



# IMPROVING THE RESILIENCE OF COCOA AND CASHEW NUT PRODUCERS IN GHANA, TOGO AND THE IVORY COAST





Non-financial services

Market building

### CONTEXT

Cocoa is usually grown by smallholder farmers, who rarely make a living wage with the sale of their crops. Difficult conditions in the value chain have fueled deforestation and child labor, making cocoa in Africa a high E&S risk crop. On the other hand, cashew nuts production is expanding rapidly in Africa, but there are too few local processing capacities. In this context, certifications are an important tool to improve agricultural practices, access premium customers, and increase farmers' revenues. On top of that, digital solutions are increasingly being recognized as means to ensure transparency and traceability in agricultural supply chains.

## **CURRENT STATUS OF THE INVESTEES**

Cocoasource (CCS) is a commodity trading company founded in 2007 with its headquarters based in Switzerland and a holding of 4 local certified companies based in Togo, Uganda, Ivory Coast and Democratic Republic of the Congo. The company is active in four value chains: cocoa (+/- 76%), rubber (15%), cashew (9%) and sesame (0,5%). Cocoasource purchases from a large number of individual farmers and small cooperatives that are unable to export themselves directly, reaching an estimated 31,258 smallholder farmers.

#### **OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT**

The objectives are to increase smallholder farmers' revenues and facilitate access to international markets by supporting the certification and digitalization of cocoa and cashew nuts cooperatives, while also strengthening Cocoasource's subsidiary in Ivory Coast.

The expected outcomes are:

- Improved income for 1,923 smallholder farmers by obtaining or maintaining their sustainable certification.
- Improved traceability of crops and data-driven decision making for cooperatives, through the digitalisation of transactions with 2,375 farmers and the GPS mapping of 2,746 farmers' plots.
- Strengthened cooperatives through improved sales and revenues of certified produce.

Internal management

#### **IMPACT INVESTOR**



AGGREGATORS / INVESTEES Cocoasource (SME) – Ghana, Ivory Coast and Togo

**TARGETED N° OF FARMERS** 2,746 farmers

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN Cocoa and cashew nuts

STARTING DATE May 2022

**DURATION** 12 months

TOTAL BUDGET € 172,053 Including € 57,488 (33%) contribution from SSNUP

