

A photograph of a lush green banana plantation with rows of banana plants stretching into the distance under a clear sky. The text "Press Release" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Press Release

The connection to the world of sustainable tropical agriculture

SIPEF strengthens its banana operations in Côte d'Ivoire with the acquisition of Tiabam

SIPEF, through its subsidiary Plantations J. Eglin, has signed an agreement to acquire Tiabam — a banana plantation located in the Tiassalé region of Côte d'Ivoire — from AGRIBAM. Completion of the transaction is expected later this month. The parties have agreed not to disclose the transaction value.

Tiabam's plantation is located adjacent to SIPEF's existing Akoudjé operations. It comprises a total landholding of approximately 450 hectares, of which 320 hectares are in production, and employs around 400 people. Annual banana production ranges between 12 000 and 14 000 tonnes, with more than 70% exported to the European market and the remainder supplied to subregional and domestic markets.

SIPEF managing director, Petra Meekers, says the Tiassalé plantation's proximity to Akoudjé will allow Plantations J. Eglin to build additional scale and facilitate operational synergies with Plantations J. Eglin across procurement, logistics, and export activities, as well as the application of SIPEF's Best Management Practices.

"SIPEF believes in the growth potential of bananas as an affordable, nutritious staple food with resilient consumer demand. This acquisition will strengthen our banana production base and allow the Group to selectively diversify alongside palm products. By leveraging this opportunity to increase volumes, optimise efficiencies, and successfully integrate Tiabam and Plantations J. Eglin, we aim to grow our total banana production to approximately 70 000 tonnes, while delivering sustainable growth for both SIPEF and the communities in which we operate."

SIPEF sees opportunity to further increase productivity at the Tiassalé plantation through crop optimisation and targeted capital investment.

Building on local expertise and community relationships

SIPEF looks forward to welcoming Tiabam's employees to the Group and to building on the expertise and experience of the existing team.

The Group is equally committed to building on Tiabam's positive relationship with the communities surrounding the Tiassalé plantation. It will retain and review existing social facilities and plans to prioritise investments towards social infrastructure, health and safety, irrigation, equipment, and replanting initiatives, where required to meet SIPEF's industry-leading benchmarks.

Growing sustainably through banana operations

SIPEF's banana production, managed by Plantations J. Eglin since 1985, reached 52 159 tonnes in 2025, a 2.2% increase on 2024.

Beyond production, SIPEF remains actively engaged with local communities: in 2025, Plantations J. Eglin delivered a new public primary school at its Azaguié plantation under the Fairtrade programme, fostering long-term opportunity and shared value creation for surrounding communities.

The Tiabam plantation is currently GlobalG.A.P. and Rainforest Alliance certified.



Bananas are weighed at a packing station to meet customer weight expectations.— © SIPEF. High-resolution image available for editorial use.

Translation: This press release is available in Dutch and English. The Dutch version is the original; the English version is a free translation. We have made every reasonable effort to avoid any discrepancies between the different language versions. However, should such discrepancies exist, the Dutch version will take precedence.

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SIPEF is a Belgian agribusiness group specialising in sustainable tropical agriculture. With operations in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire, the Group cultivates oil palm and bananas using a Balanced Growth Strategy to combine certification, innovation, nature-based solutions, and care for people and communities. For more information, visit www.sipef.com.