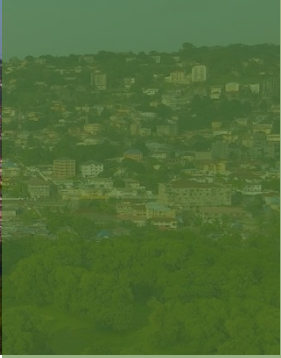


SALONE ACCESS TO FINANCE PROJECT



Facilitating Access to Finance for MSME's in Agriculture





SALONE ACCESS TO FINANCE

BACKGROUND

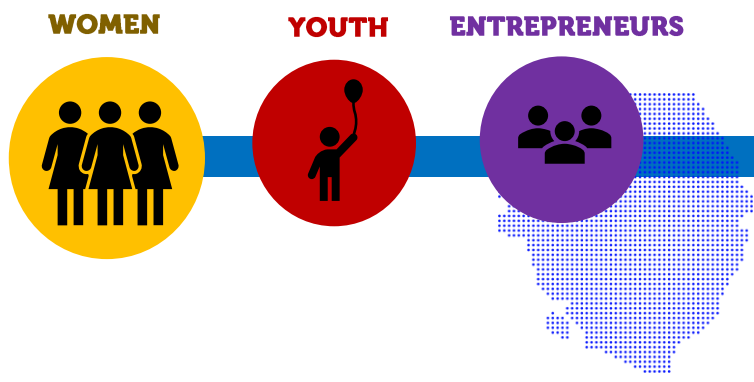
In 2023, UNCDF signed the 'Salone Access to Finance' Project, a five-year initiative under the European Development Fund (EDF) and Jobs and Growth Programme, aligned with the EU priorities and strategies, both at the country and global levels.

The Project is in line with the strategic objective of the Government of Sierra Leone to prioritise private sector-led growth as a key means of job creation, poverty reduction and economic diversification. The project will also leverage the "Boosting Agriculture and Food Security Project (BAFS)" - a flagship action of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry funded by the European Union.

The design is based on the long-standing experience and UNCDF's knowledge of the digital financial landscape in Sierra Leone.

'Salone Access to Finance' focuses on four critical components for improving the country's investment climate and business environment in the agriculture sector, in line with the strategic objective of the Government of Sierra Leone's Medium-term National Development Plan, BIG 5 CHANGERS, and Pillar 4 of the Feed Salone Strategy:

TARGET POPULATION



Overall objective:

To contribute to sustainable and **inclusive economic development and job creation** in Sierra Leone, particularly in the **agriculture sector**.



THE 4 COMPONENTS AND KEY OUTCOME STATEMENT

- Investment:** The capacity of local financial institutions (LFIs) is enhanced by providing concessional financing and investment support and the design of a matching



Outcome: Provided **concessional financing and investment support**

- Insurance:** Risks for agriculture investments diversified, with a particular focus on the economic empowerment of women and youth.



Outcome: Diversified **risks for agriculture investments** with a particular focus on **economic empowerment of women**

- Digital:** Increased access and usage of digital financial and non-financial services by low-income people, in particular farmers and women living in rural areas.



Outcome: Expanded financial and other digital services to rural areas and farmers with a particular focus on economic empowerment of women

- Business Environment:** Improve the policy, regulatory and institutional framework for financial services.



Outcome: Improved policy, regulatory and institutional framework for **financial services**.

