



SECTOR BRIEF

Agriculture

SECTOR SPOTLIGHT

Thriving agriculture sector and backbone of the Ghanaian economy

- Employs 48% of the total workforce
- Represents 19.5% share of GDP

Government commitment to modernize the sector

- Policies and reforms to unlock the potential of the sector and encourage private investment
- Recent investments in technology and infrastructure
- Programmes to increase agricultural productivity: Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project and West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
- Programmes to increase food productivity, ensure food security and reduce the food import bill: Planting for Food and Jobs

Crop-ready land (4.7 million hectares)

- 21% of total land area capable of being ploughed and used to grow crops
- 69% of land already devoted to agriculture (157,000 sq.km)

Agriculture-friendly land policy

- Streamlined Land Bill 2018
- Digitization of land registration processes
- Land Secretariats for efficient customary land administration
- Land banks for the release of large commercial farming
- Land as collateral for credit and investment in commercial operations
- Joint ventures and leasing for large acreages

Ideal growing conditions

- Five distinct agro-ecological zones defined by climate, natural vegetation and soil conditions (year-round in three regions)
- Well-endowed network of water bodies which can be tapped for irrigation

Easy access to export markets in Europe and further abroad

- Only a 6-hour direct flight to Europe (compared to competitors in Southern Africa and Central and South America)

Infrastructure investment to guarantee year-round irrigation (dams)

- "One Village, One Dam" policy constructs irrigation dams in every village in the three regions of the North
- Ensure farms are watered year-round

Innovative programmes to improve agri-markets

- "One District, One Factory" programme establishes at least one factory or enterprise in each of the 216 districts of Ghana:
 - Create economic growth poles and accelerate the development of those areas
 - Improve reliable access to market and increase agricultural and manufacturing output
- "One District, One Warehouse" initiative constructs warehouses in 216 districts:
 - Handle produce and store the anticipated surpluses
 - Reduce post-harvest losses and price volatilities during the off season
 - Guarantee food security

Trusted track in some sub-sectors

- Ghana's cocoa supplies 20% of the global industry

Boast significant agri-investments

- From Denmark, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States and others

Growing skilled work force

- Working age population projected to grow to 24 million in 2030
- Reforms planned for technical and vocational education and training
- Focus on developing technical skills in demand by key economic sectors, such as agri-business



Promoting agri-led entrepreneurship

- National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Plan provides business development services
- Start-up incubators and funding for young businesses, including agribusinesses

Attractive agribusiness incentives

- Import duty exemptions on plant, machinery or equipment and agro inputs, such as fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides
- Five-year tax holiday for the cultivation of industrial/cash crops, horticultural crops, cereals/grains, roots and tubers, etc.
- Ten-year tax holiday for the cultivation of tree crops (e.g. coffee, oil palm, shea nut and coconut)
- Tax exempt income for cocoa farmers and producers

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Agro-processing and production

- Industrial/cash crops, horticultural crops, cereals/grains, roots and tubers for national, regional and European Union markets
- Improved seeds and agro-chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, weedicides)
- Tree seedlings for plantation species (e.g. teak)

Technology and support services

- Tractors with basic implements, planters and harvesters
- Field and laboratory equipment for seeds and agro-chemicals production
- Suppliers and financiers of factory building technology
- Research and agriculture development services
- Inspection and grading according to international standards to make the deliveries acceptable in international markets
- Capacity building on standards, training and certification

Marketing and distribution

- Post-production services (transport, packaging, storage facilities and cold vans)
- Distribution of improved seeds, planting materials and agro-chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, weedicides)

GHANA'S PRINCIPAL CROPS

Industrial crops: Cocoa, oil palm, coconut, coffee, cotton, kola, rubber, tobacco, shea butter, cashew, kenaf, sugar cane

Starchy, tuber and root crops: Cassava, cocoyam, yam, sweet potatoes, plantain

Cereals: Maize, rice, millet, sorghum

Legumes: Cowpea, soybean, groundnut, melon, seeds

Fruits: Pineapple, citrus, banana, cashew, pawpaw, mangoes, avocado

Vegetables: Tomato, pepper, okra, eggplant, onion, Asian vegetables, carrots

THE GHANA ADVANTAGE

Second largest economy in West Africa

- GDP growth rate: 6.8% (Q1 2018)
- FDI: US\$4.91 billion (2017)

Business-friendly government

- Attractive investment incentives
- Investor protection unrivalled in the sub-region
- 100% foreign ownership of companies
- World Bank Group Doing Business Ranking 2018: #1 in West Africa

Access to key markets

- International: Europe and USA (duty-free exports via EPA and AGOA)
- Sub-regional: Economic Community of West African States - ECOWAS (350+ million people)

Growing labour force

- Skilled and unskilled
- Sourced at low rates (minimum wage: GH¢ 10.65/day)

Stable and democratic

- Successful elections and peaceful transitions (since 1992)
- Global Peace Index: #4 in Africa
- Committed to good governance (Mo Ibrahim Index for Good Governance 2017: #8 in Africa)

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