

UGANDA

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

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



AgriFI



FO4ACP



Business ACP



ACP-EU Development Minerals



ICR Facility



ACP Business-friendly



ACP Quality Infrastructure



Women Entrepreneurship for Africa



ABC Fund



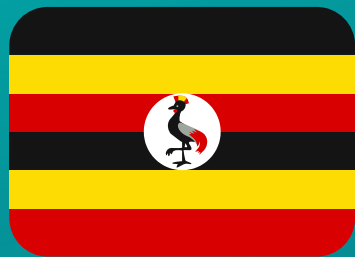
Boost Africa



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.

As an illustration of support provided by the programmes to the horticultural sector, the **Ugandan Association of Fruit and Vegetable Exporters and Producers** benefited from the technical assistance of FFM for the establishment of a 5-year strategic action plan. **Jakana Foods Ltd** produces conventional and organic dried fruits (banana, jackfruit, mango, pineapple, papaya). The company benefited from the support of FFM to improve its purchasing management system in order to be able to meet market demand.



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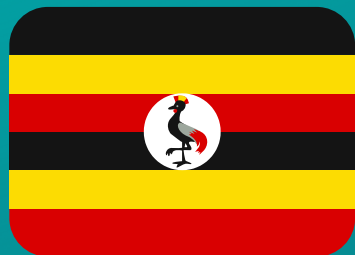
The **Avocado Association Uganda (AAU)** is an inter-professional association with 50 members, mainly small avocado producers. The objective of the association is to enable its members to access international and national horticultural markets by complying with good agricultural practices, SPS requirements and market requirements. **FFM** provided support to work on its governance structure and the development of a strategic plan. Another activity was a tour organised in Kenya for twelve members of the **AAU** to give them hands-on experience of the whole avocado value chain, to benchmark farm practices especially set up for smallholder programmes, and to study and appreciate the added value products from avocado.

FFM SPS updated its Technical Brochure on the management of false codling moth (FCM, *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*), for use in training sessions with Ugandan growers of pepper (*Capsicum* spp.). The main enhancement is an updated table of plant protection products (PPPs) potentially effective against FCM that are currently registered for use in Uganda. The information includes the active ingredients and concentrations, the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) mode of action classification, the World Health Organization (WHO) classification, and the EU maximum residue level (MRL) for *Capsicum*.

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".

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 **Formalisation and Business Development Acceleration Strategy for the Development Minerals Sector in Uganda** was developed and finalised in 2021. A 5-year roadmap towards achieving a formalised development minerals sector was also formulated. The programme conducted dedicated training sessions for ASMEs in all regions of Uganda to familiarise them with the Strategy and the regulatory framework. The programme is supporting geo-data mapping and reserve estimation of four development minerals, identified as priority minerals in the Market Study and Value Chain Analysis of the sector: sand, dimension stone, stone aggregate and clay.

The Programme provided equipment (plotter) to the **Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development** to generate and provide geodata maps to interested stakeholders.



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Some 17 grants issued for a total of EUR 82 000 to ASM associations in development minerals, community-based organisations and local governments, benefitting 1 677 people directly and 2 483 people indirectly. In addition, small grants were designed to include interventions that increase inclusion of women and youth; as a result, the grantees had built-in activities such as promoting women's savings' groups and making women's work easier. The programme, together with the **Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development**, collaborated with the **Spotlight Initiative** to organise a national dialogue on addressing gender-based violence in the mining sector.

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

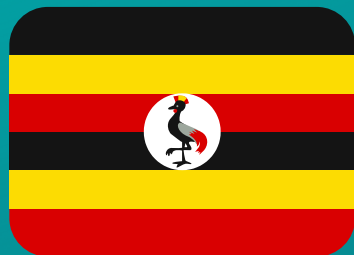
- Adopting and implementing business-friendly, inclusive and responsible national policies and legal frameworks;
- Strengthening productive, processing, promoting and marketing capabilities and value chains.

At the macro level intervention, ACP Business-friendly's regional Engagement Window 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. **A Peer-to-peer learning event** took place on December 6, 2022, in Luanda, Angola, on the margins of the OACPS Heads of State Summit. The objective was to foster peer-to-peer learning among ACP policymakers, to facilitate capacity building by discussing the latest global and regional investment climate trends and best practices, and to showcase achievements of the ACP Business-friendly program to date.

The **Global Corporate Tax Incentives (CIT) Database** aims to systematically report on the availability of corporate tax incentives, tax parameters, conditions (including sectoral classification) and generosity of each of the incentives for countries over time (2009-2020). The current database only covers 40 countries. The WB will be working throughout 2023 on additional coverage in order to inform counterpart operations and research efforts, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Support to implementation of AfCFTA: ACP Business-friendly working with a few select AfCFTA Member States and the AfCFTA Secretariat to support the process of AfCFTA implementation with a focus on investment.

Under its Rapid Response Window, the ACP BF supported the country's investment promotion efforts through preparing a report assessing the country's IPP framework (with recommendations to strengthen the legal framework in investment entry, streamlining procedures and the



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investment approval process) accompanied by a report with proposed recommendations on strengthening the business environment, review of a draft decree to change the APCI statute, capacity building workshops for APCI staff, an investor survey (of 36 investors) and the development of a draft investment promotion strategy.

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 Ugandan coffee value chain.

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 Uganda pilot were presented by the representative of **Uganda Coffee development Authority**.

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.

FO4ACP The overall objective of the **Farmers' Organizations for ACP** programme is to increase income and to improve livelihood, food and nutrition security and safety of organised smallholder and family farmers in ACP countries. The Farmers' Organisation for ACP is active at the 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.



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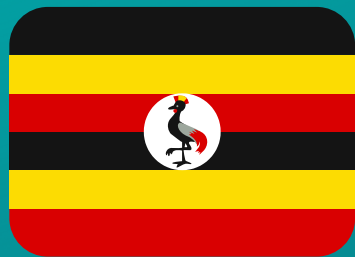
ICR Facility focuses on supporting private and public stakeholders and regional institutions, to improve their investment climate and business environment by facilitating public-private dialogue, among other actions. Technical assistance aims to undertake an evaluation study of the **Female Future Program (FFP)** in Uganda. And to use the results to provide recommendations for improving the FFP as well as to identify the priorities for the FUE Lobbying Agenda 2023-25 for government engagement.

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.

Three Ugandan companies were selected to receive up to an additional €50,000 in grant funding as well as an additional three months of training focused on growth under the WE4A Acceleration Programme. **Chil Artificial Intelligence Lab** uses the power of machine learning and artificial intelligence to put specialized, affordable and medically proven chronic disease prevention and management services in the hands of any woman in Uganda, regardless of where they stay or what they earn every single day.

Thousands of people die due to shortage of essential medical supplies. In Uganda, the unavailability of blood is a major contributor to this issue which results from a combination of supply and logistics issues. By combining data, smart logistics, and technology, **Dromedic** deploys a medical inventory and a discovery digital platform that connects hospitals/patients/doctors with blood banks, and blood banks with donors while ensuring safe, fast and cheap delivery of requested medical inventory e.g., blood within 45 minutes.



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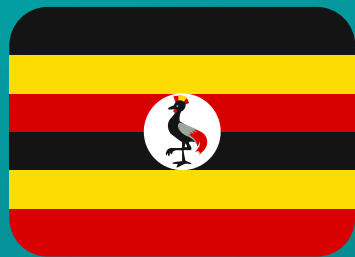
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Women Smiles Uganda is a social enterprise that provides affordable, reliable and modern training in sustainable vertical farming concepts and also set up eco-friendly adjustable vertical farm units using cost effective and innovative material that use less space with a particular focus on ecological regeneration to women and youth especially those living in underserved communities with limited spaces to practice agriculture which helps to build their capacity to use the available resources to sustain themselves and also enhance their food security.

The **ABC Fund** is a blended-finance impact fund, which provides catalytic financing to underserved yet profitable segments of agribusiness value chains in developing countries. The ABC Fund deploys loans and equity investments in farmer organisations, rural SMEs, and financial institutions. The fund financed smallholder farmers and agri-SMEs via local financial intermediaries. **FACTS Advance BV**, that provides short-term supply chain financing solutions for SMEs, agribusinesses and entrepreneurs, has been supported with a credit facility of USD 2M. Moreover, **EBO** savings and credit cooperative, servicing clients engaged primarily in agriculture activities, was financed by ABC Fund. The ABC Fund's financing would enable 2 166 new agri-loans to be disbursed over the life of the facility. 32% of EBO's clients are women.

Matale Hill Brothers Ltd (MHB), a company based in Uganda involved in the secondary processing of coffee, has received a credit facility of \$257 200 from the ABC Fund to meet its working capital needs. The funding will be used to purchase coffee from smallholder farmers in Uganda and gradually increase the number of farmers they currently work with from 250 to twice this number.

EDFI AgriFI is an impact investment facility with a mandate to unlock, accelerate and leverage investments with a value chain approach in developing countries, focusing on smallholder's inclusiveness and/or agri-business medium, small and micro enterprises (MSME). In Uganda, AgriFI provided USD 2 million to **Inua Impact Fund** to support up to 30 investments into early stage and high-growth Ugandans small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Through this investment, EDFI AgriFI will be able to invest in around 10 agri SMEs, which should indirectly support around 3,000 smallholders over 10 years.



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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 covered Uganda.

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/>