





# National Institute of Statistics

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# A. Overview of the International Women's Day

It was at the beginning of the 20th century that the celebration of the Day took its origin in the workers' struggles and many demonstrations organized by women in the Western world, to demand better working conditions, the right to vote and equality between men and women.

"International Women's Day - IWD" was first proposed in 1910, at the International Conference of Socialist Women, by Clara Zetkin, with the aim of obtaining the right to vote for women. On March 19, 1911, International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time in Germany, Austria, Denmark and Switzerland, where more than a million women and men attended rallies.

In 1921, Lenin decided to establish an International Women's Day and set the date of March 8 for its celebration. This chosen day is an honor to the women who demonstrated on March 8, 1917 in St. Petersburg, during the outbreak of the Russian Revolution. From 1946, March 8 is celebrated in many eastern countries and tradition has it that every woman receives bouquets of flowers from their husbands, sons, grandsons, colleagues or male friends.

In 1977, the United Nations formalized International Women's Day and therefore invited all countries to celebrate this day.

In Cameroon, it was in 1985 that the government decided to join other countries in celebrating International Women's Day.

Today, March 8, is one of 140 international days recognized or initiated by the UN. Each year, various events are organized around the world to celebrate this Day under a theme defined by the United Nations.

## B. CELEBRATION OF THE IWD IN CAMEROON

The IWD is an opportunity for the international community in general, and for Cameroon in particular, to conduct a review of the problems facing women and girls. Better still, it makes it possible to assess the measures put in place to solve the problems and identify new ways to achieve gender equality as a requirement of governance, social justice and progress.

Each edition is organized around a major theme, decided by the United Nations or by States, because of their specificities and their economic realities. For 2021, the theme chosen by the UN is " Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19".

The themes of the previous six editions have focused on:

- 2015: Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in Cameroon: Review and prospects;
- 2016: Gender equality and women's empowerment: Winning the bet, overcoming the obstacles;
- 2017: Women in a changing world of work: planet 50-50 by 2030;
- 2018: Intensify the fight against discrimination on women: Strengthen partnership to speed up sustainable development;
- 2019: Crusade against gender inequality: keeping pace with the new impetus;
- 2020 : Promotion of equality and protection of women's rights by 2020: take stock of the actions carried out, set a new course.

The theme of the 36th edition of the IWD calls for greater protection of women's rights, the enhancement of their potential and their leadership, the integration of women in the formulation and implementation of policies and programs of fight against Covid-19 and its consequences. Because the health crisis has highlighted the paramount importance of the contribution of women and the disproportionate burden they carry. In addition to the persistence of social and systemic obstacles that hamper their participation and leadership, the pandemic has caused the increase in domestic violence, the increase in unpaid tasks and care, the slowdown in economic activities, especially in the sector. informal which is characterized by a lack of structure and extreme precariousness.

# C. Sub themes of the $36^{\text{th}}$ edition of the IWD

Several sub-themes have been selected by the United Nations in order to better understand the main theme.

hese include, among others:

- ✓ Leadership féminin ;
- ✓ Women's leadership;
- ✓ Women and decision-making;
- ✓ Women and political participation:
- ✓ Women and the fight against Covid-19;
- ✓ Fight against domestic violence;
- ✓ Economic empowerment of women and girls;
- ✓ Women and education in barrier measures;
- ✓ Women, ICT and the digital economy in the context of Covid-19;
- ✓ Women and decent jobs;
- ✓ Women, environment and climate change;
- ✓ Female entrepreneurship;
- ✓ Women and the informal economy;
- ✓ Women and Health;
- ✓ Gender and Sustainable Development Goals.

# D. OVERVIEW

**Tableau 1**: Main socio-economic indicators

GDP growth rate in (%)		4,2
Inflation rate in 2020 (%)		2.8
Income poverty line in 2014 (in FCFA)	339 715	
Average annual consumption expenditure per adult ed CFAFfrancs)	635 345	
Population structure in 2005 (3rd General Census of	49.4	
Population and Housing) (%)	Women	50.6
	Total	25 492 353
Total population projected in 2019	Men	12 609 255
	Women	12 883 098
	Total	54.3
Life expectancy at birth in 2011	Men	52.4
	Women	56.2
	Total	37.5
Population living below the poverty line in 2014 (%)	Urban	8.9
	Rural	56.8
Proportion of female heads of households in 2014 (%)		
Rank according to the Human Development Index (out 2019	t of 189 UN Member States) in	153th
Rank according to the Gender Inequality Index (out of 2019	189 UN Member States) in	141th
Proportion of self-employed women or domestic	Homme	69.81
workers in the non-agricultural informal sector in 2016	Femme	76.81

<u>Sources</u>: NIS; DHS-MICS, 2011; ECAM 4; Les comptes nationaux de 2018; Note de synthèse sur l'inflation au Cameroon 2018; MINSANTE, Projections démographiques et estimations des cibles prioritaires des différents programmes et interventions de santé, 2016; BUCREP, RGPH 3, 2005; UNDP-.2018 Human Development Report National Human Development Report, 2019 -CAMEROON-.

In 2019, Cameroon ranks 153rd out of 189 countries for the Human Development Index (HDI) according to the National Human Development Report 2020 (RNDH 2020) produced by the UNDP. Down two places compared to 2018. In addition, for the Gender Inequality Index (GII), Cameroon is ranked 140th. This reflects a slight deterioration of the situation over the 2019-2020 period. To tie in with the new impetus as targeted by the international community in 2021 in the context of Covid-19, it is imperative that the public authorities give pride of place to women in Cameroon in terms of reproductive health., empowerment and the labor market in order to reverse the observed trend of its ranking against the IIG on the global stage.

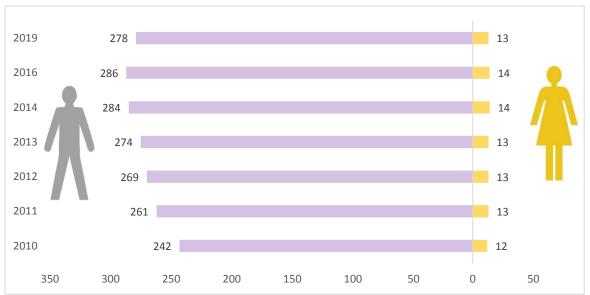
At the national level, greater efforts are necessary, in the pursuit of improving the living conditions of populations in general and, above all, to place particular emphasis on specific situations relating to women and men. the girl. In a context of a global pandemic due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19), efforts must be focused on the implementation of economic, health and social measures to enable households and particularly women and girls to be resilient and to be safe from the harmful consequences of the disease. Continue to put in place the most important barrier measures to prevent the spread of the virus; Intensify systematic screening operations and disinfection campaigns in public places; maintain and improve the distance education system for children; guarantee a sufficient supply of essential products, in particular food and pharmaceutical products, through permanent price controls and the suppression of speculative activities.

# A. ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTIONS CARRIED OUT

### E1. WOMEN AND POLITICS

#### • Political parties

Graph 1: Evolution of political party presidents from 2010 to 2019 by gender



<u>Sources</u>: MINATD: Report of the State of Cameroon on the 25th Anniversary of the Beijing Programme and Platform for Action (2014-2019)

Low progression of women as presidents of political parties in Cameroon. Over the last 10 years, the number of female political party presidents has not changed significantly; in fact, it moved from 12 in 2010 to 13 in 2020.

#### • Senate

**Table 2**: Representation of women in the Senate of Cameroon

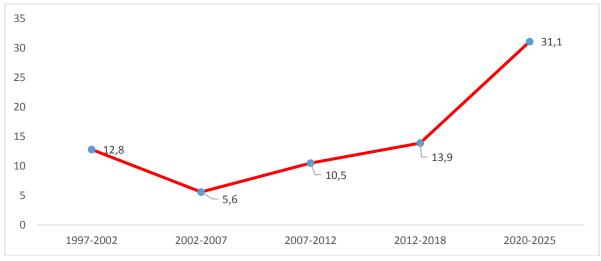
	Senators elected												Senators appointed					
Year	20	13	20	18	20	2013 2018				201	2018		2013		2018			
Region	,	Subst	antive	e		Alternate				Substantive			Alternate					
	F	Н	F	Н	F	Н	F	Н		F	Н	F	Н	F	Н	F	Н	
Adamawa	1	6	2	5	4	4	3	4		0	3	1	2	0	3	1	2	
Center	1	6	2	5	4	3	4	3		0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	
East	3	4	3	4	2	5	3	4		1	2	1	2	0	3	0	3	
Far-North	2	5	2	5	2	5	1	6		0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	
Littoral	2	5	3	4	5	2	4	3		0	3	0	3	1	2	1	2	
North	2	5	2	5	1	6	1	6		1	2	1	2	0	3	0	3	
North-West	1	6	1	6	3	4	5	2		0	3	1	2	1	2	0	3	
West	1	6	2	5	2	5	2	5		0	3	0	3	0	3	1	2	
South	3	4	2	5	3	4	4	3		1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	
South-West	2	5	2	5	3	4	2	5		0	3	0	3	1	2	1	2	
Total	18	52	21	49	29	41	29	41		3	27	5	25	4	26	5	25	

<u>Sources</u>: Cameroon Tribune n°10333/6534 du 30 avril 2013; Décret présidentiel n°2013/149 du 08 mai 2013 https://www.journalducameroun.com/resultats-senatoriales-2018-liste-complete-70-senateurs-elus/https://www.journalducameroun.com/cameroun-liste-30-sénateurs-nommés-paul-biya/

Low representation of women in the Senate of Cameroon. According to the results of the last Senate election, the number of women in the Senate has increased. This increased from 21 women for the 2013-2018 term to 26 women for the current term, i.e. 2018-2023, an increase of 23.8%. Of the 70 senators elected in 2018, 30% are women as against 25.7% in 2013. This shows that women are more involved in politics, but this proportion is still very low compared to that of men (70%). To reduce this gap and achieve gender balance in terms of Senate seats, women need to become more involved in politics.

#### • National Assembly

<u>Graph 2</u>: Proportion of seats held by women in the National Assembly



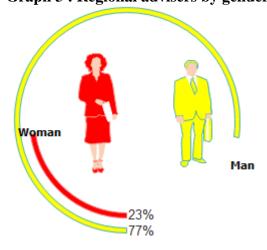
**Source: National Assembly** 

**Strong increase in the proportion of women in the National Assembly.** Over the last four legislatures, the proportion of seats held by women has steadily increased. Out of a total of 180 Members of Parliament, the number of women Members of Parliament has risen from 10 in the 1997-2002 legislature to 61 in the 2020-2025 legislature.

#### • Regional councils

Women present but under-represented in regional councils. At the end of the first election of regional councilors in 2020, less than 30% of women were registered. No woman has been elected as regional president.

Graph 3: Regional advisers by gender

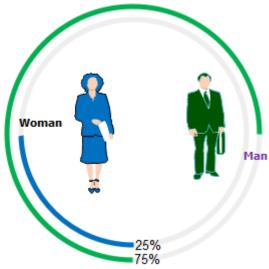


Source: MINDDEVEL

#### • Municipal council

Women are underrepresented at municipal roles. As in the regional council, there is an underrepresentation of women in the municipal councils. In fact, less than 30% of municipal councilors are women.

Graph 4: Municipal councilors by sex



Source: MINDDEVEL

#### • Municipal roles

<u>Table 3</u>: Duty positions held by women in councils between the 2007-2012, 2013-2019 and 2020-2025 municipal terms of office

Duty position	Number of positions	Number of positions held by women							
Duty position	Number of positions	2007-2012	2013-2019	2020-2025					
Mayor	360	22	29	39					
1st or 2nd Deputy Mayor	720	82	221	327					
Total	1080	104	250	366					

Source: MINATD, Statistical Yearbook 2013; MINDDEVEL

Increase in the number of women mayors, 29 out of 360. Between the 2013-2019 and 2020-2025 municipal terms of office, the number of women mayors increased significantly, from 29 to 39 women. The same is true of those holding the positions of 1st and 2nd Deputy Mayor, which rose from 221 to 327 women during this period.

#### • Ministerial Roles

Representation of women in the Government between 2010 and 2020. Since 2010, the number of women in the Government has been increasing slightly as a new Government is appointed. In the current Government, there are 7 women Ministers, namely: Minister of Social Affairs, Minister of Secondary Education, Minister of Housing and Urban Development, Minister delegate at the Presidency in charge of Supreme State Audit, Minister of Scientific Research and Innovation, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Minister of Women Empowerment and the Family; one women Minister delegate: Minister delegate to the Minister of Agriculture

and Rural Development in charge of Rural Development; and 3 women Secretary of State: Secretary of State at the Ministry of Basic Education, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development in charge of Housing. A total of 11 women out of 67, or 16.4%, hold ministerial positions. This proportion is very insignificant given the structure of the population, which is predominantly female.

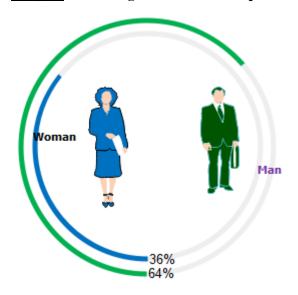
**Tableau 4**: Percentage of women in the public service

Fonction	2009/2010			2	2011/2014		2	2015/2016	j	2017/2020		
	Total	Female	% F	Total	Female	% F	Total	Female	% F	Total	Female	% F
Prime	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Minister												
Deputy	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Prime												
Minister												
Minister	3	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0
of State												
Minister	31	5	16.1	34	6	17.6	34	7	17.6	36	7	19.4
Minister	9	1	11.1	13	1	7.7	13	1	15.4	17	1	5.9
delegate <sup>1</sup>												
Secretary	6	1	16.6	10	2	20	10	3	20	9	3	33.3
of State												
Female	52	7	14	67	9	13.4	67	11	16.4	67	11	16.4
<sup>1</sup> Les minist	res char	gés de mis	ssion so	nt assin	nilés aux 1	ministre	es délég	ués				

Sources: Decree No. 2011/408 of December 9, 2011 to organise the Government, amended and supplemented by Decree No. 2018/190 of March 2, 2018; Decree No. 2011/409 of December 9, 2011 to appoint the Prime Minister, Head of Government; Decree No. 2015/434 of October 2, 2015 to reorganise the Government; Decree No. 2019/001 of January 4, 2019 to appoint the Prime Minister, Head of Government; Decree No. 2019/002 of January 4, 2019 to reorganise the Government.

### • Femmes dans la fonction publique

**Graph 5:** Percentage of women in the public service



**Source**: MINFI

Average representation of women in the public service in 2014, thirty-six out of 100. The number of male State employees is about twice that of women, regardless of category and profession.

• Women in positions of command (Governor, Senior Divisional Officer, Divisional Officer)

Tableau 5: Number of women Senior Divisional Officers and Divisional Officers

Year	2007	2011	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Gouvernor	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10
Divisional officer	0/58	0/58	1/58	1/58	1/58	2/58	2/58	2/58	2/58
Senior- Divisional officer	2/360	5/360	7/360	7/360	7/360	9/360	9/360	15/360	15/360

Sources: https://www.journalducameroun.com/lintegralite-nominations-prefets/Decree No. 2017/461 of September 4, 2017 to appoint Divisional Officers; DAG MINAT, march 2019, Decret N°2020/758 of 18 december 2020 to appoint Divisional Officer, Decret N°2020/759 of 18 december 2020 to appoint Divisional Officer.

#### Representation of women in positions of command

So far, no woman has yet been appointed to the head of any of Cameroon's 10 regions. In contrast, of the country's 58 divisions and 360 sub-divisions, 2 and 15, respectively, are headed by women. This represents only 3.44% for Senior Divisional Officers and 4.16% for Divisional Officers.

<u>Tableau 6</u>: Evolution de la proportion de chefs de ménage (%)

Milieu de	2007 20			2011			20	)13	2014		
résidence	Н	F	Н	F	Н	F	Н	F	Н	F	
Yaoundé/Douala	75.8	24.2	72.4	27.6	74.5	25.5	77.2	22.8	71.6	28.4	
Autres villes	74.0	26.0	72.6	27.4	71.5	28.5	73.4	26.6	69.3	30.7	
Urbain	74.6	25.4	72.5	27.5	72.7	27.3	75.3	24.7	70.7	29.3	
Rural	74.2	25.8	75.0	25.0	76.5	23.5	77.2	22.8	72.9	27.1	
Ensemble	74.4	25.6	74.0	26.0	74.5	25.5	76.1	23.9	71.9	28.1	

<u>Sources:</u> NIS, DHS III 2004; MICS 3, 2006; ECAM 3, 2007; EESI 2, 2010; DHS-MICS, 2011; EPC-MILDA, 2013 and ECAM 4, 2014

Between 2007 and 2014, many women were heads of households. Over this period, on average, one woman out of four was the head of a household, regardless of her area of residence.

#### F2. WOMEN AND HEALTH

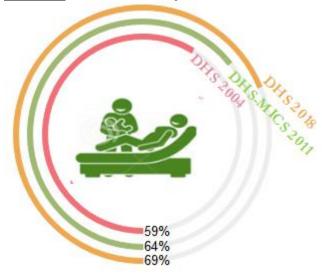
#### • Maternal health

Graph 6: Women who received antenatal care from a trained health care provider



Sources: NIS, DHS III,-2004; DHS-MICS 2011; DHS V, 2018

**Graph 7:** Births attended by trained health staff



Sources: NIS, DHS III,-2004; DHS-MICS 2011; DHS V, 2018

**Graph 8:** Births in a health facility

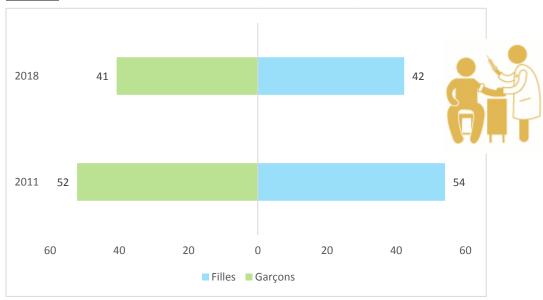


An improvement in the health coverage of maternal health. From the trends presented in the graphs above, there has been an overall improvement in maternal health care coverage from 2004 to 2018. Antenatal care coverage by a skilled health provider increased from 80% in 2004 to 87% in 2018. In the same period, there is also an increase in the percentage of births that took place in a health facility (59% in 2004 as against 67% in 2018) and percentage of births attended by a skilled health provider (59% in 2004 as against 69% in 2018).

Out of the women who had a birth in the 2 years before the survey, 59% had postnatal care during the first two days after delivery. This percentage is higher in urban areas (72%) than in rural areas (49%).

#### • Immunization coverage

The table below highlights Cameroon's significant decline in child immunization coverage. In the 12-23 months age group, there globally is a drop of more than 10 percentage points, from 53.2% in 2011 to 41.5% in 2018 of children having received all the appropriate vaccines for their age group. Among boys, the rate dropped from 52.2% in 2011 to 40.8% in 2018 and among girls, it dropped from 54.1% in 2011 to 42.3% in 2018.



**Graph 9**: Data on immunization coverage of children aged 12-23 months

Sources: NIS, DHS-MICS, 2011 et DHS V, 2018

Underweight



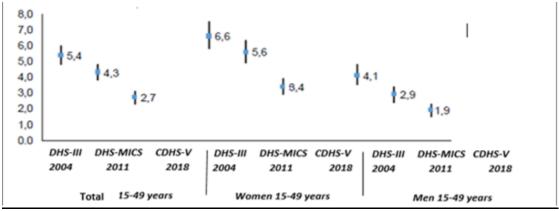
**Graph 10**: Trends in the prevalence of underweight children under 5 years

Sources: NIS, DHS III, 2004; MICS 3, 2006; DHS-MICS 2011; MICS 5, 2014 and DHS V, 2018

Decline in underweight prevalence among girls between 2004 and 2018. In 2018, 11% of children under 5 years were moderately underweight. Among girls, this indicator halved between 2004 and 2018, from 18.8% to 9.9%.

#### • HIV prevalence

**Graph 11:** Trend in HIV prevalence



Sources: NIS, DHS III, 2004; DHS-MICS, 2011; DHS V, 2018

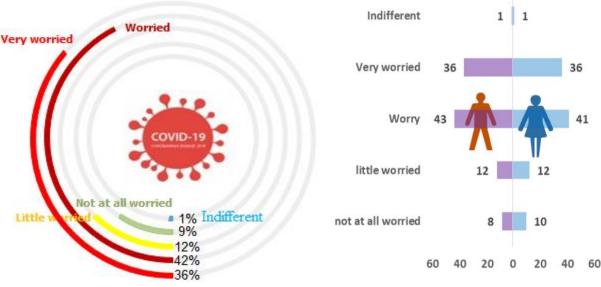
Decrease in the HIV prevalence rate among girls aged 15-24 between 2004 and 2018. With regard to HIV prevalence, the three most recent DHS surveys show an overall downward trend. HIV prevalence among women and men aged 15-49 decreased from 5.4% in 2004 to 4.3% in 2011 and reached 2.7% in 2018. This decrease in the level of HIV prevalence is observed in both men and women. Among men, HIV prevalence decreased from 4.1% in 2004 to 2.9% in 2011 and decreased to 1.9% in 2018. In the same period, this prevalence decreased from 6.6% to 5.6% and then to 3.4% among women.

#### E3. WOMEN AND TRAINING IN BARRIER MEASURES

• Women and knowledge of Covid-19 and its consequences

A worrying behavior to cope with Covid-19. All of the people surveyed are informed of the existence of this COVID-19 pandemic in Cameroon. Opinions converge; women are quite worried about this disease than men.

• Graph 12: Anxiety, about Covid-19 (% total and by gender)

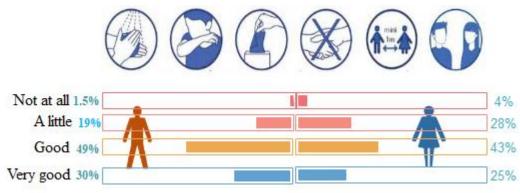


Source: NIS, EEESCC, 2020

• Women and knowledge of barrier measures to cope with the Covid-19

Nearly 7 out of ten women (68%) have a good knowledge of measures to combat Covid-19. We note that nearly three out of four households have a good knowledge of the government measures enacted to deal with the spread of Covid-19; however, women (57%) versus 51% of men say they are not familiar with these measures. However, on the whole, almost all (92.9%) feel concerned or very concerned by compliance with these measures.

<u>Graph 13</u>: Proportion of respondents according to the level of knowledge of government measures to respond to Covid-19 (en %)



Source: NIS, EEESCC, 2020

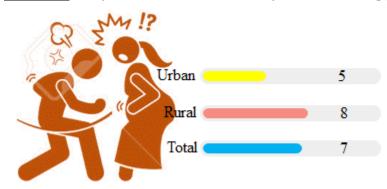
#### E4. WOMEN AND VIOLENCE

More women still suffer from domestic violence. The most recent data on violence against women show a phenomenon that is still very widespread in Cameroon. Almost half of women (45.5%) have experienced some form of violence at some point in their life.

#### Women and physical violence during pregnancy

A reality present in Cameroon with a percentage of 5% in 2018. Physical violence suffered by women while pregnant is more common in rural areas (8%) than in urban areas.

**Graph 14**: Physical violence suffered by women during pregnancy in 2018

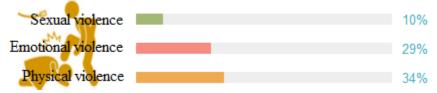


Sources: NIS, DHS-V, 2018

#### Women and domestic violence

Women continue to experience all types of domestic violence. Physical violence is the most common domestic violence (34%). Emotional (29%) and sexual (10%) violence are also frequent although to a lesser extent.

**Graph 15**: Types of domestic violence suffered (%) by women at any time

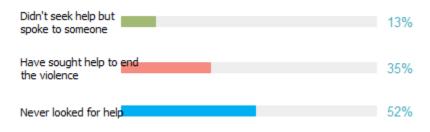


Source: NIS, EDS-V, 2018

#### Women and seeking help in the face of the violence suffered

Still timid looking for help. Among women who have experienced physical or sexual violence, just over half (52%) have never sought help to end the violence and have never told anyone about what happened to them; in 13% of the cases, the women did not seek help but spoke to someone, and only about a third of the women (35%) sought help to end the violence. The percentage who sought help was highest among those who had experienced violence, both physical and sexual (57% vs. 28% when the violence manifested in the physical form). only and 37% when it was sexual violence only).

**Graph 16:** Seeking help by women who have suffered all types of violence (%)

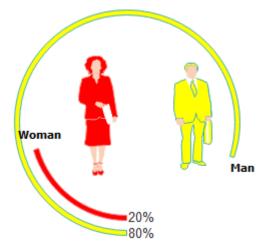


Source: NIS, EDS-V, 2018

#### E5. WOMEN AND EDUCATION

• Female teachers in State Universities in 2014

**Graph 17**: Percentage of female teachers in Public Universities



Source: MINESUP, 2014 Statistical Yearbook

Low proportion of female teachers in 2014. Male teachers represent on average about 4 times the proportion of female teachers for all grades and at all public universities. Globally, there are 846 female teachers per 4,20 male teachers, a sex ratio of 4.96 male per 1 female teacher.

#### • Women by grade in State Universities

<u>Tableau 7</u>: Percentage of women by grade in State Universities

Academic year	2007	7/2008	2008	/2009	2010/	/2011	2011/	2012	2012	/2013	2013/	2014
Grades	% of W	Т	% of W	Т	% of W	Т	% of W	Т	% of W	Т	% of W	Т
Professor	5.90	169	7.8	167	3.4	176	7	193	7	205	6.3	222
Associate Professor	7.70	298	10.4	326	8.3	360	13	440	13	469	11.2	547
Senior Lecturer	//	//	19.8	1315	24.3	140 4	19	1310	19	1433	19.1	157 4
Assistant Lecturer	23.1	899	//	//	19.4	123 0	26	2039	26	2171	23.1	181 3
Teaching and Research Associate	33.3	165	//	//	//	//	23	99	23	110	//	//
Total	19.3	1553	//	//	19.0	317 0	21.0	4081	21.0	4382	20.1	420 2

Source: MINESUP, 2014 Statistical Yearbook

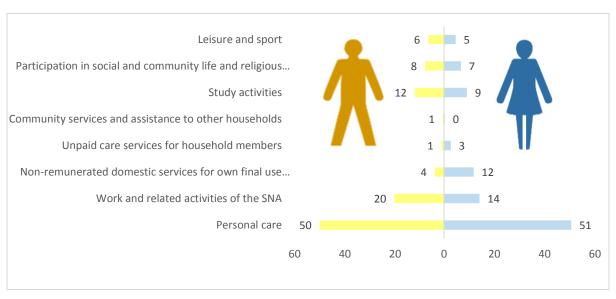
Very few women have senior grades in State Universities. In the year 2013/2014, 20% of the teaching staff in universities were women. It can be observed that the higher the grade, the lower the proportion of women. In 2007/2008, for example, the proportion of women ranged from 33.3% for the grade of Teaching and Research Associate to 5.9% for that of Professor.

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#### E6. WOMEN AND SCHEDULE

#### • Temporal organisation by sex

**Graph 18: Distribution (%) of time on a typical day for men and women** 



Source: NIS, ECAM 4, 2014

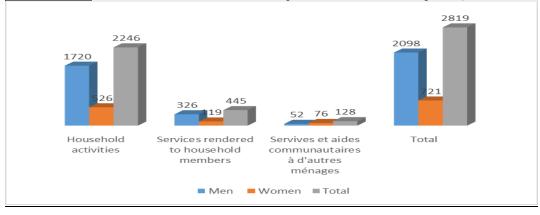
Activities of the System of National Accounts. By gender, men (1%) spend less time on unpaid household members than women (3%). In contrast, all of them spend almost half a typical day on maintenance and personal care (graph 18).

#### Estimated monetary value of productive activities not taken into account in GDP

The monetary value of unpaid work was estimated according to each productive activity outside the SNA. The hourly wages used for this valuation are those used for the remuneration of staff who usually carry out similar activities in households (See Report on the analysis of the main results of the time use survey in Cameroon in 2014).

The total value of non-SNA productive activities is estimated at 2,819 billion CFA francs (graph 19). Most of this production not included in the GDP is produced by women. With 2,098 billion, they account for 74.4% of this category of activity.

Graphique 19: Estimated value of non-SNA productive activities by sex (in billion CFA francs



Source: NIS, ECAM4, 2014

#### E7. WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The second General Business Census (GBS-2) carried out in 2016 shows that the proportion of women among business promoters is 37.5%. We also note that the proportion of business promoters is less than 50%, regardless of the type of business considered. However, women are relatively more represented in VSEs (38.5%), PE (33.5%) and ME (34.0%) compared to GE (11.4%).

#### • Performance of female entrepreneurship

**7***uniouer* ....6.3% of companies promoted by women achieved a turnover higher than the national average turnover, against 7.8% for men (graph 19).

Primary 6 6,5

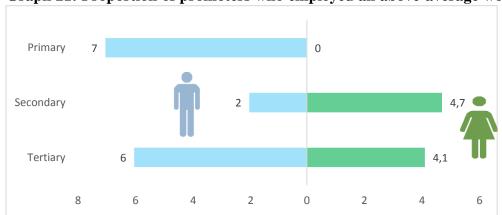
Secondary 5 3,9 6,8

Tertiary 8 6,8

Graph 20: Proportion of promoters with higher than average turnover in 2016

Source: NIS, GBS 2016

**7**he number of employees .... Overall, 4.2% of companies promoted by women employ a workforce above the national average against 6.1% for men.



Graph 21: Proportion of promoters who employed an above-average workforce in 2016

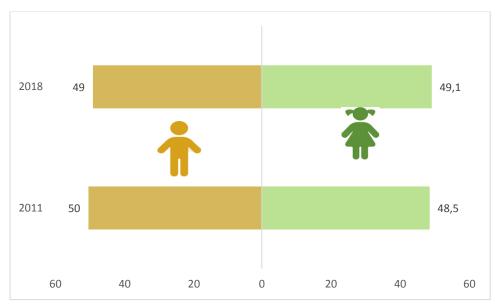
Source: NIS, GBS 2016

#### E8. WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' RIGHT

Acceptance of the rights of women and girls must go through the signing and ratification of relevant international instruments. As a result, Cameroon has signed and ratified some of the global actions, conventions, charters, declarations and resolutions below relating to the rights of women and girls.

• Registration of children under 5 years with a civil status registration authority

**Graph 22**: Percentage of children under 5 years with a birth certificate



**Sources**: NIS, DHS-MICS, 2011 and DHS 2018

There was an upward trend in obtaining birth certificates among children under 5 between 2011 and 2014. There was also a relative balance between girls and boys in 2014.

**Table 8**: Conventions on the rights of women and the girl child

N°	Convention	Date of ratification
1	Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)	10/12/1948
	Convention No. 45 on underground work (women), 1935	03/09/1962
3	Maternity Protection Convention No. 3, 1919	25/05/1970
4	Convention No. 49 on Night Work by Women (Revised), 1948	25/05/1970
5	Convention on Night Work of Children in Industries (Revised), 1948	25/05/1970
6	Convention No. 100 on Equal Remuneration, 1951	25/05/1970
7	Convention on the nationality of married women, 1958	//
8	Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age and Registration of Marriages, 1964	//
9	Global action for the participation of women in sustainable and equitable development (Agenda 21, chapter 24)	//
10	Maternity Protection Convention No. 103 (revised), 1952	//
11	Convention on the Political Rights of Women, 1954	//
12	United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women adopted in 1979 and entered into force in 1981	1993
13	Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1990	10/02/1993
14	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) adopted in 1979 and entered into force in 1981	23/08/1994
15	Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, No. 182, 1999	05/06/2002
16	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEAFDW)	2009
17	African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance adopted in 2007 and entered into force in 2012	2010
18	Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women (Maputo Protocol), 2003	28/05/2010
19	Resolution A / C.3 / 67/21 / Rev. on the elimination of female genital mutilation	2012

Source: MINPROFF

Of the 19 global actions, conventions, charters, declarations and resolutions relating to the rights of women and the girl child, Cameroon has already signed and ratified 14. The other five that remain unratified are, however, fundamental for the development of women and girls in social life. These include, among others: the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women, 1958, the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age and Registration of Marriages, the Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952, the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, 1954, etc. Most of these conventions date from before Cameroon's independence. It is therefore important for Cameroon to sign and ratify these conventions.

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