

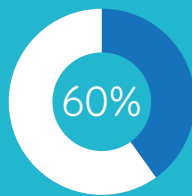
Invest Salone is a UK government-funded, private sector development programme that aims to increase incomes and jobs for thousands of Sierra Leoneans by boosting investment across various sectors.

## AGRICULTURE IN SIERRA LEONE

Agriculture is a critical component of the economy. It employs about two-thirds of the labour force, contributes to more than 60% of the gross domestic product and has huge potential for increased productivity and growth. Invest Salone's work in the sector focuses on agribusinesses and larger-scale production companies with the potential to receive investment or enter export markets, particularly those working with outgrowers.



TWO-THIRDS OF  
LABOUR FORCE



CONTRIBUTES TO  
60% OF GDP



HUGE POTENTIAL  
FOR GROWTH

## WORKING WITH BUSINESSES

We provide resources to help firms tackle growth constraints, develop new business models and become more competitive and productive. These include:



COMPETITIVE GRANTS



INVESTMENT TOOLKITS



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Invest Salone has worked with many businesses in the agricultural sector in Sierra Leone, including:

- A garri processing business to scale up production, introduce new product lines and build up its supply of raw materials from a core farm and outgrowers
- A passion fruit concentrate company to scale sourcing from outgrowers with embedded support for production
- A palm oil processor to develop smaller-scale mills so that small-scale producers can produce quality crude palm oil to enter their production lines
- A fruit juice producer to develop both sourcing of fruits and distribution of retail packs
- A poultry firm to develop local maize production to manufacture feed for the local poultry sector and potentially for export.

## WORKING WITH INVESTORS

Invest Salone engages with impact investors, development finance institutions, foreign direct investors and diaspora investors to facilitate linkages with local companies and opportunities.

Examples of success include facilitating investment in:



A cocoa company to expand production and install a facility to produce high-quality cocoa powder and liquor



A poultry company to expand production and develop its restaurant franchise



A bank specialising in micro-finance loans to the agricultural sector

## IMPROVING THE INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

Invest Salone works with government, private sector, media and civil society to address constraints to productivity and business environment weaknesses. We help compile the evidence and bring public and private sector stakeholders together, often through public-private dialogue, to seek and advocate for solutions. Some of our work to date includes:



Supporting stakeholders to develop a coordinated approach to improving agricultural competitiveness by identifying constraints to the duty waiver scheme



Conducting an analysis on regulations, processes and cost of exporting through the Port of Freetown



Broadening the discussion between the private sector and government on proposed reforms to land legislation and their potential impact on agricultural investment

## RESEARCH AND SCOPING

Our portfolio of activities is built on in-depth market intelligence achieved through stakeholder engagement, research and experience from across the continent. Market intelligence is shared through meetings, workshops, reports and communications products. Our published research includes a series of agriculture sector “Insights” on **Cocoa**, **Coffee**, **Cashew** and **Palm Oil**, and an **in-depth survey** of cashew production and productivity in Sierra Leone.