

The ABC Fund is awarded the LuxFLAG ESG Label

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- **LuxFLAG is a non-profit association created in Luxembourg in July 2006 and has established itself as a market benchmark for sustainable finance**

Luxembourg, 22 October 2020 – The Agri-Business Capital Fund (‘ABC Fund’) has qualified for the ESG Label awarded by independent investment fund rating agency LuxFLAG. LuxFLAG is a non-profit association created in Luxembourg in July 2006 and has established itself as a market benchmark for sustainable finance.

Its objective is to reassure investors that funds follow environmental, social and governance criteria at every stage of the investment process. The eligibility criteria for the ESG Label requires applicant funds to screen the entirety of their invested portfolio according to one of the ESG strategies and standards recognised by LuxFLAG.

The ABC Fund is a blended-finance impact fund which provides catalytic financing to underserved yet profitable segments of agribusiness value chains in developing countries. ESG screening is a key component of the ABC Fund’s investment process and is applied across the full breadth of the portfolio. The ABC Fund is managed by Bamboo Capital Partners in partnership with Injaro as investment advisors and with Technical Assistance led by Agriterra.

The ABC Fund deploys loans and equity investments in farmer organizations, rural SMEs and financial institutions. They have potential for high growth and job creation and can also drive social development for their own communities and countries, but they often lack the capital they need to grow their businesses.

As of today, the ABC Fund has provided financing to six rural organizations in Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Ecuador. The financed organizations include two farmer’s cooperatives, three agri-SMEs and a microfinance institution. Together these investments will support 23,000 smallholder farmers. The ABC Fund’s Technical Assistance facility currently supports five organizations with capacity building mainly in the field of business development and financial services.

The ABC Fund was initiated by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in partnership with, and is currently funded by investments from, the European Union, the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), IFAD, the Luxembourg Government and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). The IFAD investment was made possible thanks to financial support from the Swiss Development Cooperation. The EU/OACPS resources are exclusively used for action in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) region, and the AGRA resources only for Sub-Saharan Africa.

Jean-Philippe De Schrevel, Founder and Managing Partner at Bamboo Capital Partners commented:

“The appropriate screening and measurement of the impact our portfolio companies generate is crucial to the long-term success of the ABC Fund. We are delighted that the ABC Fund has been recognised by LuxFLAG for our rigorous approach to ESG management at every stage of the investment process.”

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About Bamboo Capital Partners:

Bamboo Capital Partners (“Bamboo”) is an impact investing platform which provides innovative financing solutions to catalyse lasting impact. Bamboo bridges the gap between seed and growth stage funding through a full suite of finance options – from debt to equity – which it activates unilaterally or through strategic partnerships. Founded in 2007 by Jean-Philippe de Schrevel, Bamboo aims to improve the lives of the world’s most marginalized communities while delivering strong financial returns. Since its inception, Bamboo has raised over \$400m and invested in over 30 developing countries. Its investees have positively impacted over 184 million lives and supported 45,000 jobs, including 15,900 jobs for women. The firm has a team of 30 professionals active across Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. For more information, please visit www.bamboocp.com or follow @bamboocp.

About Injaro Investments:

Established in 2009 by Dadié Tayoraud and Jerry Parkes, Injaro Investments is an Africa-based private capital investment firm that focuses on SME investments in Africa. Our vision is to build sustainable African businesses that create social and economic value. As an impact investor, Injaro makes investments in debt, quasi-equity, and equity in small-and medium-sized enterprises along the agricultural value chain in designated countries of West Africa. Injaro-advised funds have benefitted 3 million people in Africa, comprising mainly smallholder farmers and people on low incomes. For more information, please visit www.injaroinvestments.com or follow @injaro on Twitter and Injaro Investments Limited on LinkedIn.

About LuxFLAG:

The Luxembourg Finance Labelling Agency (LuxFLAG) is an independent and international non-profit association created in Luxembourg in July 2006 by seven public and private founding partners. The agency aims to promote the raising of capital for the responsible investment sector by awarding a recognisable label to eligible investment vehicles. The objective is to reassure investors that the labelled investment vehicle invests in a responsible manner. LuxFLAG Labels are available for internationally distributed vehicles irrespective of their country of domicile or issuance. LuxFLAG’s constant goal is to embrace sustainability, transparency, independence and responsibility as core values. To be granted the respective LuxFLAG Label, applicant investment vehicles have to meet predefined eligibility criteria assessed by independent Eligibility Committees composed of industry experts, academics and analysts.

ABC Fund sponsors and partners:



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