



Agri-Food Value Chains in the West Region, Cameroon

Regional context



Population

T 2, 113, 367
M 46% F 54%



Informal Agriculture

Employs 61.1%
1,960,344 farmers



Agricultural Land use

Between 30-70%
Small farms 78.4%



Public Investment Budget in agriculture

23.09%



Key Value Chains in the West

Value Chain	Challenges
Maize	Weak integration of small and medium sized producers.
Poultry	Limited knowledge regarding vaccination and animal shelter.
Cocoa	Low value added; unfair prices to farmers.
Coffee	Aging farmer population; price fluctuations.
Beans	Poor seed access; low productivity, poor storage facilities.
Potatoes	High pre and post-harvest production losses; prevalence of crop disease.



Why Agri-Food Value Chains Matter

Agri-food value chains employ 61% of people in West Cameroon, bringing food from the farm to the plate. Therefore, development of the chains create opportunities for rural people to establish businesses that increase farmer's incomes, meet local needs and produce diverse nutritious food (IFAD, 2025).



Challenges

- Low access to credit.
- Limited access to agricultural inputs.
- Limited integration between farmers.



Opportunities

- Large young labor force (80% of national population under 35 years old and 34.5% for the West region (15-24 age group).
- Large land resources.
- Growing domestic and regional demand on certain commodities (beans, village chicken).
- Favorable agro-ecological zones.



How to adopt Inclusive Agri-Food Growth ?

Youth & women

Entrepreneurship training, access to finance.

Persons with disabilities

Inclusive vocational centers.

Community based models

Strengthen small-medium sized agri-food enterprises.



Policy Environment

National Development Strategy 2020-2030

- Economic growth, social development and inclusion.

Vision 2035

- Reduce poverty to <10% and achieve upper middle income country status.

Rural Sector Development Strategy

- Promoting sustainable and competitive agriculture.



Takeaway

Strengthening agri-food value chains can significantly increase productivity, improve farmers' incomes, and create sustainable employment opportunities for youth, women, and vulnerable groups. Investing in inclusion, innovation, and collaboration among small producers is essential for competitive and long-lasting agricultural development.

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