SMEs in mango industry study ways to improve access to finance

ITC’s Access to Finance for SMEs Programme is helping micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives in Senegal's mango industry improve their access to finance, thereby boosting wealth, creating jobs and diversifying the economy. Twenty MSMEs, the most promising members of the Federal Cooperative of Horticulture Actors of Senegal (CFAHS), will benefit from ITC’s technical assistance in financial management and business-plan development. ITC will use financial-management counsellors from the Centre de Gestion Agréé de Dakar (CGAD), a national business-development services provider, and the Association of Enterprise Development Consultants (ASCDE) to provide that technical assistance. More info

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NTF II Programme

Dutch Development Cooperation Minister Knapen learns about achievements of NTFII Bangladesh

Dutch Minister of Development Cooperation Ben Knapen heard first-hand about the successes of the Netherlands Trust Fund II (NTFII) Bangladesh Project during a visit to Dhaka during which he also signed two Memorandums of Understanding. More info

New ASEPEX chief Alioune Sarr meets with NTF II Senegal project manager

Alioune Sarr, the new director of the Senegalese Export Promotion Agency (ASEPEX), received Mehdi Chaker, Project Manager of NTF II-Senegal, on May 30. More info

ITC promotes export diversification through software sector at WSIS

Bangladesh was presented as a case study for software-industry development during a session at the 2012 World Summit of the Information Society (WSIS) Forum managed by UNCTAD and ITC. More info
Needs of two pilot mango producer groups in Niayes pinpointed

The NTF II project will be adapted to meet the needs of two pilot producer groups in the Niayes region by giving them the legal status of "cooperatives". More info

NUCAFE directors give stamp of approval to 2012-2016 strategic plan

NUCAFE's Board of Directors unanimously approved the union's 2012-2016 strategic plan following a six-month preparation period involving management, farmers' associations, ITC, experts and assorted stakeholders. More info

WSIS Forum 2012

Mr. Ahmad talks about his company and how he is leveraging the skills of the young and talented Bangladeshi human resources in IT to the benefit of his offshore clients. Watch video

Upcoming Events

**Bangladesh**

**June**: Release of new NTF II Bangladesh exporter catalogue in Dhaka

**15-17 July**: Monitoring and evaluation training in Dhaka.

**Uganda**

**4 - 6 June**: NTF II Steering Group field mission to Uganda

**5 June**: Launch of the Coffee Sector Export Strategy Update

Resources and links

Bangladesh  [link]

Kenya  [link]

Senegal  [link]

South Africa  [link]

Uganda  [link]
Kenya
6 - 8 June: NTF II Steering Group field mission to Kenya

June: Finalisation of the three Business Commodity Plans

Senegal
Training sessions on quality
Workshop on packaging