





ONGOING PROGRAMMES



























































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.

The <u>ACP Business-friendly</u> 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.

At macro level, the ACP BF Rapid Response Window provides quick support to governments in the investment climate space and along the two main programme themes, particularly in the context of mitigating the economic risks, and working towards a green, resilient and inclusive recovery, in the post pandemic world.







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These interventions expediently support and leverage existing (longer term) World Bank operations focused on private sector development. Thus far, 16 project activities within the OACPS have received (or are in the process of receiving) support under this window through three phases. Over the past years, the rapid response window has been mobilized to bring key stakeholders together to ensure policy dialogue, build counterpart capacity to contribute to economic recovery efforts, and support policy actions towards green, resilient, and inclusive development in addition to building a robust analytical foundation for further policy reform, among other areas of assistance. In Mozambique, the Rapid Response Window supported the **National Investment Promotion Agency (APIEX)** with the review of their investment law, recommendations on developing a model bilateral investment treaty, capacity building, design of a supplier development program and identification of high priority sectors to attract FDI.

The <u>Regional Engagement Window</u> aims at fostering inter- and intra-regional knowledge exchange around Investment Climate reforms and policy outcomes within the ACP countries. It represents a channel to promote learning opportunities and disseminate knowledge and experiences acquired through the Country Engagement and Rapid Response Windows to the broader group of ACP countries. In December 2022, an ACP BF Peer-to-peer learning event took place in Luanda, on the margins of the OACPS Heads of State Summit. The event brought together more than 130 participants (in-person and virtually) and focused on two areas: i) Facilitating improvements in the policy, regulatory, and administrative environments for investment; ii) Enhancing the policy regimes for FDI linkages and for addressing key market failures to private sector-led growth and job creation.

The ACP Business-friendly regional-level initiative to develop a <u>SADC Investment Climate Scorecard</u>, 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 <u>ACP Quality Infrastructure (QI)</u> 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.







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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 <u>ICR Facility</u> 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 2021, the ICR Facility supported the *Beluluane Industrial Park (BIP)*, a public-private partnership by the Mozambican Government Agency for Investment & Export (APIEX) and private investors, to improve the park's environmental sustainability.

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 <u>AfCFTA Digital Trade protocol</u>. 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.

<u>FO4ACP.</u> 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.







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<u>EURIZ</u> 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 2021, PROPARCO allocated a 3 million euros EURIZ portfolio guarantee to Société Générale Moçambique to allow the bank to continue to support the private sector, especially women entrepreneurs and the agriculture sector.

<u>Boost Africa</u> 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. **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
- <u>Visit the "Programmes' Highlights" page on the Business ACP website:</u> https://businessacp.com/en/94071-2/