

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
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MINISTRY OF FINANCE

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EITI COMMITTEE

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Permanent Secretariat  
Tel/Fax: (237) 222 22 08 67  
Email: [secretariatitiecmr@gmail.com](mailto:secretariatitiecmr@gmail.com)  
P.O. Box: Yaoundé



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## EITI COMMITTEE

# PARTICIPANT KIT

## Conference and Panel Discussion at the University of Douala

### The EITI through the Lens of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

*Using EITI data as a resource for reflection, research, and academic work*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 18, 2026</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>11:00 AM – 1:00 PM</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>University of Douala, Douala</b>

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	
2. Activity Fact Sheet	
3. Institutional Basis and Rationale	
3.1. Educational Guide: Understanding the EITI in a Nutshell	4
4. What the 2023 EITI Report allows us to say and question	
5. EITI 2023 data to highlight during the conference	
6. Why students should engage with EITI reports	5
7. Conference-debate program	6
8. Brief profiles of some speakers	7
9. Key messages from the conference	8
10. Anticipated questions from journalists and suggested responses	8
11. Press release	
12. Press contact and media monitoring	9

## 1. Introduction

This press kit has been designed as a tool for institutional communication, media outreach, and intellectual engagement surrounding the conference-debate organized by the EITI Committee on **May 1, 2026, at the University of Douala**. Its aim is not merely to announce an event: it seeks to reposition EITI data as a raw material for analysis, critique, research, and academic production.

The officially selected theme—“**The EITI Through the Lens of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**”—provides a useful starting point, but this report deliberately broadens the scope. Beyond CSR and social spending, EITI reports contain a wealth of information on governance, taxation, the environment, subnational transfers, employment, exports, land titling, beneficial ownership, project costs, and public accountability mechanisms.

Bearing in mind the phrase coined by the President of the Republic, H.E. PAUL BIYA, that youth constitute “the spearhead of the nation,” this dossier proposes a framework designed to encourage students, faculty members, and young researchers to transform public data into topics for theses, dissertations, research papers, scientific presentations, and applied studies on extractive governance in Cameroon.

## 2. Activity Overview

<b>Title</b>	Conference-debate: “The EITI through the Lens of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)”
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, May 18, 2026
<b>Time</b>	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	University of Douala, Douala
<b>Organizer</b>	EITI Cameroon Committee
<b>Target audience</b>	Students, teachers, researchers, media, public administrations, civil society, extractive companies, and partners.
<b>Objective</b>	To use EITI data as a basis for public debate and a catalyst for academic research on extractive governance.

## 3. Institutional Basis and Rationale

This activity aligns with Requirement 7.1 of the EITI Standard 2023 regarding public debate. The conference-debate serves as a lever to improve public engagement with EITI reports. The primary focus of the event should be the 2023 EITI Report, and one of the central objectives is to encourage debate within the academic community and stimulate academic research in these areas.

The conference-debate therefore aims to bring the discussion into academic circles in order to raise awareness of the EITI in terms of overall communication, the promotion of scientific research, and the dissemination of best practices for transparency in the extractive industries. This focus fully justifies a press kit that is not merely event-based, but also educational and intellectually rigorous.

### 3.1. Educational Guide: Understanding the EITI in a Nutshell

The EITI, or Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, is an international standard for transparency and accountability. It aims to make essential information on the governance of extractive resources public, understandable, and open to discussion: legal framework, contracts, licenses, revenues, transfers, state participation, economic contribution, and social and environmental expenditures. For students, the EITI is therefore of dual interest: it provides data usable for research, but it also teaches them to read public policies with a critical eye.

**Editorial approach adopted: transforming the conference-debate into a bridge between institutional communication, a culture of transparency, and academic research.**

## 4. What the EITI Report 2023 Allows Us to Say and Question

The EITI Cameroon Report 2023 shows that the extractive sector retains significant economic weight, contributing 21.95% of extractive revenues to total government revenues, 4.15% of GDP, 32.04% of exports, and 0.62% of recorded formal employment (*EITI Cameroon Report 2023*, pp. 249–250).

However, a methodological point of caution warrants mention at the outset of the conference: page 249 of the report states 22.05% of total government revenue in the text, while Table 125 on the same page shows 21.95%. This report uses 21.95%, as it corresponds to the value detailed in the table. This discrepancy usefully illustrates the critical approach the conference aims to convey to students: read the data, but also verify its internal consistency.

Chapter 6 of the report then provides a direct introduction to the CSR theme through social and environmental expenditures (pp. 233–239). But it also highlights a significant limitation: these expenditures are reported unilaterally by companies, without a materiality threshold and without cross-validation with the beneficiaries. In other words, the EITI reveals a part of reality; it does not eliminate the need for analysis, verification, and impact assessment.

## 5. EITI 2023 data to be highlighted during the conference

### 5.1. Excerpts from the 2023 EITI Report: Social and Environmental Expenditures

Chapter 6 of Cameroon’s 2023 EITI Report is devoted to social and economic expenditures. The sections relevant to this fact sheet are primarily found on pages 233–240, with significant additional information on environmental impact on pages 253–258 and a consolidated table of payments on page 264.

#### 5.1.1. General highlights in the report

Section	Reference Pages
Social Expenditures	p. 233
Social expenditures – hydrocarbons sector	pp. 233–234
Social Expenditures – Mining and Quarrying Sector	pp. 234–236
Environmental expenditures	p. 236
Environmental legal framework	pp. 236–237
Types of environmental payments	pp. 237–238

Environmental Expenditures – Hydrocarbons	pp. 238–239
Environmental expenditures – mining	p. 239
Environmental Impact and Document Accessibility	pp. 253–257
Social and environmental payments by recipient entities	p. 264

## 5.1.2. Social expenditures

### Definition adopted by the EITI Committee – page 233

The report distinguishes between two categories: mandatory social expenditures, imposed by regulations, a mining agreement, or an oil contract; and voluntary social expenditures, made by companies as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility policy, without any contractual or legal obligation.

The report specifies that the beneficiaries of these expenditures are generally third parties: local authorities, communities, associations, NGOs, etc. The EITI Committee therefore considered that reconciling these expenditures with the beneficiaries was not feasible in the Cameroonian context. Consequently, these expenditures are reported unilaterally by companies, without a materiality threshold and without cross-validation with the beneficiaries.

### Methodological Consideration

These data are useful, but they should not be interpreted as expenditures verified with the final beneficiaries. For a thesis or dissertation, a clear distinction must be made between reporting, verification, and actual impact.

#### 5.1.2.1. Social Expenditures in the Hydrocarbons Sector – pages 233–234

The report indicates that the 2019 Petroleum Code contains no specific provisions regarding mandatory social expenditures. A review of petroleum contract templates also did not reveal any clauses requiring such expenditures. However, COTCO reported mandatory social expenditures related to its environmental management plan.

Company	Type	Reported Amount	Page
COTCO	Mandatory social expenditures related to the environmental management plan	4,374,000 CFA francs	p. 233

The voluntary social expenditures reported by oil companies for 2023 are presented in Table 118 of the report.

Company	Cash contributions	In-kind contributions	Total
APCC	—	727,986,925	727,986,925
APCL	—	28,161,938	28,161,938
COTCO	49,512,040	—	49,512,040
GDC	62,039,473	—	62,039,473
PERCAM	2,773,433	—	2,773,433
PRDR	154,992,906	—	154,992,906
Total	269,317,852	756,148,863	1,025,466,715

*Reference: EITI Report 2023, Table 118, p. 234. The introductory text mentions 1,013.23 million CFA francs, while the total in the table is 1,025,466,715 CFA francs. This discrepancy must be noted in any rigorous academic analysis.*

### 5.1.2.2. Social Expenditures in Mines and Quarries – pages 234–236

Two types of mandatory social expenditures are identified in the mining sector: the contribution to the Special Account for Local Capacity Development (CSDCL) and the social contributions stipulated in mining agreements.

Type of Obligation	Content	2023 Findings	Pages
Contribution to the CSDCL	Annual contribution ranging from 0.5% to 1% of revenue excluding taxes, depending on the mining agreement or specifications.	No contributions reported by EITI-covered companies.	p. 234
Contributions provided for in mining agreements	Community commitments: health and educational infrastructure, social programs, water, housing, health, training, and co-management with communities.	No company reported any mandatory contributions in 2023.	pp. 235–236

The 2023 EITI Report cites the agreements of **C&K Mining, G-Stones Resources, CIMENCAM, CODIAS, SINOSTEEL, and GEOVIC**. These agreements include various social commitments: construction or improvement of medical and educational infrastructure, a mining training center, community development programs, housing, health, education, recreation, water, and conditional access to infrastructure.

#### Key finding

The mining sector shows a notable discrepancy between the existence of social obligations in agreements and the absence of mandatory contributions reported in 2023. This discrepancy provides an excellent angle for research on the effectiveness of contractual obligations.

Regarding voluntary social expenditures in the mining sector, only one company reported a contribution in 2023.

Company	Type	Amount	Page
DANGOTE Cameroon	Voluntary social contribution in kind	67,000,000 CFA francs	p. 236

### 5.1.2.3. Total social payments – page 264

Sector	Amount in millions of FCFA	Reading
Hydrocarbons	975.95	Major social item in consolidated cash payments.
Oil transportation	53.89	Corresponds primarily to expenses reported by COTCO.
Mining	67.00	Corresponds to the voluntary in-kind contribution reported by DANGOTE Cameroon.
Total social payments	1,096.84	Negligible share of consolidated payments.

*Reference: EITI Report 2023, table of payments by recipient entities, p. 264.*

## 5.1.3. Environmental expenditures

### 5.1.3.1. Legal framework – pages 236–237

Environmental payments in the extractive sector are governed by several laws that establish obligations regarding the prevention, monitoring, and remediation of environmental impacts.

Text	Main purpose
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Law No. 96/12 of August 5, 1996	Framework law on environmental management; polluter-pays principle; requirement for environmental impact assessments.
Decree No. 2001/78/PM of September 3, 2001	Organization of the Interministerial Committee on the Environment.
Decree No. 2005/0577/PM of February 23, 2005	Procedures for conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessments.
Decree No. 2008/064 of February 4, 2008	Management of the National Fund for the Environment and Sustainable Development.
Decree No. 2013/0171/PM of February 14, 2013	Procedures for conducting ESIA.
Decree No. 2013/0172/PM of February 14, 2013	Procedures for conducting environmental and social audits.
Mining Code 2023 and Petroleum Code 2019	Requirement to plan for and finance the rehabilitation of sites after operations have ceased.
2020 Finance Act	Creation of the FNEDD Special Purpose Account.

### 5.1.3.2. Types of environmental payments – pages 237–238

Category	Examples
Environmental taxes and fees	EIA review and approval fees; environmental permit fees; audit review fees; monitoring and control fees.
Fines and penalties	Fines for non-compliance with legal and regulatory obligations; penalties for illegal operations.
Contributions to environmental funds	FNEDD; funds for the rehabilitation of mining and oil sites; amounts recovered for site restoration; voluntary contributions and grants.

### 5.1.3.3. Environmental Expenditures of the Hydrocarbons Sector – pages 238–239

In 2023, no mandatory environmental payments were reported directly by the oil companies within the scope of the study. However, MINEPDED reported an amount charged to Perenco Cameroon.

Company	Type	Amount	Page
Perenco Cameroon	Costs related to the terms of reference for an ESIA	3,500,000 CFA francs	p. 238

The report also presents the provisions for abandonment and rehabilitation set aside by certain oil companies. These amounts are significant, but they have not yet been deposited into escrow accounts.

Company	Permit	Amount (USD)	Amount (FCFA)	Comment
APCC	Dissoni North	111,750	67,533,403	Provision not yet deposited in escrow.
APCC	Mokoko Abana & Rio Del Rey	22,718,188	13,729,186,002	Provision provided for in the partnership agreement; no deposit into escrow account.
APCL	Iroko	196,000	118,447,847	Provision not yet deposited in an escrow account.
Total	—	23,025,938	13,915,167,252	Provisioned amount, not equivalent to an actual expenditure.

*Reference: EITI Report 2023, Table 120, p. 238. Key point: An accounting provision is not equivalent to an actual environmental expenditure.*

Two oil companies reported voluntary environmental payments.

Company	Type	Amount	Page
COTCO	Payment to the Foundation for the Environment and Development in Cameroon (FEDEC).	302.7 million CFA francs	p. 239

PRDR	Support for the WORD CLEAN DAY initiative, plastic waste recycling, support for Earth Day 2023, purchase of plants for reforestation.	7.77 million CFA francs	p. 239
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#### 5.1.3.4. Environmental Expenditures of the Mining Sector – page 239

The mining companies included in the reconciliation scope reported no payments for mandatory environmental expenditures in 2023. However, MINEPDED reported payments corresponding primarily to environmental review and audit fees.

Company	Description of payment	Amount (FCFA)
BOCOM Petroleum SA	Terms of Reference for Environmental and Social Impact Study	9,500,000
RAZEL	Review of ESIA reports and environmental audit	5,000,000
E&M Global Mining LLC	Review of EIA reports and environmental audit	5,000,000
MIRA Company	Review of EIA reports and environmental audit	5,000,000
Total	—	24,500,000

#### Mine site rehabilitation

Article 233 of the Mining Code provides for a Fund for the Restoration, Rehabilitation, and Closure of Mining Sites and Quarries. In 2023, this fund was not yet operational due to the lack of an implementing decree. The report specifies that no actual expenditures or payments were made for 2023.

#### 5.1.3.5. Total environmental payments – pages 17 and 264

Category	Amount	Reading
Environmental payments	328.50 million CFA francs	Environmental payments identified in the consolidated table.
FNEDD	28.00 million CFA francs	Amounts related to the National Fund for the Environment and Sustainable Development.
Total environmental expenditure	356.50 million CFA francs	Environmental payments + FNEDD.

#### 5.1.4. Supplement: Environmental Impact and Transparency – pages 253–257

Section 6.5 of the report supplements the analysis of expenditures by describing the framework for managing environmental and social impacts. It notes that extractive projects must conduct an EIA prior to operations, consult with affected communities, and develop an environmental and social management plan.

##### 5.1.4.1. Environmental Sanctions

Violation	Penalty indicated in the report	Page
Failure to conduct an ESIA	Fine of 2 to 5 million CFA francs and/or imprisonment for 6 months to 2 years	p. 256
Soil, air, or water pollution	Fine of 1 to 5 million CFA francs and/or imprisonment for 6 months to 1 year	p. 256
Offense committed by a public official	Penalties doubled	p. 256

The report indicates that in 2023, no payments of environmental fines were reported.

### 5.1.4.2. Accessibility of Environmental Assessments and Permits

Document	Disclosure status in practice	Page
Terms of reference for ESIA audits	Not disclosed	p. 256
ESIA reports	Not disclosed	p. 256
Environmental and social audits	Not disclosed	p. 256
Reports on public hearings	Not disclosed	p. 256
Environmental Compliance Certificates	Not disclosed	pp. 256–257
Proceedings of the Interministerial Committee on the Environment	Undisclosed	p. 257
Environmental audit reports	Undisclosed	p. 257

### 5.1.4.3. Corporate Management of Social and Environmental Impact

Stated policy	Mining companies	Oil companies	Page
Specific Policy for Managing Environmental Impacts	2	8	p. 257
Specific policy on social impacts	2	8	p. 257
Gender policy	2	6	p. 257

*The report notes that companies do not systematically make this information available to the public.*

## 5.2. Proposed Institutional Comment

The 2023 EITI Report highlights significant progress in the transparency of social and environmental expenditures in Cameroon's extractive sector. By disclosing social contributions, environmental payments, rehabilitation provisions, and information regarding impact management obligations, Cameroon is gradually strengthening its commitment to more responsible extractive governance.

However, the published data calls for a balanced interpretation. Social and environmental amounts remain marginal (low) relative to the extractive sector's overall payments. In 2023, social payments amounted to approximately 1.097 billion CFA francs, while expanded environmental payments reached approximately 356.5 million CFA francs. These figures show that social and environmental contributions exist but remain marginal compared to the financial weight of hydrocarbons in extractive revenues.

The other major finding concerns the quality of accountability. Several social expenditures are reported unilaterally by companies, without direct verification with the beneficiaries. Similarly, essential environmental monitoring documents—impact studies, audits, compliance certificates, and public hearing reports—are not systematically accessible to the public. Transparency is thus improving, but it must now take a new step: moving from the simple declaration of amounts to the verification of their effectiveness, traceability, and real impact on local communities.

The year 2023 thus reveals a dual dynamic: on the one hand, a notable effort to publish and structure data; on the other, significant room for improvement in terms of oversight, disclosure of environmental documents, the operation of rehabilitation funds, and the monitoring of community commitments. For public authorities, businesses, and civil society, the challenge is no longer merely to know how much has been reported, but to demonstrate what concrete changes these expenditures bring about for the regions, the people, and the environment.

### Final summary for students

The scientific value lies not in simply copying EITI figures, but in questioning them: who pays, to whom, why, under what obligation, with what evidence, and with what real impact?

## 6. Why students should engage with EITI reports

Reducing the EITI to social spending alone would be a misreading. The 2023 EITI Report shows that it addresses many other important topics: the legal and institutional framework, licensing, contract disclosure, beneficial ownership, state participation, exploration, production, exports, greenhouse gas emissions, revenue collection, transfers to local governments, quasi-fiscal expenditures, contribution to the economy, environmental impact, and local content. In other words, the EITI offers a broad field of study. Students in law, economics, political science, sociology, geography, journalism, management, communication, environmental studies, public finance, or international relations can find a concrete foundation for their work here. EITI reports provide data, raise questions, reveal gaps between rules and practice, and open up useful avenues for academic research.

### 6.1. Suggested Topics for Theses and Dissertations

- 1) The effectiveness of social and environmental obligations in the extractive industries in Cameroon: between standards, declarations, and territorial impact.
- 2) A critical analysis of voluntary social spending by oil companies.
- 3) Extractive transparency and fiscal accountability: what does the contribution of extractive revenues to public finances reveal?
- 4) Beneficial ownership, governance, and the fight against opacity in the extractive industries.
- 5) Public debate and EITI institutional communication: how can academic and public engagement with extractive data be improved?
- 6) Subnational payments, municipalities, and local communities: what are the justice issues?
- 7) Energy transition: Can the EITI become a tool for climate analysis?

### 6.2. Desired outcome of the conference

The goal of this conference is not limited to securing good media coverage. The real objective is to encourage students to go further: not just to listen or watch, but also to reflect, analyze, and produce their own work on the management of extractive resources. This conference should inspire them to read EITI reports with a researcher's eye—that is, by asking meaningful questions, rather than simply out of curiosity.

## 7. Conference-Debate Schedule

Schedule	Session	Content / Objective
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Welcome for guests, press, and participants	Welcome, seating, distribution of press kits, and audience orientation.
11:00 AM – 11:10 AM	Opening remarks	Remarks by the MINFI representative, followed by a welcome address by the Rector of the University of Douala or his representative. Overview of the context, the need for public debate, and the objectives of the meeting.
11:10 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	<i>Presentation 1:</i> Communication by	Presentation by a professor from the University of Douala on the links between the public sphere, governance, communication, and organizational

	Organizations <b>Prof. Thomas Hirenee Atenga</b>	accountability.
11:20 AM – 11:50 AM	<i>Keynote Presentation: The EITI Through the Lens of Corporate Social Responsibility - Dr. Blasius NGOME</i>	What is the EITI, CSR, and their common denominator
11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Presentation 2: <b>CSR Reporting by Extractive Companies Deputy CEO of ADDAX, Member of Extractive Company</b>	The significance of social and environmental expenditures by companies in the hydrocarbon and mining sectors in light of data from the 2023 EITI Report
12:05 PM – 12:25 PM	<i>Presentation 3: The EITI contribution to national economy - Mr. Aristide MIMBANG, Director of Mines.</i>	The importance of transparency in Cameroon economy.
12:25 PM – 12:45 PM	Discussion with students and the public	Discussion on thesis and dissertation topics, relevant disciplines, possible research methods, and issues in extractive governance.
12:45 PM - 12:55 PM	Press briefing / media questions	Addressing media concerns, clarifying key messages, and providing an institutional perspective on the conference.
12:55 PM – 1:00 PM	Closing remarks and follow-up instructions	Final summary, acknowledgments, invitation to engage with EITI reports, and encouragement for academic research.

## 8. Brief profiles of some speakers

**Prof. Thomas Hirenee ATENGA:** Professor at the University of Douala

His biography highlights a distinguished academic career, expertise in information and communication sciences, and research focused on the public media sphere, authoritarianism in the political-media field, globalization, and social change in Africa. His presence lends credibility to the conference’s scientific and academic foundation.

**Mr. Aristide MIMBANG:** Director of Mines at the Ministry of Mines, Industry, and Technological Development

This profile highlights technical expertise grounded in a background as a mining engineer and extensive field experience. As Director of Mines, he plays a key role in supporting the ministry’s policies regarding the development of the mining sector, particularly with regard to the establishment of industrial mining—a major focus of the sectoral policy outlined in the SND30 and championed by the Head of State. His presentation will provide a technical, strategic, and institutional analysis of the ongoing changes in Cameroon’s mining sector.

**Dr. Blasius NGOME (Ph.D.):** Civil society member, representative of the Union of Journalists of Cameroon on the EITI/MINFI Committee

His profile combines academic experience—as a professor at the University of Douala and the University of Buea—with expertise in organizational communication, high-level experience in public relations and corporate communication, as well as extensive media experience. (Former Director of Public Relations, Communication, and

Translation at an oil company, notably SONARA.) His presentation is particularly valuable for linking institutional communication, public debate, and the strategic dissemination of EITI data.

## 9. Key messages from the conference

- **The EITI is not limited to the publication of figures.** It also helps to better understand how natural resources are managed and to fuel a fact-based public debate.
- **The EITI Cameroon 2023 Report and other EITI reports serves as a useful foundation for reflecting on corporate social responsibility.** It shows, however, that corporate disclosures alone are not enough: particular attention must be paid to the actual impacts on communities and the environment.
- **Universities have a vital role to play.** They can help transform public data into knowledge, critical analysis, and research.
- **EITI reports offer numerous avenues for research.** Students in various disciplines, including law, economics, social sciences, environmental studies, journalism, governance, and management, can find topics for their theses and dissertations within them.
- This conference-debate aims to encourage students to make sustainable use of EITI data. The goal is to turn EITI reports into genuine tools for learning, reflection, and scientific research for Cameroonian university students.

## 10. Anticipated questions from journalists and suggested responses

### Q. Why was the University of Douala chosen?

A. Because it is a hub for knowledge production, public debate, and the training of future leaders. The conference aims to make EITI data a subject of research rather than merely a communication tool.

### Q. Why discuss CSR through the lens of the EITI?

A. Because the 2023 report contains data on social and environmental expenditures. The significance of this topic lies precisely in examining what these data reveal and what they cannot yet prove.

### Q. Beyond CSR, how can students use EITI reports?

A. They can draw on them for topics such as extractive taxation, contracts, beneficial ownership, transfers to local communities, employment, local content, environmental impact, institutional governance, and informal mining.

### Q. Is the 2023 report reliable enough for academic work?

A. It is a useful resource, but it must be read carefully. The report itself mentions limitations in assurance, unilateral declarations, and occasional discrepancies in figures. That is precisely why it makes for excellent academic material.

### Q. What outcome do you expect following this conference?

A. Greater adoption of EITI data, informed media coverage, and, above all, the emergence of master's theses and dissertations that utilize this data from a public governance perspective.

## 11. Press Release

The EITI Cameroon Committee is organizing a conference-debate **on Tuesday, May 18, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the University of Douala**, on the theme “The EITI through the Lens of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)”

Moving beyond a narrow focus on CSR, this event aims to demonstrate to students, researchers, and the media that EITI reports are a rich source for analyzing extractive governance, public finance, the environment, employment, regional development, and public accountability.

Drawing on data from the EITI Cameroon Report 2023, discussions will focus in particular on social and environmental expenditures, the gaps between regulatory obligations and actual disclosures, as well as the numerous avenues for research papers and theses that these data open up.

The conference will bring together speakers from academia, the media, and the EITI initiative. It is designed to foster public debate, promote citizen engagement with information, and stimulate academic research.

The media, students, and institutional partners are invited to participate in this event, which aims to make EITI data a tool for reflection, debate, and scientific research in the service of the nation.

**FINANCE,**

(signed) **THE MINISTER OF**

*Chair of the EITI Committee*

## **12. Press Contact and Media Follow-up**

For any requests for interviews, documentary clarification, contact with speakers, or post-event follow-up, the media may contact the Permanent Secretariat of the EITI Committee of Cameroon.

Contact: Permanent Secretariat - Email: [secretariatitiecmr@gmail.com](mailto:secretariatitiecmr@gmail.com) .

**Ms. Corinne AHOUE, Communications Officer of the EITI Committee: 674 07 36 05**

**Ms. Jeanette BONGA, DIVCOM/MINFI: 696 95 79 49**