





# **Together for Jobs in Agribusinesses**

Sustainable Employment through Agribusiness in Ghana (AgriBiz)

## Strengthening resilience of MSMEs

Ghanaian micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) form 98% of all companies. They contribute about 70% of the country's Gross Domestic Product and 80% of total employment. These MSMEs play a very important role in making the Ghanaian economy more competitive and resilient.



Only a minor percentage of the agricultural and natural products are currently processed in Ghana. With a stronger emphasis on "Made in Ghana" new opportunities arise for value addition and creation of jobs.

Ghanaian MSMEs also need a conducive environment: Access to finance, innovative technologies and support of their digitization drive, a sound supply chain management and good regulatory frameworks and policies. In addition, their interests should be well taken care by respective business associations.

Project name	Sustainable Employment through Agribusiness in Ghana (AgriBiz)
Commisioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and European Union (EU)
Project region	Nationwide
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) and Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA)
Duration	04/2021 – 03/2024 (An extension is planned until 2025)

## Our objective

We, the Sustainable Employment through Agribusiness in Ghana (AgriBiz) programme are working with the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA). Together we improve the conditions for creating sustainable employment in the agribusiness sector, especially for young people and women-owned businesses.

## Our approach

We are improving MSMEs' capacities in business management through the SME Loop Training and Coaching Approach and supporting them in accessing finance products for investment. We have rolled out the Contract Farming Facilitation Concept to support the supply chain management of Ghanaian processing companies. MSMEs are also supported with marketentry and product certification.

Strengthening business associations to represent the interests of their members through advocacy work, to offer more professionalised services and the support of business development service providers creates an improved business environment.

## **European Union: A crucial partner**

The EU-funded "Market Oriented Agricultural Programme in North Western Ghana" (MOAP NW), which started in 2017, was successfully integrated into the AgriBiz-Programme. MOAP NW is a key pillar of the EU Ghana Agriculture Programme and strongly supports seven value chains: cashew, groundnuts, mango, rice, sorghum, soybean and vegetables. The focus is on quality in agricultural production, increased income and the creation of jobs along the value chains. It collaborates with public and private sector actors, such as agro-input providers, producers and off-takers.



### Achievements so far:

- More than 700 MSMEs have been supported to improve on their business development.
- 274 supported MSME (65 female-headed) have recorded substantial improvement and 87 MSMEs (40 female-headed) have increased their profits.



- 300 MSMEs (131 female-headed) were selected to start the second AgriBiz cycle of the SME Business Training and Coaching Loop.
- Contract Farming Management Training for executive management of 4 agro-processing companies with approx. 600 outgrowers was successfully conducted.
- 26 MSMEs/ farmer groups with around 6,000 outgrowers have been certified according to relevant sustainability standards (GlobalG.A.P & Organic standards).
- The supported MSME have created 358 full-time equivalent jobs (FTE).
- A total of 14 member-based business organisations are supported to represent the interests of their members, through improved services.
- **5 advocacy position papers** have entered political decision-making processes.

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