

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT AND ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION



POPULAR EDUCATION

PRODUCTION :

Sustainable Peace Observatory
(SPO)

Supervised by :

Association for the Promotion
Rural Endogenous Development Actions
(APREDA)

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ABBREVIATIONS

AE : Elecam Agency

APADER : Association for the promotion rural
endogenous development actions

BV : Voting post

CE : Voters card

ELECAM : Elections Cameroon (Organ charged with the
organization and supervision of elections in
Cameroon.

EM : Mobile Team

CMLV : Local voting committee member

OPD : Sustainable Peace Observatory

PP : Political party



PRODUCTION CONTEXT

As part of the framework for the Civil Peace (CPS) Service Program, APADER has been conducting activities in the Ndé Sub-Division for several years now. Following these, the OPD as much as other groups have been created.

The OPD is made up of committed citizens and works for denunciation, interposition and proposals for the improvement of the quality of basic social services provided to the population. Its fields of action are :

- **The electoral process**
- **Education and local governance.**

For its actions to raise awareness and mobilize citizens to participate in the management of Local Public Affairs, the OPD has planned to produce mass educational manuals this year. Among these documents, the electoral approach of a committed citizen is a good start, hence the production of this booklet to bring citizens to break away from indolence; a way to make them face up to their responsibilities as citizens

INTRODUCTION



With the advent of liberalization, electoral participation is not only a right but also an essential duty of the citizen. At the center of concerns, he must give his opinion, express

himself through his vote on the assessment he makes of the candidates and the programs they have proposed. He must do so responsibly and in accordance with the regulatory texts, related to elections. On the eve of the 2025 elections, the OPD, under the aegis of APADER has kindly produced this document in order to support citizens in the exercise of their civic rights.

Election time is a time of censorship, correction and the opportunity to correct the shortcomings of the past. It is a moment of contemplation that allows the citizens to meditate and decide on their future, especially in a context of rising exclusion, marginalization, frustration, intolerance, incivility, hatred and indifference.

PRODUCTION TEAM

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METHODOLOGY

The production of this document is the result of several experiences. First of all, the original document is from publication N°002 of the « Regard Citoyen » of December 2019, devoted to the assessment of the 2018 presidential election. It was amended on the basis of experiences from OPD members' observations, and capitalization of best practices presented and debated by certain political parties and civil society organizations that encourage the participation of citizens in the electoral process.

It is also the product of the exploitation of some fragments of the Cameroonian Electoral Code, in particular, articles 101 to 107.

This work is also the result of several working groups (These are moments of working sessions, contribution and Reflection on the content of the various OPD documents. These engaged citizens' groups, does so to enable everyone to give their viewpoints and to collect as many ideas as possible on the subjects of reflection).

Finally, this document is the result of exchanges between the members of the OPD and informed citizens who propose ideas to improve the electoral process, often contested in our country.

«Adults don't believe in Santa Claus. He votes.»
Pierre DESPROGES

A- THE ELECTORAL PROCESS OF A COMMITTED CITIZEN

1. BEFORE THE VOTING DAY



STAGES

01 Register on the electoral list

02 Update your registration

03 Retrieve your CE

04 Consult the LE and the BV

POINT OF INTEREST

- Often done between the 1st of January and 31st August of each year by the AE or by EM
 - It can also be done out of these periods if you are a civil servant or working with the private sector, transferred or retired, soldier discharged after the deadline.
 - it concerns everyone, after a change of place of residence
NB : Always take your registration receipt

- From the AE or the EM
 - If the card is not available, send the "ID card number" from your MTN or Orange SIM card to 8111

- At the AE, these lists are supposed to be available 08 days before the vote

2. ON THE VOTING DAY



STAGES

05 Arrive on time at the BV

06 Ensure on the regularity of the process

07 Ensure about the regularity of the process and about its representativity

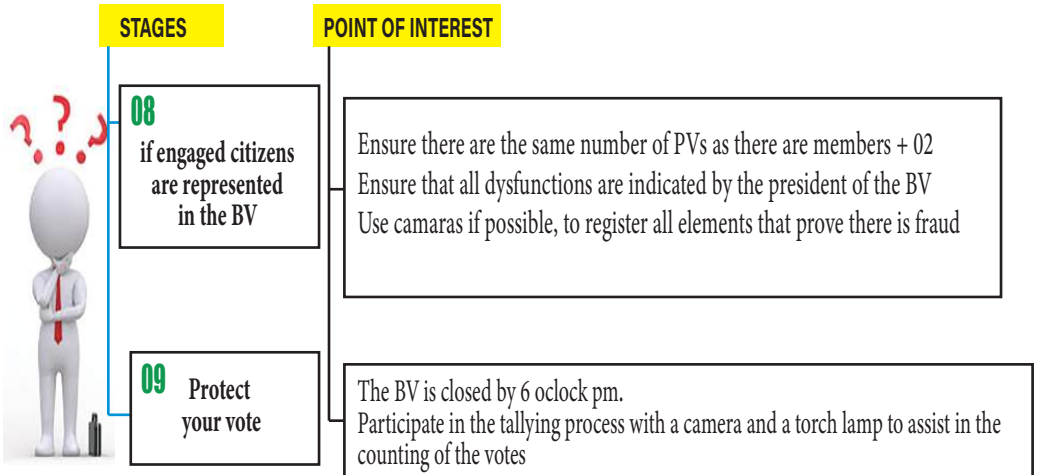
POINT OF INTEREST

Appropriate time of arrival is 07:30 since regulatory opening time is 08h00

No electoral material should be lacking, there should not be too much people or hold-ups in the BV, ensure on the availability of the lists to be consulted by the public at the entrance to the hall

Observe that the minimum (03) of the electoral commission is present at the opening: a president and members (administrative representatives and those of the competing political parties) Number of representatives of the PP in competition depends on the zones or the type of election and the candidates Participate in the identification of MCLV National and international observers should present their credentials, delivered by MINAT

3 . AFTER THE VOTE



B- ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION

Several countries in the world have been completely transformed, thanks to the effective participation of citizens in a context of democracy. Several reasons should today push citizens to participate in the choice of their leaders for a fulfilling life.

It is time to decide one's destiny and the destiny of the entire nation, the time to choose the people who will contribute to assuming responsibility, choose the people who will contribute in the mission, to reasonably build the country that we will leave to posterity with pride. To do this, citizens must understand the programs of the competing political parties in order to make choices accordingly.

OPD...

The Observatory for Sustainable Peace (OPD) is a space for free citizens expression and exchange, born as a result of APADER's work in the framework of the Civil Peace Service (CPS) with a view to involving citizens in the monitoring of the quality of delivery of basic social services in our sub-Division, with a view to promoting sustainable peace, that is, an environment where the citizen lives with peace of mind, with less injustice, less arbitrariness, less poverty and less exclusion.

Observatory for Sustainable Peace

OPD is non-political, lay, and neutral on the ideological and religious level

Independent space for expression and reflection of citizens, passionate for social justice, democracy to boost auto-supported harmonious development of our councils, our Division and our country

Propose
Denounce
Advocate



02 priority sectors



Education

Electoral process



Key instruments

E Collective reflections
ducation on democracy
ducation on decentralization
ducation on human rights



The Association for the Promotion of Endogenous Rural Development Actions (APADER) is an organization of the civil society, legalized in Bangangté in 1993; No. 07/RD/F36/BAPP. It is an association which supports development initiatives of grassroots communities and citizens in rural and

urban areas, governed by Law No. 053/90 of 19 December 1990 on freedom of association in Cameroon. Its vision as a national civil society organization is to see all members of Cameroonian communities

- and even those of hitherto disadvantaged groups, actively involved in the rational management of common resources and the equitable distribution of the fruits of growth in the country, for a more stable and developed Cameroon. Therefore, APADER's mission is to:

- Supervise populations, especially disadvantaged groups (especially young people, women, internally displaced people, etc.), to increase the yields of their agro-sylvo-pastoral activities and to integrate them into stable jobs so that they can sufficiently take care of themselves.
- To encourage the population, especially young people, to play their roles as responsible citizens, on the one hand by the appropriation of their rights and duties as individuals, and on the other hand, by the fight against the ethnic, political and religious cleavages that hinder the establishment of free dialogue in society so that they can contribute to the stable and sustainable development of Cameroon.



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CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE :

So that your suffrage counts, register and effectively vote. If not, others will do so for you;

- Vote et supervise your vote until the last minute, your efforts are not belittled;
- Vote and choose the leaders you merit for the best education of your children;
- Vote and guarantee access to portable water, continuous electric current for members of your family;
- Vote reasonably and contribute in offering to farmers the necessary infrastructure for agricultural development
- Vote and permit members of your community to have access to an efficient universal health access
- Vote to promote freedom of speech

" In the Warm memory on Roger KWIDJA "

