



SWITCH AFRICA GREEN PROJECT INFORMATION FOR NUCAFE - UGANDA

Title of the Project	Enhancing Africa Green Economy through Eco Geographical Indication for Coffee.
Brief Background	<p>In Uganda, the coffee sector plays a major role in the national economy. It is the main source of income to an estimated 1.7 million smallholder families, a major contributor to national GDP and export earnings. Arabica coffee farming is seen as a promising opportunity to enhance the economic prosperity of the region and promote its social stability. However, the sustainability of Mt Rwenzori Coffee Value Chain (CVC) can be questioned because benefits from coffee production are low and not sufficient to guarantee economic security and to provide decent livelihood. As such, the Ugandan Government implements an agriculture strategy aimed at increasing revenue from the crop and supports the extension of the sector.</p> <p>NUCAFE and CIRAD are promoting adoption of a holistic and dynamic approach using Triple Certification (TC) model to include Geographical Indication (GI), Fair Trade (FT) and Organic (ECO) and as well build on the Farmer Ownership Model where farmers are organized in cooperatives and associations for collective actions and responsibility to comply with TC criteria, add value and market their coffee with unique intrinsic quality characteristics directly to international specialty markets that reward quality, eco, social good and terroir characteristics.</p> <p>The solution promoted by the project is to build capacity within Mt Rwenzori CVC for enhanced performance and greater autonomy that is comparable to external operators. To achieve this, it is vital for Farmer Associations, cooperatives, unions to be well positioned to access off-taker markets in consumer countries for greater profit share that will finance their development.</p>
Objectives of the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Overall objective: To generate sustainable wealth creation for improved livelihood and poverty alleviation in rural areas, through green economy and SCP promotion in Africa. ❖ Specific objective: To implement a new model of coffee value chain in Africa based on triple certification of farmer association - Geographical Indication (GI), Fair Trade (FT) and Organic (ECO), to promote sustainable production and consumption of the highly valued Mount Rwenzori Arabica coffee.

Actions/Activities to be carried out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Conducting farmer training and workshops, in the areas of coffee agronomy, agroforestry, SCP practices, certification, compliance ❖ Creating and implementing a dynamic, interactive knowledge management platform, to support traceability, access to finance and agro inputs, knowledge sharing and experience capitalization. ❖ Publicizing the action and generating optimal conditions for visibility and replication. ❖ To Establish Micro washing stations to enhance post-harvest handling, promote quality assurance and improve the household incomes of farmers. ❖ Establish Demonstration plots to promote adoption of sustainable coffee production practices at farmer and cooperative level. ❖ Scoping and designing an information architecture for green triple certification of coffee cultivation. ❖ Greening the value chain, SCP promotion at cooperative, farm and NUCAFE level. ❖ To foster Family business management and succession planning in coffee farming households, with gender equity for sustainable production. ❖ Design and initiate a Climate Change adaptation strategy. ❖ Design and implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy. ❖ Coaching and mentorship of farmer leaders in the areas of Coffee Quality management, Information Technology and Market Intelligence. ❖ Scaling out the Triple Certification Model to other coffee growing areas in the country and the East African Region. ❖ To establish partnerships with local organizations, enhancing community development & conservation and appreciation of their culture and natural endowments. ❖ Conduct advocacy campaigns for development and implementation of policies that promote sustainable production and consumption of Coffee regionally and internationally.
Location/s of the project (include County/ies) covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mt. Rwenzori Region of Western Uganda, (Kabale, Bunyangabu, Kasese, and Bundibugyo District).
Partners of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ European Union ❖ Centre de Cooperation Internationale en Recherche Agronomique Pour le Development (C.I.R.A.D)
Total Budget	€1,200,000
Timeline of implementation (in months)	48 Months