



Ghana Private Sector Competitiveness Programme Phase II

The aim of the programme is to contribute to inclusive and sustainable growth through enhanced trade and competitiveness in the cashew and oil palm value chains.

Obstacles to sustainable growth exist on different levels in the cashew and oil palm value chains. The Ghana Private Sector Competitiveness Program (GPSCP) is structured to find a holistic remedy. It supports the Government of Ghana and especially the Tree Crops Development Agency (TCDA) to build an enabling environment for tree crops. In addition, it works with private sector actors to increase the productivity in the cashew and oil palm value chains by tackling issues in relation with, for example, access to finance, skills or standards.

Rationale

The Ghanaian economy continues to undergo structural transformation. Institutional, regulatory and supply side constraints still weigh down on the growth potential. Improving the competitiveness and diversification of the economy as well as the supply of skilled workforce is critical to make growth more inclusive and sustainable and to create more and better job opportunities. Labour-intensive sectors, such as agriculture and agri-food processing, offer significant potential for higher domestic value creation and more diversified exports to regional and global markets.

In order to use this potential, the Government of Ghana has decided to prioritise the cashew and palm oil value chains. This will contribute to employment creation and poverty reduction (with due consideration given to women and youth), and also lead to more exports and, ultimately, to Ghana's GDP growth.

During the first phase of GPSCP, SECO already worked towards the establishment of TCDA, facilitating access to finance as well as to the development of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in the cashew and oil palm value chains. The second phase will continue these directions.

Country/region

Ghana

Implementing partners

Government of Ghana &
Ghanaian Private Sector

Implementing agencies

NIRAS A/S, PROFOREST

Duration

2023-2027

Total budget

CHF 12,000,000

SECO contribution

CHF 9,000,000



NIRAS

proforest



Objectives and activities

By building on the achievements of GPSCP Phase I, the second project phase aims at continuously **improving the enabling environment for the cashew and palm oil sectors** and contribute **to higher private sector productivity and competitiveness**.


The program uses three implementation modalities:


- 1. Strategic Cooperation Partnership (SCP):** The program will enter into a strategic cooperation partnership with TCDA to support the institution with its mandate of regulating the cashew and oil palm sectors and facilitate high-impact reform initiatives. This may include the development of strategies for the generation of its own funds and to facilitate finance and investment into the value chains among others, as well as internal organizational development.
- 2. Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM):** The RRM is a fund, from which the Government of Ghana can access finance to support and align reform initiatives that lead to a systemic benefit for both value chains. The RRM may be used for a variety of activities including contracting expert consultants, commissioning feasibility studies, capacitating working groups responsible for policy development and review in order to improve the speed and accuracy of developing private sector driven reforms.
- 3. Development Partnership with the Private Sector (DPP):** This matching grant fund is for the private sector to strengthen production, processing, market linkages, service provision, sector associations, access to finance, and skills development in the cashew and oil palm value chains. It relies on a substantial co-financing of the beneficiaries of the fund. The DPP also has the potential through its call for proposals mechanism to drive engagement and innovation through joint initiatives with the private sector, business associations RRM or training institutions.

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Integration in value chains



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