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Smallholder Sustainability
Upscaling Programme

EMPOWERING SMALLHOLDER FARMERS THROUGH CLIMATE-SMART TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, AND DIGITAL TRACEABILITY



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services delivery



Capacity building for end
beneficiaries



Market access and
product development



Management systems
improvement

CONTEXT

The agricultural sector represents 22% of the national GDP in Ivory Coast. Until recently, the cashew processing industry was quasi inexistent in Africa. Boosted by conducive policy, availability of raw material, and proximity to Western end-markets, cashew processing in Ivory Coast has emerged as a serious competitor to Asia. According to FAOSTAT, Ivory Coast produced over 1 million tonnes of cashew nuts becoming the largest producer. As the global demand for cashew nuts is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 3.42% between 2024-2030 and the market for certified/traceable cashew nuts is growing, it provides an opportunity to increase the safety net of smallholder farmers.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

The Cashew Coast group is an African female-led cashew processing business based in Ivory Coast that integrates smallholder farmers, with a traceable, organic supply chain and premium clientele. Founded in 2019, the company has built a fully integrated supply chain to ensure security of supply. The Cashew Coast group includes a purchasing arm called CAJOOMA which developed an integrated organic supply chain, grouped smallholder farmers into Economic Interest Groups (EIGs), and implemented a traceability system, named SAP Rural Sourcing Management.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The objective of this project is to build capacity of smallholder farmers by improving cashew yields and volumes, while also providing them and Cashew Coast with access to new markets and premium pricing through new certifications. At least 3,000 smallholder farmers in three new areas will be added to the farmer base of certified farmers, increasing the total to at least 10,000.

The expected results of the project are:

- Establish a 10-ha pilot cashew plantation with intercropping of cash and food crops incl. improved crop protocols, standard operating procedures and field days for smallholder farmers.
- Increase revenue of 10,000 smallholder farmers (at least 23% women) through certification, improved agricultural practices and yields.
- Improve traceability in line with EUDR.
- Develop a crop forecasting tool used for business planning and improved efficiency.

IMPACT INVESTOR

AgDevCo[®]

BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Cashew Coast group (SME) – Ivory Coast

TARGET

10,000 smallholder farmers

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Cashew

STARTING DATE

January 2025

DURATION

21 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET

€ 709,343

Including € 324,449 (46%)
contribution from SSNUP



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