

Cooperation Framework to Support the New Alliance for Food Security & Nutrition in Côte d'Ivoire



NEW ALLIANCE
for Food Security & Nutrition

G8 Cooperation Framework to Support the

“New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition” in Côte d’Ivoire

Three years after the G8 Summit at L’Aquila, Italy, the international community recognises the importance of food security to development, inclusive economic growth and the dignity of all women and men. In that spirit, we welcome the success of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) in demonstrating African ownership and leadership, its call for expanded public and private investment in agriculture and desire to build on the progress that African governments have made in advancing a vision for agricultural development in Africa.

Côte d’Ivoire has always encouraged and fostered private investment. The recent adoption of an Investment Code offering greater incentives is conducive to faster growth in private investment throughout the economy, especially in agriculture. One of the factors accounting for the past success of agriculture in Côte d’Ivoire (which today accounts for 23% of GDP) has been the coexistence of agribusiness groups and family farms.

The 2010-2015 National Agricultural Investment Program (PNIA) clearly affirms the will of the Government of Côte d’Ivoire to build on this dynamic partnership. The Government’s will is borne out by the public-private partnerships (PPPs) that have already been established in the cocoa and rice sectors.

Together, the Government of Côte d’Ivoire and the G8 members, commit to the “New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition” and to working together to generate greater private investment in agricultural development, scale innovation, achieve sustainable food security outcomes, reduce poverty and end hunger. As partners, we commit ourselves to the following principles and actions:

Support of CAADP Country Compacts

The G8 members, consistent with commitments made at L’Aquila, reaffirm their intention to align their agricultural financial and technical support with the priorities of the CAADP National Investment Plan for Agriculture (referred to in Côte d’Ivoire as the National Agricultural Investment Program or PNIA), in such a manner as to accelerate implementation of the PNIA and in conjunction with commitments made by the Government of Côte d’Ivoire. Consistent with the foregoing, the G8 members recognize the value of predictability of donor activities, including financial and technical support over a sustained period of time, as set out in Annex 2.

The G8 members intend to provide support within the agriculture sector to accelerate implementation of the PNIA, including through the Grow Africa platform, with the overall goal of facilitating increases in private investment and scaling up innovation. The G8 members intend to engage the relevant agencies of their member governments and also to bring to bear appropriate enabling actions to accelerate progress in the areas of finance and markets, science and technology, and risk management. To address the underlying causes of

food insecurity, the G8 members intend to focus key resources and other contributions on high-priority, high-impact investments within the PNIA, and in particular on the development of regions of northern, western and central Côte d'Ivoire severely affected by food insecurity (a prevalence rate of over 12%) and poverty (a prevalence rate of over 60%).

Key Policy Commitments

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire intends to pursue the policy goals set out below in order to build domestic and international private sector confidence to increase agricultural investment significantly, with the overall goal of reducing poverty and ending hunger.

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire intends to improve incentives for private sector investment in agriculture, in particular, taking actions to facilitate inclusive access to and productive use of land; developing and implementing domestic seed laws that encourage increased private sector involvement in this area; and supporting transparent, inclusive, evidence-based policy formulation (see Annex 1).

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire reaffirms its intention to provide the human and financial resources and the mechanisms for dialogue with the private sector, farmers and other stakeholders, and across government ministries that are required for the achievement of tangible and sustainable outcomes, the acceleration of Côte d'Ivoire's development, and the delivery of tangible benefits to smallholder farmers, including women.

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire reaffirms its commitment to mainstream nutrition in all food security and agriculture-related programs.

Private Sector Engagement

Private-sector representatives have communicated that they intend to invest in the agriculture sector in Côte d'Ivoire in support of the CAADP National Agricultural Investment Plan (the PNIA), through Letters of Intent that they will prepare and execute, and intend to advise, shape, and participate in broad, inclusive and sustained private sector consultative mechanisms with the and host government (see Annex 3).

Shared Responsibilities

The G8 members, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the private sector, confirm their intention to take account of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security ("the Voluntary Guidelines") adopted by the Committee on World Food Security in May 2012, as well as the Principles of Responsible Agricultural Investment (PRAI) produced by several international organizations and endorsed by among others, the G8 and G20, which are undergoing a consultative process through the Committee on World Food Security on PRAI. In addition, they intend to work together specifically to develop pilot implementation programs for the Voluntary Guidelines and the PRAI in Côte d'Ivoire.

Coordination And Collaboration

Recognizing existing arrangements for division of labor between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and development partners, G8 members intend to coordinate their efforts with the aim of attaining greater effectiveness. The co-chair of the Côte d'Ivoire agriculture sector working group (currently the Delegation of the European Union) intends to serve as a lead interlocutor with the host country, private sector and other stakeholders on behalf of the G8, working through existing in-country consultation groups and structures without setting up parallel or duplicate structures. The G8 and Government of Côte d'Ivoire welcome the participation of other countries and partners.

Results

Consistent with the New Alliance goal of improving food security and nutritional status by helping 50 million people in sub-Saharan Africa emerge from poverty by 2022, the participants intend their combined actions in Côte d'Ivoire to help over 1 million people emerge from poverty.

Mutual Accountability

The G8 members, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, and the private sector intend to review their performance under this document through an annual review process to be conducted as part within the existing broader CAADP-Joint Sector Review of PNIA implementation. These participants intend, in particular, to review progress toward jointly determined objectives on the basis of jointly determined benchmarks in contributing to fulfilment of Côte d'Ivoire's CAADP investment plan: (1) progress towards achieving the poverty reduction target; (2) G8 member commitments to align their agricultural investments to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire's PNIA; (3) Government of Côte d'Ivoire's progress in implementing its policy commitments and consulting with private sector investors; and (4) the investment commitments of private-sector investors.

The review will also take account of the shared responsibilities related to the Voluntary Guidelines and the PRAI.

Annex 1: Government of Côte d'Ivoire Key Policy Commitments

Policy indicators

- 1) The country's ranking in the Doing Business Index has improved by 2015.
- 2) The volume of new domestic and foreign private-sector investment in the agricultural sector has increased.
- 3) The rate of growth in private investment in commercial production and sale of high-performance seeds.
- 4) The rate of malnutrition among Côte d'Ivoire's population has fallen.

Objective	Intervention strategy	Timeline
1. Secure rural land tenure and facilitate access to land for small holder farmers and private enterprises	1.1. The Rural Land Act implemented through programs to demarcate village lands and through the issuance of land tenure certificates	June 2015
	1.2. The land information system (SIF) extended and operationalized throughout the country	December 2013
	1.3. Strengthened capacity of all agencies involved in implementing the Rural Land Act, especially the justice system	December 2013
	1.4. Access to land for women and youth from rural areas increased through specific programming arrangements	June 2015
	1.5. The transhumance act finalized and adopted	December 2013

Objective	Framework Policy Actions	Timeline
2. Create an environment conducive to private investment in the production, processing, exploitation and marketing of agricultural, animal and fishery products and of agricultural inputs	2.1. The agriculture framework act adopted	December 2013
	2.2. A strategy for the maintenance and rehabilitation of agricultural roads developed and adopted	June 2013
	2.3. Basic infrastructure (agricultural roads, irrigation systems) rehabilitated	December 2015
	2.4. A policy for the financing of farming/forestry/livestock activities is developed and adopted	December 2013
	2.5. Services to assist and support investors called for in the new investment code strengthened	June 2013
	2.6. Reformed taxation system reformed for firms processing fishery products	December 2013
	2.7. The free movement of agricultural products (livestock and other produce) facilitated	December 2013
	2.8. The draft seed act finalized and adopted; procedures for the approval of seed varieties and their entry in the official catalogue simplified	December 2014
	2.9. An action plan to combat fraud relating to products, trademarks and indicators, which is threatening the domestic agropharmaceutical industry, developed	December 2013
3. Create a framework conducive to nutritional security	3.1. Strengthened regulatory and legislative framework for nutrition (fortification, biofortification and food hygiene)	2013
	3.2. Draft laws on the marketing of breast milk substitutes and the sale of foodstuffs in the vicinity of schools finalized and adopted	2015
	3.3. The decree establishing a food safety agency (Agence de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments) adopted	2015
	3.4. A strategy on food fortification in the home and at school validated and adopted.	2014

Annex 2: G8 members' and Others' Funding Intentions¹

G8 Members and others express their intentions in support of CAADP investment plans and the goals of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in a flexible manner.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Funding in the sector of Agriculture:

- 2011/2012: \$1.8 million

Subject to the availability of funds,

- 2013: \$0.9 million

FRANCE

Contributions in the sectors of agriculture, food security, rural development and nutrition are subject to availability of funding, demand by the governments as well as private firms concerned and confirmation of their commitments by all relevant stakeholders and could reach the following amounts:

Côte d'Ivoire : 91.5 millions EUR/120 million USD.

GERMANY

Commitments for agricultural development:

- 2009 – 2013: 5.5 million EUR (7.2 million USD)

EUROPEAN UNION

Programmes under way:

- 2007-2016: CFAF 43.4 billion, 66.2 million EUR (86.8 million USD)

Funding already programmed:

- 2013-2018: CFAF 34.1 billion, 52.0 million EUR (68.2 million USD)

¹ Except where otherwise noted, funding intentions are calculated using average exchange rates for the first quarter of 2012 (source IMF): USD 1 = EUR 0.762453; USD 1 = JPY 79.39966; USD 1 = GBP 0.636299; USD 1 = CAD 1.001025, 1 EUR=655.957 CFAF.

Annex 3: Private-sector investment intentions in the agriculture sector

A number of companies have expressed their intentions to invest in the agricultural sector within the framework of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. Draft summaries of these investment intentions are highlighted below. Note: the Cooperation Framework will be amended to include only summaries of private investment intentions that have been confirmed by companies through signed letters of intent by October 31, 2012.

Local firms	International Companies	
Groupe SIFCA SIPRA SONAL NERE GAA INTERCOTON APROMAC AIPH	Nestlé Barry Callebaut Cargill OLAM Cemol Mars Compagnie fruitière Danone World Cocoa Foundation COMPACI ACI Rabobank	Groupe Louis Groupe MIMRAN Groupe CEVITAL Groupe CIC Groupe ETG NOVEL Group SUD INDUSTRIES SA

Groupe SIFCA

Founded in 1964, the Groupe SIFCA is a key player in the West African economy. As Côte d'Ivoire's largest private group, it dominates the market for rubber, oilseeds and sugar through such subsidiaries as SAPH, PALMCI (publicly quoted companies) and SUCRIVOIRE. Tightly woven into the country's social and economic fabric, SIFCA is a major customer for the small farmers who provide much of the group's raw materials. The group has embarked on major projects to expand its production facilities, including storage facilities, and to sustainably develop the sectors in which it operates from 2012.

- a. *Projects to expand industrial plant* These projects concern the production of rubber, palm oil and sugar in Côte d'Ivoire. The total investment in these three sectors amounts to about CFAF 129 billion over four years (2012-2015). These investments will have a multiple impact on the income of small farmers and employment.

The sugar operation, which currently employs 602 people full-time and 6000 casual workers for a total annual payroll cost of CFAF 8.9 billion, will create new jobs. The expansion of the sugar plant will directly increase the earnings of village planters working with the company. Similarly, investment in the rubber operation, which obtains over 60% of its supplies from village plantations, should see production increase by 8000 tonnes (2012-2015), absorbing the production of 138 000 ha of new plantations, most of them the work of about 9000 small planters. This investment should also generate new jobs with the industrial company. Lastly, the investment in the palm-oil sector should increase

production capacity by 15 000 tonnes a year, bringing benefits in the form of new jobs and increased earnings for over 25 000 village planters.

- b. Sustainable development projects, with forecast funding of over CFAF 30 billion. In recent years the group has embarked on major projects for the sustainable development of the rubber and palm-oil sectors. These projects are aimed at (1) improving the yield and quality of agricultural products through programmes to train small farmers and (2) contributing to food security by helping small farmers develop food crops alongside cash crops. In the rubber sector, for instance, SIFCA's assistance should enable about 30 000 planters to triple their yields.

SIPRA

The Société Ivoirienne de Productions Animales (SIPRA) specialises in the production of eggs, poultry and poultry inputs. It has decided to develop its activities via a number of projects that should help improve food security. The first, costing CFAF 17 billion, is aimed at doubling poultry production capacity over the next six years. The second, costing CFAF 3.5 billion, involves creating an agricultural complex in southern Côte d'Ivoire over the period 2011-2013. It will increase output by 70 000 000 eggs (and ultimately by 110 000 000 eggs), ultimately feeding almost 3 million consumers.

SONAL

A fish-trading company, SONAL has decided to purchase a cold store with a capacity of 7 000 tonnes. The aim of this investment is increase storage capacity in the interior of the country, where fish stocks often run out. This CFAF 3 billion project began in January 2011 and will be completed in December 2012.

NERE

NERE, which also specialises in the import and sale of fish, has been carrying out a project similar to SONAL's since March 2012. This CFAF 1 billion project is aimed at constructing storage capacity for 3000 tonnes.

GAA

GAA (General Alimentaire Africaine) is planning to invest CFAF 2 billion from 2013 in a rice-growing programme involving the installation of husking units and support for 7500 small farmers.

INTERCOTON

INTERCOTON is an interbranch association comprising representatives of small producers and representatives of the cotton companies. Since 2011 INTERCOTON has set up a sustainable financing mechanism for agricultural research and advisory services for growers of cotton and associated crops with a view to improving the productivity of cotton-based

crop systems. Its members have decided to levy CFAF 5 per kg of seed cotton to finance the research and advisory services, representing about CFAF 1.2 million for the 2012/2013 agricultural year. This financing mechanism is set to be renewed from year to year. The programme benefits 90 000 small cotton producers, their families and the cotton companies.

APROMAC (Association of Natural Rubber Trades in Cote d'Ivoire)

APROMAC has set up a mechanism for financing agricultural research and advisory services to improve the productivity of rubber plantations. This mechanism is managed by the Interbranch Fund for Agricultural Research and Advice (FIRCA) and is financed by contributions subject to annual revision. This mechanism is providing about CFAF 2 billion for the 2012/2013 agricultural year, but it is set to be maintained for subsequent years.

APROMAC has also set up a rubber development fund (FDH), financed by trade contributions, for the purpose of financing an action plan (creation of plantations, training, maintenance of tracks) worth CFAF 5.2 billion in 2012. This funding is set to be renewed each year.

The beneficiaries of this funding are the 76 000 rubber planters and their families along with the rubber-processing companies and their employees.

The Palm-Oil Interbranch Association (AIPH)

The AIPH has set up a mechanism for financing agricultural research and advisory services to improve the productivity of oil-palm plantations. This mechanism is managed by the Interbranch Fund for Agricultural Research and Advice (FIRCA) and is financed by contributions subject to annual revision. This mechanism will raise CFAF 1.2 billion for the 2012/2013 agricultural year. The beneficiaries are the 36 500 small oil-palm growers and the companies processing palm products.

Nestlé

In 2009 the NESTLE Group decided to set up a food industry research centre on two sites in Côte d'Ivoire. Work on the first research site, in Abidjan, began in 2009 and investment is continuing. Its activities are focused on the development of seedless plant varieties by means of in vitro embryogenesis. The second site, being set up in Yamoussoukro, is intended for the development of food technologies and packaging.

In the coffee and cocoa sector, research is expected to result in plants with a high yield and a production cycle of only 12 months, which will increase farmers' incomes. In the field of food crops, Nestlé's research will result in the creation of varieties of maize, yam, manioc and vegetables that are higher-yield, more resistant and richer in iron and vitamins.

As a complement to the research centre's activities and with a view to the sustainable development of the coffee/cocoa sector, Nestlé has launched a support project for small farmers. The project involves educating farmers through training fields, helping them with best agricultural practices and conducting agricultural field research. Under this project, Nestlé plans over a 10-year period to distribute 1 million cocoa plants and 2 million coffee plants a year to more than 10 000 small farmers, benefiting some 60 000 people when families are taken into account. The investment in the establishment of the two research sites amounts to about CFAF 15 billion for the period 2009-2013. The cost of assistance to coffee and cocoa producers is USD 40 million for the period 2011-2020.

Barry Callebaut

Barry Callebaut has built up its presence in the Ivorian cocoa sector in 2012: it has invested CFAF 30 billion in increasing its milling capacity to 180 000 tonnes a year and launched a sustainable development project 'Horizon Cacao' aimed at increasing the productivity of small growers. The latter project involves the establishment of a technical college to train instructors and will assist the beneficiaries by providing agricultural advice and inputs. It is reckoned that there will be 35 000 beneficiaries and the cost of the project is CFAF 4 billion.

Cargill

Cargill is one of the world's leading agribusiness groups. In Côte d'Ivoire, the group's activities involve exporting and milling cocoa beans. The group has also decided to contribute to the sustainable development of the Ivorian cocoa industry by financing support and training projects for small farmers. In the period to 2015, these projects involve training, agricultural assistance and the free distribution of about 1 000 000 lots of new generation seed to small farmers with a view to the certification of their crops and the improvement of quality and yields. These projects will increase the earnings of 100 000 small farmers, feeding about 600 000 people when families are taken into account. The overall cost of these projects to Cargill is reckoned at EUR 3.1 million a year.

OLAM

The Singaporean OLAM Group's activities in Côte d'Ivoire's agribusiness sector are focused on the cocoa, coffee, cashew nut, cotton and rice markets. The group has embarked on major projects in the areas of sustainable development, the expansion of its industrial plants and the development of the rice sector.

Investments under way:

- Installation of a milk plant: USD 50 million

Investments scheduled for 2012-2013, in addition to those already carried out:

- Cocoa sustainability and certification programme: USD 8.5 million

- Reinforcement of processing capacities
and support for small producers of coffee: USD 4 million
- Reinforcement of processing capacities
and support for small producers of cashew nuts: USD 6 million
- Support for animal traction for 10 000 cotton planters: USD 3 million

Investment intention:

- Local rice-growing project: USD 50 million

CEMOI

Since 2009 CEMOI has been carrying out the Processor Alliance for Cocoa Traceability and Sustainability (PACTS) project to promote the quality of cocoa produced in Côte d'Ivoire, increase productivity (to over 1 tonne/ha) and thereby increase the incomes of cocoa producers. This project should benefit about 40 000 producers. The project's funding amounts to [CFAF] 0.5 billion a year.

MARS

MARS Inc. has decided to invest in Côte d'Ivoire via the project Vision for Change (V4C). The aim of this project is to raise the quality of cocoa production and increase yields to 1.5 tonnes/ha on about 150 000 plantations in the Soubré area by 2020, using intensification methods that conserve natural resources. The budget for the project is USD 21 million for the period 2011-2013 (Phase 1).

Compagnie fruitière / SCB

As the local subsidiary of the French food group Compagnie Fruitière, SCB leads the field in the production and marketing of bananas and pineapples. SCB is planning a sectoral development project that addresses both production (creation of 1500 ha of new plantations, expansion of production units) and welfare (education and training for small growers, improvement of workers' living conditions). The SCB has pledged to provide EUR 20 million in funding for the programme. This contribution could be supplemented by outside funding. In terms of impact, this programme should create more than 1800 jobs, providing means of subsistence for about 9000 people. It will also help create ten or so small banana plantations on about 200 ha.

DANONE

The Danone Group is planning to set up an Ivorian subsidiary of its baby food branch. This subsidiary, which will be operational in 2013, will focus on distributing baby foods and on medical research to improve the range of products. The cost of the investment is EUR 1 million.

World Cocoa Foundation

The corporate partners of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) — whose officers include Mars Incorporated, The Hershey Company, Kraft Foods and Armajaro Trading Ltd.— plan to invest in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Nigeria.

- The WCF partnership model brings together multiple private-sector companies, many of whom are competitors, to support large-scale programmes that increase the quantity and quality of the cocoa supply while positively impacting thousands of small farmers. This collective approach allows companies to test different innovations and learn from each other. In this spirit, WCF has launched the Cocoa Livelihoods Programme (CLP) and is announcing two new initiatives below, which are a part of the larger USD 40 million WCF CLP programme.
- In the short term, WCF intends to invest USD 3 million, of which USD 1.5 million is from corporate partners, in a matching grants programme to promote private-sector-led farmer training and service activities to double the productivity of 35 000 cocoa farmers from 400 kg/ha to 800 kg/ha.
- WCF also plans to invest USD 800 000, of which USD 400 000 is from corporate partners, in a financial growth fund to increase farmers' access to financial services, which will enable farmers to have the necessary working capital to purchase inputs.

COMPACI Initiative

The companies Cargill, Dunavant, Industrial Promotion Services West-Africa and Plexus Ltd, in partnership with Germany's DEG and GIZ agencies, are planning to implement the **Competitive African Cotton Initiative (COMPACI)** to improve the living standards of 450 000 small cotton producers and the 2.7 million members of their families in the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.

- The programme is aimed at (1) reinforcing good agricultural practices, in particular with regard to the conservation of soil and water resources, in order to increase yields sustainably; (2) improving operating systems by using balanced crop rotation systems to optimise the production of cotton and food crops and to increase food security; (3) training producers to think entrepreneurially; (4) promoting the 'Cotton made in Africa' (CmiA) brand all over the world.
- Planned investment for the period 2013-2015 amounts to USD 53.6 million, half of which will come from the private companies and the rest from foundations or public sources, such as the German development agencies. Public funding will gradually be phased out and replaced by royalties from the use of the CmiA trademark.

ACi Initiative

The corporate partners of the African Cashew Initiative (ACi) — Intersnack Group GmbH & Co. KG, Kraft Foods Inc., Olam International, SAP AG and Trade and Development Group — plan to invest in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mozambique and Benin ACi aims to increase the competitiveness of African cashew production and processing and to achieve sustainable poverty reduction by launching Phase 2 of their investment proposal from 2013 to 2015 by investing USD 21 million from corporate partners.

ACi plans to focus on linking the processing industry to farmer groups so that processors can buy up to 60% of their raw cashew nut (RCN) stock directly from farmers or their organisations. ACi will also utilise a matching grant fund to assist the private sector in undertaking specific projects to enhance farmer productivity (e.g., farmer training, traceability improvements, quality monitoring systems and development/dissemination of improved planting material).

Rabobank

Rabobank, the leading global food and agribusiness bank that operates on cooperative principles, and the International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group, plan to jointly invest in an agri-finance vehicle for West African countries, including Ghana, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire. This new agribusiness finance institution is called the West Africa Agribusiness Development Corporation (WAAD). Over the next five years, this institution will provide access to financial services to small- and medium-sized companies across the agricultural value chain.

The WAAD initiative would be accompanied by a capacity-building effort amongst local agro-sector professionals to maximise the benefits of increased access to finance. Initially, WAAD aims at a customer portfolio of over 200 customers with an exposure of about USD 135 million in five years. Also, it will benefit a large multitude of smallholder farmers by strengthening linkages across a given value chain.

GROUPE LOUIS DREYFUS

The Franco-American group Louis Dreyfus, is an international company that is active in the trading of rice through its local partner SDTM. This group, with its local partner, plans to develop an integrated project including:

- a pilot farm, in partnership with rice producers;
- improvement of means of production;
- collection and processing of rice ;
- marketing of rice.

The project area is the northern regions: Poro (Korhogo), Tchologo (Ferkessédougou), and Bagoué (Boundiali and Tingrela). This choice is justified by the results of the feasibility study indicating high poverty rate (over 60 %) and food insecurity level (over 12 % prevalence). The Louis Dreyfus Group wishes to establish a Public-Private Partnership, where the State intervenes in the rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructures. Accordingly, the Group will build on the existing processing units. It will build socio-economic infrastructures for the rural populations in the project area. The amount of the investment is 22.20 billion CFAF.

Groupe MIMRAN

The Groupe Mimran is an Agro-industrial French group, active in the transformation of wheat in Côte d'Ivoire through its local subsidiary, Grand Moulin d'Abidjan. This group plans to set up an integrated project of rice production in partnership with small producers. It will support development of production factors and quality seeds. It will also promote mechanization and processing and marketing of rice. To do so, the group will put part of its investment into the rehabilitation of water and irrigation infrastructures. The project will be located along the Bandama River, between the cities of Tiassalé and Grand Lahoué (in the southern part of the country). The project will use 60 000 hectares initially, before reaching 182 000 hectares. The intended investment is 150 billion CFAF.

Groupe CEVITAL

Cevital is an international industrial group, active in the trading of agricultural products, construction and power engineering. The group has partnered with CICA, a private national company, for the development of an integrated project with rice producers. It will support factors' development and promote the mechanization of rice farms. The target area for this project is the region of Bounkani, in the north-east of Côte d'Ivoire. The total investment for this project is 100 billion CFAF.

Groupe CIC (Compagnie d'Investissement Céréalières)

CIC is a Swiss agro-industrial group active in the trading of cereals, sugar and milk. Through its local subsidiary (CIC-Côte d'Ivoire), the group wants to develop an integrated rice project (production, promotion of mechanization, processing and marketing) in partnership with local rice farmers. The will be located in the southwestern region (in the Haut Sassandra). The investments projected amount to 20 billion CFAF.

ETG group (Export Trading Corporation)

Export Trading Corporation (ETG) is an industrial group from Singapore, which has expressed its interest to implement a rice development project in Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with CI TRADING (a nation private firm). The project concerns rice production, processing and marketing. The investment is estimated at 25 billion CFAF.

NOVEL Group

NOVEL Group SA in partnership with AGCO and Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, established with the District of Yamoussoukro, a joint venture called YAANOVEL SA. The purpose of this is to create a business unit of agro-industrial production, processing and marketing of rice on an area of 15,000 hectares. Indeed, the project takes into account the establishment of 10,000 ha for industrial plantation and 5,000 ha for individual growers. The proposed model is:

- the creation of a farm dedicated to the promotion of mechanization, with a modern seed center;
- the rehabilitation and expansion of developed areas;
- the establishment of a complete rice processing unit, which will have a electricity cogeneration capability;
- the establishment of storage silos and warehouses.

The planned investment is 62.5 billion CFAF.

SUD INDUSTRIES SA

In partnership with Yebe WOGNON (a group of farmers), Sud Industries SA will implement two projects in the rice and livestock sectors in the north Côte d'Ivoire.

a) The rice production project

This project has two major components:

- creation and development of rice growing areas and the provision of support to 32,000 rice producers in these areas;
- processing and marketing of rice.

Hence, the project will focus on the development in rice growing areas, with emphasis on the mechanization of farm operations through the acquisition of modern farm machinery and equipments. The project will begin in June 2014, after the completion of the feasibility studies.

The total investment for this rice project is estimated at 100 billion CFAF.

b) The livestock project

The livestock project has three key components:

- providing support to livestock breeders in the area of the project;

- creating and operating a dairy farm for the production of milk, yogurt and other dairy products;
- establishing marketing channels and distributing meat (beef, sheep, and chicken) and dairy products.

Sud Industries SA will develop specific grazing areas build modern dairy products production units.

This program will begin in June 2013 and the estimated investment is 10 billion CFAF.