

# PARTNER FACT SHEET



## Projected Impact



Boost the amount of plastic waste collected and recycled in Abidjan to generate \$6 million a year in recycled flakes exported to the European Union market.



Construct a plastic recycling plant with a production capacity of 14,000 tons per year to be fully operational by December 2022.



Create 250 direct full-time jobs, with 70 percent of these positions occupied by women.



*Coliba SARL collects and recycles plastic waste in Abidjan to create tons of plastic flakes for a variety of uses, including packaging that is suitable for contact with food. Photo credit: Coliba SARL*

## About Coliba SARL

Established in 2017, [Coliba SARL](#) specializes in the recycling of plastic waste. The Côte d'Ivoire-based company has developed a mobile app that connects households and small businesses with informal waste collectors. In exchange for plastic waste, households receive points that can be converted into basic foods, while the collectors get paid. The collected plastic waste is transformed into high-quality flakes for use in plastic manufacturing and packaging. Along with helping to protect Abidjan's environment, the company is creating jobs, including for management and recycling plant staff.

## Co-Investment Partnership

The USAID-funded West Africa Trade & Investment Hub (Trade Hub) awarded a co-investment grant to Coliba SARL to fund the training and capacity building of informal waste collectors in Abidjan. The Trade Hub co-investment grant will enable Coliba to integrate these informal waste collectors into its business model, allowing collectors in Côte d'Ivoire to participate in formal training to help them build better businesses. With the additional support of a loan from the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, Inc. (AEPW), Coliba SARL will install 65 containers, called kiosks, where collectors can get paid for their plastic waste. In addition, 100 collection boxes will be set up at gas stations in Abidjan and neighboring cities where residents can drop off their plastic waste to be recycled. The company expects to collect up to 2,283 tons of plastic waste per year, on average, during the company's 28-month project with the Trade Hub, running from December 2021 to April 2024. The project also includes the construction of a new recycling plant that will transform 6,850 tons of plastic waste into high-quality food-grade flakes for export to the European Union market.

## Partnership Opportunities

Plastic pollution is a growing problem worldwide. Abidjan, with more than five million people, produces 290 tons of plastic waste daily alone, most of which ends up in the environment, and Côte d'Ivoire only recycles about 3 percent of the plastic it uses. Coliba SARL sees the problem as an opportunity to create jobs for people living in disadvantaged communities while improving the environment. Poised for growth, the company is investing heavily in waste collection infrastructure with plans to expand its operations to other West African countries, like Senegal and Nigeria.



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