



Promoting Competitiveness of the African Cashew Value Chain: The Competitive Cashew initiative (ComCashew)

The Competitive Cashew initiative - ComCashew (formerly African Cashew initiative - ACi) is a private-public partnership project under the implementation of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Currently in its third phase, ComCashew focuses on building a sustainable cashew value chain and increasing the competitiveness of African cashew production and processing by constituting a new era of multi-stakeholder partnership in development cooperation.



Donors and private companies work hand in hand to achieve poverty reduction in project countries - Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique and Sierra Leone. ComCashew's interventions are based on 4 main objectives:

Objective 1

Production



'Increasing raw cashew nut production and quality'

Objective 2

Processing



'Increasing quantity and quality of African cashew kernel and cashew by-product'

Objective 3

Supply Chain Linkages



'Establishing and expanding sustainable links to the global market place'

Objective 4

Sector organization



'Advocating policies that favour cashew production and processing'

ComCashew/GIZ has been honoured by the Development Assistance Committee and the OECD with the DAC Prize 2015 Taking Development Innovation to Scale, in Paris for its successful commitment and ambitious realisation of the GIZ program – African Cashew initiative (ACi).

"The objective of the DAC Prize for Taking Development Innovation to Scale is about investing in what works, and encouraging more of it". (Douglas Frantz, OECD)

Competitive Cashew initiative

P. O. Box KIA 9698, H/No. 313A, Cotonou Street
East Legon Residential Area - Accra, Ghana
Tel: +233 207705401/2 Fax: +233 207705428
Email: cashew@giz.de
Web: www.comcashew.org / www.a4sd.net

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Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Achievements

Since 2009, huge progress and impact has been made for over 480,000 farmers and about 40 processing companies. Since its inception, over 450,000 new jobs have been created in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Mozambique – 74 per cent in production, 21 per cent in trade and 5 per cent in processing. In the area of processing, the project has given technical support and assistance to 13 processors. In addition, the following have been achieved:

- **480,000 farmers** trained (22% women)
- Over **€ 500 million additional income** on production
- Over **€ 880 additional family income** from cashew annually
- **246 graduates** of Cashew Master Training Program (23% women)
- **€ 40+ million new taxes** annually on RCN for selected cashew-producing countries
- Cashew **processing in Africa** increased from **3%** to about **10%** since the beginning of the project
- Over **€12 million** added annual **income** through processing
- Over **24,000 direct employments** created in processing factories of which **80% are women**
- **32 matching grant** projects at **€ 11 million**

ComCashew at a glance

The Competitive Cashew initiative (ComCashew) is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and public and private partners.

Funding Partners:	 german cooperation <small>DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT</small>	 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra Swiss Confederation	Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
Implementer:	 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH		
Budget:	Total: 100 Million Euros, out of which 47 Million Euro from Bill-and Melinda Gates Foundation and BMZ; Phase 3 agreed so far: 8 Million Euro from BMZ		
Partners:	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"></div> </div>		
Project Duration:	Phase 3: May 2016 to December 2020		
Project Countries:	Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Sierra Leone		

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