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Smallholder Safety Net
Upscaling Programme

EMPOWERING WOMEN COOPERATIVES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE SHEA BUTTER PRODUCTION IN BURKINA FASO



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services



Non-financial services



Market building



Internal management

CONTEXT

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country lying between Ghana to the south and Mali to the north, with limited natural resources. In 2022, the GDP per capita was USD 830 and its population estimated to almost 23 million is growing at almost 3% a year. The economy heavily relies on agriculture, which employs about 80% of the workforce. Shea nuts are important in the economy of Burkina Faso. It is the country's third most important export, after cotton and livestock. Despite their essential role in the local supply chain, shea butter processors face significant challenges, including inadequate equipment, lack of storage facilities, and difficulties in managing their financial resources.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Savonnerie Parfumerie du Houet (SPH) is a company specialising in the production of laundry soap and cosmetics made from shea butter, including toilet soaps, shower gels, dishwashing gels, and ointments. The company was founded in 1996 and is based in the industrial area of Bobo Dioulasso, in the western region of Burkina Faso. To ensure production and meet the growing demand, the company has established a close relationship with its suppliers, sourcing shea butter from a network of more than 800 women/shea butter processors in the western part of Burkina Faso.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to strengthen the skills of women in charge of processing shea butter to ensure availability of high-quality raw materials. Additionally, the project aims to valorise shea nuts waste by converting them into organic fertilisers.

The expected results of the project are:

- Train 100 cooperative leaders on management and governance.
- Train 500 women on converting shea butter waste into organic fertiliser.
- Support 500 women on establishing relationships with financial institutions by training them on financial literacy.

IMPACT INVESTOR



BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Savonnerie Parfumerie du Houet
(SME) – Burkina Faso

TARGET

500 smallholder farmers

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Shea butter

STARTING DATE

May 2025

DURATION

8 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET

€ 41,466
Including € 33,173 (80%)
contribution from SSNUP



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