



ZAMBIA

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

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



Boost Africa



Business ACP



Digital Finance for Resilience (DFS4RES)



FO4ACP



Women Entrepreneurship for Africa



ACP Business-friendly



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 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 framework of the **FFM+** programme, Zambian experts attended two training sessions on the new version of the COLEAD Sustainability Self-Assessment System (SAS). The sessions took place on December 2022 and were part of a SAS training programme that will include completion of a self-study course, peer exchanges and mentoring/coaching sessions. SAS is an online business management tool for fruit and vegetable producers and suppliers based in the ACP region focused on the sustainability pillars of people, profit and planet. SAS is designed to promote continuous improvement in the application and monitoring of good practice by producers and MSMEs in ACP-EU horticultural value chains.



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DFS4RES Digital Finance for Resilience in ACP Countries, implemented by UNCDF, aims at deploying digital finance solutions at the scale and speed necessary to deepen financial inclusion, and accelerate economic recovery from COVID-19, in order to make economies and societies more resilient to external shocks.. The Inclusive Digital Economy Scorecard (IDES) is a strategic performance and policy tool that has been developed to support countries in better understanding and monitoring the status of their digital transformation, with a view to helping them make it more inclusive. Based on four pillars –Policy and Regulation, Infrastructure, Innovation and Skills–, the IDES facilitates governments in setting the right priorities with stakeholders to foster the development of a digital economy that benefits all. Zambia like other OACPS countries uses it to inform its National Digital Economy Strategy and/or National Financial Inclusion Strategy.

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.

Main counterparts of the programme include the **Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRR)**, **Zambia Development Agency (ZDA)**, **Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS)**, and the **Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry (MCTI)**.

At the macro level intervention, the activities undertaken by The World Bank Group aim to support the diversification of the country's economic base and increase investments to enhance Zambia's private sector competitiveness. This will be achieved by advisory support aimed at: **i)** improving efficiency and predictability of business regulations; **ii)** attracting and retaining FDI; and **iii)** making Zambian products more competitive and export oriented towards world markets.

In terms of **Investment Policy and Promotion**, ACP Business-friendly is supporting the delivery of investor services under **ZDA** and strengthening the legal framework governing foreign investment.

As regard to **Business Regulations** and **Quality Infrastructure**, the programme is working on the adoption of guidelines for a cross-governmental system of risk-based regulation; and supporting the BRR in rolling out the e-Registry to cover local authority licenses. ACP Business-friendly is also supporting the **Zambia Bureau of Standards** and working to improve standards development and the delivery of conformity assessments in testing areas.



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The 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. 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 **SADC Investment Climate Scorecard**, 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 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.

UNIDO is implementing the meso-level component of the 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. **ZDA**'s FDI Business registry was updated, the database contains now 1,100 enterprises. **ZDA** team was trained regularly with the aim to support the contact update campaign, collate different FDI data sources, the use of UNIDO's Digital Investment Profiling System (DIPS) and streamlining FDI data management processes within **ZDA**. By the end of 2022, both **ZDA** and **ZAM** had uploaded a total of 84 investment opportunity profiles (IOPs) on the "Invest-in-ACP" Portal.



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UNIDO also supported **ZDA** in its engagement with various agencies, notably the **Industrial Development Corporation (IDC)** as well as the **Ministry of Energy** to support in investment opportunity identification. **ZDA** was supported in its coordination role in the EU-Zambia Economic Forum, held in May 2022, as well as during other events.

Micro-level interventions 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. The intervention in Zambia is helping the cotton value chain to improve productivity, quality, and earnings for all players. With the aim to increase yields, improve seed cotton grading and transparency, and create value-added products for the local and export markets, the programme has reached out to more than 1,500 farmers, resulting in increased quantity and quality of cotton.

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.

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. The Innovation & Entrepreneurship Lab by the AfDB is part of the Boost Africa initiative. The Lab strengthens the local entrepreneurial ecosystems, including Zambian start-ups.



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FO4ACP 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.

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.

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/>