



ssnup

Smallholder Safety Net
Upscaling Programme

IMPROVING FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS IN CAMEROON



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services



Non-financial services



Market building



Internal management

CONTEXT

Cameroon has the most diversified economy in Central Africa and accounts for 70% of intra-community trade in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC). The agricultural sector is the country's largest employer, with more than 40% of the working population (total population estimated at almost 27 million in 2021). Even though the agricultural sector contributes only around 17% to GDP in the form of agro-industrial plantations, a few large private farms and over 2 million smallholder households, the country is still referred as the "granary" of Central Africa because of its influence on sub-regional food security.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE INVESTEE

The Agence de Crédit pour l'Entreprise Privée au Cameroun (ACEP Cameroun SA) is a microfinance institution created in 1999 to support the development of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in the country's urban and rural centers. As of December 2021, the institution had over 13,000 active clients of which 34% were women. After having invested heavily in the cocoa value chain, the 2017 cocoa pricing crisis forced ACEP to rethink their agricultural strategy. Now, ACEP Cameroon is looking to diversify their agricultural portfolio in order to manage the risks better, offer improved services to smallholders and ensure the sustainability of these activities.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to improve the financing of agricultural activities carried out by producers in rural areas through the provision of adapted financial services that meet their needs and repayment capacities.

The main expected outcomes are:

- 1,500 farmers, 50% of whom are women, benefit from new adapted financial services (5,000 after 2 years) facilitating an improvement in living conditions.
- Increase the institution's agricultural portfolio from 5% to 10%.

IMPACT INVESTOR



AGGREGATOR / INVESTEE

ACEP Cameroon SA (MFI) - Cameroon

TARGETED N° OF FARMERS

1,500 farmers

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Coffee, cocoa, potato, maize, cassava, wheat, soybean, tomato and plantain.

STARTING DATE

February 2023

DURATION

24 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET

€ 86,735
Including € 78,061 (90%)
contribution from SSNUP



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