**BioInnovation Africa**

*For equitable European-African business partnerships that contribute to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in Cameroon, Madagascar, Namibia or South Africa*

**Call for expressions of interest**

The project invites ‘expressions of interest’ from business and business organizations interested in partnering with the BioInnovation Africa project to develop or scale up supply chains that are based on African biodiversity and respect UNCTAD BioTrade principles.

**What can BioInnovation Africa support?**

Collaboration modalities between BioInnovation Africa and partner organizations are tailor made and demand driven. Collaboration schemes may include technical and financial support at various stages of the supply chain and the manufacturing process.

A wide portfolio of project support services can be considered and jointly defined. Examples of possible activities include training of local suppliers, consultations with local supplier communities, development of biodiversity action plans, guidance for ABS compliance, facilitation of ABS negotiations, making links to local suppliers or buyers, and sector round-tables and dialogues (see detailed list below).

*Possible cooperation fields and activities of the project*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengthening local business on issues like quality and traceability | * + Design of operating procedures   + Development of traceability systems   + Practices of farmer groups (storage, processing, transport)   + Development of local monitoring systems / internal control systems |
| Sustainable sourcing and equitable trade practices | * + Supply chain assessments and verifications for sustainable sourcing   + Cost-calculations for prices to local farmer groups, farmers, pickers   + Community consultation workshops and formulation of local projects or local biodiversity conservation measures   + Organization of local communities, formalization of supply networks of farmers and pickers   + Improvement of working conditions, health and safety measures |
| Sustainable farming, wild collection and resource management | * + Biodiversity assessments and plans in supply chain sourcing areas   + Resource assessments for sustainable regeneration rates in wild collection   + Implementation of biodiversity conservation measures  (e.g. reforestation, enrichment planting, biodiversity friendly agricultural practices |
| Support ABS compliance | * + Assess ABS compliance status and compliance options   + Guide companies in processes towards ABS compliance   + Facilitate negotiations between companies, providers and national competent authorities   + Provide legal review of ABS contracts |
| Sector dialogue | * + Sector meetings and round tables   + Definition of commonly agreed good practices   + Crop specific guidance for BioTrade standards   + Business training and technical support at sectoral level   + Identification / elaboration of co-financing schemes (e.g. PPP) |