



## ELITE launches across West Africa

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- **ELITE, CSE and BRVM sign collaboration agreement to launch business support & capital raising programme across West Africa**
- **Signing ceremony presided by Amadou Gon Coulibaly, Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire**
- **Demonstrates LSEG's commitment to strengthening ties with West Africa's capital markets**

ELITE, London Stock Exchange Group's international business support and capital raising programme, today announces that it has signed an agreement with Casablanca Stock Exchange (CSE) and Bourse Régionale des Valeurs Mobilières (BRVM) to support the launch of ELITE across the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA). Members of UEMOA are Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo.

The agreement signed by Thomas Tyler, Global Head of Sales, ELITE, Karim Hajji, CEO, CSE and Kossi Felix Edoh Amenouve, Director General, BRVM took place in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, presided by Amadou Gon Coulibaly, Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire.

Following the agreement, Casablanca Stock Exchange, supported by ELITE, will share its knowledge and expertise of the ELITE programme with BRVM representatives, guiding them on how best to implement ELITE and promote the programme and brand locally. Companies from Cote d'Ivoire will be the first to join ELITE in November, with a view to eventually becoming part of the full international ELITE community of over 600 companies from across 25 countries.

**Luca Peyrano, CEO, ELITE:**

"Today's announcement highlights ELITE's enduring commitment to supporting fast growing businesses across the world, as well as Casablanca Stock Exchange's and BRVM's dedication to backing West Africa's most dynamic firms. These companies have a unique capacity to innovate, create new jobs and ultimately drive economic prosperity. I'm delighted that from today businesses from Cote d'Ivoire will have the opportunity to be part of a tailored ELITE BRVM network and have access to vital sources of growth funding."

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# Press Release



**London**  
Stock Exchange Group

**Karim Hajji, CEO of Casablanca Stock Exchange, said:**

"We are particularly pleased to bring our knowledge and expertise to the development of African companies across UEMOA. Our wish is to contribute effectively to the creation of a strong continent, with strong and lasting economies which occupy a place in the world economy."

**Kossi Felix Edoh Amenou, Director General, BRVM:**

"Launching ELITE in Cote d'Ivoire today is a milestone for our country, the region and the continent as a whole. With our partners, CSE and ELITE, we are contributing to the long term growth of our economy and giving some of Africa's fastest growing companies the opportunity to shine on the world stage."

- Ends -

**For further information:**

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## Notes to editors:

### About ELITE

ELITE is a full-service programme designed to help the most ambitious companies prepare and structure for the next stage of growth through the access to long term financing opportunities. It is a unique cross-border programme based on an exclusive training and tutorship model, supported by access to the business and financial community. Its aim is to prepare companies for their next stage of growth and investment.

For further information on the programme, companies and the full list of partners, please go to: [www.elite-growth.com](http://www.elite-growth.com)

### About London Stock Exchange Group

London Stock Exchange Group (LSE.L) is an international markets infrastructure business. Its diversified global business focuses on capital formation, intellectual property and risk and balance sheet management. LSEG operates an open access model, offering choice and partnership to customers across all of its businesses. The Group can trace its history back to 1698.

The Group operates a broad range of international equity, ETF, bond and derivatives markets, including London Stock Exchange; Borsa Italiana; MTS (Europe's leading fixed income market); and Turquoise (a pan-European equities MTF). Through its platforms, LSEG offers market participants, including retail investors, institutions and SMEs unrivalled access to Europe's capital markets. The Group also plays a vital economic and social role, enabling companies to access funds for growth and development.

Through FTSE Russell, the Group is a global leader in financial indexing, benchmarking and analytic services with approximately \$15 trillion benchmarked to its indexes. The Group also provides customers with an extensive range of data services, research and analytics through Mergent, SEDOL, UnaVista, XTF and RNS.



Post trade and risk management services are a significant part of the Group's business operations. In addition to majority ownership of LCH, a multi-asset global CCP operator, LSEG owns CC&G, the Italian clearing house and Monte Titoli, a leading European custody and settlement business.

LSEG is a leading developer and operator of high performance technology solutions, including trading, market surveillance and post trade systems for over 40 organisations and exchanges, including the Group's own markets. Additional services include network connectivity, hosting and quality assurance testing. MillenniumIT, GATElab and Exactpro are among the Group's technology companies.

Headquartered in the United Kingdom, with significant operations in North America, Italy, France and Sri Lanka, the Group employs approximately 4,000 people.

Further information on London Stock Exchange Group can be found at [www.lseg.com](http://www.lseg.com)