



# Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains

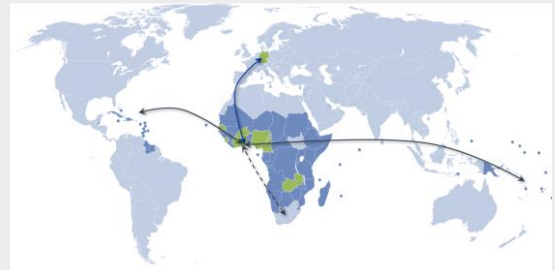
## Agri-Business Facility (ABF) & Market-Oriented Value Chains for Jobs and Growth in the ECOWAS Region (MOVE-ComCashew)

### General context

Around the world, sufficient food is produced to feed the global population, but more than 249 million people in African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries are still suffering from hunger. Lately, the number of undernourished people has even grown, largely driven by conflict, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Africa alone, agriculture accounts for a third of the Gross Domestic Product and employs two-thirds of the labor force. Micro, small, and medium enterprises dominate the sector in OACPS member states, feed most of the urban population and provide precious raw materials for the local and international industry. Women play a crucial role in agriculture; however, they still have limited access to land, technological inputs, rural credit, information, training, or labor rights. While agriculture is highly affected by climate change, it is also crucial for climate action.

Team distribution



<b>Project names</b>	Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains implemented by Agri-Business Facility for Africa (ABF) Market Oriented Value Chains for Jobs and Growth in the ECOWAS Region (MOVE)
<b>Partner Countries</b>	Africa (BMZ) All 79 OACPS member states (EU)
<b>Volume</b>	56 Mio EUR (43.8 Mio EUR by EU; 12.2 Mio. EUR by BMZ)
<b>Duration of EU-Co-financing</b>	March 2023 – February 2027
<b>Implementing Partners</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Implemented by

## Approach and activities

ABF and MOVE are GIZ projects commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-funded by the European Union (EU) under the Samoa agreement with the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States. Together, they operationalize component 1 of EU's framework program for support to OACPS members' agriculture value chains development. The Joint Action aims to develop and enhance the capacities of actors along OACPS members' agricultural value chains to attract finance and investment, in particular towards low-emission and climate resilient practices and value chains. They implement activities for the cashew, maize, livestock (cattle, sheep, goat) and cocoa value chains in the following three areas:

### 1. Skills for agribusiness

ABF scales successful agribusiness training approaches and tools amongst others through self-paced e-learning offers and blended learning. The already existing Agribusiness e-Academy on [www.atingi.org](http://www.atingi.org) in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese will be expanded to more courses covering e.g., climate-smart agribusiness, and translated to Spanish and Portuguese. All courses are interactive, available free of charge, and issue certificates.

On the other hand, MOVE-ComCashew successfully scales up human capacity development through the Master Training Programme (a cashew leadership academy which trains stakeholders on relevant technical cashew and soft skill topics) and facilitates business coaching, mentoring, peer-to-peer learning. Under this Joint Action, MOVE-ComCashew incorporates e-learning as a new model on [www.atingi.org](http://www.atingi.org). Courses are available in English and French. The long-standing expertise of both programmes in developing training approaches, materials and tools are integrated in these e-learning courses. Competitions will be organized to foster the development of viable projects for investments in resilient or climate-smart agribusiness by linking winners to e.g., financial institutions.

### 2. The Matching Grant Fund

The competitive Matching Grant Fund (MGF) is designed to maximize outreach across countries and value chains, foster excellence, and ownership. The programme also aims to mobilize additional resources for implementation through introducing and scaling an innovative financial instrument (MGF) that facilitates private investments and promotes the transformation of smallholder agribusinesses. The MGF supports the upgrading of the targeted value chains for competitiveness and resilience with regard to climate change and markets. It includes a readiness programme to accompany potential applicants throughout the process. ABF and MOVE-ComCashew published calls for proposals on their websites where potential partners/consortia submitted their concept notes for assessment. The best partners/consortia were being taken under contract. During the implementation, the programmes advise on the adaptation and implementation of tried-and-tested agribusiness training approaches, connect partners to the established (master) trainer networks and provide further tools and approaches already developed. 99 MGF projects are currently being implemented.

### 3. Policy Dialogue & South-South exchange

Experiences and achievements under the first two areas will be put to even more value for learning, cooperation, scaling, and institutionalization through various events such as expert talks, sharing of best practices, South-South cooperation, and conferences. In this area, ABF and MOVE-ComCashew build on various expertise from the organization of expert talks, Master Trainer talks, (virtual) Conferences, and international virtual and face-to-face Master Training Programs, the establishment and strengthening of partnerships amongst producing countries within and across continents, for research, policy dialogue and knowledge and technology exchange. Support with the collection and analysis of data to improve policy decisions would form part of the cashew policy advisory work.

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