



SAFE FOOD IN ACP  
A PROGRAMME FUNDED BY THE EU

**STRENGTHENING** FOOD SAFETY IN AFRICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND THE PACIFIC



SECTORIAL SELF-ASSESSMENT GUIDE (SSAG) FOR THE  
**COCOA BEANS SECTOR IN GHANA**



## WHAT IS EDES?

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EDES is a European Union-African Caribbean and Pacific (EU-ACP) funded programme to support poverty reduction through economic empowerment within a global framework. It is funded under EDF9 for the period 2010-2014.

Launched in 2010, EDES is a cooperation programme managed by COLEACP (Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee) in collaboration with a consortium of European organisations specialising in food safety. The programme is implemented at the request of the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) Group of States, and funded by European Union (€29.5 million/4 years) in order to support ACP exports sustainably.

## WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE OF EDES?

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To secure the flow of food products of animal and plant origin towards the EU or between ACP regions and internationally. EDES aims at strengthening the sanitary and phytosanitary systems of ACP countries.

## HOW IS EDES WORKING?

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EDES focuses on promoting interactions between public authorities at the national level and food business operators in both plant and animal production sectors. Special attention is given to the specific needs of vulnerable groups (small scale producers, farmers and fishermen) so as to contribute to the goals of poverty reduction while at the same time enhancing access to safe food.

## WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME?

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The programme intervenes in both raw and processed food products. It promotes the setting up of a national risk assessment framework as a basis of the establishment of an efficient sanitary and phytosanitary control system. Public and private sector operators will have the capacity and resources to assess that all food sectors from production to consumption are safe.

## WHAT IS A SELF-ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (SAS)?

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Self-Assessment is a set of measures based on risks assessment that an operator must implement to ensure that at each stage of the value chain; production, harvesting, transport, processing, packaging, and distribution, the products meet regulatory food safety, quality requirements as well as traceability.



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## ADVANTAGES OF A SELF-ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

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The system fosters the participation of all actors. It allows the validation of the sanitary control plans implemented by Food Business Operators (FBOs) of the sector in respect with the requirements of targeted markets. Self Assessment reduces inspection costs, provides transparency and increases confidence for certification. It also strengthens the public-private partnership: the Sector proposes, the Authority validates, the Operator applies voluntarily.

## PRODUCE SAFE COCOA BEANS

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Food safety is a growing concern to Governments, processors, consumer groups and food safety activists; therefore it matters to you the producer! The presence of chemicals above acceptable limits can threaten the quality and safety of cocoa beans exported from Ghana.

- Apply best practices in cocoa production
- Use appropriate plant protection products (PPP)
- Use registered PPP
- Apply at the rate recommended by COCOBOD to reduce the risk of pesticide residues
- Your health matters therefore wear the recommended plant protective equipment (PPE) when applying PPPs
- Participate in all food safety training



## JOIN US

It matters to you farmers!

Be a partner for safe cocoa by joining cocoa self-assessment scheme

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