



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

Nigeria – 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). MOVE-ComCashew operationalizes the Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains of EU's framework 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.



Nigeria is one of the largest producers of cashew worldwide. Women form the majority in the sector, representing around 70% of the workforce. Nigeria became an implementing country of MOVE-ComCashew in 2022.

Source: NEPC (2025)

2. Actors overview

No of cashew farmers	500,000
No of Processors in country	12 processors (7 operational)
Cashew growing regions	States: Ogun, Ondo, Kwara, Kogi, Oyo, Osun, Niger, Abuja, Nassarawa, Benue, Cross River, Abuja, Ekiti, Lagos, Taraba, Akwa Ibom, Imo, Ebonyi, Enugu, Anambra, and Delta.
Policy and Regulation	A specific policy is not yet in place; however, one is currently being drafted.
Lead Ministry	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS, formerly FMARD); Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI)
Regional Network	Consultative International Cashew Council (CICC) African Cashew Alliance (ACA)
NGOs and Projects active on Cashew Sector	GIZ MOVE-ComCashew, USDA-ProCashew/CNFA, USDA Prosper Cashew/Technoserve
Private Sector	National Cashew Association of Nigeria (NCAN), Cashew Processors and Packagers Association of Nigeria (CAPPAN), Association of Cashew Farmers, Aggregators and Processors of Nigeria, Federation of Agricultural Commodity Association of Nigeria (FACAN), Vertex Agro Ltd, FoodPro Ltd

Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security Nigeria

4. Facts and Figures

	2022	2023	2024	2025
National production volume of RCN – estimate (metric tons)	315,617	405,000	310,000	300,000
National processing capacity – installed (percentage)	25%	35%	35%	20%
National processing capacity – utilized (metric tons / percentage)	12,352	Below 50%	Below 50%	Below 50%
Productivity (kg/ha)	950	300	350	320
Number of ComCashew trained farmers (cumulative)	N/A	25,000	30,000	39,000
Cummulative Income of all farmers (Mio EUR)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

3. Main Achievements



Two **Cashew Demonstration Plots** have been established in Oyo and Osun States.



94 graduates from the Master Training Program with 60 men and 34 women.



The **first National Cashew Research Strategy Book** has been developed.



MOVE-ComCashew contributed to the development and validation of the **National Policy on Cashew**.

5. Ongoing Activities

Through its intervention MOVE-ComCashew supports the development of a conducive business environment for all actors in the cashew value chain. Some activities currently ongoing in Nigeria include:

- Assisting in the development of policies for the cashew sector;
- Institutionalizing innovative approaches;
- Collaborating with Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) for the development of improved planting materials;
- Collaborating with CRIN on the establishment of cashew demonstration plot;
- Supporting the development of National Cashew Processors' Directory.

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