



Guinea-Bissau

Guinea-Bissau is a former Portuguese coastal colony bordered by Senegal to the north and Guinea, to the south and east, both, French speaking States. The country is thus forming an enclave between those both neighbours. The name comes from its Capital Bissau, covers 36 125 km² at low tide, and 28 000 km² at high tide, and extents as well over the Bijagos Archipelago, composed of more than 60 islands.



Guinée-Bissau is a member of the UEMOA, french acronym for : Union économique et monétaire Ouest-Africaine, West African Economic and Monetary Union.

Cashew nuts and groundnuts are the main export crops, representing 60% of the country's revenues. Guinea-Bissau is the third cashew producer in Africa, ranking the sixth in the world, with a yearly production of 120 000 tons bringing, yearly, 60 millions US dollars. The country has also many other natural resources like: bauxite, wood, petroleum, phosphates...

Its coastal area is quite rich in fish and attracts fishermen from UE coming to fish 500 tons of fish every year, which gives 7 500 000 € revenue, each year. Traditional Fishery remains one of the richest resources in the world because of the existence of three costal water fronts. Until know, insufficiently exploited as well as the enormous agricultural "bio" potentialities. Guinea-Bissau will be able to grow exportation to UE markets with Ecocertification.

The country's financial sector has developed since end-2005. Three additional financial institutions have opened: the Regional Bank of Solidarity (BRS) specialized in microfinance activities; the Bank of Union (BDU); and Ecobank, which provides commercial credit services.