

The development of the country is carried out with a series of 5-year development plans. The present 5-year plan is the fourth in the series. Its objectives are to diversify exports, increase production in agriculture, mining and manufacturing, and to improve the communications infrastructure.

Cameroon has enjoyed an increase in economic prosperity during the decade following her independence in 1960. During the second 5-year plan (1965-70), the average annual growth rate was 7.8 per cent. The economic situation deteriorated somewhat during the third plan (1971-76) owing to a reduction in agricultural production, the levelling off of private investment, and the rapid rise in the price of petroleum products and other imports. During this period the annual growth rate was 2 per cent.

The economic situation during the present 5-year plan, which began in 1977, has improved considerably.