

# I&P Acceleration FARM

Support for agricultural SMEs



**I&P Acceleration FARM, supported by Proparco, is aimed at small businesses and start-ups in the agricultural sector in Sub-Saharan Africa. The programme will support around thirty companies, giving them access to financing and strategic support.**

○ Calendar	2024-2029
○ Geography	West Africa, Central Africa, East Africa
○ Sector	Agriculture, Agri-food
○ Portfolio (target)	28 companies
○ Sponsor	Proparco (AFD Group subsidiary)



## Program overview

Deployed over a period of **5 years**, I&P Acceleration FARM aims to finance and support **around thirty start-ups and small and medium-sized companies** operating in the agricultural value chain to reduce the food crisis. The program covers 6 target countries (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Kenya, Senegal and Uganda).

**I&P Acceleration FARM** has **two complementary components** to accelerate the development of businesses in the agricultural sector:



### Seed funding

Seed funding of between **€10,000** and **€100,000 (between CFAF 6.5 million and CFAF 65 million)** in the form of repayable advances, unsecured and interest-free.



### Technical Assistance

**Strategic support and capacity building** through training, expert missions provided by I&P teams and external resources.

## Focus: The role of SMEs in Africa's agricultural sector challenges



- ▶ While Africa's population is expected to grow by 1 billion by 2050, Africa remains the continent most exposed to **food insecurity**.
- ▶ Agricultural SMEs play **a vital role in agricultural value chains**: they produce 60% of the continent's food and create 70% of jobs in the agricultural and agri-food sector. The potential impact is considerable.
- ▶ The main obstacle faced by these businesses is **lack of access to finance**: they face under-financing or access to unsuitable finance, which prevents them from realizing their potential.
- ▶ In 20 years, I&P has supported **44 agri-food SMEs** across the continent and invested **€21.4 million**, using financial mechanisms and support solutions suited to the needs of entrepreneurs.

## A consortium to implement the program

I&P Acceleration FARM is coordinated by **Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P)**, an impact investment group entirely dedicated to Sub-Saharan Africa, whose particularity is to target the 'missing link' in the African economic fabric, small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups with financing needs of less than €5 million. Since its creation in 2002, I&P has supported more than 350 companies in Africa. The team is made up of more than 200 people, based in France and in 10 African offices.

For more information: [www.ietp.com](http://www.ietp.com)

The program is funded with €4 million by **Proparco**, a subsidiary of the Agence Française de Développement Group dedicated to the private sector.

I&P Acceleration FARM is deployed locally by **I&P's network of partner investment teams**, which finance and support small and medium-sized enterprises with high growth potential whose financing needs are between FCFA 6.5 million (€10,000) and FCFA 65 million (€100,000). Five partner teams are implementing the program in West, Central and East Africa: **Comoé Capital** in Côte d'Ivoire, **Fako Capital** in Cameroon, **Inua Capital** in Uganda, **Teranga Capital** in Senegal and **Gola Capital** in Guinea.



## Eligibility criteria

**I&P Acceleration FARM is based on 5 eligibility criteria:**

- ☑ The company must be registered in one of the 6 intervention countries (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda).
- ☑ The company must be run by men and women working full-time on their business and wishing to collaborate with a group of investors.
- ☑ The company must operate in the sectors of agricultural product processing, primary agriculture, livestock farming, fish farming and/or services linked to the agricultural sector (input distribution, training, logistics, equipment sales, market access, agritech, etc.).
- ☑ The company must be committed to maximizing its positive impacts (social and/or environmental), through its activities and/or the improvement of its practices.
- ☑ Particular attention is paid to projects in rural areas.



## Contact us

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