Prescriptions particulières relatives à la pose des canalisations en béton**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B422 – REGARDS DE VISITES ET AVALOIRS**

Ces ouvrages seront exécutés conformément au plan de détail approuvé. Ils devront résister aux poussées des terres, aux charges et surcharges auxquelles ils seront soumis en service. En outre, ils devront assurer une excellente étanchéité. A cet effet, un enduit étanche ou mortier M500 additionné de produit SICA ou similaire sera appliqué à l'intérieur des regards sur les parois et radier.

Les ouvrages seront réalisés en béton armé ou en béton banché très soigneusement vibré. Les épaisseurs ne seront en aucun point inférieure à 10cm. Le Cocontractant pourra cependant proposer toute autre technique de construction dont il justifiera les garanties de stabilité et d'étanchéité.

Les faces intérieures seront lisses et étanches. Le raccordement des tuyaux aux ouvrages en béton sera réalisé de façon à permettre l'adhérence aux parois.

Les bétons de fondation qui sont coulés sur enrochements devront être soigneusement vibrés afin que la pénétration soit bonne et assure une parfaite liaison. Les regards de visite situés sous chaussées seront exécutés entièrement en béton armé.

Les regards de visite situés sous trottoirs ou hors chaussée, et d'une profondeur inférieure ou égale à 2,00 m seront réalisés en béton BQ2 à 300 kg. Pour des profondeurs supérieures à 2 m, les regards seront réalisés en totalité en béton armé.

Les regards de visite comportant une cunette de hauteur égale au rayon de la canalisation sur laquelle ils seront construits, et deux plages inclinées à 10 se raccordant aux parois du regard. Le collecteur PVC traversera entièrement le regard. La cunette sera obtenue par découpe de la demi partie supérieure du tuyau, sur toute la largeur du regard. Cette disposition assurant la continuité parfaite du "fil d'eau".

Dans le cas où des regards de visite seraient prévus au réseau pluvial, cette cunette sera obtenue par une forme en béton soigneusement lissée à laquelle viennent se raccorder les canalisations d'entrée et de sortie.

Les cadres de tampons de fermeture des regards seront scellés au mortier de ciment M600, dans la feuillure de couronnement du regard, de manière à permettre le raccordement soigné au niveau de la chaussée ou du trottoir.

Les alvéoles des tampons en fonte recevront un remplissage en béton du liant asphatique ou hydraulique, arrosé au niveau des nervures. Les surfaces des alvéoles parfaitement nettoyées avec le remplissage.

La composition et la mise en œuvre des bétons et mortiers se feront conformément aux prescriptions de l'article B205.

Les avaloirs seront équipés de grilles avec cadre en fonte type PAM RE 30H6FD ou similaire d'une résistance à la rupture supérieure à 30 000 daN/cm<sup>2</sup>.

Il est prévu deux types d'avaloirs :

Type bas pour raccordement sur réseau superficiel ou sur réseau enterré, sous traversée de chaussée, de hauteur = 0,50 m

Type haut pour raccordement sur réseau enterré avec traversée de chaussée de hauteur h = 1,20 m.

#### **ARTICLE B423 – EPREUVES DES CANALISATIONS**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B424 – ESSAI GENERAL DES RESEAUX D'ASSAINISSEMENT ENTERRES**

Sans objet

**ARTICLE B425 – CONSTRUCTION DES CANIVEAUX ET DALOTS**

Les caniveaux en béton ainsi que les dalots pour traversées de chaussées, ouvrages de décharge et ouvrages de rejet seront exécutés conformément au plan de détail et aux prescriptions du présent CCTP relatives à la construction d'ouvrages en béton.

Les parements intérieurs des ouvrages, radiers et parois recevront un enduit étanche (addition d'hydrofuge) parfaitement dressé et lissé. Il ne sera toléré aucun défaut nuisible au bon écoulement de l'eau.

**ARTICLE B426 – ENTRETIEN PENDANT LE DELAI DE GARANTIE**

Le Cocontractant est tenu d'effectuer, pendant le délai de garantie, toutes les réparations et tous les remplacements qui se révéleraient nécessaires sur les canalisations et ouvrages. Les dépenses résultant de ces travaux ne sont supportées par le Cocontractant que si les défauts constatés proviennent des matériaux ou de produits fournis ou la mise en œuvre. Le Cocontractant est tenu de procéder à ses frais, aux remplacements et réparations prescrits par le Maître d'ouvrage, après mise en demeure restée sans effet.

Les obligations ainsi imposées se prolongeront s'il est nécessaire, jusqu'à ce que les ouvrages aient été mis en état de réception définitive.

**ARTICLE B 500 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES OUVRAGES D'ART**

Sans objet.

**ARTICLE B502-FABRICATION ET TRANSPORT DES BETONS****Fabrication**

Le béton sera fabriqué mécaniquement par mélange simultané de tous ses constituants qui devront être introduits dans l'appareil mécanique dans l'ordre suivant :

Granulats moyens et gros, Ciment, Sable, Eau.

Le Cocontractant ne pourra procéder différemment que s'il est démontré qu'il en résulte une meilleure homogénéité des composants du béton. Dans tous les cas, la fabrication de gâchées sèches en vue d'une addition ultérieure d'eau est interdite.

La proportion d'eau introduite dans le mélange sera mesurée soit à l'aide des dispositifs spéciaux que comportent les bétonnières ou les malaxeurs, soit à l'aide des récipients de capacité définie. Sauf prescriptions contraires du Maître d'Œuvre, les appareils de fabrication devront permettre de doser respectivement les granulats, le liant et l'eau à 5 %.

Les doseurs volumétriques seront interdits pour les éléments solides dont la proportion est fixée en poids. Les proportions devront être modifiables en cours d'exécution par réglage des appareils. Les méthodes et matériels employés pour la fabrication des bétons seront soumis à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre. La fabrication manuelle des bétons ne pourra être autorisée que pour de petites quantités et après approbation du Maître d'Œuvre.

**Transport**

Le béton devra être transporté dans les conditions qui ne donnent lieu ni à la ségrégation des éléments, ni à un commencement de prise avant mise en œuvre.

Toutes précautions devront être observées pour éviter, en cours de transport, une évaporation excessive ainsi que l'intrusion de corps étrangers. Lorsque la descente du béton sera supérieure à 1,50 m, il sera utilisé des goulottes métalliques.

## **ARTICLE B503-MISE EN ŒUVRE ET DURCISSEMENT DES BETONS**

### **Mise en œuvre des bétons**

Pour la mise en œuvre des bétons, le Cocontractant aura besoin de l'accord du Maître d'Œuvre qui donnera son approbation ou ses instructions dans les plus brefs délais compte tenu de la nature de ces travaux.

Les bétons seront mis en œuvre aussitôt que possible après la fabrication après accord du Maître d'Œuvre. Les bétons qui ne seraient pas en place dans les délais de 60 min après l'introduction de l'eau dans la bétonnière, qui seraient desséchés ou auraient commencé à faire prise, seront rejetés.

Les bétons seront mis en place dans des enceintes épuisées ; d'où tout danger de lavage aura été écarté. La mise en place du béton de propreté sera parachevée par damage. Les bétons de qualité seront vibrés dans la masse.

### **Vibration des bétons**

Il ne sera agréé que des vibrations à fréquence élevée, de 9000 à 20 000 cycles par minute. La finition des dalles et hourdis sera effectuée par vibration superficielle.

### **Reprise de bétonnage**

Les reprises de bétonnage ne seront tolérées qu'à la condition qu'elles se conforment rigoureusement avec les joints de coffrage. Avant reprise, les parements devront être repiqués, nettoyés et lavés sous pression. Une coulée de béton ne pourra être déversée sur la précédente que si cette dernière n'a pas commencé à faire prise ; dans ce cas, la reprise devra être reportée de 48 h.

### **Cure de béton**

Le béton sera tenu à l'abri du soleil à partir du moment où il aura commencé à faire prise. Sa cure par humidification doit commencer dès qu'ayant complètement fait prise, il n'est plus susceptible d'être altéré par les eaux ruisselant à sa surface.

La cure des bétons courant sera conduite de manière à maintenir les parements des bétons en état d'humidité permanente.

Les surfaces libres et leur coffrage seront arrosés à saturation aussi fréquemment que le demandent l'état hygrométrique de l'atmosphère et l'ensoleillement.

Si nécessaire, le Cocontractant disposera de paillasons, nattes et toiles pour la protection des surfaces libres. Les surfaces libres des bétons de qualité seront protégées par des paillasses, des nattes ou des toiles. Les protections et les coffrages seront maintenus ruisselants, jour et nuit par arrosage mécanique permanent. La cure des bétons consistera à les maintenir sous un fil d'eau et sans lacune ou bien sous une atmosphère permanente de brouillard.

La cure sera maintenue pendant sept (07) jours ou jusqu'à obtenir une résistance à la compression de 16 MPA.

L'utilisation des produits chimiques sera soumise à l'approbation du Maître d'Œuvre.

## **ARTICLE B504-PAREMENTS**

Les parements extérieurs non vus seront conservés bruts de décoffrage. Ils devront être de teint uniforme, aucun nid de cailloux ne devra être apparent.

Les parements extérieurs visibles devront être parfaitement lisses ce qui sera réalisé par l'utilisation de coffrages de bonne qualité.

## **ARTICLE B 505 – OUVRAGES EN BETON ARME**

### **B 505.1 – Description Générale**

Le Cocontractant est tenu d'exécuter les travaux complètement à sec. Là où le béton est directement posé sur le fond de fouille en terre, celui-ci sera préalablement nivelé, compacté, nettoyé et protégé contre l'eau ou la détérioration et sera réceptionné par l'Ingénieur de contrôle. Jusqu'à la prise suffisante du béton, les surfaces seront protégées contre l'eau stagnante ou courante. Par temps de pluie, le coulage du béton est strictement interdit sauf sous abri.

### **B 505.2 – Couche de béton de propreté**

Avant la mise du béton sur la terre, ou sur la couche drainante, une couche de propreté sera mise en œuvre d'une épaisseur minimale de 50 mm nivelée à la pelle et régalée afin d'obtenir une surface de travail propre et plate.

La couche de propreté devra avoir suffisamment fait prise avant le coulage du béton armé. Le Cocontractant devra prendre soin que le mélange de béton pour couche de propreté ne contienne pas trop d'eau pour éviter de boucher la couche de graviers drainants éventuels.

### **B505.3 – Coffrages**

Les coffrages devront être suffisamment solides pour résister à toute déformation après la mise en place du béton, étanche, et devront être conformes aux spécifications du fascicule N° 65 du CCTG.

L'utilisation des fils de fer à travers du béton sera interdite. Seule seront admis des boulons spécialement conçus avec des cônes facilement détachables.

Toutes les pièces à introduire dans le béton devront être fixées de façon solide. Des espaces pourront être réservés pour le scellement ultérieur de boulons à l'agrément du Maître d'Œuvre. Juste avant la mise en œuvre du béton, les coffrages seront soigneusement nettoyés et complètement mouillés à l'intérieur.

Les coffrages seront construits de telle façon qu'ils puissent être enlevés en partie sans toucher les supports, ceux-ci devant rester sur place plus longtemps. L'enlèvement des coffrages ne sera admis que quand la résistance caractéristique atteint la valeur de 10 MPA et quand le béton sera en mesure de supporter son propre poids.

Le décoffrage a besoin de l'approbation préalable du Maître d'Œuvre et sera sous la responsabilité entière du Cocontractant.

Les abords de surfaces exposés du béton seront pourvus de chanfreins. Les chanfreins seront de 20 mm ou selon les indications du Maître d'Œuvre.

### **B 505.4 – Protection du béton contre des températures élevées**

Le Cocontractant devra prendre toutes les mesures nécessaires pour garder le béton aussi frais que possible. La température du mélange au moment du coulage ne dépassera pas 32 °C.

Les surfaces libres des bétons de qualité seront protégées par des paillassons, des nattes ou des toiles. Les protections et les coffrages seront maintenus ruisselants, jour et nuit par arrosage mécanique permanent. La cure des bétons consistera à les maintenir sous un fil d'eau et sans lacune ou bien sous atmosphère permanente de brouillard.

La cure du béton sera maintenue pendant sept (07) jours consécutifs ou jusqu'à une résistance de compression de 13 MPA. Des produits chimiques ne seront appliqués pour la cure qu'après approbation de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

Le passage des moyens de transport sur le béton frais ne sera autorisé qu'après la prise suffisante du béton.

**B 505.5 – Finition des surfaces du béton**

Les surfaces du béton qui ne resteront pas en vue seront régulières. Les nids de cailloux éventuels seront repiqués et préparés au mortier ou aux résines Epoxy sur une profondeur de 3 cm avant le remblaiement des ouvrages.

Les surfaces de béton qui resteront exposés devront être parfaitement lisses ce qui sera réalisé par l'utilisation des coffrages de bonne qualité en métal ou en bois ne laissant pas de traces sur le béton.

**B 505.6 – Les tolérances**

Les tolérances pour la construction en béton seront les suivantes :

Déviaton de l'implantation	10 mm
Déviaton de la côte prescrite	10 mm
Déviaton dans les surfaces non vues	20 mm / 3 m
Déviaton dans les surfaces vues	10mm / 3 m
Déviaton des dimensions des profils en travers	+ de 10 mm et – de 5 mm.

Les ouvrages ne répondant pas aux tolérances admises seront refusés, démolis et les débris évacués en décharges.

**B 505.7 – Ouverture à réserver dans les parois**

Les raccordements des canaux d'assainissements tertiaires et quaternaires seront réalisés par le Cocontractant suivant les indications du Maître d'œuvre et les plans-types d'exécution. Les ouvertures correspondantes à réserver dans les parois en béton des ouvrages et des canaux d'assainissement ne donnent lieu à aucune rémunération spéciale.

**B 505.8 – Dispositifs d'étanchéité**

Des dispositifs d'étanchéité conformes aux prescriptions de l'article B217 du CCTP seront appliqués pour joints de dilatation tous les 10m.

Le Cocontractant remettra les données nécessaires pour approbation au Maître d'Œuvre. Les dispositifs seront fixés et maintenus dans la bonne position pendant le coulage du béton.

**ARTICLE B 600 –MODE D'EXECUTION DES AMENAGEMENTS PARTICULIERS****ARTICLE B 601 – DISPOSITIF DE SECURITE POUR LES PIETONS**

Aux abords des intersections et de chaque côté des passages piétonniers, le flux de circulation des barrières métalliques constituées de tube en acier galvanisé de Ø 60 mm ; fixées dans les plots en béton espacés de 2,00 m en alignement droit et 1,50 m en courbe. La hauteur des barrières sera de 0,90 m. La fixation des barrières sur les plots sera assurée par l'intermédiaire d'une platine ancrée sur le plot et devra être démontable.

**ARTICLE B602-DISPOSITIF ANTI STATIONNEMENT**

Ils seront identiques aux dispositifs décrits à l'article B601 avec une barrière fixée à 0,50 m du sol.

**ARTICLE B 603 – GLISSIERES DE SECURITE**

Elles seront de types normalisés GS2 et GS4 en acier galvanisé.

La tolérance d'implantation en plan de la face avant "côté exécution" des éléments de glissement est de plus ou moins 3 cm par rapport à la position prévue sur les plans.

La hauteur de l'arête supérieure des éléments de glissement par rapport au niveau du sol ou du revêtement définitif à l'aplomb de la glissière sera de 70 cm avec une tolérance de plus de 5 cm

et moins de 10 cm. Après montage, un réglage fin assurera le parallélisme des éléments de glissement par rapport à la chaussée.

Les supports seront en acier moulé galvanisé (de type UAP100, UPM100 ou C100x 50 x 25 x 5) de longueur de 1,50 m et seront battus après vérification de leur verticale ainsi que celle du dispositif de guidage de la sonnette.

En cas de refus de battage avant que la tête du support ait atteint la côte imposée, si la fiche est au moins égale à 50 cm et après accord du Maître d'ouvrage, l'entrepreneur pourra couper le support à la côte imposée et le percer.

Si la fiche est inférieure à 50 cm, l'entrepreneur devra arracher le support, percer l'obstacle puis recommencer le fonçage ou exécuter une fouille et foncer le support dans un massif de fondation au sable fin de blocage préalablement mis en œuvre dans cette fouille.

Les supports arrachés ne pourront être réutilisés qu'après accord du Maître d'ouvrage ou de son représentant.

Le Maître d'ouvrage pourra exiger aux frais de l'entrepreneur le remplacement des supports qui après fonçage présenteraient des défauts comme pliure, déchirure, flambage ou voilement. Les éléments de glissement devront être assemblés de telle façon que pris es dans le sens de la circulation, leur extrémité recouvre l'origine de l'élément suivant. Les têtes de boulons devront être placées sur la face avant "côté circulation" des éléments de glissement.

#### **ARTICLE B 604 – GARDE CORPS**

Les garde-corps seront composés de tube métallique et en acier galvanisé conformément au détail et au plan d'exécution établis par l'entrepreneur.

#### **ARTICLE B 605 - TRANCHEES POUR CABLES ET FOURREAUX**

Les tranchées seront réalisées sur l'ensemble du réseau créé ou déplacé (y compris les tronçons de raccordement nécessaires) ou à la demande de l'Ingénieur pour des problèmes particuliers. Les profondeurs minima de pose des canalisations seront à 0,80 m du sol fini. La largeur de la tranchée devra être la plus réduite possible. Il est rappelé que la longueur de la tranchée ouverte ne saurait dépasser 200 m et que les tranchées ne devront demeurer ouvertes plus de dix (10) jours.

Le Cocontractant devra :

Obtenir les accords en temps utile des services ou administrations intéressés pour les problèmes touchant la circulation, l'ouverture de tranchée, etc.

Assurer la sécurité et la signalisation du chantier ;

Il sera prévu pour la construction de la tranchée :

L'ouverture en tout terrain, y compris rocher, de la tranchée,

Le redressement du fond de fouille exempt de toute aspérité pouvant détériorer les gaines de protection des câbles,

L'étalement éventuel y compris toutes sujétions de main d'œuvre et de fourniture,

L'établissement des ponts pour les piétons et les voitures,

La pose des conduites d'écoulement ou de dégagement des caniveaux pour l'évacuation des eaux, l'épuisement des eaux,

La réparation des dégâts éventuels causés aux canalisations, ouvrages et propriétés des tiers,

La protection des ouvrages, conduites et canalisations existantes,

Une couche de sable ou de terre tamisée de 10 cm d'épaisseur répandue sur le fond de la tranchée avant la pose du câble,

Après la pose, le câble ou fourreau sera recouvert de sable ou de terre fine d'une épaisseur de 10 cm surmonté d'un remblai compacté par couches successives. Sous chaussée, il sera utilisé du grave compacté.

Il est prévu :

Un dispositif avertisseur à mettre en place au-dessus du câble et à 0,40 m du sol fini,  
 Le pilonnage mécanique,  
 L'enlèvement des déblais en excédent,  
 La réfection provisoire du sol et entretien jusqu'à la réfection définitive,  
 Le nettoyage du chantier.

#### **ARTICLE B 607- FOURREAUX –GAINES SOUPLES**

Les câbles électriques seront posés sous fourreau en PVC Ø 110 mm à une profondeur de 1 m et sous gaine souple de Ø 60 entre la chambre de tirage et d'ancrage suivant les plans types et les indications de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

#### **ARTICLE B 607 – GRILLAGE AVERTISSEUR**

Le dispositif avertisseur sera un grillage de protection, placé dans les tranchées au-dessus des câbles et des fourreaux.

Il sera en polychlorure de vinyle (PVC) type résistant renforcé par deux feuillets longitudinaux en polypropylène et de couleur appropriée à la canalisation et de 0,30 m de largeur.

#### **ARTICLE B 608- CHAMBRE DE TIRAGE**

Les chambres de tirage seront d'une dimension telle qu'un homme puisse y travailler à tirer un câble ou confectionner une boîte de raccordement.

Les extrémités de fourreaux aboutissant à des chambres devront être arasées au niveau de leur surface intérieure et le joint entre le fourreau et la chambre devra être bouché au ciment.

Les poignées de manipulation du couvercle seront escamotables et leur logement permettra l'introduction d'un crochet d'arrachement. La position escamotée, la surface extérieure du couvercle seront exempts d'aspérités.

Toutes les chambres seront préfabriquées ou coulées en place et auront des dimensions normalisées. Les chambres seront implantées en dehors des parties où les véhicules sont supposés rouler ou stationner.

En cas d'impossibilité, elles devront être prévues pour supporter la charge des plus gros véhicules.

#### **ARTICLE B610 – BORDURES**

Elles seront préfabriquées ou coulées en place en béton dosé à 350 kg de ciment par m<sup>3</sup> et seront posées sur une semelle de béton à 200 kg de 10 cm d'épaisseur minimum et comportant un retour vertical destiné à caler la bordure côté trottoir.

La tolérance en altitude sera de 1 cm par rapport au niveau prescrit : l'alignement sera rigoureusement respecté à plus ou moins 1 cm pour 10 m.

L'entrepreneur prendra toutes les dispositions pour éviter tout déplacement des bordures pendant la réalisation des chaussées et notamment lors du compactage des couches de fondation et de base.

#### **ARTICLE B 700 - SIGNALISATION HORIZONTALE**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B 800 – MODE D'EXECUTION DE DEPLACEMENT DES RESEAUX**

##### **ARTICLE B 801 – GENERALITES**

Les réseaux situés dans l'emprise des chaussées devront être déplacés dans l'emprise des trottoirs ou protégés en accord conformément aux normes des services concessionnaires (CDE – AES/SONEL – CAMTEL – etc.)



Les plans de déplacement de réseau fournis dans les dossiers d'APD sont donnés à titre indicatif et devront être vérifiés et éventuellement complétés par le Cocontractant qui devra par ailleurs fournir les projets et plans d'exécution de déplacement des réseaux.

Il appartient à l'entreprise de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour que les détails d'approbation de ces plans s'intègrent dans le planning de ses travaux.

L'attention du Cocontractant est attirée sur le fait que toutes les dispositions devront être prises pour éviter de détériorer les réseaux alimentant les constructions riveraines et assuré le raccordement des riverains pendant la durée des travaux.

#### **ARTICLE B 802 – TRANCHEES DE RECONNAISSANCE**

La recherche des réseaux existants sera réalisée au moyen des tranchées de reconnaissance effectuées manuellement à la charge de l'entreprise.

Toutes les précautions devront être prises pour éviter d'endommager les réseaux.

#### **ARTICLE B 803 – EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX**

Les travaux seront réalisés conformément aux prescriptions techniques imposées par les services concessionnaires et contrôlés par les requérants de ces derniers affectés au Maître d'Œuvre.

Les câbles et canalisations d'eau situés sous la chaussée existante conservée ne seront ni déplacés ni protégés.

Les câbles et canalisations de diamètre inférieur ou égal à 200 mm sous chaussée neuve (élargissement ou voies nouvelles) seront laissés en place et protégés par une dalle de répartition des charges en béton.

Une canalisation de distribution sera placée sous chaque trottoir (PVC Ø 20120 à 160 mm) pour assurer le raccordement des riverains.

Les projets de déplacement des réseaux seront réalisés, aux frais du Cocontractant, par un bureau d'études agréé par les concessionnaires, qui assureront le contrôle et la réception des ouvrages.

Les ouvrages devront être réalisés par des entreprises agréées par les concessionnaires ou par les concessionnaires eux-mêmes (les soumissionnaires devront se renseigner auprès des concessionnaires pour tenir compte dans les prix des conditions d'exécution des travaux).

Le remblaiement des fouilles, des tranchées, la réfection des chaussées, le nivellement et le nettoyage des abords sont à la charge du Cocontractant, conformément aux prescriptions du présent CCTP.

Les essais de fonctionnement et de mise en service sont à la charge du Cocontractant, et seront réalisés conformément aux prescriptions des services concessionnaires.

#### **ARTICLE B 900 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES PLANTATIONS**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B 901 – PROVENANCE ET QUALITE DES ARBRES ET ARBUSTES**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B 902 – MODE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX**

Sans objet

#### **ARTICLE B903 – ENGAZONNEMENT**

##### **Article B 900.3.1 MISE EN PLACE DE TERRE VEGETALE**

La terre végétale utilisée sera préalablement brisée très menue, purgée avec soin des pierres, racines et herbes humectées avant son répannage.

Au fur et à mesure de son répannage, elle sera battue à la dame plate ou roulée avec un cylindre léger.

L'épaisseur de la terre végétale est de 10 cm minimum. La tolérance d'exécution est de plus ou moins 5 cm par rapport au profil théorique. La mise en place de terre végétale sera réalisée en dehors des périodes de pluies.

#### **Article B 900.3.2 ENGAZONNEMENT**

Les talus de remblai et les plates-formes de voirie terrassés mais non revêtus devront être engazonnés.

La période d'ensemencement et le choix des grains seront soumis à l'agrément de l'Ingénieur de contrôle.

L'ensemencement se fera sur une terre préalablement ameublie sur épaisseur de 10 cm et le répandage des grains devra être régulier et en quantité suffisante pour obtenir une végétation convenable. Après le

répandage, la terre sera aplanie et raffermie à la batte.

L'entrepreneur sera tenu de réensemencer au plus tôt les parties où l'herbe n'aurait pas été levée.

#### **ARTICLE B 904 – NETTOYAGE**

Au fur et à mesure de l'achèvement des travaux, l'entrepreneur devra procéder au nettoyage des voies, places, allées, dans tous les cas où les travaux auraient souillé les surfaces

#### **ARTICLE B905- GARANTIE ET ENTRETIEN**

##### **Article B 900.5.1 GARANTIE**

L'Entrepreneur s'engage à garantir la prise de la totalité des arbres. Pendant un délai de garantie fixé à un an,

L'Entrepreneur remplacera à ses frais toutes plantations qui périraient ou dont la reprise serait défectueuse, à

L'exclusion de celles détruites par la suite de chocs ou d'accidents causés par des personnes étrangères à

L'entreprise.

##### **Article B 900.5.2 ENTRETIEN**

L'Entrepreneur assurera pendant un an l'entretien des arbres et arbustes. Les opérations d'entretien comporteront :

- La taille nécessaire pour donner aux arbres la forme et la portée naturelles ;
- Les ébourgeonnements, les échenillages éventuels et la lutte contre les maladies cryptogamiques et les parasites.
- L'entretien autour des arbres par binage ou labours aussi fréquemment que possible ;
- L'arrosage, l'application d'engrais et fumiers ;
- Le nettoyage des surfaces et l'évacuation des déchets.

En ce qui concerne l'arrosage, l'Entrepreneur fera son affaire de la fourniture et du transport de l'eau.

#### **ARTICLE B907 - PAVAGE**

##### **a) Couche de sable de pose**

Il s'agit d'une couche de 5 cm d'épaisseur constituée de sable fin propre.

##### **b) Revêtement de pavés**

Les pavés en question sont du type autobloquant. Ils doivent être vibrés et compactés à la fabrication et respecter les caractéristiques mécaniques suivantes :

Résistance à la compression : 29 Mpa pour ceux utilisés sur le tronçon carrossable et 25 Mpa au moins pour le tronçon par flexion ;

Résistance à la traction par flexion : 5 Mpa pour le tronçon carrossable et 3 Mpa pour le tronçon piétonnier.

Ces caractéristiques doivent être préalablement prouvées par l'entrepreneur grâce aux tests réalisés par un laboratoire spécialisé et agréé par le Maître d'œuvre. Le Maître d'œuvre pourra exiger la visite de l'unité de fabrication.

Les pavés autobloquants auront une épaisseur d'au moins 8 cm pour le tronçon carrossable et 6 cm pour le tronçon piétonnier, parallèlement avec les caractéristiques mécaniques susmentionnées.

Les formes, couleurs et motifs à réaliser seront préalablement agréés par le Maître d'œuvre.

Le blocage des pavés se fait à l'aide du sable fin propre tandis que le lit de pose est fait de gros sable.

### **c) Mortier de raccordement**

Les matériaux requis pour le raccordement devront satisfaire les exigences de l'article 3.3 du présent CCTP.

## **ARTICLE B907 – AMENAGEMENT DU DALOT EXISTANT**

Sans objet

## **ARTICLE B908 - SIGNALISATION**

Il s'agit de la signalisation verticale à appliquer : *f* aux entrées, *f* à l'intersection des tronçons piétonnier et carrossable.

Les motifs et matériaux à utiliser seront préalablement agréés par le Maître d'œuvre.

## **ARTICLE B909 – PLOTS EN BETON**

Le béton sera dosé à 300 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Chaque plot aura les dimensions suivantes : Hauteur totale : 1,18 m -

largeur : 0,36 m – épaisseur 0,24 m – profondeur de scellement : 0,40 m – distance de pose : 1,50 m.

Le design sera arrêté par le Maître d'œuvre.

## **ARTICLE B1000 – DIRECTIVES ENVIRONNEMENTALES**

Les travaux d'entretien routier et ceux de construction de nouvelles routes ont été réalisés dans le passé sans tenir compte des considérations relatives à protection de l'environnement ni de celles inhérentes aux atténuations des impacts sur l'environnement, ceci par ce que les marchés ne prévoyaient pas de clauses relatives à la protection de l'environnement.

En réponse aux engagements pris avec la communauté internationale en vue de la protection de l'environnement, le Gouvernement Camerounais a élaboré en 1996 la loi n°96/12 du 05 Août 1996 portant loi cadre relative à la gestion de l'environnement. Cette loi fixe le cadre juridique général de la gestion de l'environnement au Cameroun et spécifie en son chapitre 2<sup>e</sup>, les dispositions à prendre pour éviter, atténuer et/ou supprimer les impacts négatifs sur l'environnement, lors de l'exécution de certains projets et travaux.

Dans le souci de conserver l'environnement naturel par rapport aux modifications importantes que les travaux de construction et ceux d'entretien des voiries urbaines sont susceptibles de produire, le Ministère de l'Habitat et du Développement Urbain a élaboré les clauses environnementales spécifiques à mettre en œuvre pendant l'exécution des projets répondent aux appels d'offres relevant de sa compétence.

Dans cette perspective, les entreprises qui par les travaux d'entretien des voiries urbaines lancés par le MINHDU, doivent désormais respecter les clauses ci-après éditées si elles sont retenues.

### **1) INSTALLATION DU CHANTIER**

Les dispositions ci-après mentionnées doivent être, selon le cas, observées.

Le Cocontractant doit, au titre de la protection de l'environnement, élaborer un plan de protection des sites et soumettre au maître d'œuvre pour approbation.

Choisir le site d'installation en dehors des zones sensibles (bas-fonds, zones côtières, bassins versants) à une distance d'au moins :

30 m de la route ; 100 m d'un cours d'eau ; 100 m des habitations.

Le règlement interne du chantier doit mentionner spécifiquement:; Les règles de sécurité ; L'interdiction de la consommation d'alcool pendant les heures de travail; La sensibilisation du personnel au danger des MST/SIDA;

Le respect des us et coutumes des populations riveraines; Des séances d'information et de sensibilisation doivent être régulièrement tenues et le règlement doit être affiché visiblement dans les diverses installations.

Choisir l'implantation de ses gisements (carrières, emprunts) et dépôts de matériaux de façon à ne pas entraîner des perturbations dommageables à l'environnement,

Prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires afin d'éviter la pollution accidentelle des eaux ou du sol pendant les travaux.

Des réceptacles pour recevoir les déchets sont à installer proximité des diverses installations. Ces réceptacles sont à vider périodiquement et les déchets déposés dans un dépotoir. Les déchets toxiques sont à récupérer séparément et à traiter à part selon les normes établies.

Les aires de lavage des engins, devront être bétonnées de même, un puisard de récupération des huiles et des graisses. Cette aire d'entretien doit avoir une pente vers le puisard et vers l'intérieur de la plate-forme afin d'éviter l'écoulement des produits polluants vers les sols non revêtus. Les aires de stockage des hydrocarbures pour le ravitaillement, l'aire de stockage des liants et des hydrocarbonés pour le revêtement doivent être bétonnées et comprendre des dispositifs de protection afin d'éviter le répandage accidentel de ces produits et la contamination des sols. Des produits absorbants doivent être stockés à proximité et tout équipement et mesures de sécurité mis en place.

Les huiles usées sont à stocker dans les fûts à entreposer dans un lieu sécurisé en attendant leur récupération aux fins de recyclage ; les batteries, les filtres à huile sont à stocker dans des contenants étanches destinés à terme à un centre de recyclage,

Le site devrait prévoir un drainage adéquat des eaux sur l'ensemble de sa superficie.

A la fin des travaux, le Cocontractant réalisera tous les travaux nécessaires à la mise en état des lieux.

Après le repli du matériel, un procès-verbal constatant la remise en état du site devra être dressé et joint au Procès-Verbal de réception des travaux.

## **2. DEGAGEMENT DES EMPRISES**

Le débroussaillage consiste à couper, sans déraciner, toute végétation (herbes, arbres, arbustes) poussant sur les abords immédiats de la surface circulaire : accotements, fossés et des crêtes de remblais ;

Il est interdit d'utiliser la niveleuse pour débroussailler les accotements à moins qu'il ne s'agisse d'une réfection des accotements. L'exécution du débroussaillage doit être effectuée manuellement, cette tâche requiert des techniques dites de haute intensité de main d'œuvre (HIMO) ;

Tous les arbres et branches surplombant les abords et menaçant de tomber sur la chaussée seront abattus.

Toute végétation à l'entrée et à la sortie des ouvrages sera coupée, sauf si elle sert à stabiliser un talus de remblais et ne constitue pas une menace pour la fondation de l'ouvrage. Les arbres et arbustes sont déracinés de manière à faciliter l'écoulement de l'eau et permettre les inspections régulières de l'ouvrage.

Tous les déchets végétaux seront soigneusement enlevés des accotements, fossés ou ouvrages et évacués vers les zones désignées permettant de les brûler en toute sécurité. Le brûlis sur place est strictement interdit.

Le Cocontractant doit prendre toutes les précautions utiles pour ne causer aucun dommage aux riverains, aux conduites d'eau, aux lignes téléphoniques, électriques etc.

### **3. EMPRUNTS ET GISEMENTS**

Les critères suivants sont à respecter pour l'ouverture d'une carrière :

- Distance du site à au moins 30 m de la route ;
- Distance du site à au moins 100 m d'un plan d'eau ;
- Distance du site à au moins 100 m des habitations ;
- Préférence à donner à des zones non cultivées et, non boisées ;
- Préférence à donner à des zones de faibles pentes.

Le Cocontractant devra soumettre au maître d'œuvre la liste des sites qu'il compte exploiter ainsi qu'un plan de réaménagement pour chaque site, indiquant les travaux à effectuer pour la réhabilitation des sites exploités.

Il ne pourra commencer les travaux d'exploitation des emprunts et des carrières qu'après avoir reçu l'autorisation écrite du maître d'œuvre.

Pendant l'exécution des travaux, le Cocontractant veillera :

A ce que les aires de dépôts des matériaux de couvert non utilisables pour les besoins des travaux soient choisies de manière à ne pas gêner l'écoulement normal des eaux ;

A la conservation des plantations délimitant la carrière ;

A l'entretien des voies d'accès ;

A l'atténuation des bruits, protection vis-à-vis des habitations riveraines ;

A l'implantation de toutes les signalisations nécessaires au bon déroulement des travaux ;

Au nettoyage régulier du revêtement des routes revêtues en cas d'absence de dispositif de nettoyage des roues de camions et des engins ;

A ce que toutes les dispositions soient prises pour que l'eau de ruissellement puisse s'écouler normalement en dehors de l'emprise de la route projetée sans causer de dégâts aux propriétés riveraines ;

A ce que les voies d'accès et de service soient régulièrement arrosées et compactées afin d'éviter le soulèvement des poussières lors des transports, chargement et de déchargement des matériaux ;

A ce que lors de l'exploitation des carrières pour des travaux d'entretien des routes revêtues, un dispositif de nettoyage des roues des camions et des engins soit installé afin d'éviter le salissage du revêtement de la chaussée.

Les travaux à exécuter au titre de la réhabilitation des sites ci-dessus mentionnés comprendront entre autres :

Le régilage des matériaux de couvert et ensuite le régilage des terres végétales afin de faciliter la percolation de l'eau et d'éviter l'érosion ;

Le rétablissement des écoulements naturels antérieurs ;

La suppression de l'aspect délabré du site en répartissant et en dissimulant les gros blocs ;

L'aménagement des fossés de garde afin d'éviter l'érosion des terres régilées ;

Le repli de tout matériel, engins et matériaux, la démolition de toute installation et l'enlèvement de tous déchets et gravats et leur mise en dépôt à un endroit agréé.

Après la mise en état des sites conformément aux prescriptions, un procès-verbal sera dressé et joint à celui de la réception.

Dès qu'un emprunt ou un gisement sera abandonné, la zone sera réaménagée conformément aux plans proposés. Une fois le réaménagement terminé, le Cocontractant en informera le maître d'œuvre afin qu'un état des lieux puisse être dressé.

#### **4. CHARGEMENT ET TRANSPORT DES MATERIAUX ET DE MATERIELS**

Pour tous les transports de matériaux et matériels, quels qu'ils soient, le Cocontractant devra se conformer à la réglementation en vigueur, concernant les restrictions imposées aux poids et gabarits des engins et convois empruntant le réseau public et en particulier :

Les mesures de protection de l'environnement (perte de matériaux en cours de transport, poussières etc.) Prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires pour limiter la vitesse des véhicules sur le chantier ;

Installation de panneaux de signalisation et porteurs de drapeaux.

Arroser régulièrement les voies de circulation dans les zones habitées ;

Prévoir des déviations par des pistes et routes existantes.

#### **5. DEPOTS ET ENTRETIEN DE LA COUCHE DE ROULEMENT**

Le Cocontractant doit déposer les matériaux à mettre en œuvre à intervalle régulier dans des zones n'empêchant pas l'écoulement normal des eaux.

Afin de garantir une circulation sécuritaire, l'entreprise doit mettre en dépôt uniquement les quantités qui peuvent être mises en œuvre le jour même (tous les tas devront être régalez en fin de journée).

Le Cocontractant doit, après scarification de la chaussée, apport de matériaux et remise en forme à la niveleuse des matériaux :

Procéder à l'arrosage et au compactage de la chaussée ;

Organiser la répartition des tas d'un seul côté de la route à la fois sur des distances restreintes ;

Procéder au régalez au fur et à mesure ;

Mettre en place une signalisation mobile adéquate ;

Régler la circulation de transit par des porteurs de drapeaux ;

Eviter l'accumulation de bourrelets latéraux sur les bas-côtés et les fossés ;

Rétablir le système de drainage et l'accès aux habitations riveraines ;

Enlever le surplus de terre des fossés, déposer et régalez les terres hors de l'emprise aux endroits n'entravant pas l'écoulement normal des eaux.

#### **6. REPROFILAGES DIVERS**

Le Cocontractant doit, après la scarification de la chaussée et la remise en forme à la niveleuse des matériaux, procéder à l'arrosage et au compactage de la chaussée. Il doit :

Eviter l'accumulation de bourrelets latéraux sur les bas-côtés et dans les fossés ;

Rétablir le système de drainage et l'accès aux habitations riveraines ;

Effectuer des passes à la niveleuse jusqu'à disparition de la tôle ondulée ;

Exécuter des passes à la niveleuse en évitant la création de cordons ;

Enlever les pierres déchaussées et les déposer en dehors de l'emprise de la route à des endroits n'entravant pas l'écoulement normal des eaux ;

Installer une signalisation sur les engins, drapeau, gyrophare ;

Installer une signalisation mobile adéquate avant le chantier ;

Régler la circulation par les porteurs de drapeau.

#### **7. ENTRETIEN DES ACCOTEMENTS DES ROUTES REVETUES**

Le Cocontractant doit :

Prévoir une installation en relation avec le volume de travail (voir installation du chantier);

Intervenir sur les accotements non revêtus dès que la dégradation atteint plus de 3 cm ;

Apporter les matériaux nécessaires au rechargement, les étendre et les compacter après arrosage ;

Organiser la répartition des tas d'un seul côté de la route sur les distances restreintes ;

Procéder au régalez au fur et à mesure ;

Rétablir le système d'évacuation des eaux de la plate-forme par réglage des accotements ;  
 Enlever les surplus de matériaux dans les fossés, déposer et régaler les terres hors de l'emprise aux endroits n'entravant pas l'écoulement normal des eaux ;  
 Mettre en place une signalisation adéquate ;  
 Régler la circulation de transit par les porteurs de drapeau ;  
 Eviter l'accumulation de bourrelets latéraux sur les bas-côtés et les fossés.

### **8. EMPLOIS PARTIELS A L'AIDE DES MATERIAUX DIVERS**

Le Cocontractant doit prendre les mêmes dispositions qu'au chapitre installation du chantier. Il doit :

Déterminer les emplacements des dépôts des matériaux en tenant compte d'un minimum de débroussaillage ;  
 Prendre des dispositions de drainage pour éviter l'emportement des agrégats par les eaux ;  
 Enlever régulièrement les rejets de gravillons non fixés ;  
 Mettre en place une signalisation adéquate ;  
 Prendre des dispositions de sécurité des installations de bitumage. (Chauffe bitume, stockage bitume);  
 Disposer sur le chantier de produits absorbants en cas de déversements des produits toxiques ;  
 Eviter d'exécuter les travaux les jours de manifestation populaire ;  
 A la fin des travaux, le Cocontractant fera le nécessaire pour la remise en état des lieux (repli de tout son matériel, engins et matériaux), afin de remettre le site tel qu'à son état initial ;  
 Après le repli du matériel, un procès-verbal constatant la remise en état du site devra être dressé et joint au P.V. de réception des travaux.

### **9. CONTROLE DE LA VEGETATION AU NIVEAU DES TALUS, ACCOTEMENTS, PAROIS DES FOSSES.**

Le débroussaillage consiste à couper sans déraciner, toute végétation (herbes, arbres, arbustes) poussant sur les abords immédiats de la surface circulaire : accotements, fossés, talus et crêtes de remblais ; la coupe se fera au ras du sol, entre 5 et 10 cm.

Tous les déchets seront soigneusement enlevés des accotements, fossés ou ouvrages et évacués vers des zones désignées dans un endroit approprié loin de toute habitation. Il est strictement interdit de brûler les déchets coupés sur place.

Si le brûlis des déchets est autorisé à cet endroit, le Cocontractant doit disposer d'une citerne d'au moins 10.000 litres et d'une pompe d'arrosage pour parer à toute propagation éventuelle du feu au voisinage du site.

Il est interdit d'utiliser la niveleuse pour débroussailler les accotements. L'exécution du débroussaillage doit être effectuée manuellement. Cette tâche est un travail à haute intensité de main d'œuvre.

### **10. ENTRETIEN MANUEL OU MECANIQUE DES FOSSES.**

Le Cocontractant doit :

Curer le fossé manuellement ou mécaniquement pour rétablir le gabarit initial;  
 Laisser les racines de la végétation intactes sauf si elles présentent une menace pour l'ouvrage;  
 Exécuter suivant les indications du maître d'œuvre des fossés divergents si la section du fossé est insuffisante. Les produits de curage doivent être réglés sur une faible épaisseur et dans des zones ne nécessitant pas de débroussaillage et en dehors des zones d'habitation.

## **11. LUTTE CONTRE L'ÉROSION DES FOSSES**

Le Cocontractant devra :

Exécuter les travaux de restabilisation des fossés et des accotements ainsi que le dispositif de limitation de la vitesse de l'eau suivant les directives du maître d'œuvre ;

Veiller à la sécurité du chantier et signaler les travaux adéquatement ;

Veiller à ce que les matériaux déposés n'entravent pas la circulation normale des eaux ;

Dégager la chaussée des matériaux de réfection des fossés pour éviter les encombrements ;

Reconstituer les accotements ;

Améliorer la résistance des sols par des fossés maçonnés ou revêtus suivant les indications du maître d'œuvre ;

Veiller à ce que tous les matériaux en surplus soient évacués et régaliés à un endroit agréé sans entraver l'écoulement normal des eaux.

## **12. ENTRETIEN DES OUVRAGES D'ASSAINISSEMENT**

(Lutte contre l'ensablement et l'érosion)

L'entreposage des matériaux et de l'équipement nécessaire aux travaux doit se faire dans les zones en dehors des habitations. Le Cocontractant devra :

Dégager tous les produits solides obstruant les ouvrages ;

Poser les gabions dans les zones à fort courant ;

Renforcer les berges par enrochement, gabions, perrés maçonnés ;

Renforcer le sol de remblai des rives ;

Signaler adéquatement les travaux à proximité du bord de la chaussée ;

Exécuter les travaux de préférence avant la saison des pluies.

Evacuer à la fin des travaux tous gravats et déchets en dehors de l'emprise et à un endroit autorisé par le maître d'œuvre.

## **13. MAINTIEN DE LA CIRCULATION**

Durant les travaux, le Cocontractant est tenu d'assurer la circulation dans les conditions de sécurité suffisante, et prendre en compte les mesures de protection de l'environnement (poussière, bruit, etc.).

Les tracés des déviations de la circulation publique sont à soumettre avant toute exécution de travaux au maître d'œuvre pour approbation. S'il y a destruction d'un bien quelconque, l'entreprise doit indemniser les personnes concernées.

Après les travaux, l'entreprise doit remettre le plus possible le tracé des déviations dans son état initial, et notamment scarifier le tracé afin de décompacter les sols et rétablir la végétation.

## **14. VISITE DES LIEUX ET DEMARRAGE DES TRAVAUX**

Toutes les parties impliquées devront être présentes. Les autorités et la population riveraine devront être informées des travaux à réaliser et s'il y a lieu de recueillir les éventuelles observations de leur part. Le maître d'œuvre pourra avec l'aide d'une ONG locale sensibiliser les populations sur les aspects environnementaux, et relations humaines entre elles et le personnel du chantier.

## **15. SANCTIONS ET PENALITES**

La loi N° 96 / 12 du 05 août 1969 prévoit respectivement en ses articles 79, 82,84 et 88 ce qui suit :

a. Est punie d'une amende de deux millions (2 000 000) à cinq millions (5 000 000) de Fcfa et d'une peine d'emprisonnement de six (06) mois à (01) an ou de l'une seulement, toute personne ayant :

- réalisé, sans étude d'impact, un projet nécessitant une étude d'impact ;



- réalisé un projet non conforme aux critères, normes et mesures énoncées pour l'étude d'impact ;

-empêché l'accomplissement des contrôles et analyses prévus par la dite loi et / ou par ses textes d'application ;

b. Est punie d'une amende de un million (1 000 000) à cinq millions (5 000 000) de Fcfa et d'une peine d'emprisonnement de (06) mois à (01) an ou de l'une de ces deux peines seulement, toute personne qui pollue, dégrade les sols et sous-sols, altère la qualité de l'air ou des eaux, en infraction aux dispositions de ladite loi. En cas de récidive, le montant maximal des peines est doublé.

c. Est punie d'une amende de cinq cent mille (500 000) à deux millions (2 000 000) de Fcfa et d'une peine d'emprisonnement de six (06) mois à un (01) an ou de l'une des deux seulement, toute personne qui fait fonctionner une installation ou utilise un objet mobilier en infraction aux dispositions de ladite loi. En cas de récidive, le montant maximal des peines est doublé.

d. Sans préjudice des prérogatives reconnues au ministère public, aux officiers de police judiciaire à compétence générale, les agents assermentés de l'administration en charge de l'environnement ou d'autres administrations concernées sont chargés de la recherche, de la constatation et des poursuites en répression des infractions aux dispositions de la présente loi et de ses textes d'application.

Une entreprise contrevenant ou ayant contrevenu à la loi suscitée lors des travaux routiers sera exclue pour une période d'un an du droit de soumissionner.

Toutes infractions aux prescriptions dûment notifiées à l'entreprise par le maître d'œuvre doivent être redressées. La reprise des travaux ou les travaux supplémentaires découlant du non-respect des clauses est à la charge du Cocontractant.

## **ARTICLE B1100 – DIRECTIVES POUR L'UTILISATION DES PRODUITS STABILISANTS**

### ***PROVENANCE DES MATERIAUX***

**Les produits stabilisants** sont des produits chimiques très concentrés à haut pouvoir stabilisant.

Le cocontractant devra éventuellement se conformer à la listes des produits stabilisants agréés par le Ministère des Travaux Publics pour des informations complémentaires.

### ***MODE D'EXECUTION***

#### ***IV.1 - REPROFILAGE LOURD AU STABILISANT SANS APPORT DE MATERIAUX DE LA CHAUSSEE EXISTANTE***

Lorsque la chaussée existante est suffisamment large et ne nécessite pas de terrassements supplémentaires, le Cocontractant réalisera un reprofilage lourd au stabilisant de la chaussée à l'aide d'une niveleuse munie de ripper de façon à lui redonner un profil en travers conforme aux plans types. Ce reprofilage se fera suivant les règles de l'art (mise en cordon des matériaux, arrosage au mélange eau Stabilisant, réglage puis compactage) de façon à ne pas perdre de matériaux. La compacité minimum exigée est de 95 % de l'OPM. Il sera réalisé une mesure de densité in-situ tous les 200 mètres. La densité de référence Proctor sera mesurée sur échantillon prélevé tous les 5 km ou à chaque changement notable de la nature de matériau dans la couche de roulement existante.

#### **IV.1 .2 - Description des travaux**

Cette tâche consiste en la remise en forme de la plate-forme de la chaussée existante.

Cette opération comprend également le désherbage total de la surface circulaire et des bords immédiats des accotements, développé de fossés et les crêtes.

Avant tout commencement des travaux, les quantités de travaux à réaliser par section seront métrées contradictoirement et le plus précisément possible, quel que soit le mode d'exécution adopté. Tous les déchets, matériaux pollués ou gênants seront évacués en dépôt.

#### IV.1.3 - Mode d'exécution des travaux

La scarification de la chaussée sera systématiquement exécutée mécaniquement au moyen d'un scarificateur monté sur niveleuse ou autre engin de terrassement approprié, sur une épaisseur de 15 cm et au moins jusqu'au fond des ravines existantes.

Une fois la scarification exécutée, le Cocontractant réglera la chaussée et évacuera toutes les terres végétales foisonnées hors de l'assiette, afin qu'après l'arrosage et le compactage, la chaussée présente un profil respectant le profil en travers type défini dans le présent dossier.

Le Cocontractant arrosera et compactera la chaussée. L'arrosage et le dosage du stabilisant sera défini par zone homogène afin d'obtenir une compacité maximale où la densité sèche sera de 95 % de l'OPM.

Le compactage sera exécuté en fonction du type de matériel utilisé et de la nature des matériaux répandus. Le nombre de passes sera défini par la réalisation de planches d'essai. Le profil après compactage devra suivre le profil en travers type défini dans le présent dossier. Les matériels utilisés par le Cocontractant pour la scarification, le répandage, l'arrosage et le compactage devront être soumis à l'accord du MOE.

La pente transversale de la plate-forme sera contrôlée à l'aide de gabarits et d'un niveau à eau, éventuellement, lorsqu'une grande précision sera recherchée, par des nivelettes réglables en hauteur à partir de points reportés transversalement hors de l'emprise des travaux et préalablement cotés en altimétrie.

Le profil de la chaussée après reprofilage et compactage ne devra présenter d'écart supérieur à 2 cm par rapport au profil en travers type du présent marché.

Les matériaux, éventuellement, tombés dans les fossés devront être rejetés en dépôt, après travaux, hors de l'emprise de la route.

En cas d'absence de points bas naturels pouvant permettre l'évacuation correcte des eaux de ruissellement, il sera créé des bassins de rétention ou puisards en des endroits appropriés.

#### **IV.1.4 – Méthodologie et enchaînement des tâches.**

Scarifier sur au moins 15 Cm sur toute la largeur prévue de la couche à stabiliser ;

Premier arrosage avec apport de stabilisant (30% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) ;

Retroussage des 15 Cm de matériaux scarifiés et humidifiés sur les accotements de la chaussée ;

Scarification du fond de forme, arrosage avec apport très léger du stabilisant pour améliorer la portance du sol d'appui (10 à 20% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) ;

Réglage du fond de forme et compactage à 90% de l'OPM défini sur le matériau en place ;

Deuxième arrosage avec apport de stabilisant (30% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) sur les matériaux mis en cordon avant le réglage de la chaussée;

Troisième arrosage avec apport de stabilisant (30% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) ;

Malaxage très sérieux avec la niveleuse ou mieux au pulvimixer ;

Premier réglage avec mise en forme ;

Premier compactage léger pour permettre la mise en circulation provisoire ;

Attendre un ou deux jours, si le chantier le permet, pour obtenir une bonne diffusion du stabilisant et une mise en contact avec le maximum de particules argileuses ;

Reprise de la mise en œuvre définitive, vérification de la teneur en eau prévue à l'OPM, rajout si nécessaire d'eau ordinaire (sans stabilisant), malaxage complémentaire, réglage ;

Compactage définitif jusqu'à obtenir au minimum 95 % de l'OPM sur toute la couche de roulement de la chaussée et compacter si possible les accotements au mois à 90% de l'OPM ;

Fin réglage et fermeture de la surface par quelques passes de compacteur ;

Ouverture définitive de la circulation ;

Maintenir une humidité de la surface pendant deux semaines environ. Cette recommandation est à respecter obligatoirement surtout lorsqu'il y a un fort ensoleillement et une évaporation de surface intense.

#### ***IV.2 - REPROFILAGE LOURD AU STABILISANT AVEC APPORT DE MATERIAUX DE LA CHAUSSEE EXISTANTE***

Les caractéristiques des matériaux destinés au reprofilage lourd au stabilisant ont été définies à l'article 4. Le reprofilage lourd se fera sur une largeur minimale de six (6) mètres en surface, sur une épaisseur de 15 cm mesurée après compactage sur une mise en forme au stabilisant. La section transversale devra correspondre à celle spécifiée pour la plate-forme.

La mise en œuvre se fera à la teneur en eau optimale Proctor Modifié plus ou moins deux (2) points. Le Cocontractant prendra les mesures qui s'imposent pour humidifier ou aérer le matériau de façon à obtenir la teneur en eau requise. Une attention particulière doit être portée sur le dosage du stabilisant.

La compacité exigée pour la couche de roulement est fixée à 95% de la densité sèche Proctor Modifié. Une planche d'essai sera réalisée en vue de déterminer l'atelier de compactage et le nombre de passes nécessaires pour atteindre la compacité requise. Il sera effectué au moins une mesure de densité in-situ au densitomètre à membrane tous les 200 mètres. Il sera également effectué une mesure de l'épaisseur de la couche stabilisée avec apport de matériaux tous les 500 mètres. Aucune épaisseur inférieure à 0,15 mètres ne sera tolérée.

Le MOE se réserve le droit d'utiliser ses moyens propres ou de faire appel à un laboratoire agréé pour faire tous les essais de vérification qu'il juge nécessaires. Si sur une section donnée, ces essais donnent plus de 20% de résultats hors spécification, le Cocontractant reprendra le compactage. Et si une mesure de l'épaisseur de la couche stabilisée avec apport de matériaux donne un résultat inférieur à 0,15 mètres la section correspondante sera scarifiée, rechargée et compactée de nouveau jusqu'à l'obtention de l'épaisseur et de la compacité requises.

Dans un cas comme dans l'autre, tous les frais de vérification seront imputés au Cocontractant.

##### **IV.2.1 - Description des travaux**

Cette tâche consiste en une intervention mécanique de scarification et de compactage au stabilisant de la plateforme et de la mise en œuvre des matériaux préalablement traités au stabilisant de la couche de roulement.

##### **IV.2.2 - Mode d'exécution des travaux**

La scarification de la chaussée sera exécutée mécaniquement au moyen d'un scarificateur monté sur niveleuse ou autre engin de terrassement approprié, sur une épaisseur de 15 cm et au moins jusqu'au fond des ravines existantes.

Une fois la scarification exécutée, le Cocontractant réglera la chaussée et évacuera toutes les terres végétales foisonnées hors de l'assiette, afin qu'après l'arrosage et le compactage, la chaussée présente un profil respectant le profil en travers type défini dans le présent dossier.

Le Cocontractant arrosera (eau + stabilisant) et compactera la chaussée. L'arrosage sera défini par zone homogène afin d'obtenir une compacité maximale où la densité sèche sera de 95 % de l'OPM.

Le compactage sera exécuté en fonction du type de matériel utilisé et de la nature des matériaux répandus. Le nombre de passes sera défini par la réalisation de planches d'essais. Le profil après compactage devra suivre le profil en travers type défini au présent dossier.

Les matériels utilisés par le Cocontractant pour la scarification, le répandage, l'arrosage et le compactage devront être soumis à l'accord du MOE.

La pente transversale de la plate-forme sera contrôlée à l'aide de gabarits et d'un niveau à eau éventuellement, lorsqu'une plus grande précision sera recherchée, par des nivelettes réglables en hauteur à partir de points reportés transversalement hors de l'emprise des travaux et préalablement cotés en altimétrie.

Le profil de la chaussée après reprofilage et compactage ne devra présenter d'écart supérieur à 2 cm par rapport au profil en travers type du présent marché.

Les matériaux, éventuellement, tombés dans les fossés devront être rejetés en dépôt, après travaux, hors de l'emprise de la route.

#### **IV.2.3 – Méthodologie et enchaînement des tâches.**

Scarification du fond de forme, arrosage avec apport très léger du stabilisant pour améliorer la portance du sol d'appui (10 à 20% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) ;

Réglage du fond de forme et compactage à 90% de l'OPM défini sur le matériau en place ;

Apport des matériaux qui auront été si possible déjà partiellement humidifié sur les lieux d'emprunt ;

Deuxième arrosage avec apport de stabilisant (30% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) sur les matériaux avant le réglage de la chaussée (70% si le premier arrosage n'a pas été fait sur le lieu d'emprunt) ;

Premier malaxage soit avec la niveleuse, soit avec un pulvimixer ;

Troisième arrosage avec apport du complément de stabilisant (30% de la quantité prévue au m<sup>2</sup>) ;

Deuxième malaxage très sérieux pour obtenir une homogénéisation maximum ;

Premier réglage avec mise en forme ;

Premier compactage léger pour permettre la mise en circulation provisoire ;

Attendre un ou deux jours, si le chantier le permet, pour obtenir une bonne diffusion du stabilisant et une mise en contact avec le maximum de particules argileuses ;

Reprise de la mise en œuvre définitive, vérification de la teneur en eau prévue à l'OPM, rajout si nécessaire d'eau ordinaire (sans stabilisant), malaxage complémentaire, réglage ;

Compactage définitif jusqu'à obtenir au minimum 95 % de l'OPM sur toute la couche de roulement de la chaussée et compacter si possible les accotements au mois à 90% de l'OPM ;

Fin réglage et fermeture de la surface par quelques passes de compacteur ;

Ouverture définitive de la circulation ;

Maintenir une humidité de la surface pendant deux semaines environ. Cette recommandation est à respecter obligatoirement surtout lorsqu'il y a un fort ensoleillement et une évaporation de surface intense.

#### **IV.2.4 – Préparation des matériaux sur le lieu d'emprunt**

*Cette méthode est de très loin préférable si l'exploitation de l'emprunt le permet. Dans ce cas, on prépare une plateforme de 50 Cm environ. Après décapage et avant gerbage au Bulldozer par demi largeur pour diminuer la distance de poussage et sur une épaisseur ne dépassant pas 25 Cm environ, on humidifie le sol avec un mélange EAU et stabilisant (on répandra 40% environ de la quantité de stabilisant prévue). Ce matériau déjà pré humidifié qui sera manipulé plusieurs fois (gerbage, chargement, déchargement, répandage) subira de ce fait un pré malaxage qui permettra une meilleure répartition du stabilisant dans la masse du matériau d'apport et facilitera aussi la mise en œuvre et le compactage.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>DEDICATION .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>LIST OF MAPS.....</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>LIST OF PLATES.....</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>LIST OF PHOTOS .....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS .....</b>	<b>xiii</b>
<b>LIST OF ACRONYMS.....</b>	<b>xv</b>
<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>xvi</b>
<b>RESUME.....</b>	<b>xvii</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>0.1 Justification of the Choice of Topic .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>0.2 Context of the Study.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>0.3 Problem .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>0.4 Statement of the Problem .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>0.5 Research Questions .....</b>	<b>15</b>
0.5.1 Main Research Question.....	15
0.5.2 Specific Research Questions .....	16
<b>0.6 Research Hypotheses.....</b>	<b>16</b>
0.6.1 Main Hypothesis .....	16
0.6.2 Specific Research Hypotheses .....	16
<b>0.7 Objectives of the Study .....</b>	<b>17</b>
0.7.1 The Principal Objective .....	17
0.7.2 The Secondary Objectives .....	17
<b>0.8 Scientific Interest of the Study .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>0.9 Methodology.....</b>	<b>18</b>
0.9.1 Population and Sampling.....	19
0.9.2 Data Collection Techniques.....	20
0.9.2.1 Primary Sources of Data Collection .....	20

0.9.2.1.1 Interview .....	20
0.9.2.1.2 Interview Recording .....	22
0.9.2.1.3 Questionnaire .....	23
0.9.2.1.4 Focus Group .....	24
0.9.2.1.5 Observation .....	26
0.9.2.1.6 Photos Snapping .....	27
0.9.2.2 Secondary Sources of Data Collection .....	28
0.9.2.2.1 Documentary Research .....	28
0.9.2.2.2 The Media .....	29
0.9.2.2.3 The Internet .....	29
0.9.3 Research Ethics .....	29
0.9.4 Data Analysis .....	30
1.9.5 Theoretical Approach .....	33
0.9.5.1 The Dynamic Model .....	33
0.9.5.2 Symbolic Interactionist Approach .....	34
0.9.5.4 The Conflict Perspective .....	37
<b>0.10 Definitions of Key Terms .....</b>	<b>39</b>
0.10.1 “Win-Win” .....	39
0.10.2 Relationship .....	39
0.10.3 “Win-win Relationship” .....	41
0.10.4 Infrastructure .....	41
<b>1.11 Problems Encountered During the Research .....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>0.12 Thesis Structure .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: LITERATURE REVIEW .....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>1.0 Introduction .....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>1.1 Cameroon as a Partner of “Win-Win Relationship” with China .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>1.2 China a Partner of Cameroon in the “Win-Win Relationship” .....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>1.3 Brief History of China-Cameroon Relationship .....</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>1.4 Presentation of Literature Review .....</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>1.5 Thematic Integrative and Comprehensive Literature Review .....</b>	<b>65</b>
1.5.1 Chinese Migration to Africa and Cameroon in particular .....	65
1.5.2 Chin’s Presence in Africa .....	69
1.5.3 Chinese General Investment in Africa .....	43
1.5.4 Chinese in the Domain of Infrastructural Development .....	77

<b>1.6</b>	<b>Chinese Policy in the China-African Relations.....</b>	<b>89</b>
1.6.1	China’s Norms on Post-Conflict Intervention in Africa. ....	91
1.6.2	China and Africa’s Non-Interference Policy .....	93
1.6.3	The Chinese Policy of Soft Power.....	96
<b>1.7</b>	<b>Cameroon/African Policy in the China-African Relations .....</b>	<b>99</b>
1.7.1	The Policy of Local Content Requirement.....	101
1.7.2	The Policy of Private Investment Incentive .....	102
1.7.3	The Policy of Project Bids.....	104
<b>1.8</b>	<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>CHAPTER TWO: CHINA’S INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS</b>		
<b>IN CAMEROON.....</b>		
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Interaction between China and Cameroon.....</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Accords Signed Between China and Cameroon .....</b>	<b>110</b>
2.2.1	Commercial and Technical Accords .....	114
2.2.2	Medical Accords.....	118
2.2.3	Infrastructural Accords .....	121
2.2.5	Agricultural Accords.....	128
2.2.6	Financial Accords .....	129
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Official visits between China and Cameroon .....</b>	<b>135</b>
2.3.1	Cameroon Presidents’ Visits to China .....	137
2.3.2	Cameroon Officials’ Visits to China .....	140
2.3.3	China’s President’s Visit to Cameroon.....	143
2.3.4	China Officials’ Visits to Cameroon .....	144
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Structures Realised by Chinese in Cameroon .....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>2.5</b>	<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>CHAPTER THREE: CO-CONSTRUCTION OF THE “WIN-WIN</b>		
<b>RELATIONSHIP” BETWEEN CHINA AND CAMEROON .....</b>		
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Co-construction through Cameroonians Involvement at Conception</b>	
	<b>Level in Chinese projects in Yaoundé .....</b>	<b>155</b>
3.2.1	Ownership and Occupation of Land.....	155
3.2.2	Ownership of Land .....	157
3.2.2.1	Land with Title.....	159

3.2.2.2 Utilization of Land Before Projects.....	162
3.2.2.3 Land Occupation before Projects .....	162
3.2.2.4 Co-construction at the level of Displacement of Occupants and Owners of Land.....	163
3.2.2.5 Property Destroyed Before Projects .....	167
<b>3.3 Co-construction during the Realisation of Structures by Chinese in Yaoundé .....</b>	<b>170</b>
3.3.1 Cameroonians Implicated Through Direct Employment .....	170
3.3.2 Cameroonians Implicated Indirectly during Execution of Chinese Projects in Yaoundé .....	178
<b>3.4 Co-construction after the Realisation of Structures by Chinese in Yaoundé .....</b>	<b>182</b>
3.4.1 Positive Co-construction on the Implication of the Cameroonians	182
3.4.2 Usefulness of Chinese Built Infrastructure .....	186
3.4.2.1 Co-construction on Civil Servants using these Structures .....	188
3.4.2.1.1 Ministerial Building Number One.....	190
3.4.2.1.2 Low-Cost Social Houses at Olembe.....	191
3.4.2.1.3 Sport Infrastructures .....	195
3.4.3 Co-construction at the level of Losses Incurred by Inhabitants as a Result of the Putting of Infrastructures by the Chinese.....	196
3.4.4 Dysfunctional Manifestations as a Result of the Coming of Infrastructures Put in Place by the Chinese .....	197
3.4.4.1 Dysfunctional Manifestations in Project Places.....	198
3.4.4.2 Dysfunctional Manifestations on Local Contractors Enterprise ..	201
3.4.4.3 Functional Manifestations in Project Places .....	206
<b>3.5 Conclusion .....</b>	<b>211</b>
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” IN COPRODUCTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES .....</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>4.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>4.1 Classification of the Questions in the Questionnaire to Chinese.....</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>4.2 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Chinese Involvement at the Conception Level of Infrastructures.....</b>	<b>215</b>



4.2.1 The Social Categories of the Chinese Involved in Infrastructure Development in Cameroon .....	216
4.2.2 The Cohabitation of Chinese Involved in Projects.....	218
4.2.3 The Facilitating Instruments for the Implication of the Chinese ....	221
<b>4.3 Comparative Advantage at the Level of the Implication of Chinese During the Realisation Phase of Structures.....</b>	<b>223</b>
4.3.1 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Chinese Construction Companies in Cameroon.....	224
4.3.1.1 The China National Society of International Economic and Technical Cooperation of Shenyang (CSYIC).....	225
4.3.1.2 China First Highway Engineering Cooperation Limited (CFHEC) .....	227
4.3.1.3 Huawei Marine .....	228
4.3.1.4 China's Sichuan Telecommunications Construction Engineering Co. Ltd .....	228
4.3.1.5 China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd-Cameroon (CHEC)..	229
4.3.1.6 The China Railway Construction .....	229
4.3.1.7 China Sinohydro Construction Company Ltd .....	230
4.3.1.8 China National Machinery Industry (Sinomach) .....	230
4.3.1.9 Shaanxi Construction Engineering Group Corporation (TIEC) ..	230
4.3.2 Comparative Advantage at the Level of Implication of Chinese during the Realisation of Structures in Yaoundé.....	231
4.3.2.1 Comparative Advantage in Job Creation for Chinese in Cameroon.....	233
4.3.2.2 Comparative Advantage in Positions and Categories of Chinese Workers in Project Sites .....	235
4.3.2.3 Comparative Advantage in Materials used by Chinese Workers in Projects Sites .....	240
4.3.2.4 Chinese Gains or Losses in Projects Carried Out in Yaoundé.....	244
4.3.2.4.1 Comparative Advantage in Chinese Gains in Yaoundé.....	244
4.3.2.4.2 Comparative Advantage in Chinese Losses in Yaoundé .....	246
<b>4.4 The Implications of Chinese after the Realisation of Structures in Yaoundé .....</b>	<b>247</b>
4.4.1 Chinese Willing or Not Willing to Stay After Projects.....	248

4.4.1.1 Chinese Willing to Stay after Projects are over .....	248
4.4.1.2 Chinese Not willing to stay after the Projects are completed .....	249
4.4.2 Chinese Willing to Leave for Other Countries When Projects are completed.....	251
4.4.3 Comparative Advantage at the level of Chinese to Take Over as Others Leave for Other Countries when the Projects are Completed .....	252
4.4.4 View Point of Chinese on Projects Carried out in Cameroon.....	254
4.4.4.1 View Point on Gains.....	255
4.4.4.2 View Point on Losses .....	257

## **CHAPTER FIVE: SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL STAKES OF THE “WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP” AT THE LEVEL OF**

<b>INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>5.1 Contextualisation of the Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship”.....</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>5.2 Socio-Economic Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” at the Level of Infrastructural Development.....</b>	<b>263</b>
5.2.1 Destruction of Business Sites .....	265
5.2.1.1 Destruction of Family Structures.....	269
5.2.1.2 Destruction of Farming Facilities .....	273
5.2.1.3 Destruction of Family Business Structures .....	276
5.2.2 Risk of local Contract Enterprise Instability .....	278
5.2.2.1 Contractors Technical Unemployment.....	282
5.2.2.2 Technical Unemployment of Local Engineers.....	285
<b>5.3 Socio-Anthropological Stakes of the “Win-Win Relationship” At the Level of Infrastructural Development.....</b>	<b>286</b>
5.3.1 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain.....	287
5.3.1.1 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain in the Family Setting.....	291
5.3.1.2 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Cultural Domain at the Societal Setting .....	295
5.3.2 Socio-Anthropological Stakes: Religious Domain.....	297
5.3.2.1 Destruction of Shrines .....	297
5.3.2.2 Instability of Traditional Religious Worship.....	302
<b>GENERAL CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>311</b>
Summary of Research Findings .....	311

Suggestions for Further Research .....	325
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>349</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS .....</b>	<b>412</b>