


# RELESS: THE LOCAL NETWORK OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

The systemic structuring undertaken  
in Cameroon by the NGO PFAC  
Since 2008

- ▶ For a territorial anchoring of the social and solidarity economy (SSE)
  - ▶ Choosing the cooperative as a locally rooted collective enterprise
  - ▶ Rebuilding truly dynamic cooperative movements
  - ▶ Creating inclusive dynamics to drive harmonious local development
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# THE SYSTEMATIC STRUCTURING OF ESS IN CAMEROON – THE CONCEPT

- ▶ it is the Local Social and Solidarity Economy dynamic in Cameroon it represents the base of the SSE
- ▶ . As a prominent private local organization with the status of an association, RELESS welcomes all local SSE entities, including associations, foundations, mutual societies, and cooperative societies.
- ▶ Local enterprises can also join RELESS and participate as members under the cooperative principle of "one person, one vote."

## LE RELESS (local network of SSE)

### 1. a place to facilitate cohesion and inclusion

- It could also be a local cooperative network recognized by the pan-African law (OHADA) on cooperative societies.
- It provides a framework for dialogue between structured communities and local officials.
- It creates an inclusive environment where the development of local potential is effectively realized.
- It enables the mobilization and enhancement of endogenous potential.
- It allows for better support of local stakeholders.
- It raises the profile of local socioeconomic potential.
- It generates activity and employment within the territory.
- The project involves establishing a Local Economic and Social Network (RELESS) in each municipality.

## PART TWO: RELESS AND DECENT, SUSTAINABLE JOBS

### 3. Jobs to be created at all levels of the organization

*Once structured within a Local Solidarity Economy Network (RELESS), the avenues for creating decent and sustainable activities and jobs are numerous:*

*\* In supporting stakeholders: these needs are estimated at over fifty young people per locality requiring ongoing support. These young people create their businesses and ensure their sustainability through the consolidation of the supported structures. They will build a credible network of clients, able to pay for their services.*

*Through the local cooperatives of services: they ensure logistical needs are met during the organization of cooperative markets in the localities (collection, transport, handling, storage, marketing, etc.).*

*Through services to local stakeholders who are members of the cooperatives, they offer opportunities for multi-sectoral professional development: agricultural practices, from land clearing to harvesting, health services, housing, culture, ecotourism, etc.*

## DEUXIEME PARTIE : la coopérative de services

a tool for local revitalization, attracting and retaining young people

*- This momentum requires ongoing support.\**


*These activities keep young people engaged in the community.*

*The proliferation of activities and jobs through cooperatives allows for massive youth involvement and the revitalization of social and solidarity economy (SSE) areas.*

*This dynamism also makes these communities more attractive and encourages the return of those who left due to a lack of vitality.*

*Organizing cooperative markets shortens distribution channels, reducing the impact of intermediaries and ensuring fair prices for goods.*

# THE METHOD FOR SETTING UP A RELESS

- ▶ Awareness-raising
  - ▶ Training (at various levels)
  - ▶ Structuring
  - ▶ Ongoing support
  - ▶ Continuous lobbying
  - ▶ Ongoing monitoring and evaluation
  - ▶ Equipping RELESS
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# CONCLUSION

OBJECTIVE: 360 RELESS (ONE IN EACH MUNICIPALITY) CURRENTLY: 298 RELESS ESTABLISHED

\* 364 YOUNG PEOPLE TRAINED IN COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND STRUCTURING

\* SINCE THE FIRST EDITION OF FORAESS CONFERENCE, AROUND TWENTY AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE ADOPTING THE MODEL