

1. The succession of various political regimes in the Central African Republic has led the country to an extremely fragile socio-economic situation. The current Government is facing a situation of high indebtedness, a limited treasury, in an unstable security situation. Consequently the population, which is unequally spread throughout the territory, is confronted to very specific problems related to poverty, security and governance.

2. Poverty in the CAR is marked by the absence of economic opportunities, compounded by the absence of state services, including basic social services. Agriculture and small-scale cattle-farming, the main activities and sources of revenue in the whole country, are hampered by unpredictable harvests, tensions due to transhumance, poor quality and lack of inputs (seeds and fertilizers), as well as the absence of opportunities to trade. Other economic activities are very marginal. A number of regions suffer from the absence or malfunctioning of infrastructures, inadequate maintenance and rehabilitation of main and secondary roads and waterway infrastructures, and energy sources.

3. With respect to basic social services, the analysis of access to health and education facilities shows geographical imbalance, with a quasi absence of services outside of the capital. The activities of religious institutions and some international NGOs remain limited when compared to the actual needs. In the past years, primary education has been marred by poor management of the teachers' body (salary arrears and limited budget). Health care centres are

6. : the security situation in the country is both a trigger and an aggravating factor of poverty in and vulnerability of populations. On the other hand, investing in development has a positive effect on the level of insecurity. The level of insecurity varies in different geographical parts of the country, therefore requiring a zoned approach. Given the clear link between development and security, the implementation of the development hubs project requires a minimum of political stability in the region of focus. This stability is heavily conditioned by progress on the political front, in particular the good will of all parties participating in the Inclusive Political Dialogue and in the Security Sector Reform (SSR).

7. : the State authority throughout the



