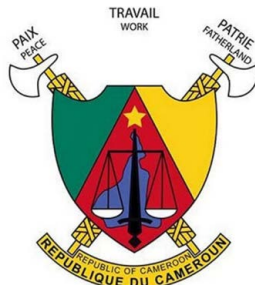




**RESEARCH BRIEF**

# STRENGTHENING SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs) IN THE WEST REGION OF CAMEROON

## INSIGHTS FROM AN ANALYSIS OF THE CONDITIONS & CHALLENGES FOR IDPs AND NON-DISPLACED



## MINDDEVEL



Commune créée en 1993  
Par Décret Présidentiel Numéro 93/321  
Du 25 Novembre 1993



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## FOREWORD

The Regional Delegate of the Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development for the West Region welcomes with great interest the publication of this Research Brief on ‘Strengthening the socio-economic inclusion of internally displaced persons in the West Region of Cameroon’. This document is a valuable contribution to understanding the realities experienced by both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities in the Councils of Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo and Mbouda. The socio-political crisis affecting the North-West and South-West Regions of Cameroon has led to massive population displacement, with a significant proportion of displaced persons finding refuge in the West Region. In response to this situation, decentralised local authorities have played a crucial role in receiving, supporting and integrating IDPs, often with limited resources.

This report, the result of collaborative work between local authorities, technical and financial partners, civil society organisations and the communities themselves, highlights the challenges and opportunities associated with including IDPs in local development dynamics. It provides a rigorous factual basis that is essential for guiding public policy, strengthening territorial planning and promoting an inclusive and sustainable approach to local development.

The Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development reaffirms its commitment to supporting Councils in their efforts to integrate IDPs through local capacity building, resource mobilisation and coordination of interventions. It is essential that the responses provided are sustainable, equitable and based on reliable data, such as those presented in the present report.

I would like to sincerely thank all those who contributed to this initiative, in particular the Councils concerned, technical partners (such as UNHCR, GIZ, JIPS, INS, BUCREP), as well as donors and local communities. May this report serve as a catalyst for concrete action to promote social cohesion, resilience and inclusive development in our region.



**Mr EPANDA Aristide PALEONE**  
Regional Delegate of MINDDLEVEL - West Region

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The current profiling study was conducted under the GIZ project Promoting Economic and Social Participation of Internally Displaced Persons and Host Population Communities (PESoP) in West Cameroon. Led by UNHCR, this profiling is the result of the collaborative work of the PESoP Committees<sup>1</sup> which include: 10 non-governmental organizations, 15 governmental organizations, as well as Municipal authorities and community representatives of Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo and Mbouda. The PESoP committees extend their appreciation and gratitude to all the persons who participated in the profiling and agreed to be interviewed.

This project was funded by the generous financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Technical support to the exercise was provided by the Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service<sup>2</sup> (JIPS), the National Institute of Statistics (INS) and the Central Bureau of the Census and Population Studies (BUCREP).

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This report is part of a series of four others that can be viewed by clicking on the links below: [Bafoussam 1<sup>er</sup>](#), [Dschang](#), [Foumban](#), [Kouoptamo](#) and [Mbouda](#).

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**Cover photo :** © Jerry Eyong Ndohtabi.

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<sup>1</sup> Extended Strategic steering committee (COPII) and Activities Monitoring and Validation Local Committees (CLVA).

<sup>2</sup> JIPS' support in Cameroon was made possible through the generous co-funding and multi-donor partnership with the [European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations \(ECHO\)](#), the [Danish International Development Agency \(DANIDA\)](#), and [USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance \(BHA\)](#), in addition to UNHCR Cameroon.

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>BMZ</b>	The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung)
<b>BUCREP</b>	Central Bureau of Censuses and Population Studies
<b>CSI</b>	Integrated Health Centres
<b>HLP</b>	Housing, Land and Property
<b>EGRISS</b>	Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-based violence
<b>GIZ</b>	German Society for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)
<b>IASC</b>	Inter-agency Standing Committee
<b>IDP</b>	Internally displaced person
<b>NIS</b>	National Institute of Statistics
<b>IOM</b>	International Organisation for Migration
<b>JIPS</b>	Joint IDP Profiling Service
<b>MINADER</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
<b>MINAT</b>	Ministry of Territorial Administration
<b>MINDEVEL</b>	Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development
<b>MINEFOP</b>	Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training
<b>MINEPAT</b>	Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Regional Development
<b>MINJEC</b>	Ministry of Youth and Civic Education
<b>MINJUSTICE</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MINMIDT</b>	Ministry of Mines, Industry and Technological Development
<b>MINPMEESA</b>	Ministry of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts
<b>MINPROFF</b>	Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and the Family
<b>MINSANTE</b>	Ministry of Public Health
<b>NEET</b>	Not in Employment, Education or Training
<b>OCHA</b>	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (United Nations)
<b>PESoP</b>	Promoting Economic and Social Participation of Internally Displaced Persons and Host Communities.
<b>rCSI</b>	Reduced Coping Strategy Index
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The present research brief on the socio-economic inclusion of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and their host communities presents insights from the profiling study conducted in five Councils in the West Region of Cameroon: Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo, and Mbouda. The study, part of the GIZ PESoP project and led by UNHCR, GIZ, and JIPS, aimed to identify specific displacement-linked vulnerabilities faced by IDPs as well as the challenges shared between displaced and non-displaced persons. The socio-economic analysis is situated within a broader exploration of the progress towards durable solutions to displacement amongst IDPs residing in the West Region, after having fled from the conflict between the central government and non-state armed groups in the South-West and North-West that started in 2016. As of December 2024, the five profiled Councils jointly host approximately 69,000 IDPs. The majority of IDPs (78%) in the five targeted Councils arrived between 2017 and 2021, and over half have been residing in the host communities for five years or more. Crucially, 57% of IDP households prefer to remain in their current location in the foreseeable future, making local socio-economic integration a key priority.

### KEY COMPARATIVE FINDINGS: EXACERBATED VULNERABILITIES FOR IDPS

The comparative analysis reveals that while both IDPs and non-displaced households face common challenges linked to broader development needs, the displacement situation exacerbates vulnerabilities for IDPs, diminishing their resilience and increasing their exposure. Specifically, the results point to: i. the increased **food insecurity** of IDPs: 56% of IDPs are food insecure, compared to 36% of non-displaced persons; ii. **loss of property** and assets by IDPs: almost half of IDP households left a house and/or agricultural land behind in the place or origin, but only some are able to prove ownership; iii. more limited access to **civil documentation** amongst IDP children: 30% of IDP children under five lack a birth certificate, compared to 14% of non-displaced children. The study also points to a range of challenges that are shared amongst both groups, specifically: i. inactivity amongst youth (15-24 years of age) is high in both groups: ca. one third of young women and one fifth of young men are not in education, employment, or training; ii. access to **basic services** (e.g. healthcare, water, sanitation) present challenges that are largely shared and area-based, pointing to infrastructural shortcomings.

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## OPPORTUNITIES AND KEY POINTERS FOR ACTION

While significant challenges remain, IDPs demonstrate strong human capital with their education levels being comparable to hosts and school attendance remaining high amongst children. Additionally, 19% of IDPs are bilingual (French and English), providing an asset for employment. To advance socio-economic inclusion and local integration, action should focus on:

**1. Combating food insecurity:** targeting employment creation and investment in urban/peri-urban agriculture, specifically for urban displaced populations who are hit harder by food insecurity than the regional average.

**2. Addressing loss of assets and claims to land:** pre-emptively documenting IDP claims to agricultural land left behind, regardless of their intent to return, to facilitate future livelihood opportunities.

**3. Investing in youth:** supporting vocational training and labour market entry for the large youth population to prevent loss of human capital and mitigate protection concerns linked to high inactivity rates.

**4. Inclusion in Civil Registry:** immediate support is needed to ensure IDP children obtain birth certificates to prevent later challenges accessing services and fundamental rights.

**5. Evidence-Based Planning:** sustaining support and capacity building for Councils to maintain and analyse their IDP registration databases, allowing for targeted interventions and ongoing monitoring of integration progress against the baseline provided by this study.

Addressing these socio-economic challenges faced by both IDPs and hosting communities is crucial to sustain the relatively successful local integration achieved thus far and to acknowledge the critical contribution of the West Region to displacement solutions.



# I.

## DISPLACED PERSONS HOSTED IN THE WEST REGION

### INTRODUCTION

In 2024, Cameroon topped the list as the most overlooked displacement crisis, pointing to a lack of funding, media attention, and international political and diplomatic initiatives<sup>3</sup>. Since 2016, Cameroon has faced escalating violence between the central government and non-state armed groups in the South-West and North-West regions, also called the Anglophone crisis. As of September 2024, there were more than 334,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the South-West and North-West regions, while 494,447 IDPs have reportedly returned despite the fact that the humanitarian situation in displacement-affected areas remains critical<sup>4</sup>. This conflict, along with attacks on border communities, has triggered significant internal displacement across the country and in particular to the neighboring Littoral and West regions, where 159,300 IDPs were recorded in 2023<sup>5</sup>.

There are no accurate estimates of the displaced population that are currently residing in the West region; an approximate estimate from 2022<sup>6</sup> indicated 114,000 IDPs. A large proportion of the IDPs fleeing into the West region are assumed to concentrate in the cities, towns and peri-urban areas. Therefore, the present study included the following five Councils in the West Region: Bafoussam I (Mifi), Dschang (Menoua), Foumban and Kouoptamo (Noun), as well as Mbouda (Bamboutos). The profiling of the displacement situation in these Councils took place in 2024-2025 as a component of the multiyear project Promoting the Economic and Social Participation of Internally Displaced Persons and Host Communities (PESoP). The profiling data constitute the basis for the present analysis (see Annex 1 on the methodology).

Based on extrapolations from the profiling process, the five Councils of Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo and Mbouda are jointly hosting, as of December 2024, around 69,000 IDPs.

**Table 1:** Estimation of IDP population by Council, based on WorldPop estimates validated by BUCREP and ratios of IDP presence resulting from the listing exercise that preceded the profiling survey<sup>7</sup>

	IDPS (N)	NON-DISPLACED (N)	TOTAL (N)	IDPS (%)	NON-DISPLACED (%)	TOTAL (%)
BAFOUSSAM I	20,435	128,351	148,786	13.7	86.3	100
DSCHANG	13,427	204,932	218,359	6.1	93.9	100
FOUMBAN	8,316	144,433	152,749	5.4	94.6	100
KOUOPTAMO	6,860	65,672	72,532	9.5	90.5	100
MBOUDA	19,986	163,915	183,901	10.9	89.1	100
TOTAL	69,024	707,303	776,327	8.8	91.2	100

<sup>3</sup>NRC, 2024

<sup>4</sup>Multi Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) 2024, as reported in the Cameroon Humanitarian Needs Overview 2025.

<sup>5</sup>Multi Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) 2023, as reported in the Cameroon Humanitarian Needs Overview 2025.

<sup>6</sup>Multi Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) 2022, as reported in the DTM/IOM Dashboard #2 October 2022.

<sup>7</sup>The profiling included a listing exercise of all households in the sampled enumeration areas generating accurate figures for IDPs and non-displaced; these results were extrapolated to estimate the total size of the IDP population in the city and subsequently the proportion of IDPs. The extrapolation did not use the BUCREP 2024 projections, as combining the BUCREP estimates of the total population with the estimated proportion of IDPs from the listing would be hazardous, given that they are based on different methodologies and reference years. For more details, please consult the BUCREP methodology on population estimates from 2023 and the profiling methodology section of this report.

## Overview of the PESoP Project and Key Components

**The Promoting Economic and Social Participation of Internally Displaced Persons and Host Population (PESoP)** project is a German-Cameroonian cooperation project implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). PESoP is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and overseen by the Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development (MINDDEVEL). It aims to promote the economic and social participation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host populations, particularly women, in five councils (Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo, and Mbouda) in the West region of Cameroon. **The project provides direct support to beneficiaries and strengthens the capacity of local and non-governmental**

### stakeholders to improve living conditions sustainably.

The PESoP project is structured around four main components:

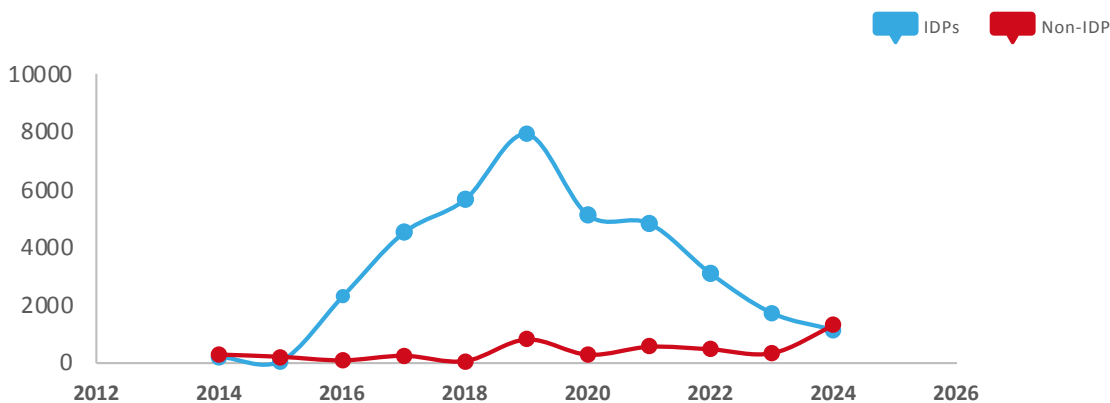
- » **Economic participation:** Facilitating access for IDPs and host communities to vocational training, as well as employment and income-generating opportunities;
- » **Social participation:** Strengthening the social inclusion and cohesion of these populations within their host communities.
- » **Socio-economic profiling:** Produce and make available up-to-date data on socio-economic vulnerabilities to better target interventions;
- » **Gender-based violence:** Improve the provision of prevention, protection and care services for survivors of GBV by state and non-state actors.

## DISPLACEMENT PROFILE OF IDPs IN THE WEST REGION

**IDP arrivals peaked in 2019:** IDPs started arriving in the five profiled Councils in 2015 with arrivals peaking in 2019, while IDPs still arrived during 2024 (the data collection took place in December 2024) - though at

smaller rates compared to the previous years. The vast majority of IDPs (78%) were displaced between 2017 and 2021 and more than half of the IDPs had been residing over 5 years in the hosting Councils, at the time of the study. This highlights the protracted nature of the displacement situation with the crisis still pushing people to flee to the West region.

**Graph 1 :** Number of IDPs and non-displaced persons having arrived in the five Councils of Bafoussam I, Dschang, Foumban, Kouoptamo and Mbouda since the beginning of the crisis.



**IDP communities often clustering by origin:** All profiled Councils are hosting IDPs primarily from neighbouring sub-districts in the North-West region. In some Councils large proportion of IDPs originate from the same areas; for example, in Dschang 70% of IDPs are from Lebialem, while in Mbouda half are from Mezam and in Kouptamo half are from Ngo-Ketunjia. In the remaining two Councils the IDP population is composed by former residents of many different sub-districts; specifically, in Bafoussam I, IDPs are from Mezam (28%), Bui (23%) and Donga-Mantu (10%); while in Foumban IDPs are from Noun (31%), Ngo-Ketunjia (20%) and Bui (10%).

According to the latest Humanitarian Needs Overview five divisions in the North-West have been classified as being in an extreme severity situation- Donga-Mantung, Menchum, Mezam, Momo, Ngo-Ketunjia (level 4); while Boyo and Bui experience a severe situation (level 3). In the South-West region, two divisions are classified at level 4 (Ndian, Lebialem) and four divisions at level 3 (Fako, Kupe-Manenguba, Manyu, Meme). These distinctions in the situation by division certainly impact the prospects for retaining connections to the place of origin and any plans for return.

<sup>8</sup> OCHA 2025.

**Map 1** : The five Councils in the West Region included in the profiling were Bafoussam I (Mifi), Dschang (Menoua), Fouban and Kouoptamo (Noun), as well as Mbouda (Bamboutos), IM Unit, UNHCR.



**The extent to which IDPs maintain contact with their place of origin and have been able to visit, varies greatly across hosting Councils – and of course areas of origin:** The proportion of households that have been able to visit their place of origin, for reasons linked to agriculture, checking on property or visiting family is as follows: Dschang 48%, Mbouda 31%, Fouban 24%, Kouoptamo 12%, and Bafoussam I 14%.

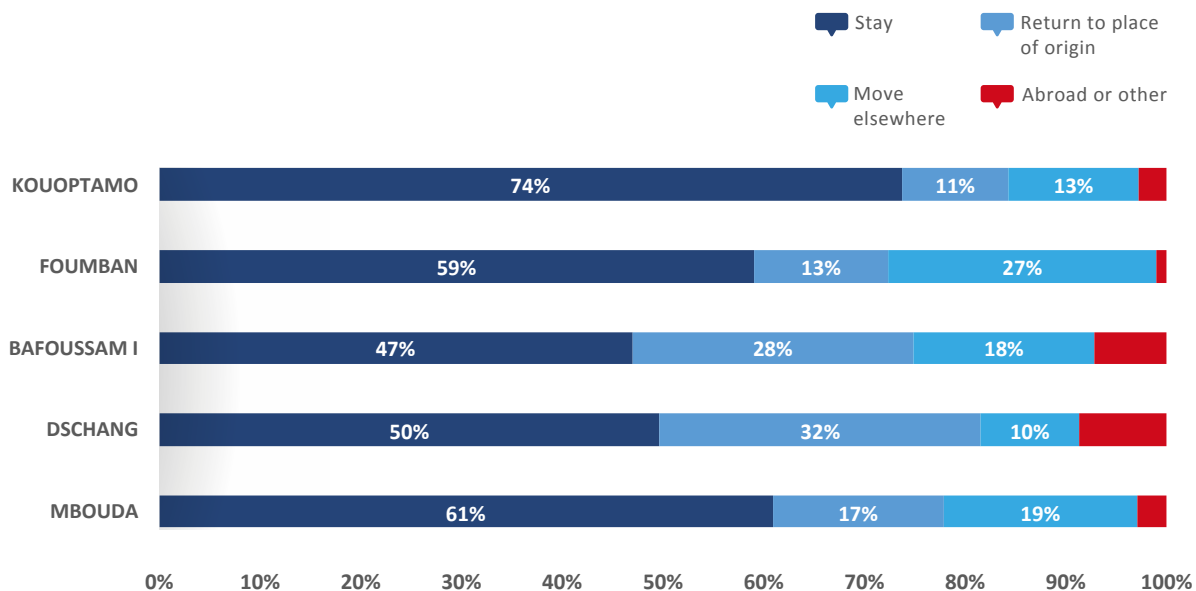
**30% of the IDPs households have family members that are still separated since the displacement;** key challenges preventing re-unification include financial difficulties (reported by 67%) and the security situation (reported by 40%). This is a significant proportion of households who may require targeted support for family re-unification. Additionally, the future prospects of return, circular movements and/or continuous local integration are likely to be influenced by the separated family situation.

**More than half of IDPs prefer to remain in the current host Council:** It is important to understand what IDPs

plan and envision for the future; do they prefer to potentially return to their place of origin or to keep staying in their new homes they now have been living in for several years. Across the Councils, 57% of the households prefer to stay in their current location (the proportion ranges from 47% in Bafoussam I to 74% in Kouoptamo). Main reasons include security and employment opportunities. On average, 22% prefer to return to their place of origin; the indicated reasons being mainly economic (cost of living and lack of employment opportunities in the current location) and personal family reasons. It is important to flag that only 15% of the households, who prefer to leave their current location, had any concrete plans to do so. **In other words, understanding the extent to which IDPs are integrating (economically and socially) in their hosting Councils is crucial, as IDPs are most likely to remain where they reside now for the time to come.**

The next two chapters will unpack the achievements and challenges faced by IDPs and the hosting Councils, when it comes to socio-economic integration and inclusion.

**Graph 2** : IDP households according to their preference for future location of living



## II.

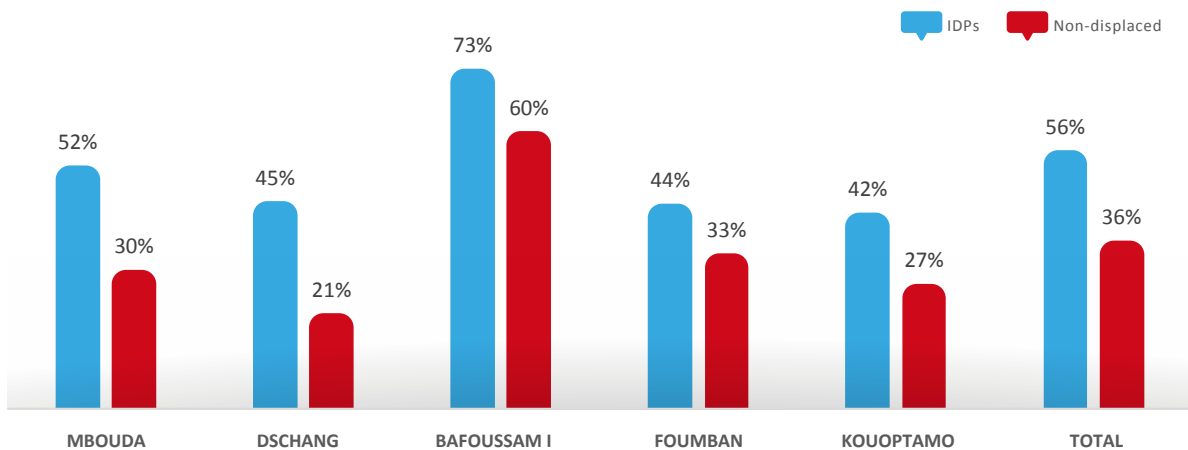
# ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF IDPs

## FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

**Food insecurity is a serious challenge in all five Councils, particularly amongst IDP households:** Across all Councils more IDPs (56%) face food insecurity<sup>9</sup> compared to non-displaced households (36%), which highlights a heavier dependence of IDPs on less sustainable strategies to manage food shortages. The IDP households facing food insecurity range between an alarming 73% in Bafoussam I, to 52% in Mbouda and more than 40% in Dschang, Foumban and Kouptamo. The difference in food security between IDPs and non-displaced is strikingly high, specifically in Dschang and Mbouda

(where the gap is 24 and 22 points respectively, while in the other Councils the gap ranges between 11 and 15 points). Rural-urban migration contributes significantly to food insecurity in cities, such as Bafoussam. As people move to urban areas in search of better opportunities, the population in towns and cities increases rapidly putting pressure on food supply systems (as well as housing and social services), often outpacing the city's capacity to provide adequate support. Therefore, we see that the urban contexts of this study show significantly higher food insecurity results compared to the rural/urban average across the West region, that according to WFP is at 27% (as per the same index)<sup>10</sup>.

**Graph 3 :** Use of 'high coping strategies' according to the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) that indicates food insecurity.



<sup>9</sup> The survey adopted the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) module which examines how frequently and severely households adopt coping strategies when they lack food or the means to purchase it. A higher score on this scale reflects greater reliance on negative coping mechanisms—such as reducing or skipping meals, borrowing food etc.—indicating more severe food insecurity.

<sup>10</sup> World Food Programme 2024. [mVAM Bulletin, November 2024](#).

**Livelihoods are mainly dependent on agriculture and casual work:** The most important livelihood sources are distributed primarily between agriculture (33% of non-displaced and 26% of IDPs), casual work (28% IDPs, and 18% non-displaced) and small business (18% IDPs, 12% non-displaced). Salaried work only makes up a key livelihood source for a small minority. Important differences are found between Councils, where for example

Kouoptamo greatly relies on agriculture, compared to other Councils where a greater variation of livelihood means is found. The sustainability of livelihoods<sup>11</sup> is found to have an impact on food security: amongst households (across both target groups) that rely primarily on unsustainable sources 24% experience food insecurity; while amongst households who rely on unsustainable livelihoods sources 41% face food insecurity.

**Table 2 :** Main livelihood source for IDP and non-displaced (ND) households

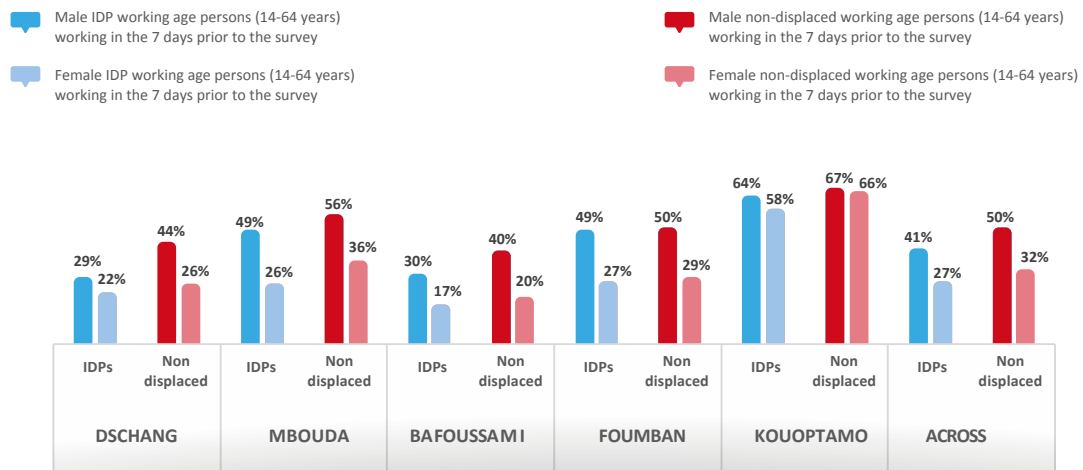
	MBOUDA		DSCHANG		BAFOUSSAM I		FOUMBAN		KOUOPTAMO		À TRAVERS	
	IDPs	ND	IDPs	ND	IDPs	ND	IDPs	ND	IDPs	ND	IDPs	ND
<b>Agriculture</b>	31%	49%	18%	14%	16%	29%	22%	19%	62%	75%	26%	33%
<b>Casual Work</b>	20%	11%	22%	22%	41%	28%	23%	20%	15%	1%	28%	18%
<b>Small business</b>	16%	6%	18%	8%	17%	14%	30%	17%	5%	5%	18%	12%
<b>Salaries</b>	6%	9%	10%	16%	7%	15%	6%	6%	1%	2%	6%	9%
<b>Other</b>	28%	26%	32%	41%	19%	16%	19%	38%	18%	17%	22%	29%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Fewer IDPs are working compared to non-displaced, with women being significantly less employed in both groups:** In all Councils, fewer IDPs report having worked the week prior to the survey; these differences are greater between male IDPs and non-displaced persons; whereas women are much less employed in

both groups. The prevalence of work varies between the Councils and complements the above results on food security, as the Councils with higher food insecurity also show lower working rates. For example, in Bafoussam I results show the highest food insecurity prevalence and the lowest working rates.

<sup>11</sup> Following livelihoods sources were categorized as sustainable: Salaries (formal employment); Pension (government or private pensions, other social benefits); Teaching or educational services; Health services (nurses, doctors, traditional healers); Religious services (clergy, religious teachers); and following as unsustainable: Agriculture; Livestock; Casual work (daily or seasonal); Remittances; Aid; Small business; Craftwork; Transportation; Construction; Tourism; Other.

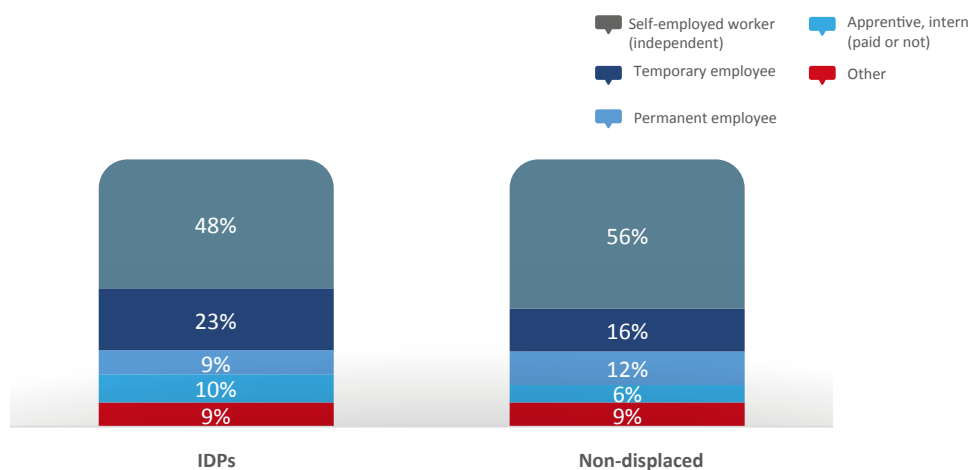
**Graph 4 :** Proportion of working aged persons (14-64 years of age) who worked the week prior to the survey



**IDPs as well as non-displaced persons are primarily self-employed or temporarily employed:** Almost half of the IDPs (48%) and over half of the non-displaced persons (56%) above 14 years of age, who reported having worked the week prior to the survey, indicated that they were self-employed. This aligns with the general situation in Cameroon whereby, according to the World Bank, self-employment is the most common

employment form (72,5%)<sup>12</sup>. According to the profiling results, temporary employment is higher amongst IDPs compared to non-displaced persons (23% vs 16%); while permanent employment is similarly low between both groups (9% among IDPs and 12% among non-displaced persons). Generally, the working conditions are mainly unstable and/or insecure across both groups.

**Graph 5 :** Working aged population (15+) by type of occupation held the week prior to the survey, across all five Council

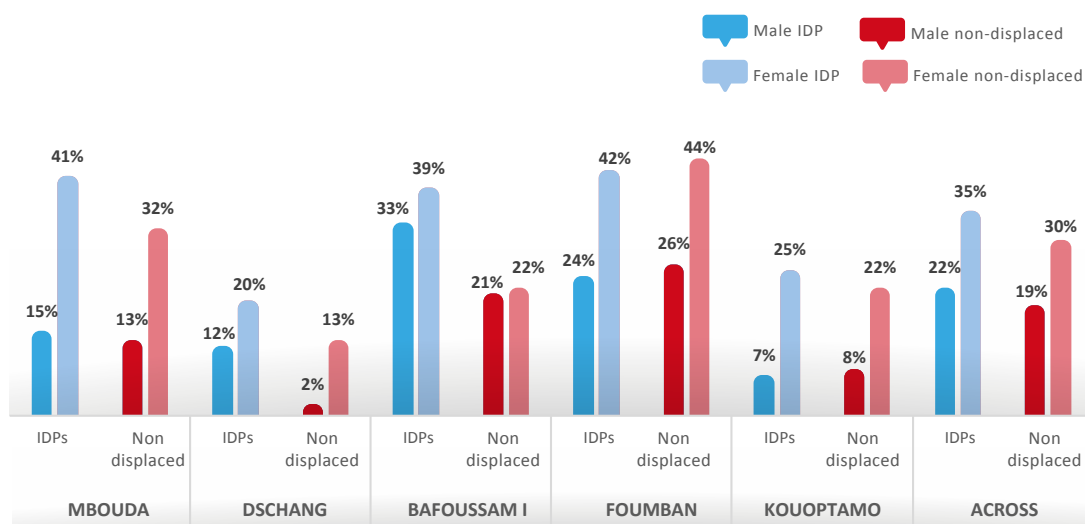


<sup>12</sup> Botea, Ioana, Mitja Del Bono. 2022. A Tale of Two Countries: Labor Market Profiles of Youth in Urban and Rural Cameroon. Banque mondiale, Washington, DC.

**A significant proportion of young women in both groups across the Council is not in education, employment or training (NEET rate)<sup>13</sup>:** Amongst the youth aged 15 to 24, roughly around one fifth of young men across IDPs and non-displaced persons and one third of young women are not working and not studying. This points to a significant risk that the economic and social well-being of these young persons may be impacted, if attention is not provided to their integration into the labour market. This is particularly important because they represent the foundation of tomorrow's workforce and society. As reported by technical experts<sup>14</sup> many young people leave school prematurely to engage in informal economic activities, often encouraged by their families due to financial constraints. When these ventures fail, the youth are left without education or employment. It is important to add that the results vary significantly among Councils, indicating very different opportunities for the youth depending on location. In Mbouda, Bafoussam I and Foumban the NEET rates stand out as higher for IDPs - especially among young women; whereas in Dschang (which is a University city) and Kouoptamo (where agriculture engages high proportions of the population) the rates are lower and indicate better opportunities for education and work respectively.

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**Graph 6 : Male and female youth (15-24 years) not working and not studying (SDG indicator 8.6.1/ NEET rate)**



<sup>13</sup> The percentage of young people (15-24 years of age) who are Not in Education, Employment, or Training; is the so-called NEET rate (also an SDG, 8.6.1); and is commonly used to measure the prevalence of young people who are disengaged from the typical pathways of education and work.

<sup>14</sup> Consultation held with regional experts from Dschang University and the regional Employment Fund.



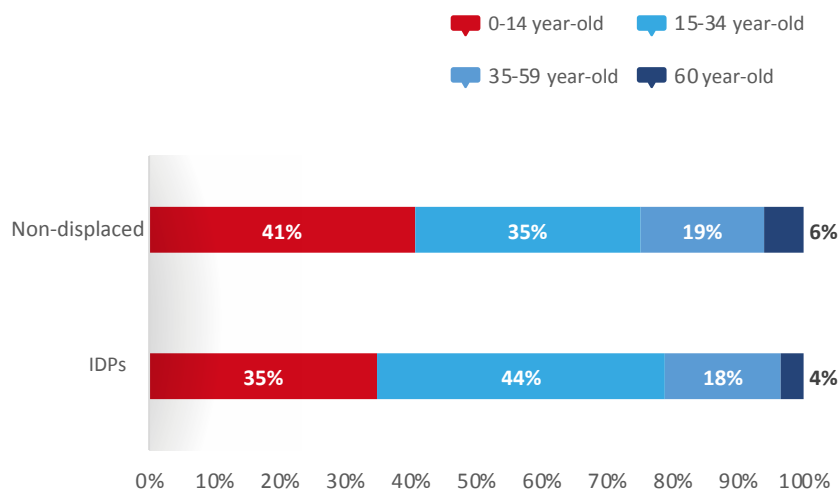
## HUMAN CAPITAL & ASSETS

The above results on livelihoods and employment are here further contextualized by an overview of the human capital and the access to assets. The analysis looks at basic demographics, education and language skills as well as access to property, to better assess the opportunities and the obstacles to more economic inclusion of IDPs.

**A predominantly young population:** 79% of IDPs and 76% of non-displaced persons in the five targeted Councils are below the age of 35. The large youth population presents a unique opportunity for economic and social development (often referred to as a «demographic divi-

dend»). However, this rapid demographic growth also risks exacerbating poverty and causing social unrest if not matched with adequate jobs.

Graph 7 : Age distribution – the ‘demographic dividend’.



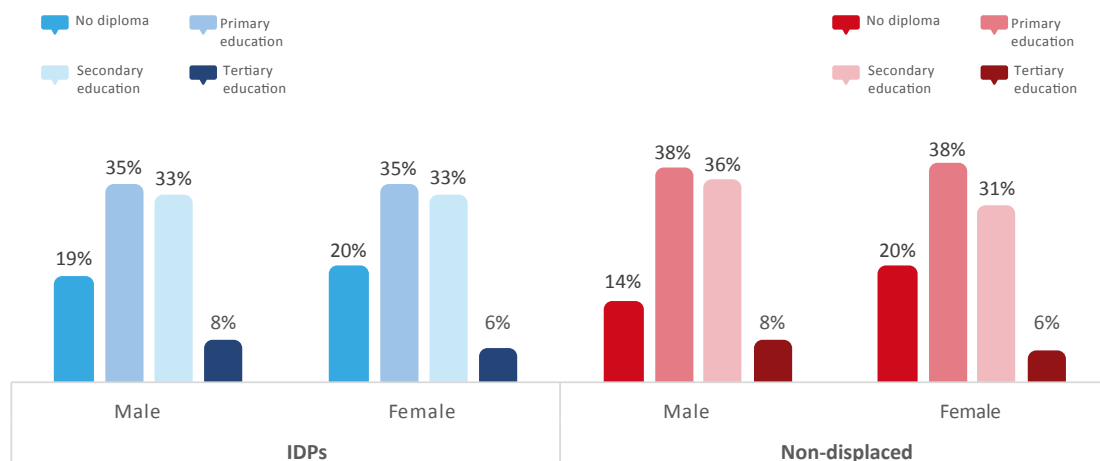
**Displacement has not yet impacted education levels:**

More than one third across IDPs and non-displaced persons above 15 years of age have completed primary education and more than another third have completed secondary education – there is no significant different between men and women. Eight percent amongst men and 6% of women in both groups have completed tertiary education. Around one fifth in all groups do not have any completed education – but this is mainly the case for persons above 60 years of age, and especially women<sup>15</sup>. **Given that firstly, no significant differences were found between IDPs and non-displaced persons when it comes to completed education, and secondly, current attendance rates in school are close to univer-**

**sal, it can be assumed that the displacement has not (yet at least) impacted the level of education.**

Thus, the IDPs that have fled from the conflict and found refuge in the West region have managed to maintain their access to education, whereas UNICEF reports that in the Northwest and Southwest 25% of the children aged 3-17 are out of school and school completion rates are low<sup>16</sup>. This achievement of retaining high rates of school attendance by IDPs and host Council in the West region, must be monitored closely going forward (as during validation workshops in the five Council concerns were raised by community members that IDP children were often seen outside of school).

**Graph 8 : Persons 15 years and above by highest completed level of education.**



**Bilingualism as an asset of IDPs:** 19% of IDPs above 15 years of age speak both French and English, which is only the case for 6% of non-displaced persons. This more widespread bilingualism among IDPs can be an asset for employment to be taken advantage of and supported.

that 62% have completed secondary education, 10% have completed university and only 7% have no formal education. The profile of this young unemployed population segment provides a solid basis for further education, vocational training, and integration in the job market.

**The IDP registry in the five Council confirms the unutilized human capital amongst the youth<sup>17</sup>:** A significant proportion of working age IDPs, who report being unemployed in the registry, indicates they have ‘no skills’ (71% of youth between 14 and 34 years, and 55% of IDPs aged 35-64). At the same time, when zooming into the young unemployed IDPs (14-34 years) in the registry we find

**When they fled, almost half of IDP households have left property behind in the place of origin, mainly a house and/or farming land:** Many of them cannot access that property and do not have the required documentation to prove ownership. Specifically, out of the households that left a house behind, 28% have documentation to prove ownership and 17% can still access the house.

<sup>15</sup> In the group of IDP and non-displaced women above 60 years we see the proportion of not having any diploma reaching 60%.

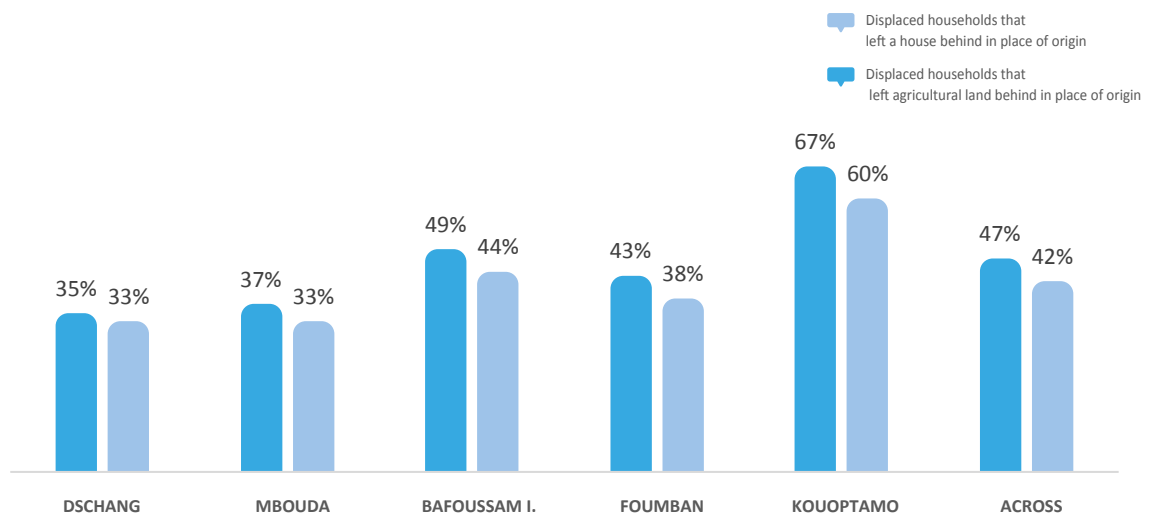
<sup>16</sup> Joint Education Needs Assessment (JENA), Northwest and Southwest Regions, UNICEF, March 2024.

<sup>17</sup> The results provided in this paragraph are derived from the registration of IDPs conducted in all five Municipalities towards the end of 2024 as part of the PESOP project. It should be noted that the registration is ongoing, and the data from December 2024 do not capture the full IDP population in the municipalities.

Out of the households that left land behind, 23% have documentation to prove ownership of land and 16% can still access the land. **This loss of property sets IDP livelihoods significantly back.** Support will be required for IDPs to reclaim and access these properties, which is an important matter linked to solutions, and re-building of livelihoods in particular, regardless of the intentions that households may have to return or not. Additionally, given the loss of property, IDPs are now mainly renting

housing and are vulnerable to high rents and **tenure insecurity** (11% have experienced evictions and 66% have not written tenure documentation). The topic of rent costs was raised in the validation workshops as a point that can greatly impact IDP household economies, given that the majority depends on rental arrangements. Access to affordable housing for IDPs is a key factor to their local integration in the city.

**Graph 9 :** IDP households that have left a house and/or agricultural land in their place of origin



### III.

## SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF IDPs



### ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES, DOCUMENTATION & TENURE SECURITY

*Access to basic services, like education, healthcare, clean water and sanitation, as well as access to personal documentation (that often facilitates access to services and effective access to fundamental rights) and lastly access to tenure security, make up key criteria for integration and inclusion of IDPs<sup>18</sup>. Access to such basic services contribute in particular to sustainable livelihoods<sup>19</sup>.*

The analysis on access to basic services reveals that i. in most cases the same challenges are faced by both displaced and non-displaced groups indicating that these issues are mainly area based and linked to infrastructure, rather than unequal access and discrimination (e.g. access to education is high in both groups while safe water and sanitation is low in both groups); ii. birth certificates of IDP children is the exception as many more IDPs are not registered.

More concretely, when comparing displaced and non-displaced households:

- **School attendance is very high in both groups:** Above 90% of children of school age (6-18 years) were reported to attend school regularly (which requires at least 4 days a week in school); no significance difference was found between boys and girls or between IDPs and non-displaced<sup>20</sup>.

- **Accessing health services poses a challenge for IDPs and non-displaced:** Amongst households that needed health care during the six months prior to the survey, 64% of IDPs and 66% of non-displaced faced challenges accessing the required services. These challenges were primarily linked to costs.

- **Nevertheless, almost all births in both groups were assisted by qualified health personnel:** 99% of births among IDPs and 97% of births among non-displaced households have been assisted by qualified personnel, which includes doctors, nurses, midwives or other health professionals.

- **Improved sanitation is a challenge for a large proportion in both groups, but also varies greatly between Councils:** Improved sanitation facilities are designed to hygienically separate human waste from human contact,

<sup>18</sup> See: Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) 2010. Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. Geneva: Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement.

<sup>19</sup> See the framework of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA) developed by Chambers and Conway (1992) outlining five types of capital that contribute to sustainable livelihoods: human capital, social capital, physical capital (e.g. access to service), financial capital and natural capital.

<sup>20</sup> Community feedback during the joint analysis workshops that took place in the five municipalities did nuance these results by indicating that actual attendance may be lower.

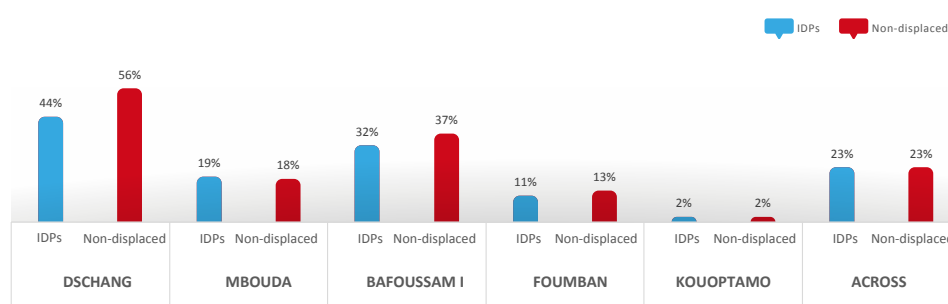
minimizing the risk of disease transmission<sup>21</sup> and are expected to not be shared between more households. While in Dschang 44% of IDP households and 56% amongst the non-displaced access improved sanitation facilities, that is only the case for 2% of households in both groups in Kouoptamo.

• **Access to safely managed water is a challenge for both groups:** Safely managed water is water from an improved source<sup>22</sup> that is accessible on the premises. Access to safely managed water varies greatly between Councils and ranges from 0% (in Kouoptamo) to 34% (in Bafoussam I). The majority of households in both groups have access to improved water sources, which are not on their premises (83% of non-displaced and 84% of IDPs).

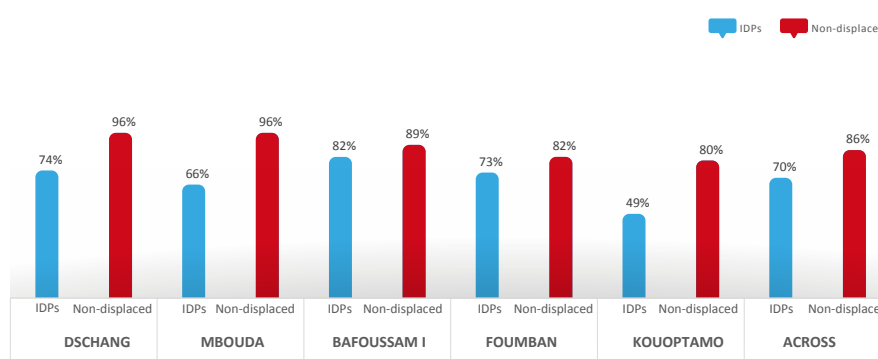
• **Twice as many IDP children under five have no birth certificate compared to non-displaced:** 30% of IDP children up to five years of age have no birth certificate, which is the case for half of the non-displaced children in the same age group (14%). This points to the need for including children earlier in the civil registry.

• **20% in both groups have access to bank accounts:** One fifth of IDP and of non-displaced households have at least one family member with a bank account. Access to this financial service is thus equally low in both groups.

**Graph 10 :** Households accessing improved sanitation facilities not shared with other households - SDG 6.2.1



**Graph 11 :** Children up to 5 years of age with a birth certificate - SDG indicator 16.9.1



<sup>21</sup> Specifically, improved sanitation facilities include: flush/pour flush toilets connected to piped sewer systems, septic tanks or pit latrines; pit latrines with slabs (including ventilated pit latrines), and composting toilets

<sup>22</sup> Improved drinking water sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction, and include: piped water, boreholes or tube wells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, and packaged or delivered water.

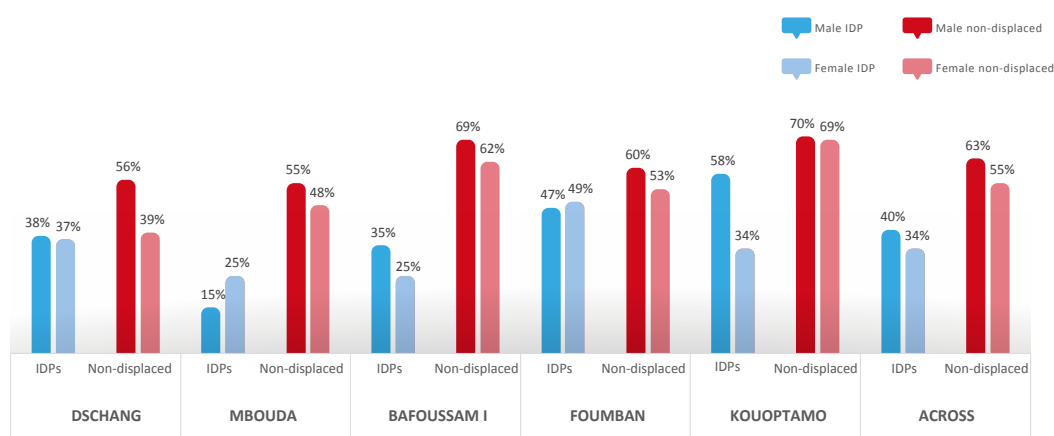
## CIVIC PARTICIPATION, INTERGROUP RELATIONS & SAFETY

Participation in civic affairs, intergroup relations and sense of safety and security are all important factors that contribute to inclusion and reflect the social cohesion in a given community<sup>23</sup>. Supporting IDPs to rebuild their livelihoods in displacement and thereby further close the remaining gaps between displaced and non-displaced also goes hand in hand with improved social cohesion in the community and improved inter-group relations and acceptance.

**Civic participation is lower amongst IDPs:** In the 2020 elections, a lower proportion of IDPs compared to non-displaced voted: 40% male IDPs and 34% female IDPs compared to 63% male non-displaced and 55% female non-displaced. Women are less likely to vote within both groups. A similar trend is observed regarding participation in local committees. Interestingly,

participation in the elections varies significantly between Council. The main reasons for not having voted were linked to not being registered or not having the required documents in order to register.

**Graph 12 :** Men & women 20 years and above who voted in the 2020 legislative and municipal elections



**Generally positive intergroup relations with few incidents of violence and discrimination:** 88% of IDP respondents say that they are welcomed and accepted by non-displaced in their community and conversely, 94% of non-displaced say that they welcome IDPs settling in their area. No significant variation is observed between the Councils on this. Most households in both groups report low or no inter-group violence in their community (64% of IDPs and 68% of non-displaced), while the remaining circa one third in both groups reports moderate or high violence. Eleven percent of IDPs and 4% of non-displaced persons report having been discriminated against. IDPs that have experienced discrimination flag language and tribal affiliation as the

main reason. The validation workshops did point to the fact that these results may need further exploration as underreporting might be the case<sup>24</sup>.

**Sense of safety linked to location:** The sense of safety is very similar between IDPs and non-displaced persons, and any variation is rather linked to the location and not the displacement status. For example, the results show that while in most target Councils between 79% and 90% of IDPs and non-displaced persons feel safe when walking around in their neighbourhoods (SDG indicator 16.14), in Bafoussam I only 53% of IDPs and 59% of non-displaced persons feel safe.

<sup>23</sup> See: (IASC) 2010. Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. Geneva: Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement.

<sup>24</sup> For example, in a more targeted question on whether households experiencing challenges in accessing health care, found these challenges to be linked to discrimination, specifically, 30% of IDPs reported that being the case. This may point to a need to unpack further the domains where discrimination may be prevalent.

## V.

# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADVANCE IDP LIVELIHOODS AND LOCAL INTEGRATION

## SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS & OVERCOMING DISPLACEMENT VULNERABILITIES – ANALYSIS APPROACH

IDPs have reached a durable solution to their displacement ‘when they no longer have specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and such persons can enjoy their human rights without discrimination resulting from their displacement’ (Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs, IASC 2010). **Achieving durable solutions – whether in the form of local integration, resettlement or return – is a process towards overcoming vulnerabilities linked to displacement and encompasses several criteria, including access to livelihoods and basic services as well as safety and security. An important consideration is that IDPs need to make progress under these criteria to the same extent as the non-displaced population.**

Therefore, the profiling adopted a comparative analysis of the socio-economic situation of the displaced populations against the non-displaced, across the criteria outlined in the IASC Framework<sup>25</sup>. While the main focus of this report has been on livelihoods and the economic integration of IDPs, access to services, civic participation and relations to the non-displaced population are critical factors to understand the extent to which IDPs are managing to rebuild their lives in the hosting Council (regardless of whether or not they may be able and willing to return to their places of origin in the future).

By identifying the differences in the situations of displaced and non-displaced, the analysis points to areas where the displaced population is worse off and can be assumed to still face displacement-linked vulnerabilities<sup>26</sup>. **In this way, the analysis identifies the main obstacles to better socio-economic integration and inclusion of IDPs, while also pointing to shared challenges in the Council which are linked to wider development problems.**



<sup>25</sup> The IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs (2010), that has become the authoritative framework on solutions to displacement, outlines eight criteria to achieving durable solutions: long-term safety and security and freedom of movement; an adequate standard of living; access to livelihoods and employment; effective mechanisms to restore or compensate for housing, land, and property; access to and replacement of personal and other documentation; voluntary reunification with family members; participation in public affairs; and access to effective remedies and justice. These topics shape the analytical framework of this study.

<sup>26</sup> UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs, JIPS, UNHCR, IOM, UNDP, DRC et al 2018. Durable Solutions Analysis Guide & Indicator Library.

## SIX KEY CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES & POINTERS FOR ACTION

While challenges linked to food security, youth inactivity and access to basic services are faced by both displaced and non-displaced households, the findings show that IDPs are impacted to a higher degree. In other words, **the displacement situation exacerbates these challenges and vulnerabilities**, making affected households less resilient and more exposed. Below the key challenges to economic integration are identified and pointers for action are suggested:

### 1. FOOD INSECURITY

**Food insecurity is a major challenge that is exacerbated amongst IDPs and their urban non-displaced neighbours, compared to the regional situation.** Across the targeted Council 56% of IDP households have a 'high score' in the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)<sup>27</sup> indicating they use less sustainable coping mechanisms more frequently in order to address food shortages. Amongst the non-displaced population, 36% fell in that category. A significant rural urban migration puts additional strain on the urban food supply systems leaving urban contexts, such as the five targeted Council, facing higher food insecurity when compared to the regional average of the West Region, which according to WFP<sup>28</sup> is at 27% (as per same Index).

According to the profiling, while agriculture used to be a major source of livelihoods in the past, it is reported as the key source of livelihoods only by 33% of non-displaced households and 26% of the IDP households. This points not only to a diversification of livelihoods, which increasingly includes casual work and small businesses, but also to an ongoing rural-urban migration, in addition to the rural-urban displacement. National level data on food security highlight that urban contexts show higher prevalence of food insecurity<sup>29</sup>. **Thus, the towns in the West region are doubly hit by compounding factors: as urban areas they have higher food insecurity compared to the rural West region, which is exacer-**

bated by the hosting of displaced households that face even higher food insecurity.

*Efforts need to focus on these urban populations and in particular the urban displaced populations that are hit harder by food insecurity, by looking at the creation of employment opportunities as well as investment in urban and peri-urban agriculture, alongside other efforts strengthening food systems.*

### 2. LOSS OF ASSETS AND LAND

**IDPs face a particularly vulnerable situation as most have been forced to leave behind their agricultural land:** specifically, 42% have left behind agricultural land. Only some of these households are able to prove ownership of the land or access it. This will make it difficult for IDPs to regain access when the security situation will permit.

*Access to agricultural land that IDPs left behind as they fled should be addressed pre-emptively by keeping track of/documenting the claims IDPs have, regardless of their intention to return or not. Regaining access to land – for their use, lease or transaction - can be one of the pathways for improving livelihoods and food security later on. Land tenure and natural resource management requires, however, attention beyond the short-term livelihood support, as this is also closely connected to the conflict resolution and possible restitution processes.*

### 3. YOUTH INACTIVITY

**Youth inactivity will amplify protection concerns and poverty:** Around one fifth of the young men between 15 and 24 years (22% IDPs and 19% non-displaced) and one third of the young women (35% IDPs and 30% non-displaced) are not in education, employment or training (NEET/ SDG 8.6.1). This group of inactive youth is facing barriers to economic (and social) participation. **With the demographic outlook of steady growth in the population, youth unemployment and youth inactivity will amplify protection concerns and poverty going forward and is thus a crucial topic to be addressed.**

<sup>27</sup> The reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) was used to calculate the frequency and severity of strategies due to food shortages.

<sup>28</sup> WFP 2024. November Bulletin, Cameroon.

<sup>29</sup> Bishwajit and Yaya BMC Nutrition 2024. Uncovering the drivers of food insecurity in Cameroon: insights from a nationwide cross-sectional analysis. (The analysis draws on results from the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) in 2018 Cameroon Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS).

*It is important to both prevent loss of human capital (through supporting education and vocational training of youth) as well as support entry into the labour market. As the results showed, the education levels and school attendance are high and provide a robust foundation for further support to ensure that teenagers and young adults finish their secondary education and can access vocational or other trainings<sup>30</sup>. Such initiatives can be developed by the targeted Council based on the registration of IDPs that was launched in 2024<sup>31</sup> that can support targeting of youth for vocational training and employment initiatives. Such programs on training and funding for youth-led projects need to be accompanied by longer term mentorship as young entrepreneurs struggle to sustain their businesses<sup>32</sup>.*

#### 4. INCLUSION IN CIVIL REGISTRY

**Inclusion of IDP children in the civil registry:** 30% of IDP children under the age of five (as opposed to 14% non-displaced children), do not have a birth certificate, which is a crucial documentation for accessing services and later for obtaining a National Identity Card.

*Given the IDP registration efforts in the Councils captured by this study, and with the support of BUNEC, the households with young children who do not yet have Birth Certificates can be identified and supported to obtain the required personal documentation, thus ensuring they will not face challenges later. With the identification groundwork having been done through the registration, efforts to ensure inclusion in the civil registry is an immediately realisable goal.*

#### 5. EVIDENCE BASED PLANNING

**Monitoring of IDP integration by Council in order to retain an evidence-based planning and resource allocation:** The profiling results provide a robust evidence-base for each of the Councils, the regional and national government as well as other relevant stakeholders to inform priorities for advancing the local integration of IDPs in the West region of Cameroon. To ensure an evidence-based planning, coordination and resource allocation going forward, the provided baseline of the IDP situation should be monitored. The five Councils have already (under the same umbrella of the PESOP project) established registries of IDPs that allows them to target interventions. The same registration process can function as a monitoring tool to capture the situation of IDPs compared to this baseline and assess persisting gaps but also achievements.

*For such monitoring of the IDP situations to be possible, Council will need ongoing support and capacity building to keep the IDP registration up to date and ensure regular analysis of the database – on this the ongoing efforts need to be sustained. Monitoring insights can support both local level decision making and planning as well as contribute to national level monitoring of SDGs on the IDP segment of the population contributing to their visibility also at policy and planning level<sup>33</sup>.*

<sup>30</sup> A recent World Bank report also concludes that ‘while a growing share of youth [in urban contexts] are completing secondary and higher education, the demand for formal sector jobs far exceeds the supply. Based on the analysis, skills development and micro-entrepreneurship support interventions in urban areas would primarily benefit youth who are either inactive or unemployed as well as those engaged in low-skills, low-pay jobs in the informal sector’ (p29) in Botea, Ioana, Mitja Del Bono. 2022. A Tale of Two Countries: Labor Market Profiles of Youth in Urban and Rural Cameroon. World Bank, Washington, DC.

<sup>31</sup>As part of the PESOP project implemented in the West region, the five targeted Municipalities have put in place a registry of IDPs with basic demographic information, employment status, particular vulnerabilities and contact details. The registry aims to serve as a targeting tool for assistance, as well as to provide a basis for coordination of IDP targeted project to the Municipalities.

<sup>32</sup> Information shared during a consultation with technical experts from Dschang University the regional Employment Fund.

<sup>33</sup> Additionally, the registries can serve as an updated sampling frame to enable IDP inclusion in national surveys by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) and thus allow for monitoring of IDPs in the West region to be reflected in national statistics.

## 6. DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT TO ENSURE DISPLACEMENT SOLUTIONS

**Development support to the West region is needed to keep up its critical contribution to displacement solutions and the socio-economic inclusion of IDPs in its Councils:** It is relevant to view the situation of IDPs having fled into the West region, in comparison to not only their hosting non-displaced communities (as we have mainly done in this report), but also against the situation of IDPs that have remained in the Northwest and Southwest regions after being displaced. The situation in these crises affected regions is critical with the populations still facing the consequences of violence and insecurity. The IDPs that are rebuilding their lives in the West regions (whether this is for a longer or shorter term) are managing to retain to a larger extent a standard of living that is closer to that of the non-displaced: a positive example would be the fact that access to schools is equally high in both groups in the West, whereas school access in the Northwest and Southwest is significantly lower<sup>34</sup>. Significant challenges do remain, and these are often shared between IDPs and hosting

Councils, e.g. food insecurity, access to water and sanitation, youth inactivity. The extent to which these socio-economic challenges, faced by both IDPs and hosting communities, are addressed, will greatly impact the ongoing (and relatively successful) local integration of IDPs going forward as well as the social cohesion in these communities. The inclusion of IDPs in the hosting Councils carries inherent risks related to competition for resources and opportunities, as also illustrated by the shared vulnerabilities of IDPs and non-displaced.

*The efforts in the West region, as an IDP hosting region, need to be acknowledged and supported from a broader regional development lens, to ensure that the critical vulnerabilities (such as on food insecurity and youth inactivity as outlined above) are taken up and addressed from an area-based development perspective, but with an eye to the additional vulnerabilities that IDPs in particular face (we should not forget that food insecurity is significantly greater amongst displaced). Socio-economic inclusion of IDPs, social cohesion and broader development efforts go hand in hand.*



<sup>34</sup> The profiling results showed school attendance rates amongst both boys and girls – IDPs and non-displaced- above 95%. UNICEF results from the Northwest and Southwest regions (Joint Education Needs Assessment in 2024) showed that around 25% of school aged children are not attending school.

## PROFILING OBJECTIVES & COLLABORATIVE PROCESS

The profiling exercises in the Councils of Bafoussam I (Mifi), Dschang (Menoua), Foumban and Kouoptamo (Noun), as well as Mbouda (Bamboutos had two main objectives: i. Identify which specific vulnerabilities IDPs face and what obstacles they encounter to locally integrate; ii. Identify which challenges are faced by both IDPs and non-displaced residents, that are thus not specific to the displacement status and instead point to broader development needs.

The profiling exercises were shaped in a consultative and collaborative way, with the support and participation of municipal authorities, sectoral ministries (MIND-DEVEL, MINEPROFF, MINEFOP, MINPMEESA, MINJEC, MINJUSTICE, MINSANTE, MINMIDT, MINADER, MINAT), technical government entities (INS, BUCREP, BUNEC) as well as community representatives. All these stakeholders formed the Extended Piloting Committee which functioned as the key coordination structure for the profiling. The implementation of the profiling was led by UNHCR, GIZ, BUCREP, INS, and technically supported by JIPS.

**The Extended Committee played an advisory role throughout the process:** it helped define objectives, reviewed and approved tools and methods, supported the training and field operations, and participated in the analysis of the results. Specifically, a series of consultations and workshops took place, including: Council-level workshops on defining geographic and thematic scope (June 2024); Technical workshop with INS and BUCREP to review analysis tools and standards (March 2025); Council workshops to review and validate the preliminary results (May 2025).

## METHODOLOGY

**Analysis approach and target populations:** Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and non-displaced persons were captured in the profiling exercises. The approach was designed as a comparative analysis of the socio-economic situation of the displaced population against the non-displaced, across the key criteria outlined in the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs<sup>35</sup>. By identifying the key differences and commonalities in the situation of displaced and non-displaced, the analysis points to areas where IDPs fare worse and can be assumed to face vulnerabilities related to their displacement situation, while also highlighting shared challenges that point to development-linked problems<sup>36</sup>.

**Geographic scope:** The geographic scope of the profiling exercise was determined through a series of workshops conducted in each of the five target Councils. Each workshop included a mapping exercise using maps produced by BUCREP to identify neighborhoods (quarters/villages or ADMIN4) with high, medium, and low concentration of IDPs. This analysis was further refined drawing on knowledge of local community members (incl. imams, pastors, representatives of IDPs from PESoP local committees) and municipal actors.

**Thematic scope:** The profiling focused on the following criteria from the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions: safety, adequate standard of living (incl. access to services, food and housing), access to documentation, livelihoods, housing land and property (HLP), family reunification and participation in public life. Additionally, intentions for the future were also captured. These topics were discussed at the council level through preparatory workshops in order to ensure that relevant sub-topics were included. Subsequently, the identification of indicators per criteria ensured alignment with national standards of INS and BUCREP as well as international recommendations on IDP statistics and durable solutions analysis standards<sup>37</sup>.

<sup>35</sup> Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement (2010) IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs, April 2010.

<sup>36</sup> For more background on the durable solutions analysis approach see: UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs, JIPS, UNHCR, IOM, UNDP, DRC et al 2018. Durable Solutions Analysis Guide & Indicator Library.



<sup>37</sup> Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRIS) 2020. International Recommendation on IDP Statistics (IRIS).

**Sampling and identification of IDPs:** The sampling plan was carefully developed based on BUCREP’s cartographic database and the level of IDP presence estimated during council workshops. It was based on a stratified two-stage random sampling method. Stage one included random selection of neighbourhoods (enumeration areas) with medium or high IDP presence; subsequently a full listing of all households took place in each sampled enumeration area, during which households were categorized as displaced and non-displaced following a criteria-based identification module as per the recommendations by the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS)<sup>38</sup> and then jointly tailored to the

context with BUCREP and INS. The sample was then randomly selected from the listed households in each enumeration area.

The samples were weighted prior to analysis. The survey results from Bafoussam I, Dschang and Mbouda are representative of neighbourhoods with a medium or high concentration of IDPs and do not reflect the situation in areas with few or no IDPs, or the entire Council. The results from Kouoptamo and Fouban are representative of the whole Council.

**Table 3 :** Sample- households and individuals, collected and weighted

COUNCIL	IDP 				Non-Displaced 			
	Sampled Households	Sampled Individuals	Weighted Households	Weighted Individuals	Sampled Households	Sampled Individuals	Weighted Households	Weighted Individuals
Bafoussam I	288	1,099	3,680	14,412	248	1,687	15,956	84,988
Dschang	258	833	1,391	4,784	291	1,192	10,083	35,010
Fouban	227	846	2,181	7,857	298	1,819	26,811	136,465
Kouoptamo	236	837	1,451	5,275	301	1,528	12,360	50,496
Mbouda	265	1,061	1,127	4,522	274	1,711	5,450	26,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>4,676</b>	<b>9,831</b>	<b>36,851</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>7,937</b>	<b>70,661</b>	<b>333,543</b>

<sup>38</sup> EGRISS 2023. Towards a standardized approach to identify IDPs, refugees and related populations in household surveys. This publication outlines the recommended criteria-based identification of IDPs in surveys through a series of questions.

DURABLES SOLUTIONS CRITERIA	KEY INDICATORS INDICATING PROGRESS TO DURABLE SOLUTIONS					ACROSS
	DSCHANG	MBOUDA	BAFOUSSAM TIER	FOUJIBAN	KOUOPTAMO	
<b>Long-term safety and security</b> Households that report feeling safe/very safe when walking in the day - SDG indicator 16.1.4 Households having experienced a security incident the past 12 months Women who experienced Gender Based Violence or another form of violence the past 12 months Men who experienced Gender Based Violence or another form of violence the past 12 months	IDPs: 90% NON-DISPLACED: 88% 5%	IDPs: 79% NON-DISPLACED: 79% 11%	IDPs: 53% NON-DISPLACED: 59% 15%	IDPs: 76% NON-DISPLACED: 85% 12%	IDPs: 87% NON-DISPLACED: 87% 8%	IDPs: 71% NON-DISPLACED: 87% 12%
	0%	2%	11%	12%	7%	4%
	1%	0%	5%	0%	10%	6%
	1%	0%	5%	1%	1%	3%
	1%	0%	5%	1%	1%	3%
<b>Adequate standard of living / access to basic services (health, water, sanitation, education, housing etc.)</b> Households that needed to access health services in the past 6 months and faced challenges Births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives) - SDG indicator 3.1.2 Households accessing improved drinking water sources (likely to be protected from outside contamination) Households accessing improved drinking water sources, who do NOT share with other households - safely managed water sources - SDG 6.1.1 Households accessing improved sanitation facilities not shared with other HHs - SDG 6.2.1 Households accessing electricity SDG 7.1.1 Girls between 12 and 18 years of age who attend secondary school Frequentation de l'enseignement secondaire par les filles de 12-18 ans Men above 15 years of age who are literate (can read and write) - SDG indicator: 4.6.1 (a) Women above 15 years of age who are literate (can read and write) - SDG indicator: 4.6.1 (b) IDP households that have tenure security in their current housing (that is: have legal documentation, including land title, rental agreement etc.) - component of SDG 11.1.1 IDP households residing in sufficient living space (no more than 3 persons per room) - component of SDG 11.1.1	55% 96% 83% 7% 40% 100% 97% 94% 94% 56% 71%	65% 98% 87% 2% 19% 99% 98% 98% 84% 78% 35% 68%	65% 100% 80% 30% 32% 99% 100% 99% 85% 82% 37% 56%	71% 100% 87% 5% 11% 97% 93% 86% 90% 78% 16% 77%	58% 97% 86% 0% 2% 77% 100% 96% 76% 56% 27% 80%	66% 97% 88% 11% 23% 98% 98% 91% 91% 80% 34% 68%

**KEY INDICATORS INDICATING PROGRESS TO DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

DSCHANG

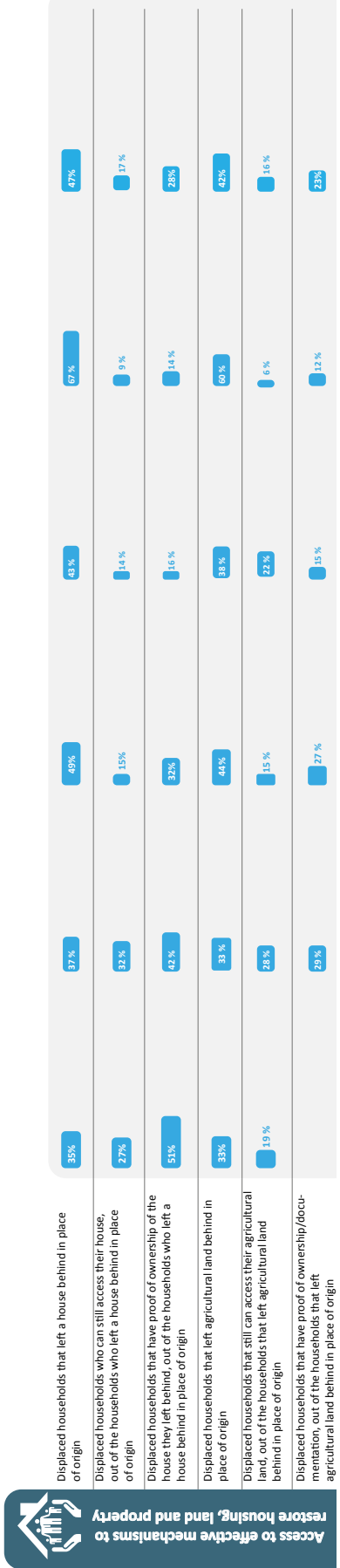
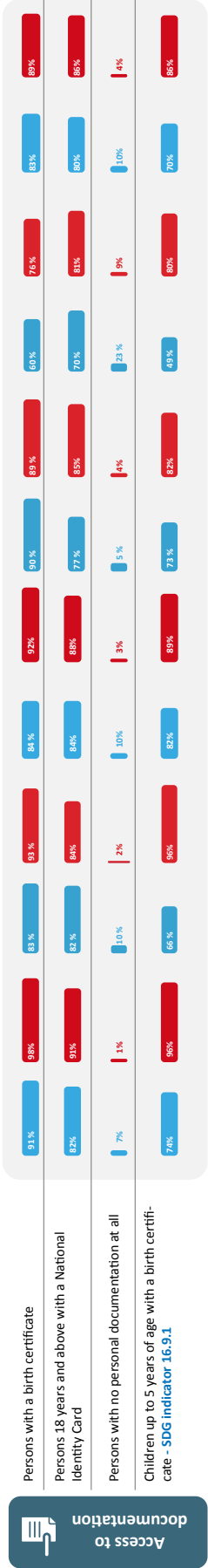
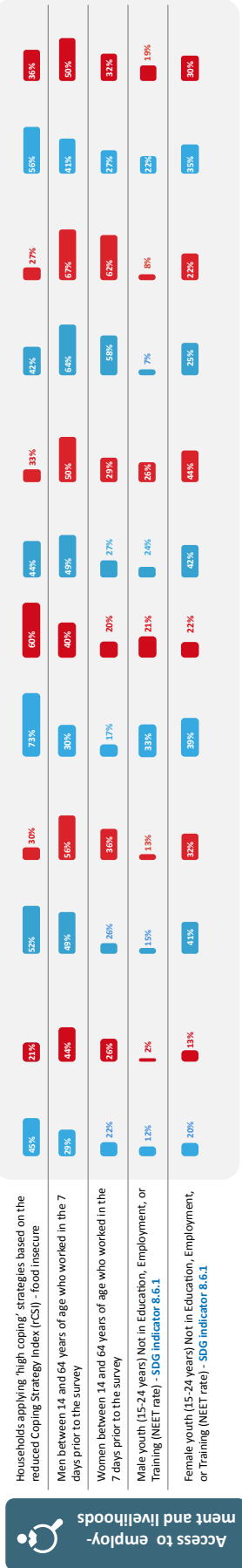
MBOUDA

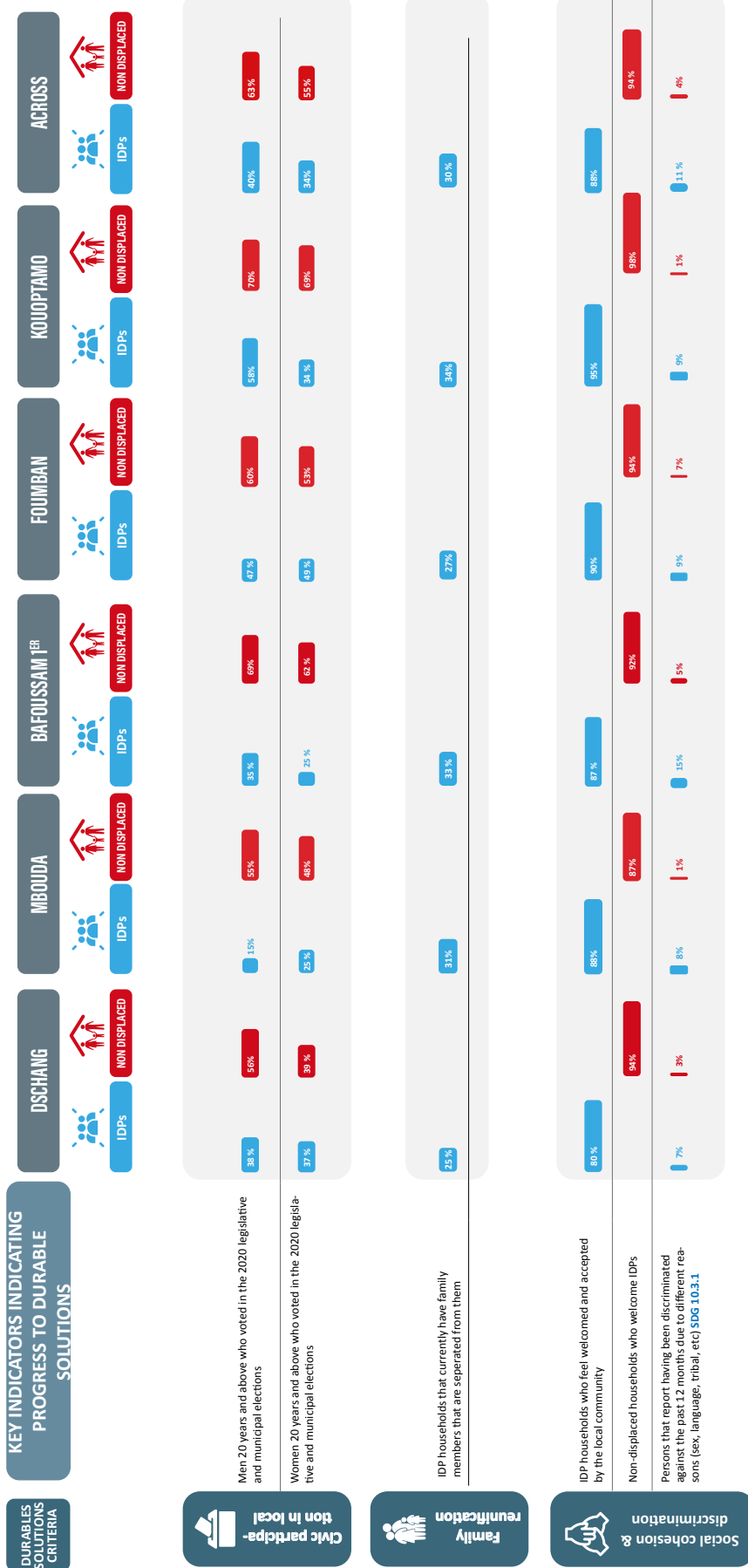
BAFOUSSAM 1<sup>ER</sup>

FOUJIBAN

KOUPTAMO

ACROSS





## PRESENTATION OF PARTNERS

This section highlights the essential contribution of the partners who played a key role in the successful implementation of this socio-economic profiling project. Their collaboration, expertise and dedicated support were essential to the successful implementation of the project and the conclusions presented in this report.

We express our sincere gratitude to all the institutions and individuals who contributed to this endeavor.

### GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

We warmly thank the following government institutions for their essential participation and support:



### TECHNICAL AND IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

We would like to extend our special thanks to our main technical and implementation partners for their leadership and expertise:



### FINANCIAL PARTNERS

This project was made possible thanks to the generous financial support of:

#### BMZ

### STRATEGIC PARTNERS

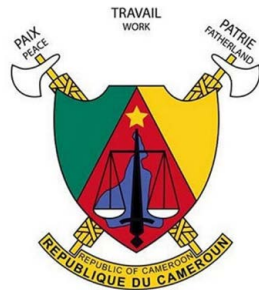
Our sincere appreciation to the following organizations for their valuable strategic collaboration:



### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the community stakeholders, whose commitment was essential to making this project a reality:

- Traditional and religious leaders;
- Representatives of IDPs;
- Representatives of host communities.



## MINDDEVEL



Commune créée en 1993  
Par Décret Présidentiel Numéro 93/321  
Du 25 Novembre 1993





**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency



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