



# RWANDA

## ONGOING PROGRAMMES

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



### ICR Facility



### FO4ACP



### Boost Africa



### Women Entrepreneurship for Africa



### DIRECCT



### Business ACP



### ACP Quality Infrastructure

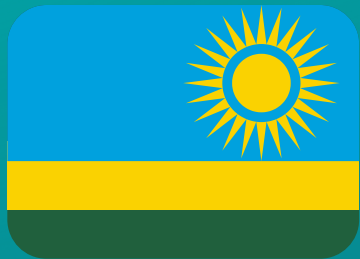


## DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS

**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+ 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.

Support was given to **Spices Rwanda Ltd**, a whole dried chilli business, in two different phases. Phase one support aimed at reviewing the current Spices Rwanda Ltd HACCP plan and identifying and documenting corrective actions that need to be taken for future HACCP system certification. Phase two support involved training of Spices Rwanda Ltd staff on the general principles of food hygiene. Since receiving technical support from the FFM programme, Spices Rwanda Ltd has invested further into HACCP system implementation toward certification secured. early in 2022.

In 2021, **Proxifresh Rwanda** successfully passed the GLOBALG.A.P. and received certification. The company specializes in the export of green beans, spring onions and snow peas from Rwanda,



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and had reached a total volume of 460 tonnes in 2021 despite logistical challenges faced due to the global Covid crisis. The support provided by **FFM** included organising a baseline assessment of the existing QMS, training the quality management team and providing technical assistance for the implementation of the quality management manuals. food safety and traceability required. FFM SPS also supported the **Rwandese National Plant Protection Authority** to improve the national sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) system and strengthen the SPS standards of fruits and vegetables exported to the EU.

At regional level, COLEAD and EAC officialised a partnership to jointly work on different elements to support the development and strengthening of fruit and vegetables value chains. Exchanges between the EAC and COLEAD were the subject of a specific presentation in November 2021 at the "1st Meeting of the EAC Region Platform on Fruits and Vegetables on the Future of processing and trade in Fruits and Vegetables: Building Resiliencies past the Pandemic".

**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 Facility supported the **Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD)** to become an accredited entity of the Green Climate Fund and to improve the Monitoring & Evaluation. The support included revision of **BRD's** policies and procedures, elaboration of a gender policy and of an on-granting manual for climate finance. The **BRD** received advisory services for the improvement of its monitoring and evaluation system, in order to enable the bank to track its developmental impact. Also, a dashboard was developed to monitor the bank's institutional performance. To assess the impact of projects before investment and lending decisions are made, an Impact Measurement Tool was developed and is now in use by **BRD**. Overall, BRD's reporting on impact development has improved.

**FO4ACP** The overall objective of the programme is to increase income and to improve livelihood, food and nutrition security and safety of organised smallholder and family farmers in ACP countries. FO4ACP, in cooperation with **Ingabo Syndicate** (cassava value chain), elaborated the cassava seed business strategy, established the Cassava Centre of Excellence, developed the e-cassava market application and organised the Cassava Week event that brought together all the cassava value chain stakeholders.



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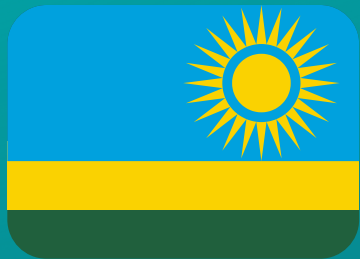
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Farmers' Organisation for ACP is active at regional level through the **East African Farmers Federation (EAFF)** which adopted a new Strategic Plan 2021-2028 and rolled out a regional COVID-19 sensitisation campaign supported by the programme. Two regional policy studies – for dairy and maize value chains – were conducted aiming at improving business environment. In this context, two business to business (B2B) meetings for the above value chains were organised, and MoUs were signed.

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.

**WE4A** aims to improve the business capacity of women-led enterprises to increase their chances of raising follow-on funding from private sector investors. Both the Initial acceleration and follow-on growth programmes aim to assist women entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa to flourish and contribute to employment creation in their communities through enhanced business capacities, access to formal financial services, and integration into local/regional value chains. WE4A aims to improve the business capacity of women-led enterprises to increase their chances of raising follow-on funding from private sector investors. Both the Initial acceleration and follow-on growth programmes aim to assist women entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa to flourish and contribute to employment creation in their communities through enhanced business capacities, access to formal financial services, and integration into local/regional value chains.

Component 1 of the programme provided gender sensitive entrepreneurship training and seed capital through the the Tony Elumelu Foundation; component 2, implemented by GIZ through the "Employment and Skills for development in Africa" (E4D) project, links African women entrepreneurs (TEF alumni) to private sector initiatives and provide technical assistance to build commercial bridges with larger lead businesses and integrating their supply chains; and component 3, led by the Swiss Association for Entrepreneurship in Emerging markets (SAFEEM), supports African women entrepreneurs to secure second stage financing as a major stepping-stone to be becoming fully bankable and capitalizing on the employment potential of their businesses.



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Two Rwandese are supported by the WE4A Acceleration Programme. **Store2door** Ltd is an innovative e-commerce startup that exist to bridge the gap between farmers and consumers by allowing farmers and sellers to list their harvest products on its website and its application. **Kosmotive** is a social enterprise that focuses on improving reproductive, maternal and child health. It produces affordable sanitary pads and provides an information platform for any concern about their menstrual and reproductive health.

**DIRECCT (Digital Response Connecting Citizens)** programme is implemented jointly by Agence française de développement (AFD) and the Belgian development agency, Enabel, and contributes to making digital technology accessible to all by developing around ten projects in weakened areas, more specifically health, education and the economy. In Rwanda, ENABEL's **Wehubit programme** supports digital content enhanced STEM education (**University of Rwanda**) through the availability of interactive and inclusive digital content, capacitating in instructional design and online pedagogy the academic staff teaching in STEM programs, training of 600 students selected from STEM Programs on EdTech solutions. – EdTech – use of education technology to improve quality and continuity of teaching and learning. Another support is the “Decentralised decision room-planning decision support system” project, implemented by **Ministry of Infrastructure of RWANDA** that will help getting a better understanding of the existing planning processes, institutionalisation and use of the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) in cities’ planning processes.

On the education side, DIRECCT through Wehubit provided support to the project “Coding among Rwandan adolescents & teachers through the curriculum & clubs heading for Rwanda 2050”. 135 ICT and STEM teachers of 45 secondary schools in Kayonza district will take part in a blended learning trajectory.



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**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. 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. Training to start-up owners covers Somalia. Training to start-up owners covered Rwanda.

## 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/>