

COFFEE VALUE CHAIN FINANCING

In second quarter, a grant agreement between AFR and Technoserve Rwanda was signed to implement a project that will unlock financing within the coffee value chain. This is a scale up of a successful project that Technoserve and AFR had partnered in and implemented the SMS Bookkeeping Platform, a credit monitoring system, since 2014. Phase 2 of this project intends to improve finance flows for actors within the coffee value chain

The importance of scaling up the SMS bookkeeping platform for the coffee value chain has drawn interest from key players in the financial and regulation space, and trading. These include; Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD), Banque Populaire du Rwanda, Kenya Commercial Bank-Rwanda, Urwego Opportunity Bank and Umwalimu (Teachers) SACCO; Coffee Service Providers such as Rwanda Trading Company (RTC), Rwacof, Dormans and regulatory bodies such as National Agricultural Export Board (NAEB).

This project intends, among other outcomes, to improved working Capital lending through SMS Bookkeeping Platform that provides key financial information to key stakeholders. We aim to see at least 10 billion RWF (USD 12,362,468) of total working capital monitored by the SMS Bookkeeping credit monitoring system. This target is set be realized in two years.