

📍 CAPITAL CITY: YAOUNDÉ



## Key Facts



### POPULATION

29.2 million



### CURRENT GDP

US\$ 47.9 billion (2023)



### LEADER

Paul Biya



### PRIMARY EXPORT

Crude Petroleum  
US\$ 2.7 billion (2022)



### INTERESTS & CURRENCY

### EXCHANGE RATES

**Monetary policy**  
Rate : 5%

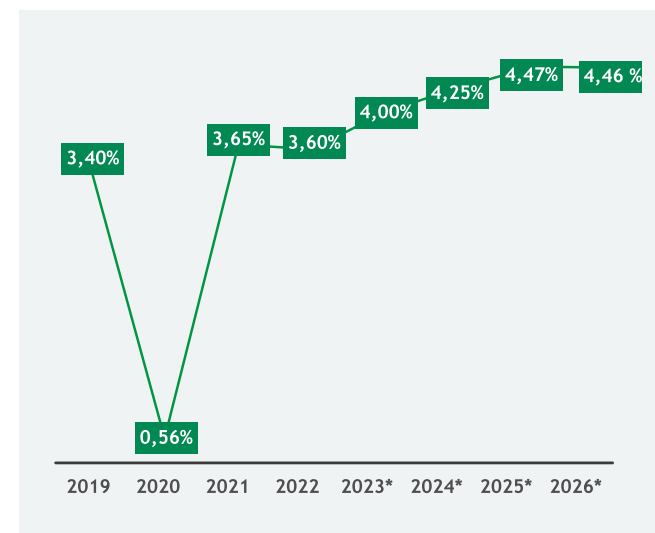
**Currency**  
Central African CFA Franc  
(FCFA/XAF)

**USD 1 = XAF 602.939** **EUR 1 = XAF 655.957**

Source : Banque des États de l'Afrique Centrale (BEAC), July 2024



## GDP GROWTH



7.4% Inflation (2023)

3.7% Unemployment rate (2023)

2% Demographic growth (2023)

-3.4% Current account (2022)

US\$ 925.7 million FDI (Net Inflows) (2021)

60 years Life expectancy (2022)

US\$ 1673 GDP per capita (2023)

78% Literacy Rate (2020)

Source : World Bank Data, IMF, Reuters

# CFC COUNTRY FACTSHEET:

## The republic of Cameroon

Situated in a strategic location that positions it as a natural gateway to the landlocked regions of Central Africa, Cameroon undeniably holds significant influence within the region's economic and monetary community accounting for more than 40% of the zone's GDP and 55% of the regional population.

Despite some challenges, Cameroon remains one of the most stable countries in the Central Africa sub-region and has the potential to serve as a hub for major regional energy and transportation infrastructure projects for all of Central Africa, and in fact is already playing this role in multiple ways.

Cameroon's 2020-2030 national development strategy lays out the country's plans to become a middle-income country and proposes massive investments in infrastructure.

## What are the most attractive industries ?

Cameroon offers several attractive industries for investment and economic growth due to its strategic location, natural resources, and diverse economy.



**Agriculture:** The agriculture sector employs a significant portion of the population and has strong potential for growth with modernization and investment in infrastructure.



**Energy:** With significant hydropower potential, Cameroon is focusing on expanding its energy sector.



**Financial services:** The financial sector in Cameroon is expanding, with opportunities in banking, insurance, and microfinance.



**Telecommunications and ICT:** With a growing population and increasing internet penetration, the ICT sector offers significant opportunities.



## Cameroon's International Membership

- Central African Economic and Monetary Community **(CEMAC)**
- Banque des Etats l'Afrique Centrale **(BEAC)**
- L'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires **(OHADA)**
- International Monetary Fund **(IMF)**
- International Chamber of Commerce **(ICC)**
- World Trade Organization **(WTO)**
- African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States **(ACP)**
- African Development Bank Group **(AFDB)**
- International Trade Union
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development **(OECD)**

### Leading Companies in Cameroon

1. Afriland First Bank (Financials)
2. Cameroon Development Corp (Consumer Goods)
3. National Hydrocarbon Corporation (Oil & Gas)
4. Camrail (Industrials)

## What is the tax regime in Cameroon?

### Corporate income tax rate:

- The corporate income tax rate in Cameroon is **30%** for large companies and **28%** for small and medium companies plus a local surcharge of **10%**, bringing the effective rate to **30,8%** for small and medium companies and **33%** for large companies.
- Large companies are companies which realized a turnover of more than **XAF3 billion** and small and medium companies are companies which realized a turnover less than **XAF3 billion**.

### Withholding tax (WHT):

Payments	Rate for Resident	Rate for Non Resident
Dividends	16.5%	16.5%
Interest	16.5%	16.5%
Royalties	-	15%

### Personal income tax rate:

- Individual income tax is levied at progressive rates from **10%** up to **35%** and applies to both residents and nonresidents.

### Value Added Tax:

- The standard rate is **17.5%**, plus a **10%** surcharge, resulting in an effective rate of **19.25%**.

## Tax treaties

Cameroon has concluded tax treaties with the following jurisdictions and organizations.

COUNTRY	DIVIDENDS	INTEREST	ROYALTIES
Canada	15%	15%	15%
CEMAC countries	D <sup>1</sup>	D <sup>1</sup>	N/A <sup>1</sup>
France	15%	15%	7.5%/15%
Tunisia	12%	15%	15%
United Arab Emirates	10%	7%	10%
South Africa	15%	10%	10%

<sup>1</sup>: The rate cannot exceed 10% of the gross amount



# Investment incentives offered in Cameroon

## Tax Incentives

The Investment Incentives Law, as amended, sets out incentives for private investment in Cameroon where the investor meets the following requirements:

### Incentives during the installation phase include:

- An exemption from registration duties on instruments for incorporation of the company, capital increases, essential instruments relating to investment programs, and concession contracts.
- A VAT exemption on technical assistance relating to the project and on import of materials linked to the project.
- An exemption from business license fees.
- A deduction for technical assistance fees in proportion to the amount of the investment.

**Incentives during the exploitation phase include** an exemption from, or a reduction in, the following taxes:

- Registration duties on instruments relating to changes in the capital and transfers of activity.
- Corporate income tax and minimum tax.
- Tax on income from securities and dividends.
- Special income tax on technical assistance.

## As a foreigner, do I need a work permit ?

Special assignment employees in Cameroon (less than 6 months), do not need a work permit. An expatriate employed directly by a Cameroonian company must have a work permit, which must be approved by the minister in charge of employment.



### Useful Links / Sources

1. [Bank of Central African States \(BEAC\)](#)
2. [API Cameroon](#)
3. [Deloitte Guide to fiscal information](#)
4. [UNCTAD World Investment report](#)

