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TITLE: NEW ECONOMIC NETWORKS FOR CAMEROONIAN TRADERS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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ABSTRACT:

This paper examines the development of new economic networks for Cameroonians who trade with the outside world. Prior to and after independence, Cameroonian traders traditionally traded with Germany, Britain and France because of their colonial connection. After sometime, France became the main trading partner of Cameroon but from the economic crisis of the mid-1980s, many Cameroonian traders began exploiting new opportunities. Among these were trade links with Benin, Dubai and China. Today, there is an increasing number of men and women plying these new trade routes and providing employment not only for themselves but also for those who work with them. Through a content analysis of secondary and tertiary data, this paper examines the rationale, character, challenges and consequences of these newer trade routes for Cameroon.

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