

# BUSINESS CLIMATE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE



Mr. Thierry BADOU

Investment Attraction Director





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# **Country profile**



Area: West Africa

Official Language: French

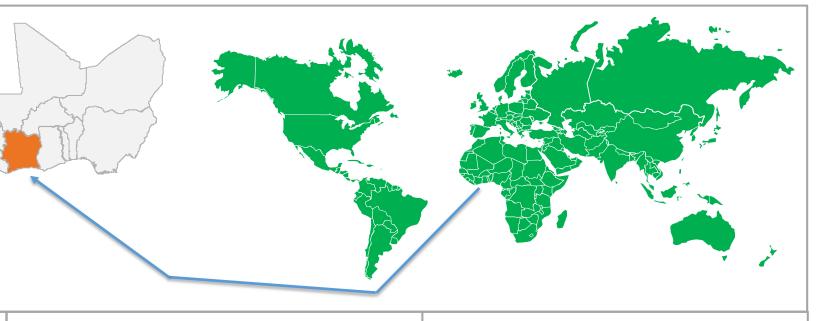
Population: 29 millions (2022)

3/4 of the population is under 35

years of age

**Currency**: FCFA (XOF) (1 EURO = 656.57)

**Surface**: 322, 462 sqKM (60% arable land)



#### A resilient economy



#### \$70 billion in GDP

GDP growth of 5.5% from 2019 to 2022 despite Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine



GDP per capita of USD 2730 in 2023 (IMF)

Highest GDP per capita in West Africa



Inflation rate of 5.5% in 2022. The sub-Saharan average is 14.5%.

#### An attractive business environment

1st

Most attractive country in Africa according to the Deloitte Africa Investment Attractiveness Index



Consecutive edition with the country at the top of the ranking (2019, 2020, 2022) of the **Deloitte Africa Investment Attractiveness** Index

#### A regional economic powerhouse

**1** st

largest economy in French-speaking West Africa

2<sup>nd</sup>

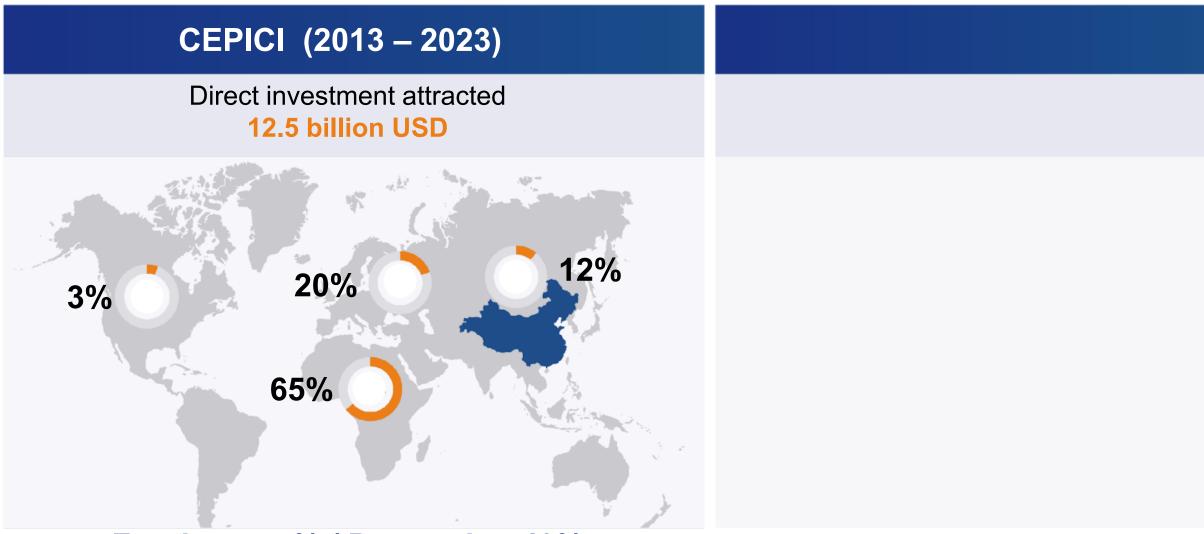
West Africa's largest economy

1st

Producer, exporter and processor of cocoa in the world



# An attractive economy for Private investment



Foreign: 57% / Domestic: 43%



Source: CEPICI



# Reasons to Invest in Côte d'Ivoire



Dynamic economy with sustained growth



Substantive human capital





Reliable and cost effective power supply





Modern economic infrastructures



**Investment-friendly business environment** 

Regional hub & thriving market







### Trade hub to Africa

Côte d'Ivoire provides preferential access to dynamic and large consumer markets in the west African sub region and in the whole continent

#### **Domestic Market**



29 million inhabitants

A growing middle class

#### WAEMU



140 million inhabitants

8 countries sharing the same currency (F CFA)

#### **ECOWAS**

In Africa



### 400 million inhabitants

15 countries Middle Class: 100 millions consumers

### **Continental Free Trade Area**



### 1.2 billion inhabitants

53 countries in Africa Free trade and agreement Elimination of tariffs

### With Europe and the USA



0% import duties to the US under AGOA for Ivorian products



0% import duties to the EU under EU/EPA for Ivorian products





# A country with a clear vision of its future

Vision 2023

To accelerate the country's economic and social transformation and become an upper middle-income economy by 2030.

NDP 2021 - 2025

- Total investment valued at € 90 billions, with 75% expected from the private sector
- Estimated GDP growth rate (2021 2025): 7,65%
- One of the key objectives is to reduce poverty rate from 39.4% in 2018 to 20% by 2030

The Ivorian government has identified seven industrial clusters to drive its industrialisation ambition to accelerate the country's industrialization + three niches



Agro-industry



Textiles & Apparels



**Pharmacy** 



Chemicals & plasturgy



Building Materials and furnishings



**Packaging** 



Automotive and spare parts



**Digital Economy** 



**Tourism & Hospitality** 



**Creative Industries** 



Source: MPD / CEPICI / TBI



# A land of opportunities in multiple sectors



#### **FARMING SECTOR**

**9 agropoles**; machinery assembly lines, seeds, fertilizers, irrigation systems, agritech solutions ...



#### **TOURISM & HOSPITALITY**

**Hotels & resorts**, invest in seaside tourism, ecotourism, medical tourism, business tourism...

#### **AGRO-INDUSTRY**

Industrial Parks; Processing of cocoa, cashew nuts, fruits & vegetables, palm oil, coffee, natural rubber, cassava, shea nuts...



#### **HEALTH & PHARMACEUTICAL**

**Building private hospitals**, modernisation of facilities, **pharmaceutical Industries**, equipments... Smart drug delivery





### **HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION**

**150K social housing**, middle and high standing housing, Commercial buildings, **Construction Materials** 



#### **DIGITAL ECONOMY**

Invest in datacenters, optical fiber networks, biotechnology, e-tourism, e-agriculture, e-education, e-health ...

#### **MINING & ENERGIES**

Gold and natural resources exploitation and refinery, building hydropower, solar, waste to energy and PEV power plants...



#### **TRANSPORTS & LOGISTICS**

Invest to extend port terminals, BRT projects, railroads construction, renewal of taxis and buses, Automobile Assembly lines and components makers





# Investment Opportunities | in agro processing











Raw material	Rank 2023	Production (kT)	1st processing rate	Opportunities
Cocoa	1 <sup>st</sup> in world	2 000	40%	Factory for processing cocoa into butter, cake and cocoa powder
Cashew nut	1 <sup>st</sup> in world	1 225	22%	Almond extraction, juice, alcoholic beverage, jam, syrup and cosmetic balm manufacturing
Natural Rubber	1 <sup>st</sup> in Africa & 3 <sup>rd</sup> in world	1 700	100%	Tire products, latex products, automotive seat foams, Creation of a tire manufacturing plant for motorcycles and cars
Cotton	4 <sup>th</sup> in Africa	400	100%	Spinning, clothing manufacturing, medical inputs
Mango	1 <sup>st</sup> in ECOWAS	180	<5%	Processing of fruit juices, cosmetics, medical derivatives, jams,



# Investment Opportunities | in agro-business

State objective: to process at least 50% of local raw agricultural materials

### **Investment opportunities**

### o In plantation

Create large scale plantations for rice, fruit & vegetables, cassava...

### In processing

Industrial plants to process latex, cashew, shea, cotton, rice, corn, cassava, vegetables, mangoes into semi-finished or finished products

### In distribution, agrologistics and agricultural services

High yield seeds and fertilizer production units
Warehousing, logistics and distribution solutions
Mechanization solutions, land irrigation systems and agri-tech solutions





# Investment Project | Livestock and meet processing

Products (tons)	Fish	Meat	Pig
Local consumption	600,000	320,000	60,000
Local production	100,000	130,000	10,000
Import	500,000	190,000	50,000
Minimum production to meet	500,000	190,000	50,000



Integrated fish farms (fingerling, fish feed, training)



Piggery project and slaughter house



Cattle breeding and meat production





# Investment Opportunities | Health and Pharma.

# Country's ambition: Becoming the medical hub in West Africa

#### **OBJECTIVES**

### Increase local drug production to 25% by 2025

#### STRATEGIC PROJECTS TO **EMBODY THIS AMBITION**

- Creation, planning and development of a pharmaceutical and bio technologic technopole
- Launch of universal heath care Insurance

#### **INVESTMENT PROJECTS / OPPORTUNITIES**

- Manufacture of essential generic drugs covered by Universal Health Care insurance;
- Manufacture of small and large volume sterile healthcare products, including eye drops;
- Manufacture of medical devices and other products using rubber latex and cotton (e.g., sterile gloves, syringes, sterile compresses, etc.).
- ABIDJAN MEDICAL CITY PROJECT



# **Environment technologies and renewable energy**

SOME KEY FACTS ABOUT THE SECTOR 2907 MW national total output in 2024 **40 million tons of agricultural waste** produced every year

**40 to 100 K tons of plastic wastes**produced every year

5 to 20% are recycled

Some projects in renewable Energies



Solar panel and equipment manufacturing facility

Bio-fuel manufacturing unit using cashew shells

Coconut waste processing into biochar

Waste management and environment technologies

Production of organic fertilizers from cocoa residues

Modernization and intermunicipal management of solid waste in 16 secondary cities in Côte d'Ivoire





# Investment Project | Industrial and technology free zone

# **Development of the Special Biotechonology & Innovation** Free Zone on 242 hectares





- Business center on the outskirts of Abidjan
- Assembly lines for electronics and appliances
- Warehouse and logistics
- Shopping mall and duty free
- Technology universities
- Amusement park
- Solar plant





# Investment Opportunities | Textile and clothing industry

Context: Côte d'Ivoire has significantly increased its cotton production from 387,000 tons in 2018 to 559,500 tons in 2022. However, the processing rate of cotton into finished products, remains relatively low.



# **Investment opportunities**

- Integrated knitted factory;
- Home Textile factory;
- Woven Greige cloth for African Print Fabric
- Denim Fabric Factory;
- Ready-Made Garments (RMG) factory.
- Standalone Knitted Fabrics





# **Business-friendly environment**



- Creation of Commercial courts
- Protection of minority shareholders
- Priority to amicable resolution



Streamlined and simplified procedures

- Vast process of Digitization of administrative documents and services
- · Process acceleration : Building permits, business creation, foreign trade
- E-services: E-tax, E-Social security, E-entreprise, E- Supplier



Transparent framework

- Strengthening the legislative and regulatory framework
- Anti-corruption law



lax ncentives

- Appealing Investment Code
- Sectoral codes (electricity, mining, telecommunications, etc.)
- Existing free zone for Biotechnologies (VITIB), approved textile and automobile Special Economic Zones







# **Business climate**



Securing Business

- Signature of investment protection agreements between Côte d'Ivoire and China
- Protection of minority shareholders' (10%) rights
- Priority to amicable resolution



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- Strengthening the legislative and regulatory framework
- Creation of an High Authority for Good governance
- Anti-corruption law



Tax incentives

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- Sectoral codes (electricity, mining, telecommunications, etc.)
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# **Business climate**



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### The investment code

Côte d'Ivoire has adopted a new investment code in 2018 with the objectives to promote local content and foster sustainable, regional and inclusive economic development

### 2 investment regimes

(Investment approval & investment declaration)

### 2 sector categories

category 1 (Agriculture, Agro-industry, Health, Hospitality\*)
category 2 (other eligible sectors)

### 3 investment zones

(Zones A, B, C)

### 2 phases

(Investment phase & operation phase)

### **Additional fiscal incentives**

For structuring projects, local content and SMEs

### Non fiscal incentives

To secure access to raw materials, currencies, transfer of assets and remunerations, protect patents and trademarks...





# The investment code: Eligible Sectors

### **ELIGIBLE SECTORS**



#### **CATEGORY 1**



To benefit of exonerations in zone A: Minimum spending of 60 millions RMB / zone B: Minimum spending of 24 millions RMB

#### **CATEGORY 2**



Eligible sectors not included in Category 1 : construction, ITC, manufacturing, logistics, industrial building, training...

#### **INELIGIBLE SECTORS**



Financial services

Liberal professions

Retail/Trading

Non-industrial buildings







# **Fiscal incentives**

		<b>ZONE A</b> Abidjan and neighbouring cities	<b>ZONE B</b> Cities with more than 60k inhabitants	<b>ZONE C</b> Cities with less than 60k inhabitants		
Big	Category 1	Tax exemptions 50% for 5 years	Tax exemptions 100% for 5 years 50% for 5 years	Tax exemptions 100% for 10 years 50% for 5 years		
corporations	Category 2	Tax credit 25% of total investment	Tax credit 35% of total investment	Tax credit 50% of total investment		
SMEs	Category 1	Tax exemptions  100% for 5 years	Tax exemptions 100% for 5 years 75% for 5 years	Tax exemptions 100% for 15 years		
<b>JWILS</b>	Category 2	Tax credit  37.5% of total investment	Tax credit 52.5% of total investment	Tax credit 75% of total investment		
Structuring projects		Additional advantages granted by a state convention negotiated by CEPICI				
Local content		<ul> <li>2% additional tax credit granted to companies for each of the following fullfilled criteria:</li> <li>Local employment (at least 80% of the staff must be ivorian)</li> <li>Outsourcing (25% of contracts dedicated to local SMEs)</li> <li>For local shareholders (at least 15% of the shares)</li> </ul>				



# Starting a business in Côte d'Ivoire



### How to invest in Cote d'Ivoire?



# Contact CEPICI: The One-stop Shop for investment



#### **CEPICI** is responsible for :

- Providing regulatory and economic information to the investors prior to the set-up phase
- Facilitating administrative formalities relating to the establishment, operation, transmission or extension of businesses;
- Receiving and processing applications related to company registration at the One-Stop-Shop;
- 4 Receiving and processing investors' applications to the Investment Code
- Ensuring, in relation with the relevant administrations and public and private agencies, the implementation of the provisions of the Investment Code;
- Receiving and processing investors' applications for industrial land;
- Facilitating formalities for businesses and investors.
- Providing troubleshooting and aftercare services to investors throughout the company life-span



More about CEPICI... the « Think Tank », the leading service provider to the private sector, public administrations and the districts in order to increase investments in Côte d'Ivoire

### Undertaking reforms to improve the business climate

Image building & country branding

**Contributing to investment** policies and sector strategies

#### INVESTMENT TARGETING & MARKETING

- Business intelligence for investors profiling
- Providing relevant information (tax, regulatory, banking data, actors, licences, sourcing, sectorial information, **investment** opportunities and projects portfolio,..) to potential investors
- Pledges and Investor tracking
- Anglo saxon desk, Japan Desk
- Organization of economic forums, trade missions, roadshows
- Business matchmaking
- **Diaspora and the Districts** investment support

### INVESTMENT **FACILITATION**

- Facilitating investments and assisting investors with its interactions with the administrations for company registration, Environmental impact study, Investment code incentives, business licences, industrial lands, construction permit, etc...
- Fast tracking services

#### AFTERCARE SERVICES

- **Investment monitoring &** evaluation post investment
- Collect companies' griefs and complaints during their **operation phase** with the administration services, in their day-to-day business
- Deal with Investors claims and disputes with these administrations
- Ensure companies benefit from the full range of incentives





# **Key Facts**



- Côte d'Ivoire remains one of the best performing countries in Africa and the sub-region, with a growth rate of 6.5% in 2023;
- Constant improvement of the business climate in Côte d'Ivoire;
- Numerous cross-sectoral investment opportunities in different sectors;
- CEPICI is available to support you in your investment projects.





## The one stop shop for investment in Côte d'Ivoire



#### Headquarter

1st and 2nd floor building MEMANOU Boulevard Clozel, Plateau-Abidjan













