



JAMAICA

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

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



ICR Facility



ACP Business-friendly



ACP-EU Development Minerals



FO4ACP



ACP Quality Infrastructure



Business ACP



DIRECCT



EURIZ



DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Fit For Market (FFM) 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 the Caribbean, COLEAD and the **Caribbean Agribusiness Association** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at promoting and strengthening the development of agribusiness in the Caribbean, improving competitiveness through increased capacity to produce better quality food and more secure, better market access and strong business and management skills. The FFM SPS programme has trained and awarded certificates to 661 participants from different countries' public sector services (including from the Caribbean) that implement improved SPS analytical, control and enforcement procedures for local and export markets.



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DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Multiple training sessions were organised for public services in 2022. In Jamaica, the trainings addressed the topics of organisation of official control and Pest Risk Assessment.

COLEAD, through FFM and FFM SPS, in collaboration with the *Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture*, has launched the Caribbean Agrifood Business Series to support a more resilient and greener agricultural and agrifood business sector in the Caribbean. This Caribbean Agrifood Business Series aims at (i) exchanging ideas and best practices on selected priority issues; (ii) showcasing successes of smallholders, businesses and micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs); (iii) promoting and documenting forthcoming innovations and technologies benefiting smallholders and MSMEs; (iv) promoting networking amongst various stakeholders in the food chain; and (v) disseminating research findings.

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. The programme supports the *Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce (MIIC)* and the *Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)* in achieving a business environment reform for the social enterprise sector. The assistance involves supporting the development of a legislative framework for the social enterprise sector through a series of workshop, public-private dialogues and awareness creation.

At regional level, ICR Facility supported the *Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA)* with technical assistance to improve the credit reporting in 15 CARIFORUM countries through a systems assessment and a public-private consultation session. The intervention provided an in-depth assessment of credit bureaus and collateral registries in the region, and highlighted opportunities for reform at the regional level.

In addition, the *Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA)* received support to analyse the insolvency frameworks around the region. A state-of-the-art report is now publicly available reviewing the region's insolvency processes. It identifies and addresses the most significant country-level deficiencies, broader regional patterns and important gaps in institutional capacity with suggestions for improvement. It was discussed in a regional validation workshop and can now serve as a good basis for national authorities to improve insolvency procedures in the region. The ICR Facility also provided advisory services to the *Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)* to assess how CDB could structure its private sector lending and in assessing the feasibility of a supply chain and trade finance facility for the Caribbean region.



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

- 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 of the programme are led by ITC through its Alliances for Action approach that promotes inclusive and sustainable agricultural value chains. Interventions aim to enhance value chain operators' individual and collective competitiveness with specific attention to family farmers, agri-entrepreneurs and processors. The programme interventions support increased productivity, quality, incomes and employment. Multiplier effects across the economy include increased demand for related services such as transport, packaging and logistics services. In Jamaica, ACP Business-friendly is promoting good agricultural practices of smallholder cocoa farmers, with a focus to tackle the frosty pod rot disease, replanting and encouraging diversification for better living income. In addition, support is provided to local agro-processors in product development and market linkages at the regional and international level. Main project counterparts are: the **Ministry of Agriculture** (Export Division and Plant Quarantine and Inspection); **Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)**; **Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA)**; **Jamaica Cocoa Farmers Association (JCFA)**; **Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ)**; **Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO)**; **Scientific Research Council (SRC)**; **Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS)**; **Interamerican Institute of Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**; **Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute (CARDI)**; **University of the West Indies (UWI)**, **Caribbean Export**.

So far, key achievements from the ACP Business-friendly's support to the Jamaican cocoa value chain include:

- Multistakeholder partnerships for cocoa sector development were established spanning across 6 international trade fairs in 5 different countries.
- Public-private value chain alliances were established through collaborations with the Ministry of Agriculture, RADA, JACRA, and private partners.
- 1 Jamaican brand secured a sales partnership with Kosak, a famous brand in Paris that selects and imports the best bean-to-bar chocolates from across the world.
- 2 major trainings on sustainable agronomic were led by the ITC-Alliances for Action team and local partners in Jamaica.
- 2 webinars with participation of 114 beneficiaries were held following activities under market development and serve as a capacity building exercise for product development and market linkages.



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- 3 product development working sessions for Jamaican chocolate brands were carried out by famous pastry chef and chocolate expert Michael Laiskonis and the world-reputed Basque Culinary Centre.

At regional level, ITC worked closely with **Caribbean Export** as a key regional partner for the project. Both agencies worked together to organize a detailed training on the European Union (EU) organic regulation with the collaboration of an international certification body that provided practical information to exports. UNIDO is implementing the meso-level component of the ACP Business-friendly programme. Investment promotion interventions are aimed to facilitate the process of identifying, mobilizing capital, knowledge, and technological resources for a more targeted investment development impact. During 2022, UNIDO and **CAIPA** continued their collaboration with the aim to extend technical assistance support to Caribbean IPAs in their effort to promote investment UNIDO also received requests from **JAMPRO** for further technical support in terms of investment opportunity profiling interventions and how to promote them via the "Invest-in-ACP" Portal.

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 (Meso-level component). ACP QI was officially launched in the Caribbean at the 41st Meeting of the **CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)** Council, in October 2022.

ACP-EU Development Minerals The second phase of the ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme helps Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Enterprises (ASMEs) engaged in Development Minerals value chains to improve livelihoods, generate higher employment and incomes. In particular, the programme aims to increase economic opportunities for women participating in ASMEs throughout the Development Minerals value chains. The programme supported the development of the National Mineral Policy which was passed in 2021. This Policy has important implications for facilitating the formalization and professionalizing small-scale miners and quarries. For instance, it requires quarry operators to have certified quarry managers in the next 5 years and mandates the registration of illegal and informal operators. It will also diversify the institutional arrangements to introduce a **National Minerals Institute** and **Jamaica Limestone Institute**.



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Jamaica's online mining cadastre (JAMinCAD) was completed and launched in March 2022. It enables the country to manage its mineral resources and the process of mining licensing efficiently and transparently by enabling the government and industry to know the types, location, and quantity of mineral resources in the country. JAMinCAD has been integrated into the existing database at the Mines and Geology Division and registry files. So far, 73 people have been trained in the use of the cadastre system including ASMEs, representatives of the local **Jamaica Bauxite Institute**, stakeholder groups and the **Ministry of Transport and Mining** and the **Mines and Geology Division (MGD)**. Development Minerals programme also supported the **University of Technology of Jamaica (UTECH)** and the **Excelsior Community College (EXED)** in developing the curriculum for training programs (BSc in Mine and Quarry Management at UTECH and a certificate at EXED), adapting the training to delivery both online and in-person, and conducting outreach about the training programs through social media and other means of communication. The development of a mobile app for conflict management and grievance resolution is at an advanced stage. This app will help to deal with conflict in communities related to mining and quarrying operations. It will also enable follow-up action and reporting to the local regulatory agencies, issues of environmental incidents to the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**, mining issues to the **MGD**, the communities, as well as the press. It aims to contribute to improved management of conflict between mining companies and communities.

FO4ACP aims to increase the incomes and improve the livelihoods, food and nutrition security, and safety of organized smallholders and family farmers by strengthening regional, national and local farmers' organizations. One of the key areas for intervention in the region is the development, strengthening and consolidation of technical advisory services and training systems. A National Selection Process were concluded in Jamaica guiding the mentoring programme and the policy dialogue. A call for applications for the National Training programme was launched in April 2022. At regional level, delivery to its members of economic services in priority value chains stands as a major component for the programme. Mapping and the systematisation of information regarding farmers' organisations is a flagship activity of that component.



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DIRECCT (Digital Response Connecting Citizens) is implemented jointly by Agence française de développement (AFD) and the Belgian development agency, Enabel. In the Caribbean, DIRECCT supports the **Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)**, which is setting up a unified system for collecting and managing public health data in the countries of the Caribbean community.

This investment in the health security supports integration of real-time digital surveillance systems to enhance risk assessment, monitoring, prevention and control of established infectious diseases and new and emerging public health threats by CARPHA and CARPHA Member States.

CARPHA also coordinates capacity-building of Member States' Ministries and Authorities of Health to implement these systems for local, sub-regional and regional surveillance, with a focus on gender equity and human-centred technology. Another activity undertaken at the Caribbean regional level is the Virtual E-Commerce Accelerator Programme (VEAP), implemented by **Caribbean Export (CEDA)**. VEAP is aimed at building capacity of Business Support Organisations (BSOs) and firms to adopt e-Commerce technologies and processes leading to broader and more effective market reach, customer engagement and export sales.

EURIZ guarantee helps to increase credit accessibility for MSMEs, by engaging in cooperation initiatives with a wide variety of financial institutions. Implemented by PROPARCO (AFD Group), EURIZ covers agricultural and agri-business, health, education, digital, and microfinancing companies owned by women or young people, who are facing increased difficulties in accessing finance. In 2022, the programme reinforced the offer of the EURIZ guarantee and developing activities in the Caribbean region

MORE INFORMATION

- Read the Monitoring Report 2021:
<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/>