



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 component 1 of EU's framework program for support to OACPS members' agriculture value chains development.

The impact of ComCashew since its inception in 2009, recorded 712,000 new jobs created in cashew production, processing, and trade, across project countries and over 790,000 farmers were trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Farmer Business School (FBS) from 2009 to 2020 resulting in higher productivity, diversified and higher incomes in implementing countries.



Sierra Leone has favorable ecological conditions for cashew cultivation, ranging from a tropical climate with warm temperatures and sunny conditions for many months to a rainy season spanning from April/May to October/November with an annual average rainfall of about 2,746 millimeters (mm). The country offers extensive arable land, the greater proportion of which is either underutilized or not utilized at all. Given this fact, the government has recognized cashew as an alternative cash crop to diversify agriculture and export with the aim of boosting the economy.

2. Actors overview

No of cashew farmers	18,000
No of Processors in country	Only artisanal small processors
Cashew growing regions	Northern, eastern, and southern provinves
Policy and Regulation	Standard Bureau, Sierra Leone Produce Monitoring Board
Lead Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS)
NGOs and Project active on Cashew Sector	Solidaridad
Private Sector	SLIEPA, SLeCAD, Balmed Holding, TDG, CaroNut

3. Main Achievements



1 metric ton of polyclonal seeds supplied in 2022, 40% Private sector and 60% MAFS.



Cleaning of scion banks in Kpuabu and Pendembu in the Eastern Region with SLARI, establishment of 3 sample plots in the Port Loko District for future production of improved planting materials.



Capacity development of **94** graduates from Master Training Programme (MTP) on Cashew Value Chain in Africa of which **60** men and **34** women.

4. Facts and Figures

	2019	2020	2021	2022
National production volume of RCN – estimate (metric tons)	5,700	6200	6873	7,120
National processing capacity – installed (metric tons)	None	None	None	None
National processing capacity – utilized (metric tons)	None	None	None	None
Productivity (kg/ha)	200	200	250	250

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. Activities ongoing and suggested for include:

- Conducting of Yield Survey and Economic case study with farmers.
- Mother tree selection and establish germoplasm, scion bank and clonal gardens.
- Continue support to 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.)

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