



COLEAD ACCESS TO FINANCE WEBINAR

Demystifying Access to Finance for horti- and agri-projects







Before We Start

Some good practices

A few rules to ensure the smooth running of this session:

- Keep your mic always muted (until the Q&A) but it's always nice to see your faces!
- ? Write your questions in the **Q&A**, so we can address them during the **Q&A**.
- The session will be **recorded** and **shared** after.
- The **slides** will be provided along with the recording soon after the webinar.
- Feedback is always welcome so we can improve the next sessions!

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Access to Finance for Your Agricultural Project
- 3. Project Maturity & Investment Readiness
- 4. Sources of Funding and Eligibility Criteria
- 5. Basic Requirements for Accessing Finance
- 6. Process of Accessing Finance
- 7. Common Challenges
- 8. Success Stories
- 9. Q&A

- Context & Objectives
- Presenters
- Presentation Flow

What COLEAD is & What We Do



Growing People

COMMITEE LINKING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

NETWORK

not-for-profit private sector association

500+ members from **49** countries

Actors from **private and public** sector

OOLBOX

Developing tools & knowledge

Mobilizing expertise & resources

Providing capacity building

TEAM OF

80+

ACROSS 4
OFFICES

OUR DONORS

Offices in 4 countries
 Historic footprint in 50+ countries
 Expanding to 140+ countries







Brice MOUREAU

Access to Finance Manage







OUR MISSION

To facilitate and implement all actions allowing, directly and/or indirectly, to increase the contribution of the **agricultural** sector, and horticulture in particular, to the achievement of

50 years' operation, **20** years implementing programs

1,500+ support actions implemented since 2018

12 programmes impacting 143 countries

20,000+ registered users on E-Learning platform

VALUE CHAIN FOCUSED





From Horticulture to Agri-Food
From Export to Regional and Domestic markets
From Fresh to Processed

(X)

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Systems



Sustainable Agriculture



Management of Organisations and Business development



Pedagogical approac



Context & Objectives – Why a webinar on Access to Finance?

CONTEXT



Accessing external funding for an agri-/horti-project is **challenging**

We see it when talking to agripreneurs...



- Should I seek external funding? Is my project ready for this?
- What documents do I need?
- Who should I speak to? A bank? Which one?
- What are my obligations after I access funding?
- Etc.

And when looking at funding opportunities



- Few financial products adapted to agri projects
- Agripreneurs and financiers do not speak the same language
- Require a lot of documents and time to prepare

Many projects do not get the funding they deserve

OBJECTIVES

We want to **empower** agripreneurs developing their projects by **demystifying**Access to Finance

Helping them identify what is Access to Finance, when to use it, how and why

With our local experts from AFRISCOPE

Presenters from Afriscope Research Ltd. Team



THOMAS KIMANI

Thomas has over 20 years progressive experience in the local and international corporate sector.

His core competence has been in Capital and Resource mobilization for SMEs, Entrepreneurship, Strategy development, Market Linkages, Startup concept design and execution.





HARIZON ODONGO

Harizon has 10 years' experience in business development support and fundraising for SMEs in East Africa.

His vast experience has been in Enterprise support services including developing and implementing business strategies, market linkages and fundraising to promote capital access for SMEs.

Presentation flow

1. Introduction

- Intro of COLEAD
- Context of webinar
- Ask audience about their experience in A2F & their expectations
- → Why attend this webinar?

2. Access to finance for your agri project

- What does A2F mean in your agribusinesses?
- Not every project requires external funding
- → Why seek external funding at all?

3. Project maturity & investment readiness

- Various project development phases
- Importance of formalisation and its role in fundraising
- → At what maturity stage might you seek external funding?

4. Sources of Finance & eligibility criteria

- Typical SoF categories
- Typical financial "products"
- Typical eligibility criteria
- → Who should you contact? what product is right for you and will you qualify?

5. Basic requirements to access finance (checklist)

- Further explain necessary documents and business criteria
- → What to prepare before applying for funding?

6. Process of accessing finance

- A step-by-step guide to accessing finance
- Support & resources available at COLEAD
- Challenges might exist
- → What are the distinct steps when trying to access finance?

7. Common challenges

- Prevalent barriers to external funding in rural settings
- → What are typical challenges when trying to access finance?

8. Success stories

- Sharing inspiring stories of SMEs that obtained funding
- Emphasise the strategies and approaches used
- → What do successful examples of accessing finance look like?

Access to Finance for Your Agricultural Project

- What is Access to Finance?
- Reasons for Seeking Financing for your Agricultural Project.

Access To Finance For Your Agricultural Project

What is Access to Finance?



What is Access to Finance?

The ability of a business to successfully tap into financial resources at the right time, right terms and optimum amount.



Do all business projects need external funding?

 \rightarrow NO!

What are some of the major considerations before you seek external funding?

PROJECT VIABILITY AND FUNDING NEED ASSESSMENT **RESPONSE EXTERNAL FUNDING** INTERNAL FUNDING **CONSIDERATION** Yes 1. VIABILITY Yes *Is the Project self-sustaining? is it future-proofed?* Only to make it viable No Yes Yes 2. INTERNAL RESOURCES Are there accumulated profits and positive cash flows to Yes (as there are no adequate No finance the project? internal resources) Yes 3. BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT Yes Is this the right time to seek financing? E.g. interest No Yes rates, forex rates etc.

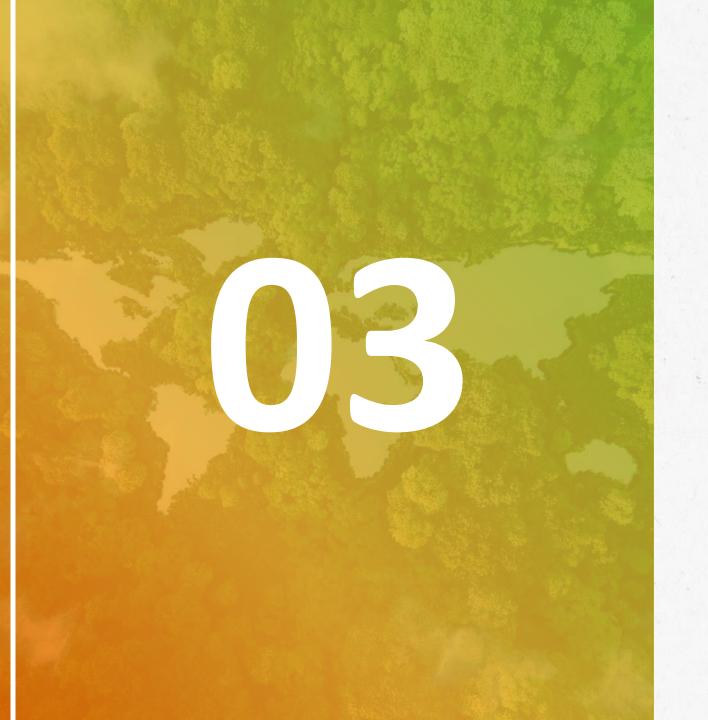
Access To Finance For Your Agricultural Project

Focus of today because usually investors and banks are more

interested in financing CAPEX

Reasons for Seeking Financing for your Agricultural Project

| | Capital Expenditures (CAPEX) | Operational Expenditures (OPEX) | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Definition | Money invested to purchase new assets or upgrade existing ones. | Money used to finance day-to-day operations of the business. | | |
| | Purchase of machinery or equipments Refrigerated truck, solar panels, generator, irrigation system | Paying utility and services bills Rent, Water, fuel, electricity, accounting fees, bank charges, office supplies, etc. | | |
| Examples | Purchase or construction of buildings/land Agricultural land, offices, warehouse, packhouse, etc. | Paying Input Seed, fertilizers, seedlings, mulch, packaging, etc. | | |
| | Purchase of machinery and equipment Fruit pulper, packaging line, cold room, etc. | Employee salaries Permanent or seasonal staff | | |
| | Construction of processing facility or offices | Transportation and exporting costs Air or sea cargo shipment, logistics, etc. | | |



PROJECT MATURITY & INVESTMENT READINESS

- Road to Project Maturity
- Investor Readiness

Project Maturity & Investment Readiness

Road to Project Maturity

Formalization

Priority

Low need for formalization, only

for internal purpose, using tools

Phases during which A2F might be needed Project 1. Idea Generation 2. Research & Validation 3. Expansion 4. Maturity **Maturity Phase** Coming up with the project's · Market research for the idea • The business is validated by >1 year · Sales growth begins to stabilize, idea of profitable activity operation cycles are regular · Use data gathered to test the What is this idea (soundness and viability). · Documenting the idea with • It is growing and ready to be scaled · Financing is needed to maintain phase about? expected results the growth and competitive · Start your activity to validate Need to consolidate documentation advantage such as BP and Financial Plan to the idea attract funding for the expansion • There is a positive uptake for the mango • My business is growing in a stable I already sell fresh mango fruits for Research the consumption of fresh juice and I want to expand my activities way and operations have stabilized. mango juice and potential volumes Example some years • I see a potential to diversify into by getting a bigger juicer to supply more in the city. • I put strategies in place to retain the ABC limited processing and selling mango juice customers, or If the feedback is positive, I start my competitive advantage acquired eq in the city a mango company operations (selling) and build a · I consolidate BP FP, etc. to start looking boost efficiency, invest in R&D. preliminary business plan (BP), for funding financial plan (FP) in parallel The need for formalization increases at each step

• Medium need, mainly for internal

purpose but everything I put in a document will help me for the future

• High need for both internal (managing) and external (convincing) purposes

Project Maturity & Investment Readiness

Investor Readiness

Understanding and meeting the critical factors that trigger an investor's interest in your opportunity.



Formal Activity



- Compliance with relevant authorities (Tax authority etc.)
- Have all necessary licences and permits to operate



Strong Team & Governance

- Sound internal governance structures
- Experienced and confidence-generating management team (Ability to speak the same language as bankers

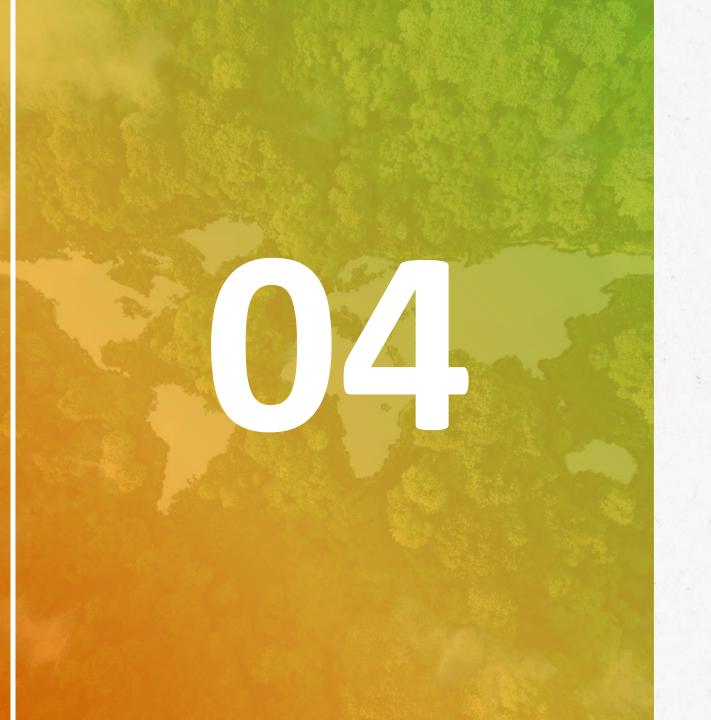


Documentation

- Audited and management accounts available
- Latest business and strategic plans available
- Historical records available → Build investor confidence in the project)
- Realistic financial projections (with assumptions built in historical records)



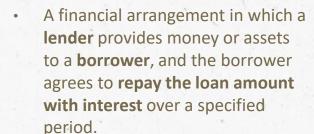
Historical records play a fundamental role in communicating with external stakeholders and convincing them to provide the support required.



- Common Classes of External Finance
- Funding Sources & Products for Agricultural Projects
- Eligibility Criteria

Common Classes of External Finance

DEBT



EQUITY

- Purchase of shares or ownership
 in a company with the expectation
 of earning a return on the
 investment
- When investors buy equity into your company, they become shareholders, which means they hold a portion of ownership in the company.

You sell 10% of the company and get USD 1,000,000 from the investor who acquires the 10% shareholding in the company.



Definition

Example

USD 8,000 obtained from a SACCO or commercial bank to buy an industrial mango juicer.



Funding Provider

- Commercial Banks
- Microfinance institutions
- SACCOS

- Private Equity Funds
- Private individual investors
- Impact Investment Funds

GRANT

- Financial support provided to your organization without the expectation of repayment.
- Grants are typically awarded to fund specific activities, initiatives, research, or programs that align with the goals and objectives of the grantor.

USD 2,000 grant to build a mango aggregation point to make mangoes uptake from farmers more easily.

- National/regional Government
- Foundation, such as Mastercard Foundation
- Development agency, such as GIZ or USAID

Funding Sources and Products for Agricultural Projects (1 of 2)



Additional capital

(NG), Northend (GH)

Funding Sources and Products for Agricultural Projects (2 of 2)







| | Commercial Banks | Microfinance Institutions | Impact Funders |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Target | Bankable businesses and Individuals | Serve marginalised groups and businesses to access finance | Companies with positive social and environmental impact |
| Typical period | 1 day to 5 years | 1 to 12 months | 1 to 10 years |
| Interest (Per Annum) | Regulated by Central banks 8-35% | 20 - 40% | 8 - 15% |
| Products | Asset Financing loans Working capital loans unsecured/secured loans Trading facilities, e.g. LPO discounting Personal Loans | Group loans Individual loans Product Specific Agricultural loans Working capital Loans | Asset Financing loans Working Capital loans Pre-market financing Research (R&D) loans Credit Guarantees |
| Examples | ABSA, Equity, ACCESS, BOA, Zenith | KWFT (KE), FINCoop (MW), APA Microfinance (GH), FINCA (TZ), AB Microfinance (NG) | Mastercard foundation, East Africa Agriculture Fund, FCA, Shell Foundation, ADB |

Eligibility Criteria - What different funders require as prerequisite to finance?

| | | | Family and Friends | Internal Sources | SACCOS | Commercial Banks | Microfinance | Impact Funders |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Collateral | Asset given by borrower to be held as security by financier | 8 | × | | & | 4 | × |
| 2. | Credit Rating | An assessment of an entity's creditworthiness, indicating the likelihood that they will be able to repay borrowed money | × | < | × | < | < | × |
| 3. | Prove Ability to Repay | Do the financial records and projections support repayments? | < | 4 | × | < | < | × |
| 4. | Formal nature | Is the business activity in the formal (vs. informal) economy? | × | × | × | < | × | 4 |
| 5. | Documentation | Are requisite documents present and in an acceptable format? | × | | × | ⋖ | < | & |
| 6. | Governance Structure | Can the enterprise demonstrate responsibility, competency and sound internal controls of their operations? | × | × | × | < | × | \ |
| 7. | Social Impact | Is there a social good to be achieved by the project? | × | × | 8 | × | × | 4 |

- Documents to Produce
- Basic Conditions for Companies

This section is designed to help you understand which documents to produce when seeking funding





1. General overview per **Source of Funding**

2. What to put in a Business Plan?

3. What to put in a Financial Plan?

4. Must vs. Nice to have







General Overview of documents to product per source of funding

| | | | | SACCOS | Microfinance | Impact Funders | Commercial Banks |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 1 Legal and Regulatory Compliance | Legal and Regulatory | Identification documents (both company & owners) | X | X | X | X |
| | | Compliance | Certifications, Permits, and Licenses | | × | X | × |
| | | | Contracts from off-takers | | | X | × |
| | | | Compliance documents | | | X | |
| 2 | CHECK PRIED | Corporate Governance | Policies and Procedures | | | X | |
| | | and Policies | Resolution to Borrow | | | | × |
| | | | Proof of Membership | X | × | | |
| 3 | × ó× | Business Planning and Strategy | Business Plan | | (×) | × | × |
| 4 | 4 000 Fir | Financial Documentation | Audited Accounts | | (X) | X | × |
| | <u> </u> | | Financial Projections | | × | X | × |
| | | | List of debtors and creditors | | | | × |
| | | Management Accounts | | × | X | × | |
| 5 | 5 | Loan and Security | Collateral/Security documentation where applicable | (X) | | | × |
| | Agreements | Signed guarantors' forms | X | | | | |
| 6 | = ×- | Impact Assessment Reports | Social Impact Reports | | | X | |
| | ×- | | Environmental Impact Report | | | X | |



What to put in a Business Plan

Seeking funding requires having a Business Plan (BP)

- A BP is a documented strategy for a business that highlights its goals, its plans and timeline for achieving them
- Writing a BP requires careful research, analysis, and strategic thinking
- The specific content and structure of a business plan may vary depending on the type of business, industry, and audience
- A BP serves not only as a tool for securing funding but also as a reference document for making informed business decisions

The business plan should include:

01. Executive Summary

This is your five-minute elevator pitch. It may include a table of contents, company background, market opportunity, management overviews, competitive advantages, financial highlights, tickets searched and use of funds.

02. Business Description and Structure

Here you explain why you're in business, what you're selling, and what are your development projects. It is important to provide extensive information about your past, to back up the assumptions on your future

03. Market Research and Strategies

Spell out your market analysis and describe your competition marketing strategy, sales forecasts, deadlines and milestones

04 Management and Personnel

Provide bios of your company executives and managers and explain how their expertise will help you meet business goals.

05 Financial Information

Provide the numbers that back up everything you described in your organizational and marketing sections. Include conservative projections of your profit and loss statements, balance sheet, and your cash flow statements for the next 3 years



What to put in a Financial Plan

A Financial Plan is a document that details a company's current financial circumstances, their short- and long-term monetary goals and strategies to achieve those goals

Main Components of a Financial Plan include :





Basic Conditions for Accessing Agricultural Finance for Companies



- Step By Step Guide to Access Finance
- Complexities in accessing agricultural finance
- The Do's in Accessing Finance
- The Don'ts in Accessing Finance

Step By Step Guide to Access Finance

It is a long process to get from « understanding the need of getting funding » to actually « getting funding ».

It can be divided in the following steps:



Complexities in the journey towards accessing agricultural finance

Time taken to get the financing varies due to multiple factors :





"PLAN AHEAD! Start the borrowing process early, not when the money is urgently needed"

Do's and don'ts in accessing finance

Do's



- Anticipate your financing need through forecasting
- Always maintain up to date documentation and compliance with regulations especially on taxes
- Maintain sound corporate governance structures
- Foster transparent communication with stakeholders
- Maintain ongoing communication with your financiers
- Maintain a good credit score
- Uphold a stellar organizational standards and personal reputation
- Manage your cash flows well to remain attractive to potential financial partners

Financial Planning & Compliance

Corporate Governance

Creditworthiness & Reputation

Financial Controls & Alignment

Don'ts



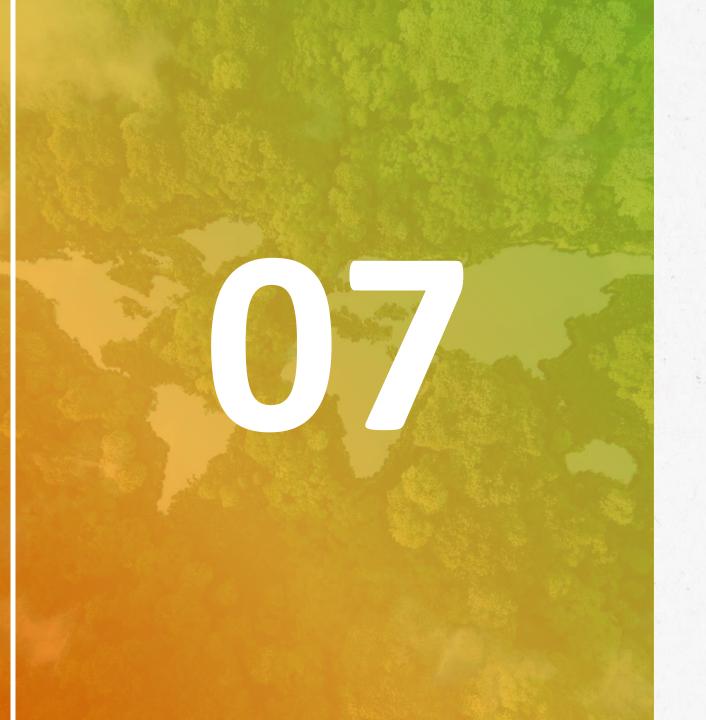
Delays in providing requisite documentation Steer **clear of defaulting** on previous facilities **Neglect** regular **financial health check-ups**

Poorly maintained recordsNeglect **ethical considerations**

Default on payments or loans. **Allow outstanding debts** to accumulate without a clear repayment plan.

Failing to **align with the right financier** and product

Be cautious of **poor internal cash controls**



Common Challenges

Common Challenges in Accessing Finance

Common Challenges

Common barriers to Accessing Agricultural Finance

Internal Barriers (agripreneurs)

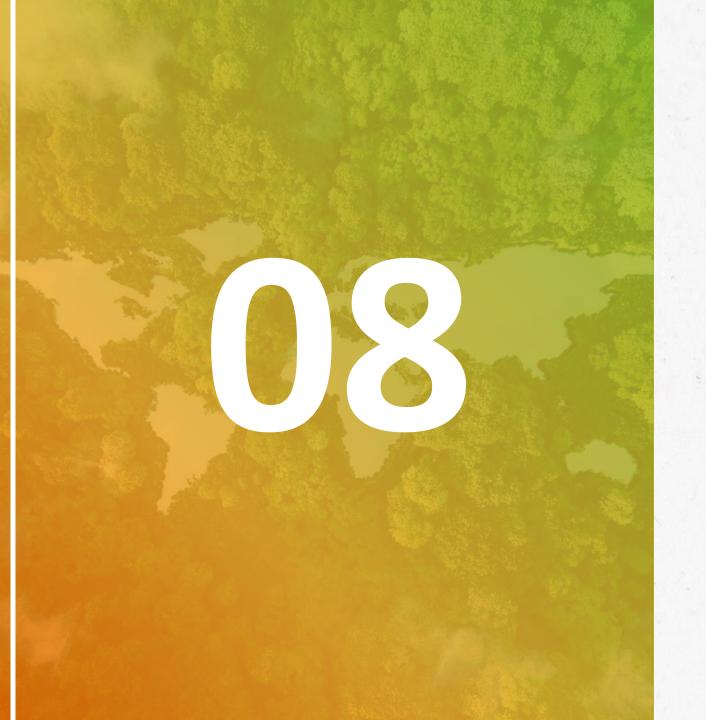
- **Insufficient level of formality** (e.g. no audited account, no compliance with tax authority, no certification, etc.)
- Insufficient or lack of track records on historical and projected performance to support the business model
- Inability of the agripreneur to provide 100% collateral/security debt cover.

Agricultural land usually has a lower valuation compared to urban/commercial property

- Limited capability of agripreneurs to accurately prepare documentation such as business plans, financial projections needed by financiers
- Lack of anticipation / Inadequate planning
 Many agripreneurs starting the borrowing process when they urgently need
 the money)
- Lack of proper governance policy and procedures in place to give the financiers confidence

External Barriers

- Lenders consider agricultural sector too risky compared to other sectors (they have more historical data on traders and larger corporate enterprise to generate the risk profile)
- Financial products are not tailored to horticulture production cycles (periods of crop development normally have no cash flows to pay for the facility)



Success Stories

 Real World Experiences of Success in Access to Agricultural Finance.

Success Stories

Real World Experience of Success in Access to Agricultural Finance (1 of 2)



KEY TAKEAWAY

- Proper planning of the business cycle
- Aligned documentation
- Identification of the **right financier**

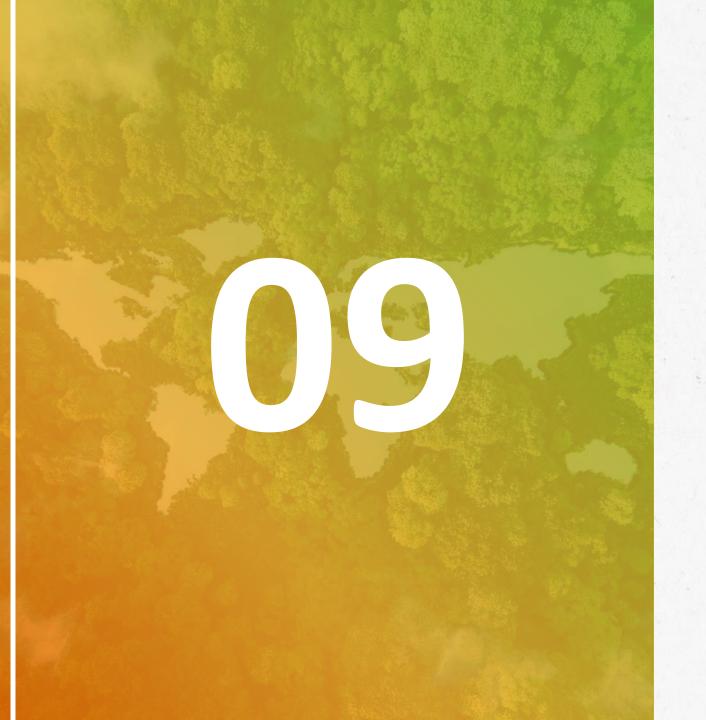
Success Stories

Real World Experience of Success in Access to Agricultural Finance (1 of 2)



KEY TAKEAWAY

- Good credit rating
- Aligned documentations (audited accounts, management accounts, Projections, certification and licences)
- Identification of the **right financier**
- Collateral to secure the debt presented



Closing

- Summary
- Q & A Session
- Closing Remarks

Closing

Summary of the presentation

3. Project maturity & investment 2. Access to finance for your agri 4. Sources of Finance & eligibility criteria readiness project • What is A2F? → The ability of a Various project development phases Typical SoF categories → Debt, business to successfully tap into → A2F comes at the Expansion & **Equity, Grant** financial resources at the right time, Maturity stage of your project right terms and optimum amount. Typical financial "products" → Coming from Friends and Family, Not every project requires external Importance of formalisation and its Commercial Banks, Microfinance role in fundraising → formalisation, funding → If needed, CAPEX vs. institutions, Impact lenders, SACCOS **OPEX** governance, documentation Typical eligibility criteria 5. Basic requirements to access 6. Process of accessing finance finance (checklist)

> Further explain necessary documents and business criteria → Business Plan, financial records, Formalization, collateral, good credit rating, documentation, social impact, bankability, membership.

- A step-by-step guide to accessing finance > Financial analysis, Research, Document Preparation, Exchange with potential funder, Access to finance
- Challenges might exist
- Do's & Don'ts

7. Common challenges

Prevalent barriers to external funding in rural settings → internal barriers & external barriers

- Lenders consider agriculture risky.
- Mismatch between financial products and crop cycles.
- Lack of proper documentation and formalization of agribusiness.

Closing

COLEAD support (Training & Technical Assistance) adapted to company's needs & maturity

COLEAD provides Tools and Technical Assistance to help agripreneurs improve their business skills and be more prepared to access finance

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



COLEAD provides Technical Assistance for companies in horticulture

→ Start by submitting an <u>Application For Support</u> (AFS)



TRAINING



1. Self-Study Courses via COLEAD E-learning platform



- Introduction to Business Management
- Accounting and Financial Management
- Business Development
- Marketing and Communication
- Corporate Finance Management
- Human Resources Management
- Commercial and Financial Risk Management
- Business Plan Development (soon to be available)

2. Tutored training/coaching, upon application



Feel free to ask questions in the chat

Slides will be distributed after the webinar



Glossary

Important terms, explained

Glossary (1 of 2)

| Term | Explanation | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Agripreneur | An entrepreneur focusing on the agricultural sector (including horticulture) | | | | |
| Business Plan (BP) | A detailed document that outlines a company's goals, strategies, market analysis, and financial forecasts. | | | | |
| Capital Expenditures (CAPEX) | Investments in physical assets like machinery, buildings, or equipment crucial for business operations or expansion (opposed to OPEX). | | | | |
| Collateral | Assets pledged as security for a loan, which can be seized if the loan is not repaid. | | | | |
| Credit Rating | A score or evaluation of a person's or company's financial history, indicating their ability to repay debts. | | | | |
| Debt Financing | A method of raising capital by borrowing money, which needs to be repaid with interest over time. | | | | |
| Equity Financing | Raising funds by selling shares of the company, giving investors a stake in the business. | | | | |
| Financial Plan | A comprehensive overview of an organization's current and projected finances, goals, and strategies to achieve them. | | | | |
| Grant | A sum of money given by an organization (e.g. government or NGOs), for a particular purpose, which often doesn't need to be repaid. | | | | |
| Investment Readiness | The state of a business being prepared and attractive for investment, often through solid business plans and clear financial projections. | | | | |
| Liquidity | The ability to convert assets into cash quickly, indicating financial health and flexibility. | | | | |
| Market Analysis | A thorough evaluation of the demand, size, and competition in a specific market sector. | | | | |
| Operational Expenditures (OPEX) | Regular, ongoing costs of running a business, like salaries, rent, and utilities (opposed to CAPEX). | | | | |
| Profit and Loss Statement | A financial statement that summarizes revenues, costs, and expenses over a period, showing the company's profit or loss. | | | | |
| Return on Investment (ROI) | A measure of the gain or loss generated on an investment relative to its cost. | | | | |
| Risk Management The process of identifying, assessing, and controlling threats to an organization's capital and earnings. | | | | | |

Glossary (2 of 2)

| Term | Explanation | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| SACCOs | Member-owned cooperatives that provide savings, credit, and other financial services to their members. | | |
| Secured Loan | A loan backed by collateral, reducing the risk for the lender and often resulting in lower interest rates. | | |
| Seed Capital | Initial capital used to start a business, often used for market research or product development. | | |
| Social Impact The effect of an organization's actions on the well-being of the community and environment. | | | |
| Stakeholders | All parties who are affected by or can affect a company's actions, including employees, investors, and the community. | | |
| Start-up Capital | Funds required to start a new business, covering initial operational expenses and investments. | | |
| Sustainability | Operating in a way that ensures long-term environmental, social, and economic health and viability. | | |
| Value Chain | The full range of activities needed to bring a product or service from conception to delivery and beyond. | | |
| Venture Capital | Investment funds provided to small, high-growth potential startups in exchange for equity, or ownership stake. | | |
| Viability | The ability of a business to sustain its operations effectively and profitably over the long term. | | |
| Working Capital | Funds available/required to meet day-to-day operations and short-term financial obligations of a business. | | |



Thank You





