



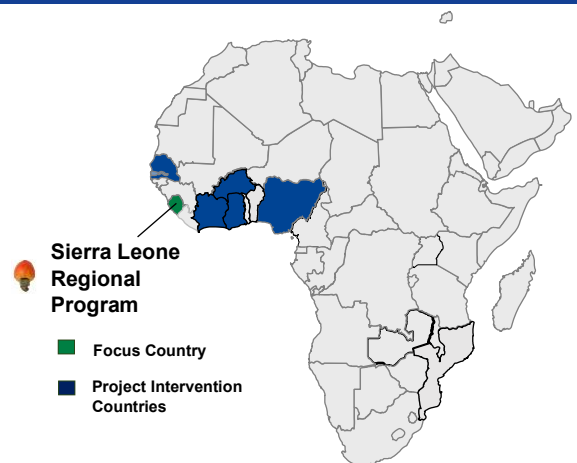
Market-Oriented Value Chains for Jobs and Growth in the ECOWAS Region (MOVE-ComCashew)

Sierra Leone – Country Report

1. Promoting Competitiveness of the Cashew Value Chain.

The Market Oriented Value Chains for Jobs and Growth in the ECOWAS Region (MOVE-ComCashew) is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). MOVE-ComCashew is co-financed by the European Union (EU) under the Samoa agreement with the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) and by BMZ. MOVE-ComCashew operationalizes the Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains program for support to OACPS members' agriculture value chains development.

Since its inception in 2009, ComCashew recorded 712,000 new jobs in cashew production, processing, and trade, across the project intervention countries. From 2009 to 2025 over 821,000 farmers have been trained in Good Agricultural Practices and taken part in the Farmer Business School, resulting in increased productivity and diversified, higher incomes in the implementing countries.



Sierra Leone has favorable ecological conditions for cashew cultivation. The country has a tropical climate with warm temperatures and plenty of sunshine for many months of the year, as well as a rainy season from April/May to October/November with an average annual rainfall of around 2,746 millimeters (mm). The country has extensive arable land, much of which is underutilized or unused. Recognizing this, the government has identified cashews as an alternative cash crop to diversify agriculture and boost exports, with the aim of stimulating the economy.

Source: MOVE-ComCashew

2. Actors Overview

No of cashew farmers	20,000
No of Processors in country	Three functional Factories (Cashew women processing centre, Green root Agro Ltd, Nianda Agric and Trading company). Further inactive processing factories (ZamZam, KamCashew)
Cashew growing regions	Northern, Eastern, and Southern provinces
Policy and Regulation	Standard Bureau, Sierra Leone Production Monitoring Board
Lead Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS)
NGOs and Projects active on Cashew Sector	Solidaridad, Cotton Tree Foundation EU Funded "Boosting Agriculture and Food Security" project
Private Sector	SLIEPA, SLeCAD, TDG, CaroNut , MUVA Trading and NIANDA

Source: MOVE-ComCashew

3. Main Achievements



500kg of polyclonal seeds supplied in 2024, 50% private sector and 50% Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS).



Establishment of **two district scion banks** in Kpuabu and Pendembu in the eastern region with SLARI.



Establishment of **Three Cashew Demonstration Plots** in the Port Loko District for future production of improved planting materials.



Capacity development of **130** graduates from Master Training Programme (MTP) on the Cashew Value Chain in Africa (**81** men and **49** women).
910 farmers trained on GAP, grafting technics and Farmer Business School.

4. Facts and Figures

	2022	2023	2024	2025
National production volume of RCN – estimate (metric tons)	7,120	7,672	11,000	13,000
National processing capacity – installed (metric tons)	None	80/m	100/m	100/m
National processing capacity – utilized (metric tons)	None	None	55%	65%
Productivity (kg/ha)	250	350	350	370
Number of ComCashew trained farmers (cumulative)	N/A	200	747	910
Cummulative Income of all farmers (Mio EUR)	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,500,000

5. Ongoing Activities

MOVE-ComCashew supports the development of the cashew sector in Sierra Leone, on demand basis and in synergy with ongoing activities in the country. Some activities currently ongoing are:

- The support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAF) to boost cashew production through nurseries, production and distribution of seedlings and farmer trainings.
- Facilitating Sierra Leone's integration into regional networks (Consultative International Cashew Council - CICC, research network - REDAA, Industry association- ACA, etc.).
- Establishment of three one-stop cashew centres for improved planting material development and distribution.
- Sensitization with universities and colleges on e-learning cashew training courses in production, processing, marketing and broader agribusiness topics on the Atingi platform for those involved in the cashew value chain.

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