

ESWATINI

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

Fit For Market (FFM, FFM SPS, FFM+)



FO4ACP



ACP Business-friendly



Boost Africa



ICR Facility



ACP Quality Infrastructure



Business ACP



DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Fit For Market programmes support companies in the horticultural sector and their environment to ensure their international access to horticultural and national markets while complying with sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and market requirements, individually or collectively. Support includes food safety, environmental management, social compliance and business management. The main types of support are related to the implementation of a management system (on social themes, environment, quality) meeting the requirements of international certification standards required by customers (GLOBALG.A.P., HACCP, Rainforest Alliance, SMETA, etc.). Set up in the continuity of FFM past programmes, the new **FFM Plus (FFM+)** programme support is tailored to facilitate the transition of ACP horticulture towards more sustainable food systems, addressing the priority areas identified in the Farm to Fork strategy of the European Green Deal.

In April 2021, an online training for National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) was organised by COLEACP and included inspectors from Eswatini. In 2022, **FFM SPS** programme has successfully organised multiple training sessions for public services and awarded certificates to 661 participants from competent authorities. Participants hailed from 33 different countries, including Eswatini. Public services were invited to attend various training sessions aimed at improving their skills and knowledge in specific areas such as Internal Audit systems, Sampling and methods for detecting harmful organisms and identification of main pests associated with the export of Capsicum to the EU, Pest Risk Analysis (PRA).



ESWATINI

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

The **ACP Business-friendly** is designed to achieve two key outcomes of:

- Adopting and implementing business-friendly, inclusive and responsible national policies and legal frameworks;
- Strengthening productive, processing, promoting and marketing capabilities and value chains.

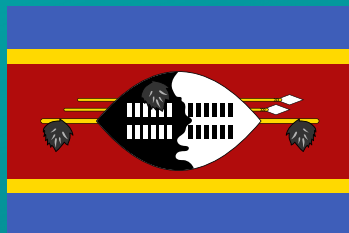
Micro-level interventions are led by ITC through its Alliances for Action approach that promotes inclusive and sustainable agricultural value chains. The activities seek to strengthen value chain governance, associated performance in selected sectors and clusters and improved incomes.

Since the publication in February 2022 of a proposed EU Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CS3D), attention has turned to the questions of how VC actors and stakeholders will operationalise its requirements. Under its Rapide Response Window, ITC has piloted practical bottom-up case studies on "accompanying measures" (AM) to the CS3D in three VCs in selected countries, including the textiles and garments value chain in Eswatini.

As part of this activity, a "Stakeholder's Dialogue on Accompanying measures to the EU CS3D, Emerging lessons from CS3D Pilots" was organised in April 2023 in Brussels, where emerging lessons from the Eswatini pilot were presented by the Managing Director of **Far East Textiles**.

The ABC BF programme's regional-level initiative to develop a **SADC Investment Climate Scorecard**, that assesses foreign direct investment regulatory restrictiveness in the region, is progressing well with full support and engagement of the relevant authorities (SADC member States Ministries of Industry and Trade/Commerce and Investment Promotion Agencies). In the coming months, the World Bank Group is expected to deliver a series of sessions providing the global and regional context for investment and private sector development, presenting the overall and country-level results of the Scorecard, discussing reform priorities, and agreeing on the next steps for its launching and implementation.

The **ACP Quality Infrastructure (QI)** programme supports ACP policy makers, institutions and private sector actors to **(i)** enhance the regional Quality and Regulatory infrastructure governance; **(ii)** strengthen the availability of the value chain-specific QI services; **(iii)** promote quality culture and practices. The programme complements and builds on the ongoing achievements of the ACP Business-friendly programme reinforcing the UNIDO's programme action. **ACP QI** for the African region was officially launched in Luanda in December 2022, during the OACPS Business Days held on the margins of the OACPS Heads of State Summit.



ESWATINI

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

The **ICR Facility** focuses on supporting private and public stakeholders and regional institutions, to improve their investment climate and business environment by facilitating public-private dialogue, among other actions.

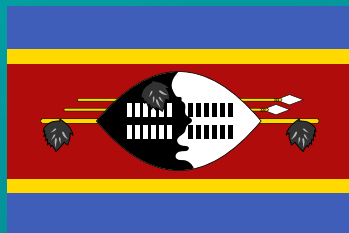
In 2023 in Eswatini, the **ICR Facility** supports the **Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade**, in developing a new industrial policy. The policy should be evidence-based and developed in a participatory and inclusive manner by consulting with relevant stakeholders, including groups representing women-led businesses.

At regional level, the **ICR Facility** supported the **Southern Africa development Community Business Council (SADC BC)**, an apex body of national and regional business associations, in the development of its first strategy and action plan. The **SADC BC** can now focus on the activities with the greatest impact. This will enable the organisation to strengthen its role as a powerful voice of the private sector and can thus contribute to shaping the regional business environment and investment climate in a conducive, sustainable and inclusive manner.

In 2022, the programme supported **AfriLabs** to elaborate a policy brief with the intention to positively influence the design of the **AfCFTA Digital Trade protocol**. The intention is that the protocol addresses issues and challenges for the African innovation and the entrepreneurship ecosystem and contribute to creating an enabling environment for African entrepreneurs and innovators. AfriLabs is a network has 347 members in 52 countries on the African continent. Its mission is to support innovation hubs and their communities to raise high potential entrepreneurs that will stimulate economic growth and social development in Africa. Involving the AfriLabs community in the process enhances ownership and relevance.

FO4ACP. Farmers' Organizations for ACP countries aims to increase the incomes and improve the livelihoods, food and nutrition security, and safety of organized smallholders and family farmers in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries by strengthening regional, national and local farmers' organizations. FO4ACP supports the **Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)** activities focused on facilitating access to markets and the marketing of agricultural produce, provision of technical training and business to business meetings as well as the development of project proposals and business plans.

Boost Africa is implemented by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the European Investment Bank (EIB). It offers blended finance and focuses on supporting entrepreneurially-driven, early stage, and start-up SMEs on the African continent.



ESWATINI

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Boost Africa targets innovative investments in any sector, with special focus on those that have a high potential for economic impact. **Boost Africa** also provides technical assistance to: **i)** venture capital funds which are considered for investment by Boost Africa; **ii)** investee companies of funds in which Boost Africa has invested. The Innovation & Entrepreneurship Lab by the AfDB is part of the Boost Africa initiative.

MORE INFORMATION

- [Read the Monitoring Report 2021:](https://businessacp.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Annual-Report- online-version.pdf)
<https://businessacp.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Annual-Report- online-version.pdf>
- [Visit the "Programmes' Highlights" page on the Business ACP website:](https://businessacp.com/en/94071-2/)
<https://businessacp.com/en/94071-2/>