

agro**riches**

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GHANA TODAY

South Korean Experts Build Capacity of Ghanaian Rice Farmers

ARTICLE

100% soil health accounts for harvest boom!

NOTRE CHRONIQUE

Le secteur agricole togolais : opportunités d'investissement et défis à relever

THE LIFELINE FOR AGRICULTURE:

IRRIGATION



MAY 2023



TIAST Group, originating from China has been in existence for over 30 years and has extended its services to West Africa with the sole purpose of adding value to the agriculture value chain and promoting the worth of the agricultural industry in Ghana. Through localization and standardization, we are devoted to adding value to the agricultural chain and boosting the agriculture industry's worth in all African countries. Our business scope includes designing, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of agricultural processing machinery. These machines are designed to process a variety of agricultural goods, including tubers like cassava and sweet potato, etc. rubber processing, fibre extraction and processing from sisal and pineapple leaf, and agricultural machinery for planting, harvesting, and other tasks. We also provide financial leasing for our agricultural processing factories through our partnership with Banks which supports up to 70-80% of the total cost of the entire project. This lease is spread out in a 5-year term of payment which is convenient after the project starts running.

TIAST Group ensures offtake services of all processed goods to the international market at competitive international market prices. This solves the problem of the unavailability of a ready market and promotes ready sales at the best rate. We have also secured a huge international market demand for most of the products that will be processed for ready export. These products will command competitive prices on the world market and will subsequently gain considerable market traction. TIAST facilitates the training of local employees and personnel on how to operate and maintain these machines through its localization scheme. We have technical staff on hand who are willing to train locals to operate these processing units. We are justifiably proud to be the market leaders in the agricultural industrialization space in Ghana and the sub-region. We are also proud of our footprint in Ghana and the impact we are making in the agricultural space. This life-changing opportunity is provided by TIAST Group for everyone interested in boosting agricultural value and promoting the value chain.

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OUR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIALIZATION AGENDA IS AIMED AT PARTNERING WITH FARMERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES TO ADD VALUE TO THE AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN.

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Funding the Future: The Vital Importance of Agricultural Financing.



Agriculture is one of the most important sectors of the global economy, providing food, fiber, and other essential products to people all around the world.

However, agricultural production can be a risky and costly enterprise, with farmers facing a range of challenges from unpredictable weather patterns to fluctuating commodity prices.

In order to succeed in agriculture, farmers need access to adequate financing. This can include everything from loans to purchase equipment and inputs, to insurance to protect against crop losses, to access to credit to expand their operations or invest in new technologies.

Unfortunately, many farmers around the world lack access to the financing they need to succeed. This can be due to a range of factors, including a lack of financial institutions in rural areas, high interest rates, and limited knowledge about financial products.

In order to address these challenges and ensure the long-term sustainability of agriculture, it's essential that we prioritize agricultural financing. This means working to expand access to financial products and services for farmers, as well as investing in financial education and literacy programs to help farmers better understand their options.

By prioritizing agricultural financing, we can help farmers to better manage risk, invest in their businesses, and ultimately contribute to the long-term sustainability and growth of the agricultural sector.

“It's essential that we prioritize agricultural financing.”

Pitaya

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Origin

The origin of pitaya or dragon fruit is uncertain, however it is most likely a native of Central America, according to sources. Pitahaya is another name for it, as is pitaya roja in Central and northern South America. Today, it is grown around the world.

Description

It is a climbing cactus vine that thrives in dry environments. It thrives in soil with a lot of organic matter because of how epiphytic it is. The plant is sometimes also referred to as the "moonflower" or "Lady of the Night" because it only has nighttime flowering. The flowers are huge, white, and only bloom for one night; they are at least 20 cm long. When in bloom, they have a bell-like form and smell good. In a single year, pitahaya trees can go through four to six fruiting cycles. Both stem cuttings and seeds can be used to multiply it.

Health Benefits

Boosts Immunity

This fruit has significant levels of vitamin C, which strengthens your defenses and keeps you healthy. More vitamin C enables your body to combat potentially fatal illnesses that you may be susceptible to. To maintain your health, all you have to do is eat 1 cup (200 grams) of this fruit each day.

Good for Hair

The high source of nutrients found in this fruit extract powder reduces hair damage caused by artificial hair colouring and improves hair texture, thus, leaving it soft and shiny. All you need to do so is to consume this once a day and you will witness changes.

"The plant is sometimes also referred to as the "moonflower" or "Lady of the Night" because it only has nighttime flowering"



South Korean Experts Build Capacity of Ghanaian Rice Farmers

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

As part of the Rice Value Chain Improvement (RVCI) project in the Central Region, South Korean agricultural experts have trained farmers and machinery operators.



The purpose of the training was to provide practical knowledge and skills in direct seeding and seedling transplanting techniques to machinery operators, lead farmers, and agriculture officers.

Additionally, they received instruction on how to use the rice-seeding machine.

The beneficiaries of the training sessions, which were held at Assin Akropong, Assin Foso, and Twifo Afosuah, benefited from the wide knowledge and abilities in rice production.

In order to improve the business skills of the leaders of farmer-based organizations and their members, the training program component of the RVCI project will provide about 400 farmer leaders with knowledge and skills in improved rice cultivation technology and business skills on the rice value chain.

Paying a courtesy call on the Central Regional Minister, Justina Marigold Assan, Dr Yang Won-Ha, an Agronomist and pioneer in seedling preparation, said Central region's potential to produce large scale rice should not be underestimated.

He stated that the purpose of the tour was to provide their assistance in realizing the vision by enhancing the capacity of farmers and other auxiliary workers.

The Minister, on the other hand, expressed her gratitude to the group and emphasized that the region did not take for granted the efforts of KOICA to make the Central region the center of rice production in the very near future.

“The purpose of the training was to provide practical knowledge and skills in direct seeding and seedling transplanting techniques to machinery operators, lead farmers, and agriculture officers”

Morocco becomes world's 3rd exporter of Raspberry

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

According to fresh data from the agriculture news website EastFruit, Morocco has surpassed the US to take third place among raspberry exporters worldwide.

According to the website, Morocco's exports of raspberries have increased by more than a factor of two during the last five harvest seasons.

In the first eight months of 2022/2023, the exporters of the nation sold around 35,000 tonnes of their goods.

The report said, "Despite a slight decline in exports in February 2023, the country still has every chance to set a new record in fresh raspberry exports over the whole MY 2022/3."

Compared to the US's 50,000 tonnes, Morocco shipped 56,000 tonnes of fresh raspberries.

According to the Morocco World News, Spain tops the list of raspberry exports with 72,000 tonnes shipments, followed by Mexico with 112,000 tonnes.

Over 50,000 tonnes of fresh raspberries were exported from Morocco in the 2021–2022 season. Blueberries, which reached 52,000 tonnes in the 2021–2022 season, were another significant component of Moroccan exports in addition to raspberries.

This is a positive and significant achievement for Morocco as the country would generate more foreign earnings for its development.



Chinese agric products gain wide recognition at MacFrut 2023

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

With the assistance of the Agricultural Trade Promotion Center at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China, numerous Chinese exhibitors attended Macfrut once again this year.

Industry leaders and expo organizers welcomed the delegation with open arms, demonstrating the confidence and readiness of Chinese agricultural products to grow in the international market.

Chinese exhibitors came from five provinces and autonomous regions and displayed well-known agricultural products from each, including potatoes from Ulanqab in Inner Mongolia, pineapple from Xuwen in Guangdong, dragon fruit from Nanning in Guangxi, apples from Lingbao in Henan, and processed fruit and vegetable products from Hunan.

A Chinese delegation representative said "China has a long history of farming and offers a rich variety of agricultural products."

"Each product has its own characteristics and is shaped by the unique local environment and agricultural techniques and traditions used to produce it," the delegation representative said.

"This exhibition is a platform to develop markets in Italy and the rest of Europe, but also an opportunity to learn about high-quality agricultural products and advanced technology from Europe and elsewhere so that Chinese enterprises can grasp market trends and improve international competitiveness," the representative added.



From Farm to Table: The Fascinating Journey of Your Food

By Prince Opoku Dogbey



From the moment you take your first bite, have you ever stopped to think about the incredible journey your food has taken to reach your plate? From the seed in the ground to the hands that harvest it, and the miles it travels to get to your local grocery store or farmer's market, the story of food is both fascinating and complex.

The journey of food begins on the farm, where farmers and growers work tirelessly to cultivate the crops that will eventually make their way to your plate. Whether it's large industrial farms or small family-owned operations, every farmer has a story to tell about the passion and hard work that goes into growing our food.

Once the crops are harvested, they're transported to processing facilities, where they're sorted, packaged, and sometimes even transformed into entirely new products. This could include anything from turning wheat into flour, or grapes into wine, to canning fruits and vegetables for long-term preservation.

After processing, the food is transported to various distribution centers and warehouses, where it's sorted, packaged, and sent out to retailers or restaurants. Many of these facilities are located hundreds or even thousands of miles away from where the food was grown, which means it must be transported long distances using trucks, trains, ships, or planes.

Finally, the food arrives at its destination, whether it's a local grocery store or a restaurant. From there, it's up to the consumer to choose what they want to eat, prepare it, and enjoy it. This final step is where we as consumers can make a real impact on the food system by choosing to buy from local farmers, eating seasonally, and reducing food waste.

As consumers, it's important for us to be aware of the journey our food takes and the impact it has on the environment and the people who produce it.



So the next time you sit down to enjoy a meal, take a moment to appreciate the incredible journey your food has taken to get to your plate. From farm to table, the story of our food is a truly fascinating one.

Aerobic Rice-Growing System

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Rice is grown using the new aerobic rice system (ARS), which avoids flooded, puddled, and saturated soil conditions.

While slightly lower than those recorded under lowland flooded conditions, the predicted yields in ARS are double or triple those obtained under upland settings.

This type of rice cultivation is an advanced way of cultivation by reducing water wastage. Rice is grown aerobically when it is directly sown on non-puddle aerobic soil with more irrigation and fertilizer while using optimal high yielding rice types.

Some of the advantages of aerobic rice-growing system are listed below;

- Cultivation cost is also low and so are the labour charges
- Efficient utilization of rainwater and improves soil health
- This type of cultivation improves soil health
- It is cost-effective and eco-friendly
- Direct Seeding

One factor to note

Irrigated lowlands, delta regions, irrigated rice farming systems, etc. are appropriate locations for aerobic rice cultivation.

Let's talk

Sustainable Farming Practices

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Sustainable farming practices aim to reduce the environmental impact of agriculture, while also improving the long-term productivity and profitability of farms.

This can include practices like crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced tillage, and integrated pest management.

By adopting sustainable farming practices, farmers can help to reduce soil erosion and nutrient depletion, improve water quality, and reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

In addition, sustainable farming practices can help to build healthier soil, support biodiversity, and even mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon in the soil.

Overall, the importance of sustainable farming practices cannot be overstated. By adopting these practices, farmers can help to ensure the long-term sustainability of agriculture, protect the environment, and contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future for our planet.



Ghana Surpasses Ivory Coast In Domestic Cocoa Production

By Jessica Meledi

According to the latest Cocoa Market Report by the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO), Ghana has exceeded Ivory Coast, the world's top exporter in cocoa production over the half year 2022/23 crop season.

As of March 2023, the cumulative volume of graded and sealed cocoa beans purchased in Ghana since start of the 2022/2023 season was reported at 566, 846 tons representing an 18% increase from the previous year.

Ghana is known as one of the leading cocoa produces in the world, and in 2021/2022, Ghana was estimated to have produced 689 metric tons of cocoa beans the most ever produced by a country. Cocoa has been one of the major agricultural sectors that contributes majorly to the Ghanaian economy.

However, Ghana is not the only country well known for its major cocoa production. Ivory Coast for several years has been the world's top producer of cocoa competing with Ghana on the global market. In view of Ghana's competition with Ivory Coast, for Ghana to have produced more cocoa than Ivory Coast in the first half of 2022/23 is an achievement the country can be proud of.



Despite the increase in Ghana's cocoa production, total supply of cocoa beans from the world's top-two cocoa production, for the first half of 2022/23 is estimated at 2,345,846 tons-slightly down by 0.2% compared to the previous season.

The current data from the International Cocoa Organization indicates that Ghana has outshined Ivory Coast in its cocoa production, a significant development in the global market.

This development for cocoa industrial analysts is epoch-making for Ghana because it indicates that the country is making strides in the cocoa sector by increasing its cocoa production and improving its quality.

Industrial cocoa analysts are hoping that the industrial players will invest more to ensure Ghana continues to improve in its cocoa production and address challenges facing the sector.

Arable land

you know that an arable land refers to soils suitable for Agriculture?



Chia Seeds

The high fiber content of chia seeds can lower cholesterol, support digestive health, and improve heart and cardiovascular health.



A Lifeline for AGRICULTURE: IRRIGATION

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

HEAD, SCHEME OVERSIGHT DEPARTMENT – GIDA

In Ghana, the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA) is mandated among other things to formulate, develop and implement irrigation and drainage plans for all year round agriculture production in Ghana.

The significance of irrigation in crop development cannot be underestimated. Ghana's irrigation sector has experienced notable growth and progress over the years. Presently, there are numerous irrigation schemes spread throughout the country. Some noteworthy examples of these schemes include Kpong, Weta, Dawhenya, Weija, Aveyime, and many more.

In our pursuit of further knowledge about the irrigation schemes in Ghana, we had the privilege of receiving detailed information from Madam Juliet Adjei-Kyere, the Head of the Scheme Oversight Department. She graciously shared comprehensive insights on the existing irrigation schemes in the country.

At present, the Authority oversees approximately 180 irrigation schemes throughout the country, an impressive quantity, one might say. Speaking on the size of irrigation schemes in the country, she said, "We have many irriga-

tion schemes scattered throughout the country ranging from 3,000 hectares to the least of about six (6) hectares."

She pointed out that the largest irrigation scheme in Ghana is the Kpong irrigation scheme, boasting an impressive capacity of 3,000 hectares.

The Kpong irrigation scheme has garnered significant attention as it serves as a hub for creating employment opportunities across the entire rice value chain. It is noteworthy that this irrigation scheme, exclusively dedicated to paddy rice production, engages a diverse group of 2,000 small-scale rice farmers. This exemplifies just one of the many opportunities provided by the irrigation scheme, in addition to its vital role in ensuring food security.

Furthermore, the Weija irrigation scheme, located in the Ga South Municipality of the Greater Accra Region, is renowned for its exceptional agricultural productivity, particularly in vegetable cultivation. According to Madam Juliet Adjei-Kyere, tomato stands out as the primary vegetable cultivated at the Weija irrigation scheme, while other irrigation schemes focus on growing Asian vegetables such as tuya and tinda.

JULIET ADJEI-KYERE



Madam Adjei-Kyere was however optimistic that the development of irrigation schemes in Ghana by the Authority would continue to ensure food security, create sustainable livelihoods and provide the needed irrigation infrastructure for agricultural development.

Additionally, she emphasized the importance of farmers embracing modern agricultural practices, as it would greatly contribute to the advancement of the agricultural sector.

ABOUT GIDA

GIDA, the acronym for Ghana Irrigation Development Authority, holds the crucial mandate of overseeing irrigation development in Ghana. As the primary state agency in charge of agricultural water management technologies, GIDA aims to enhance agricultural production and promote efficient water usage for farming. Its overarching goal is to provide national leadership in planning, promoting, developing, and utilizing water resources for agricultural purposes, thereby ensuring food security and improving the livelihoods of Ghana's population.

“The Kpong irrigation scheme has garnered significant attention as it serves as a hub for creating employment opportunities across the entire rice value chain.”

Pitaya Smoothie

By Mavis Esaaba Mensah

This smoothie is a great source of antioxidants like betacyanin, phenolic acid, and flavonoids. These organic compounds guard your cells from the chemicals known as free radicals, which can cause diseases including cancer and premature aging.

Ingredients

1 cup diced frozen pitaya | ½ cup Strawberries
Frozen banana | Milk | 1 tablespoon chia seeds | Lemon juice

Instructions

Add all the ingredients to a high speed blender.
Blend on high until smooth.

Note: To keep this recipe dairy-free, be sure to use plant-based milk (like almond, oat, coconut or cashew milk).

Soil, An Essential Element In Improving Farming

By Jessica Meledi

Just as a foundation is important to secure a building, healthy soil acts as a foundation for plants by supporting plant roots and keeping plants upright for growth. Soil provides ecosystem services critical for life: it acts as a water filter and a growing medium, provides habitat for billions of organisms contributing to biodiversity, and supplies most of the antibiotics we use to fight diseases. Humans use soil for different reasons, and it is also the basis of our nation's agroecosystems, which provide us with feed, food, fibre, and fuel.

Soil plays an important role in the farm ecosystem by providing nutrients essential for the growth of agricultural and horticultural crops. Fertile soil is rich in nutrients and water, highly appropriate for agriculture, and serves as the primary nutrient base for healthy crops. The nutrients that healthy soil provides facilitate the growth of food crops, which contribute to securing food systems in the agriculture sector.

Soil is a critical part of successful agriculture and is the original source of the nutrients that we use to grow crops. The nutrients transfer from the soil into plants that we eat, like maize, cassava, tomatoes, onions, and other food crops. The healthiest soils produce the most food, so it's prudent for those who handle the soil often when planting to learn and adapt measures to sustain the richness of the soil.

Some of the practice's farmers can implement include growing more crops on the best soil and allowing more rest for the weaker soil. Others include rotating crops to improve diversity, keeping the soil surface covered to reduce erosion, and monitoring watering so that salts do not accumulate.

Healthy soils will lead to a more secure food supply, which results in a strong community transitioning to a buoyant agricultural economic system. Also, farmers can utilize technologies like irrigation in addition to the precise application of fertilizer to ensure that soil is conserved for sustainable food production.



The Green Field

In fields of green and gold I roam,
The earth my home, the sky my dome,
The sun my guide, the rain my friend,
My harvest ripe, my toil will end.

With hands that toil and sweat that pours,
I plant the seeds that yield my stores,
And watch them grow beneath the sun,
Until my work is fully done.

I till the land with strength and care,
And nurture every crop with prayer,
For every grain that I will reap,
Will feed a soul and bring them deep.

The seasons come and seasons go,
But still I work, I reap, I sow,
For in this task I find my pride,
And in this life, I will abide.

So let the winds of fortune blow,
And let the rains of plenty flow,
For in my heart I know full well,
That I am blessed with this great spell.

— Poem by Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Planting the Seeds of a Family Legacy

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Building a successful agribusiness that lasts for generations requires a long-term vision, dedication, and hard work. However, the rewards of creating a thriving family legacy can be immeasurable, providing not only financial security but also a sense of pride and purpose.

Having a sound business plan in place is crucial for creating a family legacy. This should contain a concise mission statement, financial estimates, and a growth and expansion plan.

A plan in place makes it easier to make sure that everyone is on the same page and working towards the same objectives.

In addition to a solid business plan, it's

important to invest in the future of the business by continually learning and adapting to changing market conditions. This could include attending industry conferences, keeping up-to-date with the latest technology and equipment, and seeking out new business opportunities.

Finally, building a family legacy through agribusiness requires a commitment to sustainability and responsible stewardship of the land.

This means using practices that preserve and protect the environment for future generations and building relationships with suppliers, customers, and the community that reflect your values.



TODAY'S TIPS

A successful farmer will;

1. Plan ahead: Before you begin farming, it's important to have a clear plan in place. This should include everything from choosing the crops you want to grow to deciding on the equipment you'll need.
2. Invest in the right equipment: Having the right equipment is essential for successful farming. This could include tractors, plows, seed drills, and other machinery that will help you get the job done efficiently.
3. Take care of your soil: Soil health is critical for growing healthy crops. This means using practices like crop rotation, cover cropping, and composting to keep your soil healthy and fertile.
4. Pay attention to weather patterns: Weather patterns can have a significant impact on your crops.





100% soil health accounts for harvest boom!

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Soil health is one of the most critical factors in sustainable agriculture. Healthy soil provides a fertile environment for crops to grow, helps to retain water, and supports a diverse ecosystem of microorganisms and insects. However, soil health is under threat from a range of factors, including erosion, nutrient depletion, and chemical pollution.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of agriculture, it's essential that we prioritize soil health. This means taking steps to preserve and protect soil quality, including practices like crop rotation, cover cropping, and reduced tillage. These practices help to build soil organic matter, retain nutrients, and reduce erosion, all of which contribute to healthier soil.

In addition to these practices, it's important to minimize the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, which can harm soil health and reduce the biodiversity of the soil ecosystem. Instead, farmers can adopt organic or regenerative farming practices, which prioritize soil health and work to restore the natural balance of the soil ecosystem.

Ultimately, prioritizing soil health is not only important for sustainable agriculture, but for the health of the planet as a whole. Healthy soil plays a critical role in mitigating climate change by sequestering carbon, and supports a wide range of ecosystem services, from clean water to biodiversity. By prioritizing soil health, we can ensure a more sustainable and resilient future for agriculture, and for the planet.

An advertisement for TIAST GROUP. It features a black background with a red horizontal line at the top. The main text reads "Cast your offtake burdens unto us now" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, in a smaller white font, it says "WE'VE GOT THE MARKET FOR YOU!". At the bottom, there is a photograph of a wooden bowl filled with sliced yam. In the bottom right corner, there is a white circular logo for TIAST GROUP with the tagline "TIAST More Value For Agriculturists". To the left of the logo, it says "CONTACT US: +233 204758888".

VERS UNE MEILLEURE SÉCURITÉ ALIMENTAIRE: LE MALI PRÉVOIT UNE AUGMENTATION DE LA PRODUCTION CÉRÉALIÈRE

Par Pavel Chamabe

Selon le ministère de l'Agriculture, le Mali a annoncé hier ses prévisions de production de céréales pour la campagne agricole 2023/24. Le pays prévoit de produire environ 10,9 millions de tonnes (Mt) de céréales au cours de cette saison, ce qui représente une augmentation de plus de 6% par rapport à la saison précédente. Cette augmentation projetée de la production est le résultat d'une expansion de la zone d'ensemencement et dépendra également de conditions météorologiques favorables, notamment des précipitations adéquates et une distribution réussie d'engrais, entre autres facteurs, selon le ministère.

Il convient de rappeler que lors de la campagne agricole 2021/22, la production de céréales avait chuté de 11% par rapport à la saison 2020/21 en raison de la sécheresse qui avait sévi dans le pays. Par conséquent, cette augmentation prévue de la production pour la prochaine saison est une nouvelle encourageante pour le secteur agricole malien.

Parmi les 10,9 millions de tonnes de céréales prévues, le maïs devrait représenter environ 4,1 millions de tonnes, suivi du riz avec 3 millions de tonnes, du mil avec 1,9 million de tonnes et du sorgho avec 1,7 million de tonnes. Il est également important de noter que la consommation nationale de céréales est estimée à 5,4 millions de tonnes, selon les informations fournies par le ministère de l'Agriculture. La campagne agricole au Mali démarre généralement en avril, avec une phase de production qui commence en mai ou juin et se termine en septembre ou octobre. Le pays est le deuxième producteur de céréales de la région après le Nigeria et joue un rôle essentiel en tant qu'exportateur vers les pays voisins.

Ces prévisions de production de céréales témoignent des efforts déployés par le Mali pour stimuler son secteur agricole et renforcer sa sécurité alimentaire. Une augmentation de la production de céréales pourrait contribuer à réduire la dépendance du pays vis-à-vis des importations alimentaires et à soutenir l'économie rurale en créant des opportunités d'emploi dans les zones agricoles.

Cependant, il est important de noter que la réussite de la prochaine campagne agricole dépendra de plusieurs facteurs, notamment les conditions météorologiques, la disponibilité des intrants agricoles, l'accès aux marchés et les mesures prises pour faire face aux défis tels que les changements climatiques et les crises sécuritaires dans certaines régions du pays.

Le Mali prévoit une augmentation de sa production de céréales pour la campagne agricole 2023/24, ce qui est une nouvelle positive pour le pays. Ces prévisions sont basées sur une expansion de la zone cultivée et dépendront de conditions météorologiques favorables ainsi que d'autres facteurs. Une augmentation de la production de céréales pourrait avoir un impact significatif sur la sécurité alimentaire du pays et soutenir l'économie rurale. Cependant, il est important de rester vigilant face aux défis potentiels qui pourraient affecter cette production.





Le secteur agricole togolais: opportunités d'investissement et défis à relever

Par Pavel Chamabe

Selon le rapport Diagnostic du secteur privé du Togo (CPSD), publié par la Société financière internationale (IFC) et la Banque mondiale, le renforcement de la participation du secteur privé dans les domaines de l'agriculture, des transports et de la logistique, ainsi que l'amélioration des infrastructures énergétiques et numériques, pourraient permettre au Togo de transformer son économie, de créer davantage d'emplois et de réduire la pauvreté.

Le rapport souligne que les investissements privés dans le secteur agricole devraient être encouragés, tant au niveau de la production que de la transformation. Il est également nécessaire de faciliter l'accès des agriculteurs à des semences et des engrais de qualité. Pour devenir le hub logistique et commercial de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, le Togo doit mettre en œuvre des réformes visant à renforcer et moderniser ses réseaux de transport aérien, routier et maritime, ainsi que ses procédures douanières.

Les exportations agricoles représentent historiquement 50% du total des exportations de biens du Togo. Ces exportations ont augmenté ces dernières années, grâce à la croissance de cultures telles que le soja et la noix de cajou, ainsi que des cultures traditionnelles comme le coton. Cependant, les statistiques commerciales doivent être interprétées avec prudence, car une partie des exportations semble provenir de pays voisins et être réexportée par le Togo. Par exemple, l'huile de palme est l'un des principaux produits d'exportation du Togo, mais la production togolaise est nettement inférieure à celle de la Côte d'Ivoire, du Ghana et du Bénin. De même, une partie des exportations de noix de cajou est en réalité réexportée du Burkina Faso et peut-être d'autres pays.

Malgré le potentiel du secteur agricole, les investissements ont été extrêmement faibles, représentant seulement 0,14% des flux totaux en juin 2020, contre 0,28% en décembre 2009.

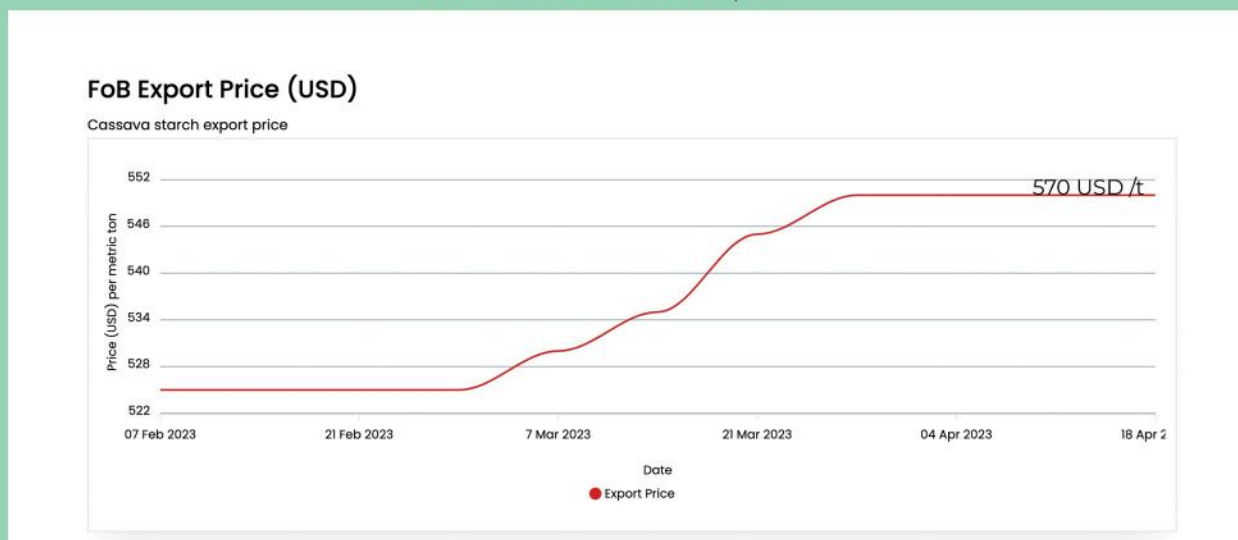
Le rapport identifie plusieurs opportunités dans le secteur agricole togolais. La production de coton, de soja, de noix de cajou et d'ananas présente un grand potentiel. La transformation locale de ces produits en fil, tissu ou vêtements pourrait créer des opportunités d'investissement, nécessitant toutefois des investissements dans les sources d'énergie renouvelable et l'irrigation. Les cultures horticoles telles que les tomates, les mangues, les papayes et les bananes offrent également des opportunités de développement.

Cependant, le rapport souligne que le Togo doit promouvoir l'investissement dans le secteur agricole. L'amélioration du climat des affaires dans l'agriculture est en retard par rapport à d'autres pays de la région, ce qui limite le potentiel de croissance du secteur. Des réformes sont nécessaires pour surmonter les contraintes liées à l'accès au financement, à la fourniture de semences, à la protection phytosanitaire et à l'enregistrement des engrais.

Market Analysis of Cassava Starch In Thailand

The market prices of cassava starch have reduced slightly over the last month. The price ranges from 500-550 US dollars/ton (3,627.80 yuan /ton). This week, the market price of cassava starch in Thailand's tapioca starch quotation is FOB (Bangkok) 495 US dollars/ton (3,788.46 yuan/ton). The starch prices in the domestic cassava starch market are stable. In Thailand, the raw material supply of fresh cassava is stable. The average starch leavening of cassava starch is between 24-28 percent. Thailand is relatively stable, the open factories remain high, and the starch output continues to increase. The speed of cassava starch clearance is still low, and the quotations of traders are slightly confused.

● Thailand Cassava Starch price



Price Factors

Quality of cassava root: Factory owners demand cassava with high starch content for production. Higher starch content would receive a higher price than the lower one. The price offered by the collector is dependent on the quality of the cassava root, specifically, the starch content.

Cost of Labour: Total labour cost including farm labour for the cultivation and harvesting of cassava. The cost of labour during the harvesting period is high as compared to cultivation therefore the cost of harvesting directly affects pricing.

Harvest Yield: There is a high correlation between harvest yield and the price of cassava. The price of cassava is lower when there is a low yield. The lowest prices in June and July can be explained in a similar way but the opposite end. It is noted that the abundance of cassava roots drives the prices down.

Handling and Logistics: The storage and shipping costs from producing areas to importing countries are great determinants of cassava prices. When the shipping and transportation cost of cassava to consumers and industries are high, it affects the retail price of cassava. Cassava farmers bring their harvest to the collectors, where they are responsible for absorbing the cost of transportation from farm to collecting fields.

Harvesting time: The harvesting period is a great determinant for the price of cassava. The abundance and scarcity of cassava affect the price. The prices of fresh cassava roots often rise in November and December of every year as cassava is easily harvested during the rainy season. During the harvesting season, the prices are relatively high due to the limited supply.



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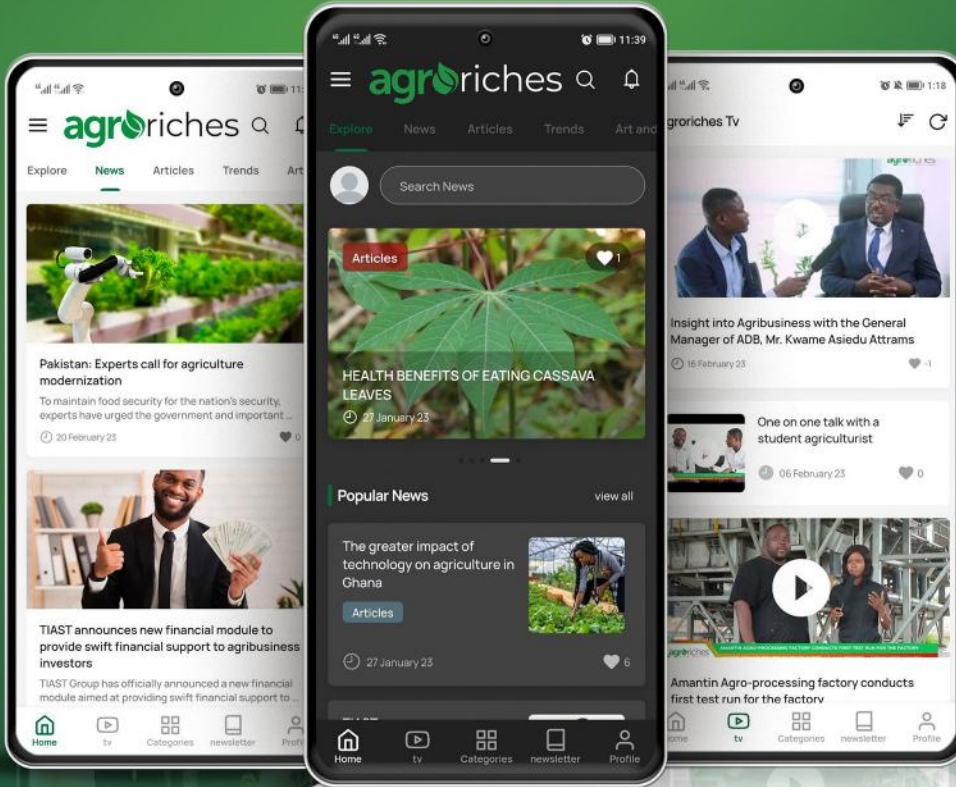
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