#### REPUBLIC OF TOGO

Work - Freedom - Homeland



# MINISTRY OF TRADE AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

# OPERATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM USE OF AGOA





AUGUST 2017

# **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

AGOA African Growth and Opportunity Act

API-ZF Agence de promotion des investissements et de la zone franche

(Investments and Free zone Promotion Agency)

CCIT Chambre du commerce et d'industrie du Togo (Chamber of Commerce

and Industry of Togo)

CFE Centre de formalités d'entreprises (Business Start-up Centre)

ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States

EU European Union

FSMA Food Safety Modernization Act

GDP Gross Domestic Product

GSP Generalized System of Preferences

HACCP Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point

MCPSP Ministère du commerce et de la promotion du secteur privé (Ministry of

Trade and Private Sector Development)

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

MFN Most Favored Nation

NDP National Development Plan

OTR Office togolais de recettes (Togo Revenue Office)

SALT Société aéroportuaire de Lomé Tokoin (Airport Company)

SCAPE Stratégie de croissance accélérée et de promotion d'emploi (Accelerated

Growth and Employment Promotion Strategy)

SMEs/SMIs Small and Medium Enterprises/Small and Medium Industries

UEMOA/WAEMU West African Economic and Monetary Union

USA United States of America

USAID United States Agency for International Development

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#### Introduction

For the past few years, Togo has engaged in accelerating economic growth and social development in line with the MDGs and SDGs.

The country has recorded an average growth rate of 5% over the past five years. This growth has been supported by investments in the areas of economic and agricultural infrastructure as well as structural reforms effected within the framework of the Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion Strategy (SCAPE). Togo has a significant agricultural potential that accounts for 41% of the GDP and employs 75% of a workforce whose potential remains largely unexploited in spite of a major increase in production.

This growth helped reduce poverty and create jobs. Despite these developments, Togo has initiated intensive economic reforms and efforts to create a conducive environment for private sector development.

The results of the recent QUIBB survey (2011-2015) indicate a drop in the rate of unemployment from 6.5% in 2011 to 3.4% in 2015. However, the underemployment rate increased from 22.8% in 2011 to 24.9% in 2015.

An analysis of the 2006, 2011 and 2015 QUIBB surveys shows that poverty has declined over that same period at national level. Thus, poverty incidence has declined from 61.7% in 2006 to 58.7% in 2011 and then 55.1% in 2015. In that context, AGOA is an opportunity for reaching the top goals of the country.

Adopted on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2000 by the United States Congress, the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), scheduled to expire in September 2015, was extended from June 2015 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015. This Act grants duty-free access to the US market for up to 6400 products originating from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Despite the opportunities offered by this Act, it has been observed that its impact on trade between the US and Sub-Saharan African countries is very limited and restricted to only a few sectors.

Since April 2008, Togo was declared eligible under AGOA. To date, the provisions of the Act have not been fully exploited by Togolese economic operators even though the country has engaged in accelerating economic growth based on the increase of exports through a dynamic private sector.

The 2017 AGOA Forum – the 16<sup>th</sup> of the series – slated to be held in Togo from 8 to 10 August 2017 under the theme: "The United States and Africa: Partnering for Prosperity Through Trade," is a golden opportunity to provide new impetus to the use of AGOA in Togo.

The aim is to put in place a more enabling framework to strengthen the productive capacity of the formal and informal sectors in order to increase and diversify exports to the United States of America by taking into account the economic and social inclusion of rural populations.

## I. The Status of Trade in Togo

#### 1.1. Global exports situation

The trade balance has shown a CFAF333.4 billion deficit in 2015 against CFAF422.8 billion in 2013. Togo mainly exports to the Africa region, namely UEMOA member countries. The share of the Africa Region in Togolese exports has remained in average at 68.0% over the 2008-2016 period. Asian countries are becoming major clients for Togo. The share of Asian countries in Togolese exports has increased (from 11.3% in 2008 to 17.1% after reaching over 20% in 2014 and 2016).

Transit trade or re-export trade represents an important share of total exports from Togo. Re-exports have accounted for almost 30% of total exports in average over the 2008-2016 period.

#### 1.2. Trade between Togo and the US

Imports of American products to Togo are estimated at \$1,021 billion, \$309,971 million and \$242,222 million in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively.

Togolese products exports to the United States were estimated at \$9.94 million, \$14,211 million and \$10,855 million, in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively.

Togolese products exports to the American market under AGOA were estimated at US\$178,000, US\$146,000 and US\$134,000 in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively<sup>1</sup>. They are essentially agricultural products, forest products, chemical products and other similar products.

Togolese exports to the United States are done under the Most Favored Nation (MFN) clause. Special systems such as the Generalized System of Preference or AGOA, are marginally used (see Table 1). In other terms, Togo has not yet fully maximized the opportunities available under AGOA.

Table 12: Value of Togolese exports to the US (in thousands of dollars)

Sectors	Exports	2014	2015	2016
	Export	4,320	3,299	2,824
Agricultural products	Export AGOA	178	145	98
Forest musdanets	Export	174	204	105
Forest products	Export AGOA			16

<sup>1</sup> https://agoa.info/data/trade.html

<sup>2</sup> Ci-opt

Chemicals and similar	Export	. 900	816	1 145
products	AGOA Export		1	15
Textiles and apparel	Export	4	22	50
Textiles and apparer	AGOA Export			1
Metals and minerals	Export	15	63	7
Mictais and innicials	AGOA Export			
Electronic products -	Export	9	3	2
Electronic products	AGOA Export			
Miscellaneous -	Export	3,157	7,990	6,498
Miscenaneons	AGOA Export			4
	Export	9,094	14,211	10,855
All sectors	Import	1,020,563	309,971	242,222
	AGOA Export	178	146	134

Source: http://www.agoa.info/

#### II. Scope and approaches of the Operational Action Plan

#### 2.1. Scope

The Operational Action Plan aims at making Togo a competitive country on the US market in the area of trade and investment, contributing significantly to sustainable and inclusive economic growth by the year 2025 and beyond.

#### 2.2. Approaches

Implementing the Operational Action Plan should take into account the following approaches:

#### - Alignment with the country's development strategies

The Operational Action Plan for the use of AGOA aims at contributing to the implementation of development priorities as inscribed in development strategies such as the Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion Strategy (2013-2017) that will be taken over by a new Development Plan (2018-2022). Its implementation supports the objectives of relevant sector strategies for the priority value chains.

# - Private sector and economic operators positioning

This document is a commitment with the private sector, the main actor and direct beneficiary of the successful implementation of this Action Plan. Thus, it is strongly represented in the institutional framework and is frequently called upon to share its opinions on the challenges, possible solutions, progress and opportunities.

#### Ownership by all stakeholders

Regarding the use of advantages offered by AGOA, the government will work with all stakeholders for the extensive dissemination of the Law and its benefits for priority value chains.

Moreover, it will facilitate the ownership of the procedures to be followed by operators in the public and private sectors to benefit from the law.

#### Mobilization of investors for the priority value chains

The Operational Action Plan for the use of AGOA also aims at encouraging national investors and those in the diaspora, as well as African and international investors, to support production, processing and export in the selected priority value chains.

# Promotion of Fair Trade and the sustainable inclusion of small producers, the youth and women in value chains

Togo encourages the use of AGOA with the aim of achieving the social and economic inclusion of small producers, the youth and women in a process that ensures the economic and financial sustainability of businesses and their activities. It encourages Fair Trade and is ready to partner with businesses and investors in adopting this model, with a view to ensuring sustainable benefits to grassroots populations and increasing their contribution to economic growth through exports.

Several public initiatives already aim at the economic and social inclusion of the youth and women. These initiatives are opportunities for businesses and investors to include these groups in their production and export chains in a win-win perspective.

#### Promotion of compliance with standards

The government will take the appropriate measures to facilitate the establishment of national standards and their compliance with American standards requirements by putting emphasis on raising awareness among stakeholders. To that effect, the government will study the possibility of putting in place in Togo a regional laboratory to control product quality standards. To that end, it will actively liaise with US services.

#### Promotion of organic production

The government encourages stakeholders to seize market opportunities for an environmentally friendly production and for certification. The government will seek the support of partners to help operators in priority value chains in this area.

## - Maximizing regional and sub-regional opportunities

Through this Operational Action Plan, the Government aims at inciting all stakeholders to engage in regional and sub-regional integration.

There is a need to take advantage of the production potential of priority value chains in the sub-region so as to stimulate exports to the United States of America, thus complying with the quantity and quality requirements of the US market.

To ensure the best use of AGOA by Togo and other countries in the sub-region, it is important to capitalize on the strategic position of Togo as a platform for transport and logistics to reduce transport times and costs while ensuring product quality. This positioning is all the more important since 30 to 40% of the costs of exports are transport-related, and trade between the US and Africa would benefit from improving transport logistics and services.

#### III. Priority Sectors/Value chains

Togolese stakeholders in the private sector, civil society and public administration have identified priority value chains in the context of promoting exports to the US. They include, among others:

- 1. Apparel (textile)
- 2. Mango, pineapple
- 3. Cassava
- 4. Cashew nut
- 5. Shea butter
- 6. Soya
- 7. Coffee-cocoa
- 8. Coconut
- 9. Handcraft (bags, shoes, traditional textiles)
- 10. Mines (phosphates, clinker, iron).

#### IV. Strategic areas under AGOA

The use of AGOA will be optimized through the implementation of the Short and Medium Terms Operational Action Plan based on five (05) strategic areas: (i) Promoting AGOA; (ii) Developing facilitation tools for accessing the US market; (iii) Promoting certification compliance; (iv) Capacity Strengthening; and (v) Promoting Investment.

#### 4.1. Area 1: Promoting AGOA

Facilitate the use of AGOA by export-ready companies or companies that already export abroad.

#### 4.2. Area 2: Developing facilitation tools for accessing the US market

Strengthen knowledge on US value chains and markets. This will include: eligibility regulations and standards for export products, linking producers and buyers and US importers, contractualization and payment modalities, sources of information on the US market, and Fair Trade in the United States.

#### 4.3. Area 3: Promoting compliance with certification

Facilitate the ownership of procedures and requirements for exporting to the US such as: HACCP and FSMA, Global GAP, Fair Trade, ISO standards and quality management.

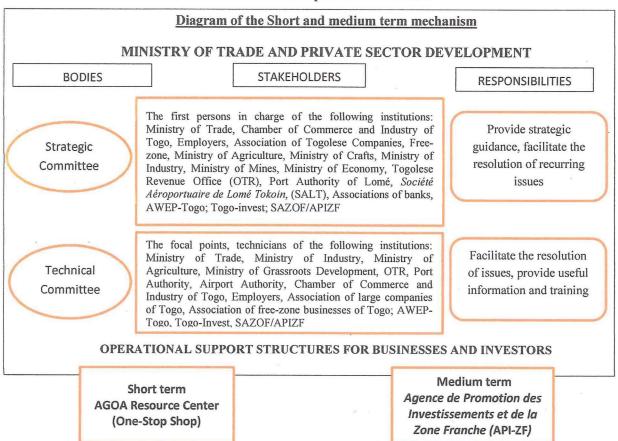
#### 4.4. Area 4: Capacity Strengthening

Provide technical support and capacity strengthening of export promotion institutions, producers, processors and export companies to develop export skills. These involve: social corporate responsibility, logistics management and export management, middle management, financial management for exports, etc.

#### 4.5. Area 5: Promoting Investments

Assist with trade promotion in the country to mobilize investments and partnerships in the selected value chains.

# V. Institutional mechanism for the improved use of AGOA



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#### 4.1. Area 1: Promoting AGOA

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will encourage partners to facilitate capacity strengthening through experiences sharing and training for the benefit of businesses and the public sector.

The Government will encourage structuring public-private partnerships that can enable to increase production, processing and export capacity in the value chains. It will encourage relevant stakeholders to facilitate access to financing for high-potential businesses and rural businesses, the youth and women for their positive development in the priority value chains sectors.

#### VII. Monitoring-Evaluation

The Government attaches great importance to the implementation of this Operational Action Plan in view of the economic and social impact of exports on our country.

To that effect, a monitoring-evaluation mechanism will be established as early as possible. This mechanism aims at ensuring the monitoring of actions to be implemented by the various stakeholders involved, assessing the results obtained, analyzing the causes of challenges and progress so as to effect the necessary changes to resolve problems and increase success.

The monitoring-evaluation mechanism shall be a knowledge production and sharing tool between private sector, public sector and civil society stakeholders. To that effect, measures will be taken to document and codify the lessons learned, to share them with the greater number of economic and institutional actors.

Imbedded in a quest for efficiency and transparency, the monitoring-evaluation mechanism will be supported by a dynamic communication strategy that will enable not only to communicate on the actions needed from the stakeholders involved, but also to account for the results obtained, the challenges, the progress and the next steps.

A mid-term review of the progress made in implementing the Short term AGOA plan will be conducted. The first of such reviews is planned for March 2018.

#### Conclusion

This Operational Action Plan developed with the active contribution of the public sector, private sector and civil society to improve the current level of exports from Togo to the US, is a founding document of a new economic partnership between Togo and the USA for sustained, shared and inclusive growth.

Its short term implementation will start from September 2017. With the mobilization of all stakeholders, Togo has significant chances of recording advances in the area of exports to the United States of America under AGOA and beyond.

The Operational Action Plan is a call to all stakeholders to get actively involved in order to ensure the best use of AGOA by the year 2025, the deadline for this Act.

Annex 1: Operational Action Plan Matrix for the short term use of AGOA

Nº	ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	INDICATORS	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD		RESPONSIBLE	INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED	PARTNERS	
			OUTCOMES		2017	2018	2019		INVOLVED	
			Area	1 : Promoting AGOA						
		Specific objective: Faci	litate the use of AGOA	A by export-ready comp	oanies or	compani	es that a	lready export abroa	d	
1	Respond efficiently to challenges involving product labeling and packaging with tax exemption on the importation of packaging materials (paper, machinery, etc.) with a special system.	Make Togolese products competitive     Make Togolese products more attractive	Togolese products are competitive     Togolese products are well packaged	Export rate of     Togolese products     Cost of packaging     materials has     reduced	×	×	×	Ministry of Economy and Finance	Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
2	Facilitate and encourage market research with sales agents/digital counters/platforms in the US and having a perfect knowledge of the dynamics and requirements of the US market.	Enable Togolese businesses to have representatives (agents) in the United States	Togolese businesses have representatives (agents) in the United States	Number of Togolese businesses having representatives (agents) in the US	×	×	×	Togolese businesses	CCIT - Ministry of Trade, AGOA Resource Center, Strategic Committee, Technical Committee	USAID West Africa trade and Investment hub
3	Declare Togo a "Fair Trade-Friendly Country"	- Enable producers to contribute to the inclusive, sustainable and balanced development of their local communities - Enable Togolese to participate in fair conditions to global markets - Stimulate economic growth at national, regional and international levels.	Togo is declared a "Fair Trade-Friendly Country"	Act of declaring	×	×	х	Ministry of Trade	CCIT AGOA Resource Center Strategic Committee Technical Committee ALAFFIA	

Nº	ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	INDICATORS		EMENT. PERIOI	)	RESPONSIBLE	INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED	PARTNERS
124		To the second control of the second second			2017		2019		I,,,OL,,ED	
				ng facilitation tools for a						
	T	Specific Ob	ojective: Strengthening	g the knowledge on US va	alue cha	ins and r	narkets	,	Υ	
4	Develop factsheets on US market demand regarding the priority products identified by Togo	- Enable economic operators to have more visibility on the US market - Know the frequency and level of demand for Togolese products on the US market	- Economic operators have increased visibility on the US market - The frequency and level of demand of the US market are known.	- Export rate of Togolese products - Number of businesses that export	×			AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade ALAFFIA Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
5	Strengthen marketing support mechanisms	Target regional and global markets where socially responsible products are sought after and are sold at premium prices	Regional and global markets are targeted	Directory of markets targeted	×	×	×	AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
6	Conduct a study of the demand	Obtain the profile of US importers by type of products available.	A database of US importers is available	Number of US importers by type of products	×	×		AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Togolese businesses Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
			Area 3 : Promotin	ng compliance with certi	fication					
		Specific Objective: Fa	cilitating the ownersh	ip of procedures and req	uireme	nts for ex	porting	to the US		
7	Organize and encourage B2B meetings/technical meetings /workshops among actors	Share experiences and best practices	Exports experiences and best practices are shared by stakeholders	Number of meetings to share export experiences and best practices	×	×	×	AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Togolese businesses Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
8	Work on issues regarding standards/quality and encourage businesses to certify and coordinate all interventions accordingly (One- stop shop)	Enable Togolese businesses to obtain certification to facilitate the export of their products	Togolese businesses have the needed certifications to facilitate the export of their products	Number of certified Togolese businesses	×	×	×	Togolese businesses Ministry of Trade	CCIT AGOA Resource Center Strategic Committee Technical Committee	USAID West Africa trade and Investment hub

Nº	ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	INDICATORS		EMENT PERIOI		RESPONSIBLE	INSTITUTIONS	PARTNERS
					2017	2018	2019		INVOLVED	
									ALAFFIA	
9	Help local businesses to qualify and obtain appropriate certification.	Facilitate fair trade and socially responsible trade practices.			×	×	×		Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
			Area 4:	Capacity Strengthening						January Company of the Company of th
	Specific Objective: Providing to	echnical support and capacity	strengthening for exp	ort promotion institutio	ns, prod	lucers, pi	oducers	and export compar	nies to develop of expo	rt skills
10	Strengthen the capacity of the AGOA Resource Center in HR and logistics	Ensure the operation of the Centre	The AGOA Resource Center is operational	- Staff strength - The logistics is available	×	×	×	-CCIT -Ministry of Trade	Ministry of Public Service Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
11	Strengthen the capacity of the AGOA Resource Center on AGOA and procedures for exporting to the USA	Be more available to foreign investors and economic operators seeking to export to the USA and other countries.	<ul> <li>Foreign Investors have the needed information on the Togolese market;</li> <li>Economic operators have the needed information on the US market and markets in other countries.</li> </ul>	-Investment rates -Togolese products export rate -Number of Togolese businesses that export	×	×	×	-CCIT -Ministry of Trade	Strategic Committee Technical Committee	USAID West Africa trade and Investment hub
12	Prepare and update the profile of businesses likely to export under AGOA and beyond	Boost the export of Togolese products to the US and other countries.	The profile of businesses likely to export under AGOA and beyond is prepared and updated.	Availability and publication of the file of businesses likely to export.	×			AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee CCIT	
13	Facilitate access to financing for SMEs/SMIs and raise the awareness of banks to the economic potential of target sectors for AGOA	Provide SMEs/SMIs with financing.	SMEs/SMIs have access to financing.	Number of SME/SMIs with access to financing	×	×	×	AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Togolese businesses Ministry of Economy and Finance Strategic Committee	- Banks - Investors

No	ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	INDICATORS		EMENT. PERIOL		RESPONSIBLE	INSTITUTIONS	PARTNERS
					2017	2018	2019		INVOLVED	
									Technical Committee	
14	Organize a specific workshop on the ALAFFIA experience and other success stories Share the ALAFFIA experiences and other success stories	Share on the ALAFFIA experience and other success stories	The ALAFFIA experience and other success stories are shared	Workshop report	×			AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Togolese businesses Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
15	Put in place in the medium term, an appropriate institution to promote investments and exports	Enable Togo to have an appropriate institution to promote investments and exports.	Togo has an appropriate institution to promote investments and exports	The managers of APO-ZF are appointed API-ZF is operational		×	×	Presidency of the Republic	Ministry of Industry Ministry of Trade Ministry of Economy and Finance Strategic Committee Technical Committee	API-ZF
16	Support the creation of jobs and businesses that respect Fair Trade principles	Provide disadvantaged producers with economic opportunities by ensuring gender equality	The conditions for creating jobs and businesses are supported	<ul> <li>Number of producers trained to create their business</li> <li>Number of training sessions organized</li> </ul>	×	×	×	AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee	CFE
17	Assist producers in creating cooperatives	Increase production offer to meet quantity needs and enable each small producer to benefit under AGOA through his/her cooperative	Productions are of good quality and available in large quantities	Production volumes per year	×	×	×	ONG; Professional Producers' Professional Organization; ETD	Strategic Committee Technical Committee	
			Area 5:	Promoting Investments						
	Sį	oecific Objective : Help in pro	moting trade in Togo	to mobilize investment a	nd parti	nerships	in the se	lected value chains		
18	Prepare technical data sheets of the priority products and value chains to be disseminated to economic operators and investors and on online platforms, including information on the minimum wage, ease of doing business, etc.	Improve investors' knowledge of Togolese potential	Investors know Togolese potential better	Investment rate in Togo	×			AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee	

Nº	ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	INDICATORS	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD			RESPONSIBLE	INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED	PARTNERS
11.0			OUTCOMES		2017	2018	2019		INVOLVED	
18	Mapping of priority sectors in Togo that have a real export potential	Prepare a national directory of priority sectors in Togo that have a real export potential	A mapping of priority sectors in Togo with a real export potential is available	Mapping file The information on the priority sectors of Togo is available	×	×		AGOA Resource Center	CCIT Ministry of Trade Strategic Committee Technical Committee	USAID West Africa trade and Investment hub
19	Comply with and apply Fair Trade and Social Responsibility principles	Advocate for responsible trade practices such as the respect of workers' rights Create added value for products	Togo complies with and applies Fair Trade and Social Responsibility principles	Signed Convention or Charter	×			Presidency Ministry of Trade	CCIT ALAFFIA Strategic Committee Technical Committee	

#### Annex 2: Recommendations for the Operational Action Plan

To ensure the successful implementation of the Plan, private sector, civil society and public administration stakeholders have formulated the following recommendations:

- Strengthen the institutional export framework to promote and increase exports under AGOA and beyond;
- 2. Remove obstacles to fully applying the new investment code;
- 3. Operationalize API-ZF/create an Agency to promote exports and coordinate their interventions;
- 4. Strengthen the capacity of the AGOA Resource Center (single access portal to information) to be more fully at the service of economic operators and investors willing to export to the US and other countries;
- 5. Prepare technical datasheets (level of production, processing capacity, production area, production capacity, export rate, destination market, contacts, etc.) of priority products and value chains to be disseminated to economic operators and investors (local actors, diaspora, diplomatic missions abroad) and on online platforms, including information on the minimum wage, the ease of doing business, etc.
- 6. Conduct a mapping of priority sectors in Togo with a real potential for export;
- 7. Efficiently address product labeling and packaging challenges with tax exemptions on the import of packaging materials (papers, machinery, etc.) with a special system;
- 8. Prepare and update the profile of businesses likely to export under AGOA and beyond;
- Facilitate and encourage market research with sales agents/counters/digital platforms in the US and acquiring a perfect knowledge of the dynamics and requirements of the US market;
- 10. Work on the issues of standards/quality and encourage businesses to obtain certification and coordinate all interventions in that regards (one-stop shop);
- Organize and encourage B2B meetings/technical meetings/workshops between actors with the aim of sharing experiences and best practices in the area of export (AGOA Center, Customs, Ministry of Trade, Accredited Customs Commissioners, etc.);
- 12. Facilitate access to financing for SMEs/SMIs and raise the awareness of local banks to the economic potential of AGOA target sectors;
- 13. Organize a specific workshop on the ALAFFIA experience and other success stories;
- 14. Establish, in the medium term, an appropriate institution to promote investments and exports;
- 15. Comply with and apply Fair Trade and Social Responsibility principles that advocate for responsible trade practices such as the respect of workers' rights and create added-value for products;
- 16. Support the creation of jobs and businesses that follow Fair Trade principles by providing disadvantaged producers with economic opportunities, and by ensuring gender equality;

- 17. Intensify efforts to strengthen the capacity of entrepreneurs, cooperatives and other economic groups and assist them in creating successful businesses that comply with Fair Trade principles;
- 18. Strengthen the mechanisms for supporting marketing in order to target regional and global markets where socially responsible products are sought after and sold at premium prices;
- 19. Help local businesses to qualify and obtain an appropriate certification for Fair Trade products and socially responsible trade practices;
- 20. Intensify efforts to enable Togolese businesses that contribute to Fair Trade to have access to relevant international export markets, namely by developing partnerships with the appropriate certification bodies.
- 21. Declare Togo as a "Fair Trade-friendly country" in order to enable poor and marginalized producers to contribute to facilitating the inclusive, balanced and sustainable development of their local communities;
- 22. Revise the tax rate on social capital at the startup of companies under AGOA;
- 23. Include AGOA opportunities in the communication plan of institutions supporting trade (IAC) such as CCIT, PATRONAT, AGET, SAZOF, etc.