

 Early Warning System

IFC-50551

ECOM Forastero



## Quick Facts

<b>Countries</b>	Ghana, Ivory Coast
<b>Specific Location</b>	Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana
<b>Financial Institutions</b>	International Finance Corporation (IFC)
<b>Status</b>	Approved
<b>Bank Risk Rating</b>	A
<b>Voting Date</b>	2025-01-30
<b>Borrower</b>	ECOM Agroindustrial Corp. Ltd.
<b>Sectors</b>	Agriculture and Forestry
<b>Investment Type(s)</b>	Loan
<b>Investment Amount (USD)</b>	\$ 230.00 million



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## Project Description

According to the Bank's website, the proposed IFC investment to ECOM Agroindustrial Corp. Ltd. of up to US\$230 million comprises: (1) a US\$200 million 4-year A Loan facility that is renewable annually; and (2) a US\$30 million 4-year C Loan that is renewable annually after the first 2 years. Use of proceeds are aimed at funding working capital for ECOM's cocoa business in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana.

ECOM is an existing IFC client. The investment would enable ECOM to strengthen its balance sheet; sustain offtake volumes and finance cocoa farmers; and invest into its sustainable cocoa supply chain.



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## Early Warning System Project Analysis

This is a Category A project according to IFC's Policy on Environment and Social Sustainability (2012). Key E&S risks and issues associated with this investment are: (i) maturity of ECOM's E&S Management System for its direct (e.g., warehouses and logistics) and cocoa sourcing operations (specifically to manage the risks related to CL/FL, significant safety hazards - such as use of pesticides, or risks of conversion of Natural and/or Critical Habitats to farmland to be used for cocoa production) accordance with IFC PSs; (ii) ECOM E&S and sourcing teams capacity/competency to ensure timely implementation of ECOM's sustainable cocoa sourcing strategies in CDI and Ghana; (iii) assurance of fair and safe working conditions including GBVH risk management, in line with PS2 and local labor requirements for direct workers and contractors; (iv) emergency preparedness, road safety and security policy and procedures; (v) Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Community Grievance Mechanism.



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## Investment Description

- International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Up to US\$230 million from IFC own account: (1) a US\$200 million 4-year A Loan facility that is renewable annually; and (2) a US\$30 million 4-year C Loan that is renewable annually after the first 2 years.



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### Private Actors Description

*ECOM* is a leading commodity trader incorporated in Switzerland with operations in 40 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. *ECOM* operates in sectors that are dominated by smallholder farmers and provides support to its coffee and cocoa suppliers to increase their productivity and access certification programmes. The Group is a significant player in the global coffee, cocoa and cotton trades.

*ECOM* Agroindustrial Corporation Ltd is a family-owned company founded in Barcelona, Spain in 1849.



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Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	ECOM Agroindustrial Corp Ltd	Client	-

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## Contact Information

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## ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF IFC/MIGA

The Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an IFC or MIGA- financed project. If you submit a complaint to the CAO, they may assist you in resolving a dispute with the company and/or investigate to assess whether the IFC is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. If you want to submit a complaint electronically, you can email the CAO at [CAO@worldbankgroup.org](mailto:CAO@worldbankgroup.org) You can learn more about the CAO and how to file a complaint at <http://www.cao-ombudsman.org>





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**Bank Documents**

- [Environmental & Social Review Summary \(ESRS\)](#)