

## Special event on Lobito Corridor for partners and financiers

Theme: Financing the Future of Food Markets along the Lobito Corridor

Wednesday 14 October 2026  
16:00 – 17:30 CEST

Green Room, FAO headquarters

Duration: 90 minutes

### Background

The Lobito Corridor is a 1 300 km strategic railway and infrastructure link connecting the Port of Lobito in Angola to the mineral-rich Copperbelt regions of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia. While primarily known for transporting critical minerals like copper and cobalt, it is increasingly being developed as a vital agricultural corridor to transform regional agrifood systems. The corridor acts as a catalyst for agricultural transformation that can shorten transport times from landlocked regions to the Atlantic from over a month to just one week.

Development partners increasingly invest in transforming the Lobito Corridor from a mere transit route for minerals to a vibrant Agricultural Corridor that boosts food production and value addition for local, regional and international markets. EU's Global Gateway support the corridor with more than USD 2 billion investments alongside the US Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and others<sup>1</sup>. African Union Development Agency- Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) Food Corridors Initiative is leading efforts to foster investments in the Lobito corridor.

Focus on the Lobito corridor, supports building resilient agrifood systems and climate-smart agriculture while targeting more effectively food insecurity, harnessing agrifood system potential and supporting local development transformation. Investments can:

- Enhance regional food trade enabling landlocked Zambia and the DRC to access international markets and facilitates intra-regional trade.
- Foster the development of agroprocessing zones and industrial hubs in provinces like Huambo and Benguela (Angola) to add value before export.
- Promote new investments include building silo terminals, collection points, and last-mile infrastructure to connect smallholder farmers to the main rail line.
- Harness the potential for key value chains as significant focus is placed on enhancing specific value chains, including grains, horticulture, livestock, and tropical fruits.

In the fifth edition of the global HiH investment forum in Rome, the 3 countries along the Lobito corridor are presenting investment priorities. The Special Event aims at enhancing efforts to eliminate trade and non-trade barriers, facilitate market access and trade along the corridor while mobilizing investment resources for sustainable and inclusive interventions in agrifood systems in direct link with the corridor. The Special Event finally aims at mobilizing partnerships and resources complementing national HiH supported programmes for Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Zambia.

### Objectives

Foster efforts and commitments to leveraging agrifood systems potential and poverty reduction with financing of investment portfolios. Specific objectives:

- Provide a platform for dialogue among the three countries on the Lobito Corridor as well as with development, financial, technical partners and investors.
- Enable Angola, DRC and Zambia to present their agrifood system investment priority plans in link with the Lobito corridor.



- Identify financing gaps and opportunities for innovative partnerships (Public Private Partnerships, co-financing or other).
- Promote synergies between the HiH-supported national programmes with efforts to develop the Lobito Corridor and regional strategies (e.g. AUDA-NEPAD Food Corridors).

### Expected results

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- Commitments for financing or interest expressed by partners.
- Post special event roadmap for technical, financial and political follow-up.

