

INVESTMENT CLIMATE REFORM FACILITY

RESULTS SHEET JUNE 2021



The **private sector** needs to be a key partner in **promoting sustainable economic and social development**. A favorable business environment allows local private sector as well as foreign investors to thrive and contribute to economic growth, innovation and decent job creation. Reform processes that reduce the cost of doing business, decrease business risks and enhance sustainability of investments need to be informed by structured dialogue between public and private actors to be successful.

To contribute to this objective, the European Union, the Organisation for African, Caribbean and Pacific States, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the British Council jointly brought resources to forge the Investment Climate Reform Facility. It is **implemented by four European agencies** – GIZ, the British Council, Expertise France and SNV. It **supports stakeholders in ACP countries to improve their investment climate and business environment** via structured public-private dialogue.

OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

It contributes, among others, to achieving **SDG 8**:

Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.



OUTPUT AREA 1

WE SUPPORT BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT REFORM FOR SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE



19 interventions ongoing	3 interventions finalised	34 requests approved	69 requests received
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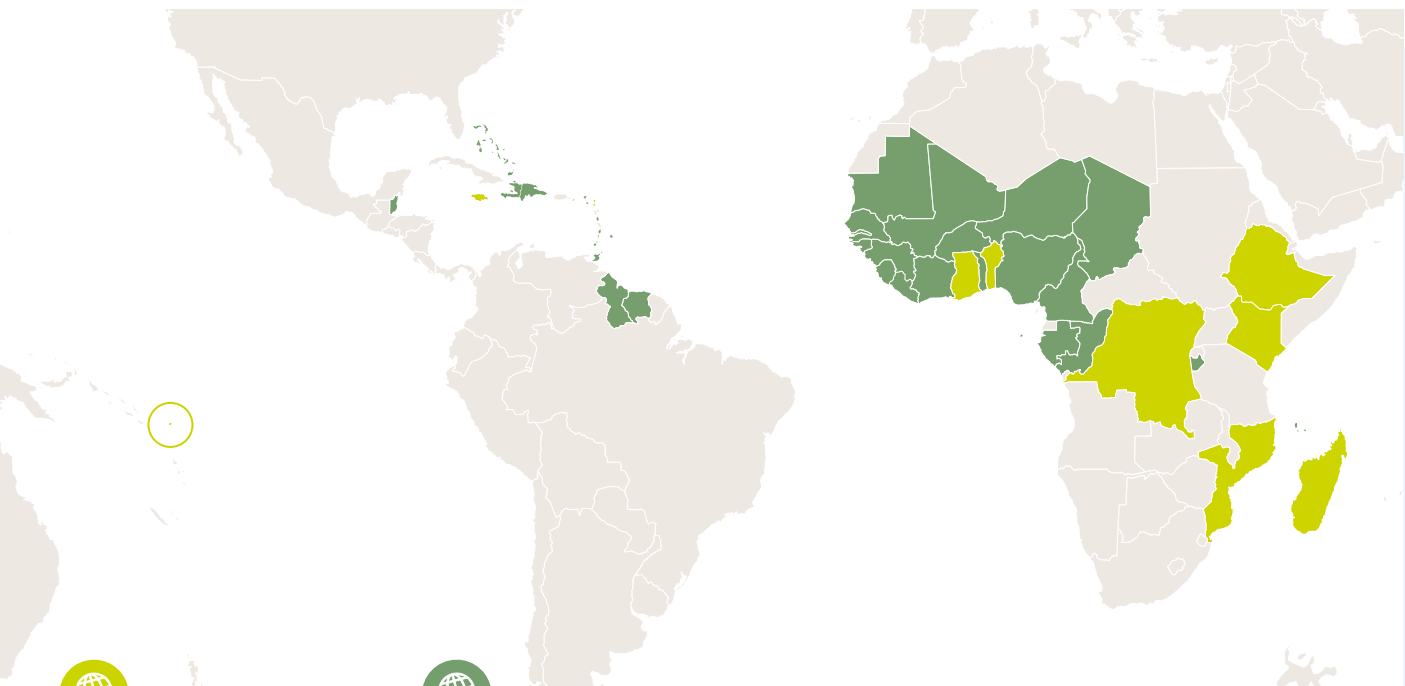
Based on requests from public and private stakeholders, such as governments, investment promotion agencies, chambers and associations as well as EU Delegations, we deliver technical assistance of up to 90 expert days.



INTERESTED? More information: www.icr-facility.eu

WHERE THE ICR FACILITY IS CURRENTLY ACTIVE

19 interventions covering **43 ACP countries**
(including national and multi-country interventions)



11 countries covered by national intervention



32 countries covered by regional interventions only

More: www.icr-facility.eu/interventions

Implemented by

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34 interventions approved by region (%)



by requester (%)



FEATURED ONGOING INTERVENTIONS

A legislative framework for social enterprises in Jamaica (concluded)

The ICR Facility supports the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce (MIIC) and the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) in achieving a business environment reform for the social enterprise sector. The assistance involves supporting the development of a legislative framework for the social enterprise sector through a series of workshops, public-private dialogues and awareness creation. The legislative framework and formalisation of social enterprises shall unleash several spin-off benefits for the sector, including a registrable legal status with attendant benefits and programs designed specifically for the needs of the sector. With the reform the sector ought to be in a better position to create opportunities for an inclusive and sustainable business environment, such as contributing to job creation and economic growth.

A strategy for the SADC Business Council (concluded)

The ICR Facility supported the Southern African Development Community Business Council (SADC BC), a recently established apex body of national and regional business associations, in the development of its first strategy and action plan.

The strategy and action plan were developed through the provision of expert advice, consulting the members of the SADC BC to understand their priorities as well as other key resource people and stakeholders, such as the SADC Secretariat. Through the participatory development of its strategy and action plan, the SADC BC can now focus on the activities with the greatest impact. This will enable the organisation to strengthen its role as a powerful voice of the private sector and can thus contribute to shaping the regional business environment and investment climate in a conducive, sustainable and inclusive manner.

Promoting business environment reform as a priority – International Network of Francophone Investment Promotion Agencies (RIAFPI) (ongoing)

The ICR Facility provided support to the International Network of Francophone Investment Promotion Agencies (RIAFPI) for the member agencies to be in a position to better ensure the promotion and protection of the interests of companies, and to develop their capacity to be a source of proposals to the authorities. The support included how to better assist investors in the development of their operations, how to advocate within the public administration on the measures needed to improve the country's attractiveness and on how to develop documents on competitiveness measures benefiting foreign investors.

Improving the credit reporting – Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA) (ongoing)

The ICR Facility supports Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA) with technical assistance to improve the credit reporting in 15 CARIFORUM countries through a systems assessment and a public-private consultation session. The systems assessment aims at informing policy-making and proposing national and regional recommendations for business environment reform.

The technical assistance supports the assessment and provision of recommendations on credit bureaus and collateral registries in the region. The recommendations and action plan take into consideration the different contexts of each of these countries, but also show how these can be harmonized and consolidated at a regional level, thereby creating future opportunities for joint-actions or regional initiatives.

OUTPUT AREA 2

WE STRENGTHEN NATIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

3 trainings held for individual DFIs	3 trainings held on climate finance	1 M&E benchmarking study completed	1 market study being conducted	4 individual DFI policies reviewed with recommendations for amendments
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- Capacity building in developing and issuing specific financial products in the fields of green or social bonds, guarantees or trade finance.
- Supporting the use of blended finance structures and building of investment pipelines.
- Strengthening institutional structures such as risk frameworks, monitoring, evaluation, ESG standards, reporting and governance, among others.
- Promoting exchanges of best practices between institutions.



HOW WE WORK WITH OUR DFI PARTNERS

Current cooperation with the Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD), the Development Bank of Zambia (DBZ), the Development Bank of Samoa (DBS) and three regional banks: the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID/BIDC) and the Banque de Développement des Etats d'Afrique Centrale (BDEAC).

The technical assistance needs of the DFIs are very broad and cover different types of support (policy revision, trainings, peer-to-peer exchange formats, development of reporting procedures, market studies, etc.); the below table summarizes the topics for each DFI that are covered. In the Pacific, some activities in support to DBS will be open to institutions from other countries and a regional training on Climate Finance has been organised.

 BRD	 DBZ	 DBS	 CDB	 EBID/BIDC	 BDEAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring & Evaluation ▪ Green Climate Fund accreditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment products and approaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Innovative SME finance ▪ Climate finance ▪ Credit risk management ▪ Customer relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feasibility studies on how to better support the private sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management trainings ▪ Procurement ▪ HR and skill development ▪ Project evaluation ▪ Trade Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade Finance

The ICR Facility supports a broader group of DFIs, for example by facilitating trainings and the exchange of best practices between institutions. 76 sector experts from 70 DFIs participated in trainings on mainstreaming Climate Finance Action

organised by the ICR Facility for African and Pacific Development Banks. The ICR Facility also works closely with regional associations of DFIs to compile and disseminate knowledge.

OUTPUT AREA 3

WE COMPILE AND MAINSTREAM LESSONS LEARNED AND GOOD PRACTICES

24 online events	1540 participants	9 blogposts	5 ICReports published
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KNOWLEDGE AGENDA TOPICS

- Innovative Finance Solutions for MSMEs, Start Ups as well as Social and Inclusive Businesses
- Climate Smart Investments
- Investment Climate Reform in Fragile States and Conflict-Affected Environments



KEY ELEMENTS

- Access to expertise from the four implementing partners and their networks
- Amplification of the voices and experiences of ACP stakeholders
- Awareness raising for support available from the ICR Facility



FEATURED KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS – RECENTLY PUBLISHED ICREPORTS

Social Enterprise and Inclusive Business in ACP countries: Variety and Access to Finance	Investment Climate Reform and the Adaptation Finance Gap	Honour Loans: A comprehensive mechanism to foster development by supporting MSMEs	National DFIs – Critical Allies for Climate Action
more	more	more	more

INTERESTED IN OUR KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS?

Visit our [Knowledge Hub](#) and [ICR Blog](#) to get more information on business environment and investment climate reform in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

QUESTIONS? Please contact us: info@icr-facility.eu [in /icr-facility](https://www.linkedin.com/company/icr-facility) www.icr-facility.eu