



**ORIENTATION WORKSHOP FOR UNFPA STAFF and PARTNERS
Kribi 14—18th July 2008**

The 5th Country Programme Action Plan between UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund and the government of Cameroon was signed on the 17th of January 2008 under the guardianship of the Minister of Economy, Planning and Territorial Administration. Thereafter, it was necessary for all partner ministries and implementing bodies to come to a common understanding on the content of the document including guiding policies, procedures and modalities of execution in order to ensure its successful management.

The orientation workshop which held in Kribi from the 14th – 18th July 2008 brought together Inspectors, Directors, Sub-directors and chiefs of services from the ministries of Plan and Territorial Administration, Public Health, Women's Empowerment and the Family as well as the Youths Ministry. Participants also included nine provincial health delegates from UNFPA's nine provinces of intervention as well as the entire UNFPA Country programme team which was recently reinforced with the recruitment of seven provincial coordinators in the domain of reproductive health, five behavioural change experts and three finance assistants. Amongst the category of participants listed, some had had previous experiences working with the organisation while others were coming onboard for the first time – thus the necessity for the orientation workshop.

The objective of this workshop was to ensure that at the start of execution, those called upon to work would have appropriated the mandate and *raison d'être* of UNFPA, its programmes and modalities so as to be apt to fully implement outlined activities. The workshop enabled all actors involved, specifically the new staff and government partners to understand and appreciate the spirit in which the 5th Country Programme was elaborated, its relevance to the UN Reform, the New Aid Environment, the Paris Declaration and the link with the United Nations Draft Action Framework (UNDAF), as well as the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (CIPD) and the MDGs.

The 5th Country Programme will run from 2008-2012 however, to ensure effective management and be result based oriented. Activities will be elaborated and executed on a yearly basis. This strategy therefore necessitated the elaboration of an Annual Work plan. Similarly, yearly activities will be programmed in trimesters to facilitate planning, execution, monitoring and reporting as well as follow-up and evaluation.

The five day workshop rounded up with practical exercises which involved the mapping out of trimester work plans as per UNFPA's nine intervention zones and/or executing structures namely; The Division of Demographic Analysis and Migration (DADM – MINEPAT), Central Bureau for Census and Population Studies (BUCREP – MINEPAT),



National Institute of Statistics (INS), Gender (MINPROFF), and the Ministry of Public Health which oversees activities in the domains of Humanitarian Assistance, Fistula, Emergency Obstetrical Care, Adolescent Reproductive Health and the Africa Development Bank (ADB) project. This exercise rounded up with the completion of the respective Funding Authorisation and Certificate of Expenditure (FACE) templates.

In spite the heavily charged agenda, and a solemn promise to live up to the code of conduct of the UN in the execution of their assigned tasks, participants found time to enjoy the sandy beaches of Kribi and savour the freshness of a variety of sea foods.