

**Nkafu Policy Institute hosts Think Tank Week to strengthen Central Africa's Policy Ecosystem**

Page 5

# The Horizon

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# Minim-Martap Bauxite mining project takes off at last!

Page 4



Minister Fuh Callistus Gentry, flanked by dignitaries, at launch of project last Tuesday in Martap

## Ekpor, Esongbenchang, Upper Banyang, Manyu Division: 2 chiefs, 1 throne!

Non-Royal, Professor Mbu Robinson Enow decreed new chief, but Nformem Royal families stage walkout; crown Besong Ashu Charles as own Chief

Page 10

## End of CPDM cult is God-ordained – English Cameroon for a united Cameroon

Page 11

Transparent Elections:

## ELECAM and Parties must jointly review voter registers

Read compelling Op-ed by Dr Bernard Ngalim on Page 10

Bar elections:

## Anglophones 'seize power' the ungentlemanly way!

Win both General Assembly President and Batonnier jobs to disillusionment of Francophone peers

Page 8

## Sen. Nfon Mukete IV Ekoko on the podium again!

Page 2



Kumba royal with CENPA award

St. Mary's University Institute:

## Baby born with teeth!

Page 2



Imposing SMUI building

October 12 Presidential Election:

## ELECAM adopts plan of action as Akere Muna deposits file

Page 4

# Nkafu Policy Institute hosts Think Tank Week to strengthen Central Africa's Policy Ecosystem



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This initiative brings a three-tier approach to leadership development, integrating youth empowerment, executive training, and high-level policy dialogue into a cohesive experience. The program recognises that effective policy change requires investment across all levels of leadership - from emerging voices to experienced institutional leaders.

Kicking off the Think Tank Week is the Emerging Leaders Program (August 4-6), where 20 carefully selected young Cameroonians will participate in intensive leadership training focused on "Driving Impact." Participants will develop skills in strategic communication, policy analysis, and community mobilisation while building professional networks that extend beyond the program.

Running concurrently, the Executive and Strategic Leadership Program (August 5-6) addresses practical challenges facing organisational leaders in today's complex environment. Twenty-five think tank and civil society executives from across Central Africa will engage in specialised training on crisis management, sustainable funding strategies, and adaptive leadership necessary for effective operations.

Concluding the week is the third edition of the Central Africa Think Tank Forum (August 7-8), bringing together over 150 participants in focused dialogue on "Shaping the Future: Role of Think Tanks and Civil Society in Central Africa Policy Processes." This forum creates opportunities for evidence-based policy development while strengthening partnerships between civil society, government, and international development partners.

The integrated design ensures that insights and relationships developed during the earlier programs inform the broader regional dialogue, while emerging leaders gain exposure to high-level policy discussions typically

reserved for senior practitioners.

This initiative reflects the Nkafu Policy Institute's commitment to developing practical solutions to governance challenges while building sustainable institutions capable of supporting long-term democratic and economic progress.

All programming takes place at the Djeuga Palace Hotel in Yaoundé, providing an environment for intensive learning, strategic networking, and collaborative problem-solving across generations and sectors.

## About the Nkafu Policy Institute

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## East region:

# 2025 World Cooperative Day focuses on the promotion of durable agriculture

By Chi Sébastien in Bertoua



ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo



Groupe picture on World Cooperative Day

Cooperatives in the East region of Cameroon have been called upon to practise durable and sustainable agriculture in order to guarantee better life for the present and future generations.

The call was made by Salomon Endom, East Regional Delegate of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) on the occasion of the World Cooperative Day celebrated on the 5th of July 2025 under the theme "Promoting inclusive and durable solutions for a better world".

Speaking at the ceremony that brought hundreds of cooperatives in Bertoua, chief town of the East region, Salomon Endom argued that the creation of richness through agriculture should be done while strictly protecting the environment.

"If you cut down trees or burn the soil while creating your farms, you will in turn and in the near future lack water for your plants because you would have destroyed the ecosystem. This will in the long run lead to poor harvest and hunger", he said. On the other hand, the regional delegate hailed the inclusive nature of existing cooperatives in the East region, comprising refugees, host populations, men, women and handicapped persons created by the International Labour Organization (ILO).

For his part and through a broadcast message, ILO Director-General, Gilbert F. Houngbo, highlighted the vital role cooperatives play in advancing social justice, decent work, and economic resilience.

"Today, we mark the 103rd International Cooperative Day and the 31st UN International Day of Cooperatives, during the Second UN International Day of Cooperatives".

Cooperatives, he went on, are at the heart of the social and solidarity economy.

Guided by their principles, they deliver sustainable solutions across sectors and regions for productive employment, decent work, social inclusion, and economic resilience.

More so, in times of crisis, they step up to meet the needs of workers, members, and communities, playing a counter cyclical role.

"We are living in a time of deep transition. As the world prepares for the second World Summit for Social Development and reimagines multilaterals, one thing is clear: institutions may change, but the values that guide us - solidarity, democracy, and shared prosperity - must endure".

He completed his address by emphasizing that "Cooperatives embody these values, offering proven pathways to just transitions, innovative approaches to formalization, and collective solutions in the care, the digital and the rural economies.

Through global initiatives, such as the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy, and the Global Coalition for Social Justice, continue to underscore their global relevance".

It will be recalled that the World Cooperative Day is an initiative of the United Nations Organization since 1992 with the aim of promoting the contributions of this form of business organization for a just and human world.

According to Gilles Njiké, the ILO-KOICA project chief, component 2 of the project entitled "Empowering women for resilient economies and peaceful communities in the refugee-affected regions of the East and Adamawa regions in Cameroon", initiated by ILO and financed by the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), is aimed at helping refugees and internally displaced persons, create durable enterprises and cooperative movements to improve on their livelihoods. Since its inception in 2021, hundreds of cooperatives have been created in the East and Adamawa regions and their members trained in business management and equipped to improve the production and transformation of maize, cassava and chicken.

## Social dialogue in Cameroon:

# Situation of foreign workers under discussion

Culled from The Observer007

The work of the 25th session of the National Advisory Labour Commission (Commission nationale consultative du Travail, CNCT) was held at the Ministry of Labour and Social Security in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

According to the report of the National Advisory Labour Commission (CNCT), information indicates that sixty thousand foreigners hold entry or residence permits on the national territory, with more than half of them in an irregular situation with regard to the legislation and regulations in force concerning the employment of foreign nationals. The CNCT is addressing the issue as it is one of the legal professional bodies established within the Ministry responsible for labour issues by the law of 14 August 1992 on the Labour Code. The mandate of the National Advisory Labour Commission consists, among other things, of issuing opinions and reformulating proposals on labour legislation and regulations to be applied in matters where this opinion is required. The aim is to better structure the labour market by protecting existing local skills while attracting the best foreign talent in a logic of technology transfer and economic profitability objective. It goes without saying that such an objective requires that the legal framework and visa application procedures are not only clarified but, above all, harmonized," says the Minister of Labour and Social Security, Gregoire Owona, who is also the chairman of the Commission.

During the work of 9 July, of the 25th session of the CNCT, which was held at the Ministry of Labour and



Social Security in Yaoundé, the members assessed the economy of 3 draft texts, including: the draft decree setting out the procedures for obtaining visas for employment contracts and the conditions of employment of foreign workers in Cameroon.

The members also addressed issues focusing on the preliminary draft law establishing the general framework for social security mutuals. This aims to establish a framework of social protection that is complementary to the existing one, in order to guarantee better living conditions for members and their dependents. The major challenge lies in setting up the instruments and other levers to modernise public policies on mutuals so that they respond effectively to social challenges in an established legal security.

The draft order setting out the procedures for elections and the conditions for exercising the functions of staff representatives aims to draw the best advantages from the new information and communication technologies. The draft texts submitted for discussion aim to better assign public policies in the area of social security and to regulate the obtaining of work on the one hand, and to meet the multiple expectations of social partners on the other.

## Nkafu Policy Institute Hosts Think Tank Week to Tackle Leadership Gaps in Central Africa

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## Road Transport Sector:

## Stakeholders Launch Platform To Combat Document Fraud

Story, Henry Wanna

Stakeholders in the road transport sector have launched a platform known as RF-eTrust launch, to combat document fraud. This was the focus of a workshop in Douala recently.

Road Fund Administrator, Aubin Essafe Moussa, chaired the workshop. This was alongside a cream of administrative authorities including Dr. Roger Njitchoua, Second Deputy City Mayor of Douala, and Jean Bernard Ndong Ngo Third Assistant Senior Divisional Officer, SDO of Wouri Division.

According to Moussa, RF-eTrust marks a pivotal moment in the digitization of administrative procedures, a core objective of Cameroon's National Development Strategy 2020-2030 (SND30).

He said the platform was developed in collaboration with a specialized consultant.

"This means that managers responsible for monitoring project execution, when issuing statements, have the ability, regardless of their location, to send authentication from their phone or computer to the Road Fund," Moussa stated.

The capability, he said, effectively eliminates the cumbersome back-and-forth and lengthy response times previously associated with document verification.

He added that, the modernization initiative aligns perfectly with the SND30 vision, which champions the improvement of public administration efficiency through digital solutions, biometrics, digital archiving, and streamlined procedures.



Moussa noted that RF-eTrust was successfully piloted in 2023 with the Ministry of Transport, demonstrating its effectiveness.

He recalled that, the Road Fund's mandate includes; ensuring timely payments to companies and verifying the authenticity of submitted statements.

The RF-eTrust platform, he also explained, significantly reduces authentication times to guarantee the authenticity and integrity of sensitive documents, and ultimately strengthens trust with partners.

He also said the Douala workshop was to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to fully leverage electronic certificates and the

RF-eTrust platform.

Attendees received comprehensive overview of RF-eTrust, followed by a hands-on session.

By embracing RF-eTrust, the Road Fund is sending a clear message that, their glory days are over. "The future of our road infrastructure depends on it," Moussa noted.

Some 21 persons were as managers during the workshop. Officials said, they have been armed with a powerful tool that, when properly mastered could revolutionize road project management across Cameroon.



# Nkafu Policy Institute accueille le Forum des think tanks

**Durant 5 jours à Yaoundé, le think tank de la fondation Denis et Lenera Foretia, va accueillir des pairs venus de la sous-région**

Le but ultime de cette rencontre est de renforcer l'écosystème politique de l'Afrique centrale. Cet événement qui se tiendra à Djeuga palace hôtel de Yaoundé, réunira les leaders émergents, les cadres chevronnés, les décideurs politiques pour un renforcement de capacités... Cette initiative propose une approche à trois niveaux du développement du leadership, intégrant l'autonomisation des jeunes, la formation des cadres et le dialogue politique de haut niveau dans une expérience cohésive. Le programme reconnaît le fait qu'un changement de politiques efficace requiert de l'investissement à tous les niveaux de leadership - des voix émergentes en passant par les leaders expérimentés des institutions. La semaine des Think tanks débutera par le programme des Leaders émergents (4-6 août), avec la participation de 20 jeunes camerounais soigneusement sélectionnés pour une formation intensive en leadership, sous le thème : « *Créer de l'impact* ».

Les participants acquerront des compétences en matière de communication stratégique, d'analyse de politiques, et de mobilisation de la communauté, tout en créant des réseaux professionnels qui s'étendront au-delà du programme. Parallèlement se tiendra le programme de Leadership exécutif et stratégique (du 5 au 6 août) qui a pour objectif de mettre en lumière les défis auxquels font face les leaders d'organisations dans un environnement complexe. Vingt-cinq cadres de Think tanks et de la société civile de toute l'Afrique centrale participeront à une formation spécialisée sur la gestion de crise, les stratégies de financement durable et le leadership adaptatif nécessaires à des opé-



rations efficaces. Pour clôturer la semaine, se tiendra la troisième édition du Forum des Think tanks d'Afrique centrale (7 et 8 août). Elle réunira plus de 150 participants pour un dialogue ciblé sous le thème « *Façonner l'avenir* » : le rôle des Think tanks et de la société civile dans les processus politiques en Afrique centrale.

### Élaborer des politiques fondées sur des données probantes

Ce forum offre la possibilité d'élaborer des politiques fondées sur des données probantes tout en renforçant les partenariats entre la société civile, le gouvernement et les partenaires internationaux du développement. La conception intégrée garantit que les idées et les relations développées au cours des programmes précédents alimentent le dialogue régional plus large, tandis que les leaders émergents sont exposés à des discussions politiques de haut niveau généralement réservées aux praticiens chevronnés. Cette initiative reflète par ailleurs l'engagement du Nkafu

Policy Institute à développer des solutions pratiques aux défis de la gouvernance tout en construisant des institutions durables capables de soutenir le progrès démocratique et économique à long terme. Tous les programmes se déroulent à l'hôtel Djeuga Palace à Yaoundé, offrant un environnement propice à l'apprentissage, au réseautage stratégique et à la résolution collaborative de problèmes entre les générations et les secteurs.

Le Nkafu Policy Institute est un Think tank indépendant et non partisan de la Fondation Denis & Lenera Foretia à Yaoundé au Cameroun. Sa mission est de fournir des recommandations de politiques indépendantes, approfondies et perspicaces qui font progresser l'économie camerounaise et les économies d'autres pays d'Afrique subsaharienne. Le Nkafu s'efforce de faire progresser les politiques publiques qui aident tous les Africains à prospérer dans des économies libres, équitables et durables. À propos de la Fondation Denis & Lenera Foretia La Fondation Denis et

Lenera Foretia a été créé pour catalyser la transformation économique de l'Afrique en se concentrant sur l'entrepreneuriat social, l'innovation scientifique et technologique, la santé publique et les politiques progressistes qui créent des opportunités économiques pour tous. La Fondation travaille en partenariat avec les gouvernements locaux, les décideurs politiques, les entreprises privées, les organisations de la société civile et les partenaires de développement pour accroître les ressources disponibles aux entrepreneurs, agriculteurs et propriétaires de petites entreprises, tout en améliorant les conditions de vie de chaque individu. La Fondation Denis et Lenera Foretia est une organisation caritative à but non lucratif subventionnée par des dons et le soutien du Conseil d'administration. La Fondation est dotée du statut consultatif auprès du Conseil économique et social des Nations unies (Ecosoc).

Léopold DASSI NDJIDJOU

## Colloque international de l'Esig

# Pour une endogénéisation d'une stratégie africaine

**Au cours de ce conclave, la question de la réflexion pour que l'Afrique s'approprie une stratégie spécifique était au cœur des préoccupations. Révélation a été faite ce 17 juillet 2025 à la fin du colloque.**

À l'amphithéâtre de l'Ecole supérieure internationale de guerre (Esig) de Yaoundé, s'est tenue la phase protocolaire de clôture de trois jours de réflexion stratégiques sous la présidence de Yves Landry Galax Etoga, le Secrétaire d'Etat à la Défense (Sed) chargé de la gendarmerie, représentant du ministre délégué à la présidence de la République chargé de la Défense (Mindef). En mettant un terme au colloque qu'il avait ouvert deux jours plus tôt, le patron de la gendarmerie a mis l'accent sur cet aspect des choses. « *Il était donc vital, que nous mentionnions une réflexion en profondeur, sur l'organisation de l'appareillage sécuritaire africain et la révision de leur doctrine d'emploi avec les adaptations permanentes qui vont avec, se conçoit comme un impératif catégorique* », a lancé le Sed aux 60 officiers qui seront brevetés dans quelques jours et à l'assistance triée sur le volet. Il a enchaîné en indiquant que la voie est désormais celle de l'action. Le colloque doit être un point de bascule pour mettre en place le mécanisme pour que le Cameroun et l'Afrique s'approprient une stratégie basée sur leurs réalités environnementales et autres ressources. Il a terminé en précisant que l'action doit suivre immédiatement le colloque.

« *L'endogénéité aura occupé les esprits. Comment peut-on être endogène aujourd'hui en Afrique ? Embarqué qu'on est dans le temps militaire mondial ?* », s'est inter-



rogé le professeur Alain Didier Olinga, le président du Comité scientifique du colloque à l'heure de la compilation des travaux. Des quatre panels, tous sont revenus sur cette nécessité d'une stratégie africaine tout en précisant tout de même que la stratégie est avant tout nationale et s'appuie sur les spécificités environnementales. Il a ajouté que l'Esig a assis sa notoriété comme centre de capacitation stratégique africaine et qu'il est aujourd'hui unanimement reconnu que le breveté de l'Esig n'était en rien complexe face aux autres brevets du monde. Il a pourtant nuancé en soulignant que « *cette capacité doit être maintenue, renforcée et consolidée par une adaptation des programmes et des méthodes pédagogiques* ». Pour terminer, il a insisté sur la nécessité de la

création au sein de l'Esig d'un centre de recherches et d'études stratégiques disposant de chercheurs permanents. Cela ferait de cette institution « *l'incubateur actif d'une doctrine stratégique camerounaise et africaine garant d'une stabilité durable et sécurisée des Etats africains* ».

### Production d'un système théorique africain

Dans la même veine, le général de brigade Nka Valère, le commandant de l'Esig a déclaré qu'il faut tracer le parallèle entre le rendu académique de l'Esig et la production d'un système théorique africain face à la considération actuelle des menaces et des crises qui secouent le continent. En d'autres termes, en considérant les secousses géopolitiques et les nou-

velles formes d'agressions qui placent la sécurité et la stabilité internationales au bord du précipice, les différents intervenants du colloque ont cogité sur les possibilités d'une tropicalisation de la compréhension systémique des acteurs et des fonds propres et spécifiques à leur environnement. « *Notre continent se trouve à un carrefour décisif de son histoire, confronté qu'il est, à des menaces protéiformes qui empêchent la quiétude de nos populations, qui constituent autant d'entraves économiques* », est une expression forte qui met l'emphase sur cette urgence d'une stratégie militaire africaine, d'une stratégie africaine tout court. Il faut rappeler que la 20e cuvée de l'Esig, sort le 23 juillet prochain.

Léopold DASSI NDJIDJOU