

National programme for participatory dev't targets 6,000 projects by 2020

By Cyprian Ntiamba Obi Ntui
in Yaounde

The national programme for participatory development known in the French language as Programme National de Developpment Participatif, PNDP is aiming to execute not less than 6,000 micro projects across the length and breadth of the country by 2020.

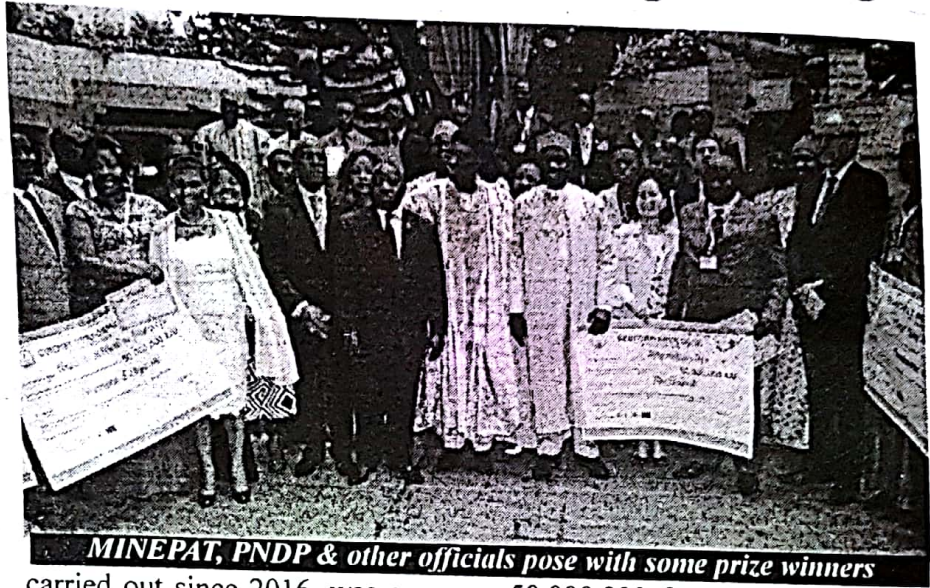
This was disclosed in Yaounde yesterday October 31, during a ceremony organized at the Hilton Hotel to award prizes to the best performing councils in terms of micro projects execution in the country. The award event was presided at by the Minister of the Economy Planning and Regional Development, Alamine Ousmane Mey.

The Director of PNDP announced that the prizes were the outcome of the second edition of their council performance survey for the period 2017 to 2018. She assured that by the time the third edition would have been completed covering the period 2019 to 2020, not less than 6,000 micro projects would have been executed by different councils across the country.

Their sectors of intervention include education, rural electrification, water and sanitation; as well as health, provision of building and local construction equipment, among other forms on intervention at the rural milieu.

The Programme Director described PNDP as a veritable tool put in place by the government of Cameroon to provide technical, financial and other forms of assistance to local collectivities so that they could contribute to improving the living conditions of Cameroonians living in rural areas.

She announced that the first two phases of PNDP projects that were



MINEPAT, PNDP & other officials pose with some prize winners

carried out since 2016, was a success story which they are now striving to consolidate the gains. The stage of consolidating these gains requires close collaboration and active participation of local populations if the gains must continue to endure on a sustainable basis.

Consequently, it would require that actors at the local level be equipped with the skills that would enable them to manage well public money at council level; possess the expertise to be able to appropriately supervise micro projects being executed in their council areas; and be able to provide quality and durable socio-economic services for those living at the rural level.

She said the 360 council areas were given the yardsticks under which their performances would be evaluated. Some of the key aspects in their evaluation include adherence to budgetary targets; accountability and or transparency in income receipts and expenditure management; as well as level of introduction of good governance at the local level.

During the first edition in September 2017, she announced that the best performing councils were awarded cash prizes of

50,000,000 francs CFA each. This second edition, some innovations were introduced that prompted the prize money to be slashed to 25,000,000 francs CFA. In the place of cash, meritorious councils would in addition to the prize money be given various items and equipment.

The 10 Councils that won this year's award were: Tignere rural council in Adamawa region, with a score of 34.33; Ayos, from the Centre region, with a score of 47.24; Somalomo Council from the East region, with a score of 60.12; and Wina council from the Far North Region, with a score of 46.76.

Others are Ebone Council, from the Littoral region, with a score of 34.53; Rey-Bouba Council from the North region, with a score of 44.60; and Balikumbat Council from the North West region with a score of 30.18.

Also on the list were Massangam Council from the West region with a score of 50.47; Oveng Council from the South region with a score of 44.89; and last but not the least, Nguti Council from the South West region with a score of 40.25.