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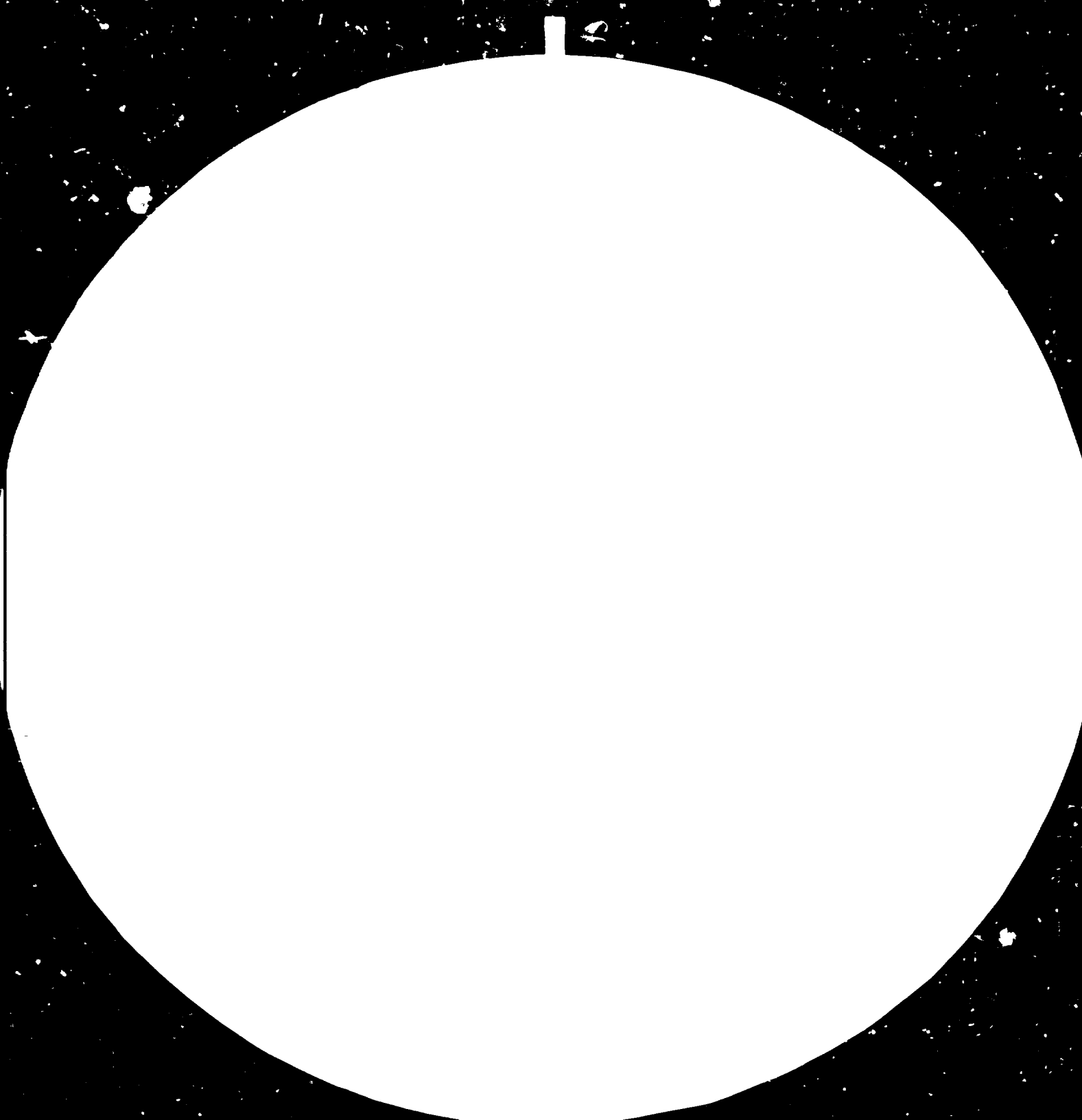
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1.0

A resolution test chart for 1.0. It features a central number '1.0' flanked by two sets of three horizontal lines. Below the number are two sets of three vertical lines.

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1.6  A resolution test chart for 1.6, consisting of a 3x3 grid of patterns. Each pattern is a group of five horizontal lines and five vertical lines, with the number '1.6' printed to the left of each group.

Resolution Test Chart  
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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GABON  
A STATISTICAL REVIEW<sup>\*/</sup>

Prepared by the  
Regional and Country Studies Branch  
Division for Industrial Studies

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## PREFACE

The Division for Industrial Studies, Regional and Country Studies Branch, undertakes under its work programme, the preparation of Country Industrial Statistical Reviews. These reviews are desk studies, providing statistical and economic analyses of the industry sector, its growth, present status and future prospects. It is hoped that the reviews will provide analyses of use in activities relating to technical assistance, industrial redeployment and investment co-operation.

This review on Gabon is based on documents, reports and studies available at UNIDO Headquarters. No field survey has been undertaken and some of the data on industry are not up-to-date.

The views or comments contained in this document do not reflect those of the Government of Gabon nor do they officially commit the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to any particular course of action.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Totals in tables may not add precisely because of rounding. In tables, three dots (...) indicate that data are not available, and a dash (-), that they are not applicable.

The regional GDP and its breakdown includes the data of the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde Island, Centralafrican Republic, Chad, Comoro Islands, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Reunion, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The national currency is the CFA franc (CFAF). In August 1980 its parity against the US \$ was US \$ = 208.2 CFAF.

## GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Gabon's population has been for years a matter of controversy. Estimates of international bodies, the ones adopted in the present paper, put it in the region of 500,000 for 1977, but the Government considers 1,000,000 to be a more appropriate figure. A census by national and international experts and due in 1981, is expected to come out with a figure acceptable to all concerned.

Some 60 per cent of the population, or 300,000, was estimated to be economically active in 1977, a proportion which laid much higher than the regional average (37.6 per cent). Unlike most countries of the region, Gabon has virtually no urban unemployment. On the contrary, it experiences labour shortages, particularly since 10,000 foreign traders and professionals, mainly from Benin, were expelled in 1978. Out of the 300,000 economically active population, estimated one-third earns wage and salary. Per capita income is among the highest in Africa, more than US \$1,500 in 1976. Only Libya has a higher income (nearly US \$2,500 in the mentioned year),<sup>1/</sup> whereas the regional average is far below US \$100

As shown in Table 1, not only the country's population and labour force, but also its GDP, its exports and imports<sup>2/</sup>, and to a lesser extent its gross capital formation were insignificant as compared to the corresponding ratio figures of the region. The respective values expressed in percentages amounted to 0.12, 0.20, 1.58, 1.96, and 3.61. As in the case of income per capita, the GDP per capita comparison between developing Africa and Gabon reveals a much higher amount for the latter, namely over US \$5,000 against some US \$400.

Apart from the population and labour force, the other economic indicators increased between twice and nearly sixfold faster in Gabon than in Africa between 1960 and 1977 (Table 2). The dominant importance gained by the mining sector, especially the oil industry at the end of the 1960's seems to be at the origin of the spectacular growth experienced by GDP and manufacturing. Given the large need of equipment in mining, one could have expected a higher average of import growth. None the less the 4 per cent reached is a respectable figure in comparison to the export growth rate (0.33 per cent).

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1/ UNIDO, Recent industrial development in Africa, ICIS.117, 6 August 1979, p.3.

2/ Exports and imports in the present paper relate to goods and non-factor services.



Table 1: Comparative economic indicators for Gabon and developing Africa, 1977

Indicator	Gabon	Africa	Gabon d/ Africa
Population <sup>a/</sup>	0.5	397.4	0.12
Labour force <sup>a/</sup>	0.3	149.6	0.20
GDP <sup>b/</sup>	2,515.2	153,363.4	1.58
Gross capital formation <sup>b/</sup>	1,737.0	48,011.0	3.61
Exports <sup>b/</sup>	1,006.0	51,227.5	1.96
Imports <sup>b/</sup>	1,128.3	58,316.8	1.93
GDP per capita <sup>c/</sup>	5,030.4	398.5	1,262.33
Labour force/population <sup>d/</sup>	60.0	37.6	159.57
Gross capital formation/GDP <sup>d/</sup>	69.1	30.3	228.05
Exports/GDP <sup>d/</sup>	40.0	32.3	123.83
Imports/GDP <sup>d/</sup>	45.0	37.0	121.62

Source: UNIDO, Regional and Country Studies - Branch, Industrial data system.

a/ In millions

b/ In millions of US \$, at constant 1975 prices

c/ In US \$, at constant 1975 prices

d/ In per cent

Table 2: Average annual growth rates of main economic indicators in Gabon and developing Africa, 1960 - 1977 (%)

	Population	Labour force	Manufacturing	GDP	Gross capital formation	Exports	Imports
Gabon	1.0	1.71	12.8	11.0	2.88	0.33	3.81
Africa	2.6	2.14	6.8	5.4	8.92	6.46	6.84

Source: UNIDO, Regional and Country Studies Branch, Industrial data system.

The country's share in African GDP increased from 0.68 per cent to 1.58 per cent between 1960 and 1977. During the same period the GDP annual growth rate knew various ups and downs, whereby -7.0 per cent in 1971 and 30.4 per cent in 1968 represented the two extremes (Table 3). Both GDP and per capita GDP rose remarkably from the end of the 1960's on.

Table 3: Evolution of the Gabonese population and GDP, 1960-1977

Year	Population <sup>a/</sup>	GDP <sup>b/</sup>	GDP per capita <sup>c/</sup>	GDP annual growth rate <sup>d/</sup>	Share in African GDP <sup>d/</sup>
1960	452	450.3	996.0	-	0.68
1961	455	519.1	1,140.6	15.3	0.76
1962	458	562.7	1,228.6	8.4	0.79
1963	461	607.4	1,317.5	8.0	0.78
1964	465	633.8	1,363.0	4.3	0.75
1965	469	675.6	1,440.5	6.6	0.76
1966	475	703.3	1,480.6	4.1	0.77
1967	481	727.1	1,511.6	3.4	0.78
1968	487	948.0	1,946.6	30.4	0.92
1969	494	1,070.2	2,166.3	12.2	0.96
1970	500	1,139.8	2,279.6	6.5	0.94
1971	506	1,060.2	2,095.2	-7.0	0.85
1972	511	1,245.2	2,436.7	17.4	0.98
1973	516	1,528.7	2,962.5	22.8	1.14
1974	521	1,961.6	3,765.0	28.3	1.42
1975	526	2,157.7	4,102.0	10.0	1.54
1976	530	2,453.1	4,628.4	13.7	1.62
1977	534	2,515.2	4,710.1	2.7	1.58

Source: UNIDO, Industrial data system, Regional and Country Studies Branch.

a/ In thousands

b/ In millions of US \$, at constant 1975 prices

c/ In US \$, at constant 1975 prices

d/ In per cent

The following Table 4 gives a detailed insight into the sectoral origin of GDP. Noteworthy is the evolution in the construction branch, in services, manufacturing and especially in mining and quarrying. Agriculture, unlike the other branches, experienced a relatively low increase, a trend which, if sustained, might lead to food shortage.

Table 4: Sectoral origin of Gabonese GDP, 1960 - 1977<sup>a/</sup>

Year	Agriculture	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing	Utilities <sup>b/</sup>	Construction	Services	GDP
1960	132.0	141.7	21.8	3.0	40.9	110.0	450.3
1961	168.9	151.8	26.7	3.9	44.1	123.7	519.1
1962	186.2	168.3	26.5	3.9	43.9	133.8	562.7
1963	198.6	186.0	25.3	3.7	47.2	146.6	607.4
1964	182.4	202.3	27.7	4.9	51.0	165.6	633.8
1965	166.3	245.0	27.3	5.8	57.4	173.8	675.6
1966	166.6	258.3	25.5	6.3	70.4	176.2	703.3
1967	159.5	271.1	26.8	14.5	67.6	187.6	727.1
1968	145.0	491.8	26.9	16.0	59.8	208.5	948.0
1969	163.1	567.6	27.0	16.9	66.1	229.7	1,070.2
1970	167.4	591.4	33.1	18.4	73.3	256.2	1,139.8
1971	187.7	464.7	41.4	21.0	84.6	260.8	1,060.2
1972	156.9	571.2	70.6	17.1	164.9	264.5	1,245.2
1973	186.1	691.2	82.2	17.9	204.5	346.8	1,528.7
1974	247.0	852.5	86.6	24.7	276.5	474.4	1,961.6
1975	204.3	937.9	115.2	24.6	400.0	475.7	2,157.7
1976	211.3	1,017.1	134.4	28.8	505.3	556.1	2,453.1
1977	212.4	1,018.2	138.7	29.7	537.7	578.5	2,515.2

Source: UNIDO, Regional and Country Studies Branch, Industrial data system.

a/ In millions of US \$, at constant 1975 prices

b/ Includes water, gas and electricity.

THE IMPACT OF MANUFACTURING

General considerations

Mainly for reasons of physical and institutional infrastructure, Gabonese industrial activities, as in many developing countries, are concentrated in relatively few urban zones. In 1979 for example, nearly 37 per cent of the total units were located in the capital, Libreville (Table 5).

Table 5. Industrial concentration in Gabon, 1979

Unit location	Number of units	Percentage
Libreville	17	36.9
Port-Gentil	11	23.9
Owendo	6	13.0
Franceville	4	8.7
Oyem	2	4.3
Ashanka	1	2.2
Lambaréné	1	2.2
Moanda	1	2.2
Ntchengué	1	2.2
Pointe-Clairette	1	2.2
Salongué	1	2.2

Source: Table 9, pp. 11-14.

The proportion of units established in the same mentioned year in Port-Gentil, the economic capital and second largest city, was also remarkable (about 24 per cent). Respectively 13 per cent and 8.7 per cent of the units were located in Owendo and Franceville respectively, whereas six other cities, Ashanka, Lambaréné, Moanda, Ntchengué, Oyem and Salongué had some 2 per cent of the units each.

From the turnover point of view the mining industry is by far the most important sub-sector (Table 6). It contributed in average 75.2 per cent of the overall sectoral turnover in 1977 and 1978. Chemical and petrochemical industries which, in Gabon, are tightly linked with mining, came next with 9.5 per cent. Wood processing, one of the country's most important indus-

trial activities before the oil boom, realized less than 4 per cent of the total turnover, whereas the share of the beverages industry stagnated at 3 per cent. With regard to the remaining sub-sectors, their contributions varied between 2 per cent (metal and mechanical industries) and 0.2 per cent (tobacco, agro-industries).

Table 6.: Turnover of Gabonese industrial branches, 1977 and 1978

Branch	1977		1978	
	Total (Mio. CFAF)	%	Total (Mio.CFAF)	%
Mining industry	254,260	77.4	235,200	73.0
Chemical and petrochemical industries	28,667	9.0	31,735	10.0
Wood processing	12,000	3.6	12,500	4.0
Water and electricity	10,426	3.1	12,684	4.0
Beverage industry	9,544	3.0	9,871	3.0
Metalworking and mechanical industries	5,176	1.6	8,006	2.4
Food processing	3,225	1.0	3,750	1.1
Textiles industry	2,109	0.6	2,692	0.9
Building materials industry	1,888	0.5	3,288	1.0
Tobacco industry	805	0.2	846	0.2
Agro-industry	115	0.0	1,500	0.4
Total	328,215	100.0	322,072	100.0

Source: Ediafric (Ed.), L'industrie africaine en 1979, Paris 1980, Tome 2, p.6.

The key industries, apart from mining, deal with import substitution and processing. Noteworthy is the fact that the role of the State in this framework is relatively limited, at least from the holding viewpoint (Table 7). In industry as a whole and in the manufacturing sub-sector in particular, French interests are predominant, furthermore, they are represented in all 12 branches. Only 4 of the latter escapes their majority control, namely food processing, water and electricity, building materials as well as agro-industries. Although still modest, the shares of private nationals are none the less noteworthy, particularly in textiles and food processing. This fact leads to the conclusion that despite a common African tendency to invest in

trade, transportation or real estate, productive investments now become attractive for local promoters.

In absolute figures, the country's manufacturing value increased more than sixfold between 1960 and 1977, jumping from about US \$22 million to more than US \$138 million, whereby the spectacular change started in 1972 (Table 8). Also the corresponding per capita values experienced a remarkable increase, particularly at the end of the 1970's. The mentioned figures are, however, somewhat misleading because they suggest a constant increase. In fact the growth rates fluctuated widely from one year to the other, and ranged from - 6.6 per cent in 1966 through 0.1 per cent two years later, to more than 70 per cent in 1972. The contribution of manufacturing to GDP reached the lowest level in 1969 with 2.5 per cent, and the highest 5.7 per cent in 1972. Although the country's share in the African manufacturing value is still modest, there is an undeniable improvement since this share which stagnated during one decade at the 0.3 - 0.4 per cent level, now amounts to approximately 1 per cent.

Table 7: Holdings in the Gabonese industry, 1979, in per cent

Branch	National shares		Foreign shares	
	Public	Private	French	Other
Water and electricity	64.0	-	36.0	-
Agro-industries	51.0	-	49.0	-
Building materials industries	47.0	4.0	46.0	3.0
Food processing	39.0	35.0	26.0	-
Chemical and petrochemical industries	26.0	3.0	61.0	10.0
Oil and gas	25.0	-	71.0	4.0
Wood processing <sup>a/</sup>	17.0	-	71.0	12.0
Mining industry	15.0	-	56.0	29.0
Textiles industry	13.0	16.0	59.0	12.0
Tobacco industry	10.0	-	50.0	-
Beverages industry	7.0	0.5	92.5	-
Metalworking industry and electrical engineering	5.0	6.0	56.0	33.0

Source: Ediafric (Ed.), L'économie africaine en 1979, Paris 1980, Tome 2, p.5.

a/ Excluding saw-mills.

Table 8: Gabonese manufacturing 1960 - 1977, at constant 1975 prices

Year	Total value <sup>a/</sup>	Value per capita <sup>b/</sup>	Growth rate <sup>c/</sup>	Share in GDP <sup>c/</sup>	Share in African manufacturing <sup>c/</sup>	Share in GDP <sup>c/</sup> African share in GDP
1960	21.8	48.2	-	4.9	0.4	60.8
1961	26.7	58.7	22.1	5.1	0.4	58.7
1962	26.5	57.8	-0.6	4.7	0.4	53.3
1963	25.3	54.8	-4.4	4.2	0.4	48.3
1964	27.7	59.5	9.1	4.4	0.4	50.0
1965	27.3	58.2	-1.4	4.0	0.3	45.4
1966	25.5	53.6	-6.6	3.6	0.3	39.6
1967	26.8	55.7	5.4	3.7	0.3	41.0
1968	26.9	55.2	0.1	2.8	0.3	31.1
1969	27.0	54.6	0.4	2.5	0.3	27.5
1970	33.1	66.2	22.6	3.0	0.3	31.8
1971	41.4	81.8	25.2	4.0	0.3	42.0
1972	70.6	138.2	70.7	5.7	0.6	58.7
1973	82.2	159.3	16.4	5.4	0.6	52.7
1974	86.6	166.2	5.3	4.4	0.6	42.5
1975	115.2	219.0	33.1	5.3	0.8	50.1
1976	134.4	251.6	16.7	5.5	0.8	52.4
1977	138.7	259.7	3.2	5.5	0.9	53.9

Source: UNIDO, Regional and Country Studies Branch, Industrial data system.

a/ In millions of US \$

b/ In US \$

c/ In per cent



Present status of industry

At the end of 1979 Gabon's industrial sector comprised 37 important manufacturing establishments (Table 9), of which 4 only existed before independence, namely the Société de la Haute-Mondah created in 1939, the Ateliers et chantiers de l'Afrique équatoriale (1950), the Compagnie forestière du Gabon (1951) and the Union industrielle pour l'Afrique équatoriale (1958)

Locally manufactured products range, inter alia, from plywood, logs, veneers, sugar, beer, soft drinks, cigarettes, fabrics, ready-made cloths to shoes, paint, batteries, bleaching water, clinker, marble and aluminium sheets. Although relatively modest, only a small part of the industrial output can be absorbed by the domestic market, the remaining part being exported to neighbouring countries, especially those which, together with Gabon, constitute the Union Douanière de l'Afrique Centrale (UDEAC). These countries are the Central African Republic, Congo and the United Republic of Cameroon.

The weight of sectoral activities lies on wood (timber) processing as well as chemical and petrochemical industries. Although primary processing seems diversified at first glance, the enterprises in this sub-sector are still limited in number and from the turnover point of view. In 1979 only one enterprise each was engaged in agri-industries, food processing and tobacco industry; two each were in textiles and leather and footwear, four in beverages industry and nine in wood processing. In terms of labour, however, primary processing remains the sub-sector offering the largest amount of employment opportunities. Metalworking industries and electrical engineering have also a considerable number of employees. In recent years, oil production and the related chemical and petrochemical industries have remarkably contributed to increase the number of wage and salary earners in the country's modern sector of economy. Unfortunately, available information (Table 9) shows that nearly all capacities in Gabon's manufacturing are underutilized, a fact which holds true even for the beverages industry, yet one of the most prosperous industrial activities in Africa. To be sure, several constraints such as the narrowness of the domestic market and the competition from other African countries represent serious handicaps. Still, they are certainly ways and means enabling to optimize the utilization of existing capacities.

Table 9. Main Gabonese manufacturing enterprise, 1979

Enterprise	Registered capital (Mio CFAF)	Turnover (Mio CFAF)	Unit location	Date of creation	Number of employees	Product	Installed capacity	Production
1. <u>Primary industries</u>								
1.1. <u>Wood processing</u>								
Cie forestière du Gabon, CFG	2,770.3	10,000	Port-Gentil	1951	2,368	plywood slatted pannels	90,000 m <sup>3</sup> 10,000 m <sup>3</sup>	75,000 m <sup>3</sup> 8,000 m <sup>3</sup>
Bois déroulés Gabon, BDG	800	-	Libreville	1975	...	veneers	12,000 m <sup>3</sup>	-
Sté de la Haute-Mondah, SHM	400	1,400 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville	1939	226	logs plywood veneers	18,000 m <sup>3</sup> 6,000 m <sup>3</sup> 6,000 m <sup>3</sup>	15,000 m <sup>3a/</sup> 6,000 m <sup>3a/</sup> 3,000 m <sup>3a/</sup>
Sté africaine de dérou-lage des Ets Rougier, SADER	100	1,091	Salongué Port-Gentil	1966) 1968)	166	veneers	35,000 m <sup>3</sup>	18,927 m <sup>3</sup>
Sté Luterna-Gabon, LUTERGAB	50	...	Ashanka	1974	...	veneers	12,500 m <sup>3</sup>	-
Sté des placages gabonais, PLAGABON	40	...	Port-Gentil	1971	...	veneers	10,000 m <sup>3</sup>	...
Ets RAYER et Cie	23.7	785	Owendo	1961	75	plywood	...	12,700 m <sup>3</sup>
Sté des industries du bois au Gabon, SIBAG	5.5	...	Port-Gentil	1972	...	veneers	...	...
Océan-Gabon	...	...	Libreville	1973	...	plywood	12,000 m <sup>3</sup>	...
1.2. <u>Agro-industries</u>								
Sté sucrière du Haute-Ogoué, SOSUHO	2,600	1,500 <sup>a/</sup>	Franceville	1975	555	refined sugar	30,000 t	7,000 t <sup>a/</sup>
1.3. <u>Food processing</u>								
Sté mennière et avicole du Gabon, SMAO	455	3,750	Libreville Franceville Port-Gentil Moanda Lambaréné Oyen	1969 ) 1972 ) 1973 ) 1974 ) 1977 ) 1977 )	340	flour paste	... 300 t	15,120 t 150 t

Table 9. (cont'd)

Enterprise	Registered capital (Mio CFAF)	Turnover (Mio CFAF)	Unit location	Date of creation	Number of employees	Product	Installed capacity	Production
<u>1.4. Beverages industry</u>								
Sté des brasseries du Gabon, SOBRAGA	375	5,449 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville Oyen	1967 1976	157	beer	500,000 hl	225,000 hl <sup>a/</sup>
						soft drinks	100,000 hl	50,000 hl <sup>a/</sup>
						ice	...	4,000 t <sup>a/</sup>
Sté pour l'expansion des boissons hygiéniques au Gabon, SEBOGA	200	1,300	Libreville	1968	84	soft drinks	85,000 hl	60,000 hl
Sté des brasseries de l'Ogoué maritime, SBOM	150	2,100 <sup>a/</sup>	Port-Gentil	1975	157	beer	150,000 hl	121,900 hl <sup>a/</sup>
						soft drinks	50,000 hl	23,400 hl <sup>a/</sup>
Sté des brasseries du Haute- Ogoué, SBHO	125	1,222 <sup>a/</sup>	Franceville	1972	48	beer	80,000 hl	71,630 hl <sup>a/</sup>
						soft drinks	15,000 hl	...
<u>1.5. Tobacco</u>								
Sté de cigarettes du Gabon, SOCIGA	180	846 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville	1971	52	cigarettes	20 mio.packs	15.3 mio packs <sup>a/</sup>
<u>1.6. Textiles</u>								
Sté ind. textile du Gabon, SOTEGA	260	1,692 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville	1969	133	fabrics	8 mio.meters	6.2 mio.meters
Sté de vêtements manufacturés, SOVEMAN	50	1,000 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville	1966	210	ready-made cloths	3,000 pieces/ day	600,180 pieces
<u>1.7. Leather and footwear</u>								
BATA Gabon	...	...	Libreville	1970	...	shoes	...	...
CYRANO Gabon	15	...	Libreville	1972	...	shoes	300,000 pieces	...
<u>2. Chemical and petrochemical industries</u>								
Cie Gabon Elf de raffinage, COGER	2,500	2,000 <sup>a/</sup>	Port-Gentil	1975	...	refined petrol	1.2 mio.tons	...
Sté gabonaise de raffinage, SOGARA	1,200	23,179	Pointe- Clairrette Port-Gentil	1968 1975	328	refined petrol	1 mio.ton	0.7 mio.ton

Table 9. (continued)

Entreprise	Registered capital (Mio CFAF)	Turnover (Mio CFAF)	Unit location	Date of creation	Number of employees	Product	Installed capacity	Production
Chimie-Gabon	204	522 <sup>a/</sup>	Libreville	1967	47	paint	250 t/month	1,300 t
Sté gabonaise d'oxygène et d'acétylène, GABOA	186	745 <sup>a/</sup>	Port-Gentil Libreville	1964 ) 1972 )	91	Oxygen acetylene	450,000 m <sup>3</sup> 120,000 m <sup>3</sup>	282,000 m <sup>3a/</sup> 79,400 m <sup>3a/</sup>
Sté gabonaise de piles électriques, SOGAPIL	165	351 <sup>a/</sup>	Franceville	1975	47	batteries	6 mio. pieces	5.6 mio. pieces'
Cie gabonaise de plintures et laques, GPL	110	750	Libreville	1976	42	paint	1,800 t	1,600 t
Savonnerie du Gabon, SAGA	37.5	...	Libreville Port-Gentil	1974 ) ... )	...	soap bleaching water	3,200 t 300,000 l	... ...
<u>3. Building materials</u>								
Sté des ciments du Gabon, SCG	7,584	2,895 <sup>a/</sup>	Owendo	1969	...	clinker	270,000 t	134,000 t <sup>a/</sup>
Sté italo-gabonaise des marbles, SIGAMA	542	51 <sup>a/</sup>	Owendo	1975	22	marble	25,000 m <sup>2</sup>	14,000 m <sup>2</sup>
Sté gabonaise de béton manufacturé, SGBM	50	300	Owendo	1975	79	concrete products	70,000 t	12,000 t
<u>4. Metalworking industries and electrical engineering</u>								
Union ind. pour l'Afrique équatoriale, UIAE	300	2,196	Port-Gentil	1958	400	metal items	950 t	500 t
TRANSMETAL Gabon	300	...	Owendo	1977	77	metallic platforms	...	...
Ateliers et chantiers de l'Afrique équatoriale, ACAE	...	...	Libreville	1950	200	metal items	800 t	...
Sté de transformation de l'aluminium au Gabon, SOTRALGA	...	...	Owendo	1977	...	aluminium	5,600 t	...

Table 9. (continued)

Enterprise	Registered capital (Mio CFAF)	Turnover (Mio CFAF)	Unit location	Date of creation	Number of employees	Product	Installed capacity	Production
Sté industrielle gabonaise, SOGI	100	645	Libreville	1977	...	metallic constructions	...	...
Sté gabonaise de realisation de strictires. SOGARES	50	4,000	Ntchengué	1970	240	metallic structures	1,000 t/month	6,000 t
Sté radio-électrique gabonaise, REGABON	30	350	Libreville	1974	43	radio assembly ) cassette-re- ) corder assembly ) TV assembly )	40,000 pieces	4,439 pièces 1,368 pieces 433 pieces

Source: Ediafric (Ed.), L'industrie africaine en 1979, Paris 1980, Tomé 2, pp. 24-46.

a/ Data of 1978.

UNIDO assistance

None of the development plans launched in Gabon since independence has given priority to industrialization. This explains the relatively modest assistance delivered so far by UNIDO to this country. In two recent cases, however, substantial amounts were approved for implementing large-scale projects. At the beginning of the 70s for example, some \$700,000 were foreseen to assist PROMOGABON (DP/GAB/71/516), a project which is completed in the meantime. Presently there is one operational project, Feasibility studies and transformation industries (DP/GAB/78/005), with a total value of about US \$775,000.

Many of the industrial projects foreseen in the present Third Five-Year Plan expiring in 1980 (Table. 10) are likely to be included in the next Plan. Nearly all of them offer room for improving UNIDO technical assistance to Gabon.

Table 10. Industrial projects in Gabonese Third Five-Year Plan (1976-1980)

Project	Purpose	Investment (Mio.CFAF)	Job creation
	1. <u>Primary industry</u>		
	1.1. <u>Wood processing</u>		
Cellulose plant at Kango	To produce yearly 280,000 t of pulp	125,000	...
Extension of Union forestière du Komo	To produce veneers, plywood and furniture (with Yugoslav assistance)	3,500	...
Industrial complex in Kango	To produce yearly 25 pre-fabricated houses and 200 pre-fabricated huts.	2,200	118
Match factory	To produce matches (with Moroccan assistance)	365	...
Wood factory in Essassa	To produce cross-beams	20	100
Extension of SADER	To increase veneers production	...	...
	1.2. <u>Agro-industries</u>		
Rice development programme in Ndendé	To encourage rice production	5,000	...
Milk products factory	To treat daily 10,000 l milk	1,600	...
Agro-industrial complex in Mitzié	To produce yearly 20,000 t natural rubber	...	6,000
Edible oil refinery in Lambaréné	To refine yearly 6,000 t palm and peanut oil	732	...
Palm oil factory in Lambaréné	To produce yearly 34,400 t palm oil and 6,700 t palm kernels (with Egyptian assistance)	28	...
	1.3. <u>Fish industry</u>		
Fish canning and storage in Port-Gentil	To create facilities for canning and storing fish	3,520	...

Table 10. (continued)

Project	Purpose	Investment (Mio.CFAF)	Job creation
	<b>1.4. <u>Food industry</u></b>		
Industrial pork butchering factory	To produce monthly 50 t pork - butcher's meat	600	...
	<b>1.5. <u>Beverages industry</u></b>		
Mineral water factory in Franceville	To produce yearly 6 million bottles mineral water	500	...
Bewery in Monila	To produce yearly 25,000 hl bear and 10,000 hl soft drinks	...	...
	<b>1.6. <u>Chemical and petrochemical industries</u></b>		
Ferro-manganese and silico-manganese factory in Moanda	To produce yearly 85,000 t carburized ferro-manganese and 50,000 t silico- manganese	15,000	...
Lubricant factory in Port-Gentil	To produce yearly 13,000 t industrial oil	1,700	...
Glass-ware factory in Libreville	To produce yearly 10,000 t hollow glass- ware for the local beverages industry	1,400	...
Pipe factory	To produce PVC pipes (with Swiss aid)	520	...
Polyurethane factory	To produce yearly 600 t polyurethane foam	150	...
Extension of Chimie-Gabon	To produce paint and gum lac	110	...
Extension of CFG	To produce yearly 4,000 t waste	100	...
Extension of SOGAPIL	To increase the yearly products from 6 million to 12,000 million batteries	...	...
	<b>1.7. <u>Building materials industry</u></b>		
Cement and clinker factory in Ntoum	To produce yearly 350,000 t cement and 180,000 t clinker	25,000	...



Table 10. (continued)

Project	Purpose	Investment (Mio.CFAF)	Job creation
Ceramic factory in Ovendo	To produce yearly 500,000 m <sup>2</sup> flagstone (with Italian assistance)	2,000	...
1.8. <u>Electrical and metalworking industries</u>			
Small steel factory in Ovendo	To produce yearly 36,000 t concrete iron sticks	2,200	...
Barrel factory in Port-Gentil	To produce yearly 150,000 barrels	925	...
Cable factory	To produce yearly 30,000 t steel cables	500	...

Source: Ediafric (Ed.), L'industrie africaine en 1979. Paris 1980, Tomé 2, pp. 28-46

