CABEP REPORT ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE GATEWAY ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECT (GEP) TO SOME SELECTED STAKEHOLDERS IN BAMENDA; NORTH WEST REGION

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INTRODUCTION

The Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP) is CABEP Cameroon's flagship school-based entrepreneurship education programme; a structured, bilingual, age-appropriate curriculum spanning eight levels (GEP 1-8) for Cameroonian children aged 3 to 17. In August 2026, CABEP launched the most ambitious phase of the GEP's development: a ten-year national rollout programme designed to reach every primary and secondary school in Cameroon.

The project document presents the complete programme architecture, beneficiary framework, operational strategy, and financial plan for the GEP 10-Year National Programme: Change Makers for Cameroon (September 2026 - December 2036). The programme targets:

- 15,000,000+ Primary and secondary school pupils to receive a complete GEP education across the 10 regions.
- 50,000+ Schools participating primary and secondary, public and private, Anglophone and Francophone.
- 20,000+ Teachers trained and certified in GEP delivery, and
- 1,000,000+ Parents and guardians actively engaged in GEP school activities each year

The total 10-year programme cost is estimated at approximately XAF 1,657,500,000,000 (approximately USD 2.76 billion), based on a per-child total programme cost of XAF 110,500 across 13 years of study (primary and secondary), equivalent to XAF 8,500 per child per annum. This investment will be financed through a diversified model combining international grants (35%), Government of Cameroon budget allocation (25%), private sector CSR contributions (20%), school and community contributions (10%), and CABEP commercial services (10%).

The programme is structured in four phases: Establishment (2026-2028), Expansion (2028-2030), Consolidation (2030-2033), and Universal Access (2033-2036). By December 2036, the GEP will be handed over to be administered by MINEDUB and MINESEC in partnership with CABEP, and delivering measurable improvements in youth financial literacy, entrepreneurial confidence, and economic participation across all ten regions of Cameroon.

On 7th August 2026 a meeting was organized by CABEP at MINAC Hall, Up Station, Bamenda, bringing together key players and prospective stakeholders of the GEP in the North West Region such as the Governor's Office represented by The Head of Economic, Social, and Cultural Affairs Division, Regional Delegation (Rep) MINEDUB, Regional Delegate (Rep) MINPMEESA, Regional

Delegate (Rep) MINEPAT, Regional Delegate MINADER, Regional Delegate MINAC, PLAN Cameroon, the International Labor Organization (ILO), Grace Charitable and Rehabilitation Organization (GRACARO), Director (Rep) CAMTEL Blue, and CABEP Team. The meeting served as a platform to further build on the project proposal as the vision, mission, and methodology of GEP was presented to the prospective stakeholders. Their endorsement of the concept confirmed strong institutional support for the project, and a suggestion came from the Head of Economic, Social, and Cultural Affairs Division; Governor's Office that the concept also be developed for secondary schools; giving an opportunity for GEP's reach and impact to be extended beyond primary education. Following this consultation, all Ten Regions of Cameroon were selected for the project's implementation, reflecting its intended scale and national relevance.

Context and Justification

Within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union's Agenda 2063, and Cameroon's Vision 2035, the Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP) is anchored in the country's broader goals for growth and development. Vision 2035 sets out the country's ambition to become an emerging economy, with medium-term objectives centred on reducing poverty, reaching middle-income status, becoming a newly industrialized country, and consolidating democracy and national unity while respecting the country's diversity. This long-term vision is supported by the Government's Strategy for Growth and Employment (Document de Stratégie pour la Croissance et l'Emploi, or DSCE), which places employment at the centre of the national development agenda.

Among the key challenges identified for the country's development are unemployment and weak productivity, especially among young people. Meeting these challenges calls for making entrepreneurship a culture, stronger formal and informal employment opportunities, built through better human development and a generation of young people equipped early with entrepreneurial knowledge, skills, and the right attitude. Cameroon's basic education system does not currently provide structured entrepreneurship education, and children often graduate without the mindset, vocabulary, or foundational skills to participate confidently in economic life, whether as employees or as creators of their own opportunities.

Cameroon's young people face a structural employment crisis that no amount of traditional education will resolve. The nation's universities produce graduates trained to seek employment in an economy that cannot absorb them. The informal sector; where 85% of Cameroonians actually earn

their living, is populated by entrepreneurs who succeed or fail based on skills and knowledge that the education system has never seen fit to teach them.

The result is a profound gap between Cameroon's educational output and its economic need. Vision 2035 identifies human capital transformation as one of its four strategic pillars, yet the national primary school curriculum allocates zero hours to entrepreneurship education. The National Development Strategy 2020-2030 (SDS-30) explicitly requires entrepreneurship competencies at all educational levels, yet no structured programme exists to deliver them.

The Gateway Entrepreneurship Project GEP exists to close this gap; not with another project, but with a permanent, curriculum-integrated national programme that reaches every Cameroonian child at the most critical developmental stage of their lives: primary and secondary school.

From June-July 2026, The Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP) conducted a test phase during which the concept was tested in four schools: Gratitude Bilingual Nursery and Primary School, Saint Benedicta Bilingual Nursery and Primary School, Vessels of Honor Bilingual Nursery and Primary School, and The Kings Kids Bilingual Nursery and Primary School. The results of this test demonstrated the relevance and feasibility of embedding entrepreneurship education within the basic education system, and provided the justification for moving the project to the next phase.

General Objective

The overall objective of the meeting was to introduce the GEP to some key players in Entrepreneurship and Education in the North West Region in order to gain institutional partnership and support.

Specific Objectives

- To introduce the GEP to key stakeholders in the North West Region and get their appraisal and input concerning the project idea.
- To lobby for institutional partnership and support of the GEP.
- To get endorsement for the project to be forwarded to the Minister of Basic Education and other relevant institutions like UNICEF.

Participants

Participants in the Project Briefing Meeting were drawn from the Governor's Office represented by The Head of Economic, Social, and Cultural Affairs Division, Regional Delegation MINEDUB (Rep), Regional Delegate MINPMEESA (Rep), Regional Delegate MINEPAT (Rep), Regional Delegate MINADER, Regional Delegate MINAC, PLAN Cameroon, the International Labor Organization (ILO), Grace Charitable and Rehabilitation Organization (GRACARO), Director (Rep) CAMTEL Blue, and CABEP Team. Other institutions such as Regional Assembly, Regional Delegate MINJEC, Regional Delegate APME, MTN NWR, Orange Cameroon NWR, MITACCUL, NTACCUL, Mayors of Bamenda I, II, II who were invited were absent from the meeting.

Expected Result

- Stakeholders get a clear understanding of the GEP
- Stakeholders give their contributions in shaping the project idea
- Stakeholders give their support for the implementation of the project
- Stakeholders accept to sign the endorsement document for the project

IMPLEMENTATION

The stakeholder meeting on the Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP) that took place in August 2026 at MINAC Hall Bamenda began with a series of planning and preparatory meetings at the CABEP Head Office in Bamenda. The Goal of the planning meetings was to identify key players and potential partners of the GEP and invite them for a project briefing meeting. At the end of the planning meetings, a Letter of Invitation was drafted by CABEP to invite some key players in Entrepreneurship and Education in the North West Region with the hope that they become partners to the GEP in the nearest future. Invitations were extended to the Governor's Office (The Head of Economic, Social, and Cultural Affairs Division), Regional Delegate MINEDUB, Regional Delegate MINPMEESA, Regional Delegate MINEPAT, Regional Delegate MINADER, Regional Delegate MINAC, PLAN Cameroon, the International Labor Organization (ILO), Grace Charitable and Rehabilitation Organization (GRACARO), Director CAMTEL Blue, Regional Assembly, Regional Delegate MINJEC, Regional Delegate APME, MTN NWR, Orange Cameroon NWR, MITACCUL, NTACCUL, and Mayors of Bamenda I, II, II.

On the 7th of August 2026 at exactly 9:30am, the hall was ready and CABEP's Team present and ready for the meeting. The meeting started at 10:35am due to late arrival of most of the invitees. 11 persons from six institutions started the meeting and a welcome speech was made by the Regional Delegate of Arts and Culture (MINAC) whose delegation hosted the meeting. This was followed by a welcome address also from Dr. Lemuel Azibo; The Executive Director of CABEP. Dr. Lemuel went ahead to do the presentation of GEP which lasted for 45 minutes. He also presented the GEP Business Gamed modeled after the ILO SIYB Business Game Model. After the presentation, the floor was open for appraisal and contributions from the stakeholders present.



Dr. Lemuel Azibo presenting some of the GEP Tools during stakeholders meeting

There was a cross-section of positive comments from each of the stakeholders present, encouraging the establishing of this program in Cameroon's primary schools. The Head of Economic, Social, and Cultural Affairs Division; Governor's Office emphasized on the need of the project to be inclusive so that both Government and Private Schools can benefit from it. The Representative of the Regional Delegate MINEDUB welcomed the project idea with much enthusiasm and recommended for it to be presented at the coming Sectorial Conference to be organized by MINEDUB and also that the project should be forwarded to MINEDUB Yaounde and UNICEF. A proposal came from the Representative of Plan Cameroon that the program should include children who have dropped out of school and that many Master Trainers should be trained to manage the project at Divisional levels.



Excerpts of participants in the Stakeholder Project Briefing Meeting on the GEP

Some points of corrections were made on the project idea from the National Project Coordinator ILO and the Representative of MINEDUB MWR. The CEO of GRACARO proposed that an Advocacy Document should be written by CABEP and endorsed by all the stakeholders present in order for it to be sent to the Minister of Basic Education and Country Representative UNICEF. This proposal was accepted and the Executive Director of CABEP promised to draft the Advocacy Document for their review before signing. The Regional Delegate for MINAC, MINADER, MINEPAT, and MINPMEESA all gave their support and appraisal of the project idea calling on CABEP to drop the project proposal at their various ministries. The following points were drawn from the meeting:

- The project was accepted by all as an essential need to improve the quality of education in Cameroon and Cameroon's economic future.
- That the project should be extended to Secondary schools as well
- That CABEP should draft an Advocacy Document to be endorsed by those present and taken to the Minister of Basic Education.
- The project proposal should be taken to other Ministries such as MINAC, MINEPAT, MINPMEESA, and MINESEC for possible sponsorship.

The meeting ended at 11:55am with the following 14 persons registered attendance:

- **Mr. Marceliout Djunang;** ESCAD/Governor's Office
- **Mme Comfort Mbonghe W**; Regional Delegate of MINAC
- **Mr. Mai Bong Javis K.**; MINADER (Sub REG. Del. NWR)
- **Mr. Nefenda Philip N.;** MINEPAT (Regional Delegation)
- **Mme Nchang Mary Concelia;** MINEDUB (RPI LNFBEPNL)
- **Mr. Etienne Tah Tayong;** ILO (National Project Coordinator)
- **Mme Ndifor Manuela;** Child Protection officer of PLAN International
- **Mme Mangie Agnes;** CAMTEL
- **Rev. Chiabi Martin;** CEO, GRACARO
- **Dr. Nangah Lemuel Azibo;** Executive Director CABEP
- **Mrs.** Ngoh Vivian Tendong; GEP National Coordinator
- **Dr. Roland Oben;** M&E GEP/Communications Officer CABEP
- **Dr. Nwopuy Derick;** GEP Field Director
- **Ms.** Khing Sheila; GEP Field Staff

Impact

1. Institutional buy-in. The meeting brought the GEP to the attention of the Governor's Office, four regional delegations (MINEDUB, MINEPAT, MINPMEESA, MINADER), the host delegation (MINAC), and development partners (ILO, Plan International, GRACARO, CAMTEL). Every stakeholder who spoke supported the project. They agreed that it answers a real need in Cameroon's education system and economic future.

2. Stronger project design. Stakeholder input shaped the concept in four ways:

- The Governor's Office recommended extending the GEP to secondary schools. This helped align the programme with the ten-year, primary-and-secondary national rollout.

- The Governor's Office also asked that public and private schools both benefit.

- Plan Cameroon proposed including out-of-school children and training many Master Trainers at divisional level.

- Corrections from the ILO National Project Coordinator and the MINEDUB representative helped refine the concept.

3. A clear route to national level. The meeting produced concrete next steps:

- MINEDUB's representative recommended presenting the GEP at the coming MINEDUB Sectorial Conference.

- The project is to be forwarded to MINEDUB Yaoundé and UNICEF.

- GRACARO proposed a joint Advocacy Document endorsed by all stakeholders present, and CABEP accepted to draft it.

- The MINAC, MINADER, MINEPAT and MINPMEESA delegates invited CABEP to submit the proposal to their ministries, which opens the way to possible sponsorship.

4. Credibility and visibility. Presenting the GEP tools and the Business Game, modeled on the ILO SIYB approach, in front of institutional and technical partners strengthened CABEP's standing as a credible implementer. The June–July 2026 test in four schools also showed that the concept is feasible.

Points of Attention

1. Low turnout and late start. The meeting began at 10:35am, over half an hour after the 10:00am readiness time, because most invitees arrived late. Many invited institutions were absent, including:

- The Regional Assembly
- MINJEC A
- APME
- MTN and Orange
- MITACCUL
- NTACCUL
- The Mayors of Bamenda I, II and III

The mayors and the telecom companies matter for local council support and private-sector CSR funding. CABEP will need to reach them directly.

2. Endorsement is verbal, not yet formal. Support was expressed in the room, but nothing is binding until the Advocacy Document is drafted, reviewed and signed. Momentum could be lost if this takes too long.

3. The scale of the financing. The ten-year programme is estimated at about XAF 1.66 trillion. It depends on international grants (35%), government allocation (25%), CSR (20%), school and community contributions (10%) and CABEP commercial services (10%). Verbal encouragement from regional delegates does not guarantee national budget commitments, so the funding strategy needs sustained attention.

4. Expanded scope means a heavier workload. Adding secondary schools and out-of-school children, and decentralising delivery through divisional Master Trainers, broadens the programme. Curriculum, teacher training, M&E and budget will need to be adjusted to match.

5. Hierarchical approval. MINEDUB's regional representative cannot decide alone. Approval is needed from MINEDUB Yaoundé, and MINESEC will matter for the secondary extension. The Sectorial Conference is a time-sensitive opportunity.

6. Regional focus versus National Plan. The meeting was held only in the North West Region, while the programme targets all ten regions and both education subsystems. Equivalent consultations will be needed elsewhere, particularly in Francophone regions.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The 7th August 2026 stakeholder briefing in Bamenda met its main objectives. Stakeholders understood the GEP and contributed to shaping it, and the institutions present supported it. They also agreed on an endorsement route through an Advocacy Document to the Minister of Basic Education and UNICEF. The meeting widened the project's scope to secondary schools, inclusiveness and out-of-school children. Attendance was lower than hoped, and the support gained still has to become formal commitments and funding.

Recommendations

- Draft and circulate the Advocacy Document quickly. Share it with stakeholders for review, agree a signing date, and forward the signed version to the Minister of Basic Education and UNICEF.
- Secure a slot at the MINEDUB Sectorial Conference. Prepare a concise presentation and a policy brief for it.
- Submit tailored proposals to the supportive ministries. Deliver the proposal to MINAC, MINEPAT, MINPMEESA and MINADER as invited, and add MINESEC for the secondary-school component.
- Follow up with absent stakeholders. Hold one-on-one meetings with the mayors, MTN, Orange, MINJEC, APME and the Regional Assembly, and send them the meeting report.
- Revise the project document. Integrate public and private schools, the secondary-school extension, the out-of-school children component and the Master Trainer model, and update the budget and M&E framework to match.
- Plan a Master Trainer pipeline. Set up a structured training and certification plan for Master Trainers at divisional level.
- Replicate the briefing in the other regions. Use the North West meeting as a model for the remaining nine regions, with Francophone-focused consultations and bilingual materials.
- Strengthen future meeting logistics. Send invitations earlier, follow up by phone, confirm attendance in advance, and hold the meeting at a time convenient for senior officials.
- Keep a stakeholder register and a follow-up tracker. Record each commitment, the person responsible and the deadline, and report progress to stakeholders regularly.

ANNEXES

Annex 1. Invitation Letter to Schools

CABEP
Cameroon Association of Business and Economy Promoters
Reg. No. 12/C72/NWO6/AR/2024

Saturday 01/08/2026

Ref: CABEP/GEP/BRIEF/2026/028

To:

Subject: ***Invitation to a Two-Hour Stakeholder Briefing on the Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP)***

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Cameroon Association of Business and Economy Promoters (CABEP Cameroon), I have the pleasure of inviting you to a stakeholder briefing session on the Gateway Entrepreneurship Project (GEP), a ten-year initiative (2026–2036) designed to embed entrepreneurship education into basic schooling for children aged 3 to 12 across the ten Regions of Cameroon.

The briefing will introduce the project's vision, curriculum, implementation model, and partnership opportunities, and will offer an opportunity for questions, feedback, and early dialogue ahead of the project's launch.

Briefing Details

- Date: **Friday 7th August**
- Time: **10:00am-12:00noon**
- Venue: **North West Regional Delegation of Arts & Culture hall**
- Format: **Presentation, Q&A, and open discussion**

Briefing Agenda (Indicative)

- Welcome and introductions
- Overview of the GEP: vision, curriculum, and market fair model
- Implementation timeline, budget, and phased regional rollout
- Partnership and collaboration opportunities
- Open discussion and next steps

Your presence and insight would be of great value as we finalize plans for the project's launch. Kindly confirm your attendance by writing to **info@cabep.org** or call **688323322** or **677746475**.

We look forward to welcoming you and to a productive discussion.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Nangah Lemuel Azibo
Executive Director, CABEP Cameroon

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Annex 2. Attendance List

Presentation of GEP Project to authorities & stakeholders

Date:07/08/2026

S/N	NAME	MINISTRY/COMPANY	POSITION	TEL/CELL	SIGN
01	Marcelliant Djuema	ESCAS/Gov office	Head of Division	650054295	
02	Cornfield MBanthe Fitty	RD/MINAC	Regional Inspector	677333543	
03	MAI BONG Jevis K	MINADER	Sub RD - NW	677862558	
04	Ndenda Florence N.	MINEPAT	Reg. Delegation	675794604	
05	Nchang Mary Cecilia	Basic Education	RPL/NBEPNL	651628833	
06	Etienne Tah Tanang	LEO	National Project Coord	677203978	
07	Ndeh manuela	PLAN INTERNATIONAL	Chief Production officer	654904680	
08	Hangie Agnes	CAMTEL- BUM	Procurement RR	670002735	
09	Ruth Chibi Nkatim Ebai	SNACHAD (CSO)	CEO	677193804	
10	D. Nongah Samuel A.	CABEP	Executive Director	677746475	
11	Ngoh Vivian T.	CABEP	National Coordinator	670678018	
12	Khing Sheila	CABEP	Staff	676772211	
13	Roland Oben Njongy	CABEP	Staff	677875000	
14	Dr Desire Nwopngy	CABEP	Field Director	674201199	
15					
16					