



**ssnup**

Smallholder Safety Net  
Upscaling Programme

## IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF A CASHEW NUT PROCESSOR IN BENIN



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services



Non-financial services



Market building



Internal management

### CONTEXT

Benin is predominantly a rural society with the agricultural sector supporting more than 70% of the population. Agriculture contributes around 35% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and 80% of export income. Global cashew production market is dominated by Africa, which represents 56% of the market, followed by Asia, accounting for 44%. However, even though Africa dominates production, Vietnam remains the largest producer and processor and drives the market thanks to its competitive pricing. Only 10% of the global cashew harvest is processed in Africa, meaning much of its value is lost. Benin's cashew nuts are considered the second best in West Africa, after Guinea-Bissau's.

### CURRENT STATUS OF THE INVESTEE

Afokantan is a cashew nut processing and trading enterprise that buys, processes and sells high quality cashew nuts for the international market. It sources cashews from around 3,000 smallholder farmers and processed up to 2,400 metric tons of raw cashew nuts during the 2022 season into white cashew kernels for export. Afokantan is owned by Nuts2 which is a FLO/Organic certified trader based in the Netherlands and also owns Anatrans, another cashew processing unit in Burkina.

### OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to enhance the financial management systems to achieve better alignment with relevant accounting and financial standards.

The main expected outcomes are:

- Strengthened reporting process to reduce lead time and increase accuracy.
- Improved capacities of Afokantan's financial team.
- Attract direct investments into Afokantan instead of indirectly through Nuts2.

### IMPACT INVESTOR



### AGGREGATOR / INVESTEE

Afokantan (Nuts2) (SME) – Benin, serving more than 3,000 farmers.

### AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Cashew nuts

### STARTING DATE

January 2023

### DURATION

8 months

### TOTAL TA BUDGET

€ 87,638  
Including € 70,110 (80%)  
contribution from SSNUP



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