Through its development programmes, COLEAD provides, online and on-site, technical assistance, vocational training and support services in regulatory monitoring, market insights, partnerships, research and innovation and access to finance. All of this COLEAD expertise is structured around three areas of activity: facilitating market access, strengthening value chains and increasing the impact of our activities.
FACILITATING MARKET ACCESS

Market Insights

11 market publications
published in 2022 including
3 market studies & 8 market profiles

Participation in 5 international trade fairs (Fruit Logistica, Macfrut, BIOFACH, Fruit Attraction, SIAL Paris)

Continuous development and improvement of the interactive online trade dashboards

Regulations and standards

Design & development of a new online AGRINFO information tool, monitoring changes in European Union policies, regulations and standards (launched in January 2023)

Expansion of COLEAD’s scope, to be able to provide information to partner-beneficiaries within all agrifood value chains including fish, meat and animal products

160 Records drafted, covering all EU regulatory changes impacting low and middle-income European Union partner countries, with assessments of potential implications, and recommended actions, for partner-beneficiaries

COLEAD inputs into European Union consultations on European Union Health and Environmental Standards for Agri-Food Imports, Sustainable Food Systems and Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation

Research and Innovation Brokerage

11 new Plant Protection Product (PPP) registrations in West Africa to control mango pests and diseases (3 other dossiers pending)

Among them, 1 efficacy trial on Integrated Pest Management to control Fall Armyworm on sweet corn

62 responses to technical enquiries on emerging Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) issues

Publication of a review on digital technologies relevant for ACP horticulture and of carbon footprinting methodologies and calculation

Participation in the Technical and Steering Committees of the Freshfel Environmental Footprint Initiative

1 trial using image recognition and machine learning to predict yields in mango orchards
STRENGTHENING VALUE CHAINS

Technical Assistance

- **478** new applications for support received from partner-beneficiaries across West Africa (34%), East Africa (29%), Southern Africa (19%), Central Africa (11%), the Caribbean (6%) and the Pacific (1%)
- **200** new development projects designed and signed by partner-beneficiaries
- **300+** intra-organisation capacity building activities implemented for partners-beneficiaries
- 5 Good Practice Guide are in progress and 3 were finalised (Penja pepper in Cameroon, Capsicum in Uganda and Avocado in Kenya)
- **44** Sustainability Self-Assessment System (SAS) reports shared with partners

Training

- Digital self-paced learning: Successful migration of the e-learning platform to Moodle 4.0 and attracted **8,000+** new learners on the platform from the private and public sector, but also from universities and other organisations
- **200** organised training sessions - 1,380 persons were trained during tutored trainings (35% of whom are female)
- **120+** referenced training documents, record forms, general documentation prepared, **63 job description sheets** validated, and a new training catalogue developed with more than a hundred training programmes
LEVERAGING IMPACT

Networks and Alliances
PAFO, OECD and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Webinars:
- 9 highly informative and engaging webinar sessions
- 40 inspiring seasoned entrepreneurs and industry experts
- 2,300 participants.

Consolidated financial partnerships:
European Union (DG INTPA), OACPS, AFD, ENABEL, WTO, OECD...

New and innovative collaborative initiatives in the sustainability domain
with FAO (agroecology), CIRAD and a start-up company (SOWIT), KU LEUVEN (water consumption linked to avocado production), the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (Quantifying and improving soil health in Africa -AFSOH) or Freshfel (Environmental Footprint Initiative)

New technical alliances including Global Coalition of Fresh Produce, Agriculture Livestock Fisheries Africa (ALFA)

200+ ongoing technical partnerships that the COLEAD departments collaborate with through activities

Access to finance (A2F)
Reviewing sources of finance for agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa
Identifying A2F blocking factors upon which COLEAD can act
Design and development of the COLEAD proposal on A2F

36 new members joined COLEAD between May and November 2022. By January 2023, the association counted 494 members

INCREASING VISIBILITY

17,000+ people are following COLEAD’s activities via various social media channels. Several social media posts reached the visibility of over 50,000 views. As an example of the progress and importance of the European Union’s visibility on social media via the FFM SPS programme: the “did you know” campaign had over 103,000 views

More than 2 million people have interacted with or seen the content of FFM SPS posts on Facebook in 2022.