



## MORINGA INVESTS IN SOBEMA, A LOCAL BEVERAGE PROCESSING COMPANY IN MALI

Moringa SCA SICAR (“Moringa”), an impact investment fund dedicated to agroforestry projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, announces its tenth investment, and the sixth of its African compartment. Moringa took a 46% stake in SOBEMA (Société des Boissons et Eaux minérales du Mali).

Created in 2013 by Dino Ballestra, a seasoned entrepreneur with a solid track record in the food industry, SOBEMA is a pioneering Malian company that aims at providing local markets with a range of different beverages, based on locally sourced ingredients. With this investment, SOBEMA will launch the production of a broad range of beverages, from mineral water to fruit juices and flavoured drinks.

SOBEMA is leveraging strong synergies with Comafruits, its sister company, another Moringa Fund portfolio company producing organic and conventional mango puree in Mali. By sharing its processing facility in Sélingué with ComaFruits, SOBEMA fosters the diversification strategy of the firms that will be able to process a diverse range of fruits and vegetables (e.g. goyaba, oranges, cashew apple, tomatoes, pineapple, pomegranate, ginger, etc.) with only little amendments to be made to the machinery.

The Moringa Fund believes this investment will contribute to increase revenues among Malian farmers, in line with its core mission. Diversifying the product range of SOBEMA will create the opportunity for farmers to further diversify their production and income. It will support the dissemination of agroforestry and sustainable land use practices as farmers will have a secured outlet for all their production. Farmers will benefit from increased technical and financial support to fully adopt diversification practices that can enhance both their livelihoods and the environment.

Okan acted as financial advisor to the Moringa Fund in the context of this deal.

### ABOUT EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD

As a conviction-driven investment house founded in the belief that wealth should be used to build world of tomorrow, Edmond de Rothschild specialises in Private Banking and Asset Management and serves an international clientele of families, entrepreneurs and institutional investors. The group is also active in Corporate Finance, Private Equity, Real Estate and Fund Services.

Its resolutely family-run nature gives Edmond de Rothschild the independence necessary to propose bold strategies and long-term investments, rooted in the real economy.

Created in 1953, the Group now has €150 billion in assets under management, 2,700 employees and 32 locations worldwide.

### ABOUT MORINGA

The Moringa Fund is an investment company that provides equity financing for sustainable agroforestry projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. Agroforestry combines tree planting with agricultural crops to create positive synergies in economic, environmental and social terms. The fund was initiated by the Edmond de Rothschild Group and ONF International.

[www.moringapartnership.com](http://www.moringapartnership.com)

#### **ABOUT SOBEMA**

SOBEMA (Société des Boissons et Eaux minérales du Mali) is a Malian company producing mineral water, fruit juices and various beverages for the local market. The company relies on a wide 'outgrowers' network, supported by a technical assistance team promoting agroforestry practices.

#### **ABOUT OKAN**

Okan is a financial advisory and strategy-consulting firm dedicated to Africa.

[www.okanpartners.com](http://www.okanpartners.com)

#### **Press Contacts:**

##### **EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD (France)**

Florence Gaubert: + 33 1 40 17 33 57- [f.gaubert@edr.com](mailto:f.gaubert@edr.com)

##### **STEELE & HOLT**

Laura Barlatz: [laura@steeleandholt.com](mailto:laura@steeleandholt.com)

Gaetan Pierret: [gaetan@steeleandholt.com](mailto:gaetan@steeleandholt.com)

##### **MORINGA**

Clement Chenost: [c.chenost@moringapartnership.com](mailto:c.chenost@moringapartnership.com)

##### **SOBEMA**

D. Ballestra: [d.ballestra@comafruitsitalia.it](mailto:d.ballestra@comafruitsitalia.it)

B. Amadou: [ba.amadou@comafruitsitalia.it](mailto:ba.amadou@comafruitsitalia.it)

##### **OKAN**

[info@okanpartners.com](mailto:info@okanpartners.com)