

LIBERIA

PROGRAMMES EN COURS

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



ICR Facility



ACP Business-friendly



Boost Africa



FO4ACP



ACP Quality Infrastructure



Business ACP



Digital Finance for Resilience (DFS4RES)

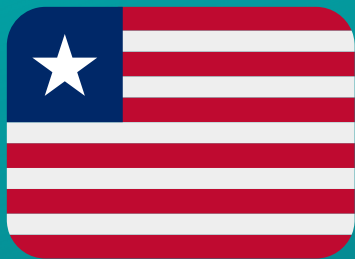


DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

FFM & FFM SPS 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 2019, COLEACP organised an event in Rome to present **FFM SPS** to the competent authorities of OACPS countries. The event provided an opportunity to discuss SPS issues affecting the ACP fruit and vegetable sector and possibilities for COLEACP support within the framework of **FFM SPS**, and to review the first requests for support already received by COLEACP. Representatives from the **Liberian National Plant Protection Organisation** attended the event.

In November 2022, COLEAD organised a collective training on “Farming as a Business 2 (FAB2)” for a group of companies based in Sierra Leone and Liberia.




LIBERIA

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Carried out with the support of **FFM SPS**, this training complements the first FAB1 training session, which took place in June 2022 and was followed by an individual and tailor-made coaching in December 2022. Each participating company received tailor-made support based on the priority needs identified by each manager.

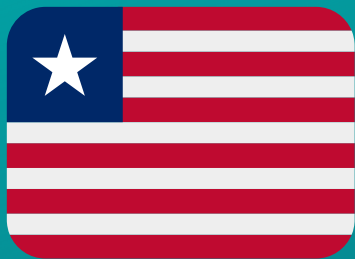
The **ACP Business-friendly (ACP BF)** programme is designed to achieve two key outcomes of:

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

In Liberia, the macro-level of the programme (implemented by the World Bank) deployed the **ACP BF Rapid Response Window** in the context of broader support on private sector development through the **Liberia Investment Finance and Trade Investment Policy Financing** project. Specifically, the grant was focused on supporting the **Liberia Business Registry (LBR)** function as an “effective, automated one-stop-shop (OSS) for businesses”. The project is currently supporting a rapid response back up function for existing registrations, a “cloud-based” and decentralized system that allows online registration, processes for obtaining business, trade, and public interest licenses  and capacity improvement of **LBR**.

At regional level, the meso-level of the programme (implemented by UNIDO) promoted digital solutions such as the Digital Investment Profiling System (DIPS) and the Invest-in-ACP Platform to augment the efficiency and regional-level scalability enabling IPAs/IPIs to do networking and to digitally manage the entire workflow of investment monitoring and opportunity profiling and promotion.

The micro-level of the programme (implemented by ITC) focuses on revamping the coffee sector by providing support to coffee value chain actors, farmer cooperatives and support institutions through capacity building trainings on good agricultural practices, harvesting techniques and coffee farm establishment to enhance the productive capacities of farmers; value addition enhancement through the organization of trainings workshops on coffee roasting/cupping/coffee shop management; market development through participation of coffee MSMEs in international coffee fairs for B2B/B2C opportunities. In 2022, the activities focused on consolidating partnerships with the public sector for the facilitation of sustainable and resilient coffee production in Liberia and exploring international commercial partnerships for investment in Liberia’s unique coffee species.



LIBERIA

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

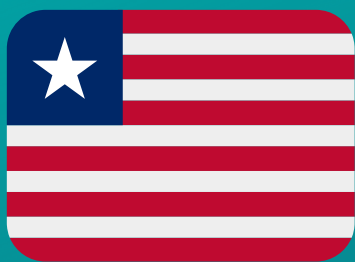
Trainings on sustainable production were implemented for the coffee farmer communities, and resources and equipment were provided to scale up coffee production in Liberia. Through the programme, 4,474 seedlings and planting materials have been distributed to 650 farmers, 36 lead farmers, extension officers private sector institutions representatives have been trained on techniques of cloning propagation of coffee seedlings.

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.

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 ICR Facility supports the **National Investment Board (NIB)** of Sierra Leone, which was established in 2022 to promote investment opportunities, to act as a facilitating body and assist investors to obtain facilities relating to their business enterprises and generally to improve the investment climate. The **ICR Facility's** intervention will focus on supporting the **NIB** to establish a centralized and coordinated approach to investment activities. This involves developing two main outputs: **(i)** National Investment Strategy to guide investment-related matters, identify priority sectors for inward investment such as food and agriculture, information and communication technology, transport as well as develop a roadmap on strategic development of **NIB**, its goals, stakeholder engagement methods and women economic empowerment; **(ii)** Framework (or "how-to" guide) for Aftercare Services to provide support to investors with respect to contractual issues, collaboration with public bodies and prevention or settlement of disputes that should enhance the predictability of their investments.

At regional level, the **ICR Facility** supported the private sector section of the **Commission of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)** to develop a partnership and dialogue between the public and the private sector in the Sahel region and to thus improve the business and investment climate. The technical assistance provided to ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) was aimed at creating a tailor-made capacity building programme for its staff and management.



LIBERIA

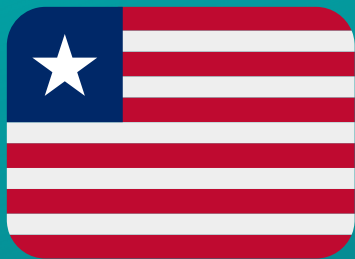
DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

A tailored workplan has been developed and includes works on a learning management system and specialized training. It also provided 2 technical assistance to **FEWACCI (Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce and Industry)**: one focused on promoting the harmonization of business law in ECOWAS Member States; the other was an assessment of the main factors influencing the business environment for women-led enterprises in agribusiness value chains in the ECOWAS region. Additionally, the program supported the **Regional Capacity Building Office of the World Customs Organization** in the organization of a series of online workshops on topics related to the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on organizations customs.

Another recent intervention was the development of a policy brief with the aim of positively influence the design of the **AfCFTA Digital Trade protocol**. The intention being that the protocol addresses issues and challenges for the African innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem and contributes to creating an enabling environment for African entrepreneurs and innovators.

FO4ACP. The overall objective of the **Farmers' Organizations for ACP countries** programme, implemented by IFAD, is to improve food and nutrition security and safety, and to increase income levels by strengthening local farmers' organizations, national and regional. In West Africa, the program supports the **Network of Farmer and Producer Organizations in West Africa (ROPPA)**, and its technical staff called the **CNIEP** (National Councillor for PO economic initiatives) in the consolidation of three sectors priorities (potatoes, sweet potatoes, poultry). In addition, nineteen women's and youth cooperatives were selected and received capacity building support from the **CNIEP**. Three networks of farmers' organizations (**APESS, RBM, ROPPA**) have set up a Monitoring and Action Committee which aims to be a space for encouraging and structuring cooperation between all the networks of farmers' organizations and CSOs in the face of to the COVID-19 crisis. The **ROPPA Women and Youth platform** also organized consultations between its members.

DFS4RES Digital Finance for Resilience in ACP countries aims to deploy digital finance solutions at the scale and speed needed to deepen financial inclusion and accelerate economic recovery from COVID-19, in order to make economies and societies more resilient to external shocks. The program helped the **Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)** automate the collection of data on financial inclusion indicators and the geolocation of financial service points in the western region, improving thus the efficiency of data collection from financial service providers, storage, analysis and dissemination of data.



LIBERIA

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

Boost Africa is a joint initiative of the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the European Investment Bank (EIB), which offers blended finance and focuses on supporting entrepreneurial, start-up and start-up SMEs on the African continent. IN 2022, the EIB invested EUR 10 million in **Jango Capital Start-up Fund** under the Boost Africa initiative, to strengthen digital innovation and stimulate job creation in several countries in Africa, including in Liberia. In addition, through its Entrepreneurship Lab (Elab), Boost Africa has supported the training of hundreds of start-up creators, including in Liberia.

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/> 