

ESG from kernel to butter: A scoring system at cooperative level

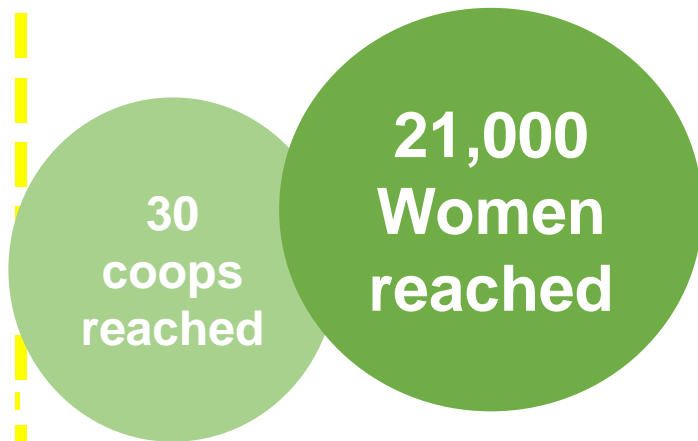


Shea Gets Greener



Centralized post harvest for shea nuts

Innovation: from traditional processing method at the household level to **centralized and energy efficient** processing.

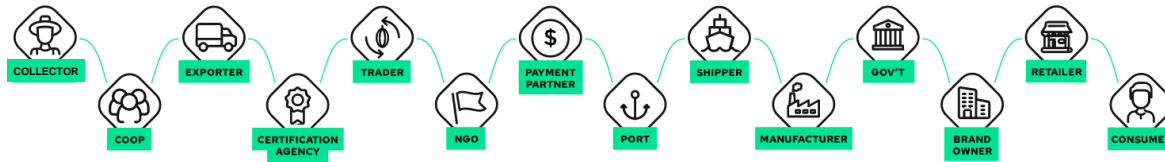


- + INCOME (increased quantity due to provided tricycles)
QUALITY (improved tooling, separation of organic products)
- ➔ COST (using less firewood)
ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

Improvements and Impact

- Better working condition (smoke exposure, hardship...)
- Higher productivity (more product in less time).
- Lower CO2 footprint
- Higher income
- Lower cost





Blockchain integration to assure coherent data and trust

Training of
21.000
women

Multiple
impacts

IMPACT

Third party assessment:

- Reduction of smoke inhalation and exposure
- Income generation for the women
- Carbon emissions savings
- Waste recycling ratios
- Social bond creation





Shea collector is not an easy job

Imagine every day...

- 1-2 hours walk to/from the collection area
 - to fetch 30 kg nuts,
 - Boiling them & surveying them dry (3-6 days)
 - Shelling them → 10-15 kg kernels
- ...Worth 3 to 4€!

Shea collectors undergo tedious work to obtain a mildly valued product.

Furthermore, **post-harvesting operations account for 50 to 90% of the upstream CO_{2eq} emissions of shea butter.**

Post harvest nuts treatment alone is responsible for **2 to 4 kg CO2 emissions per kg butter**, while shea tree growth **captures around 3 kg CO2/kg butter**

Not to forget handcrafted shea butter production: energy-intensive process, time-consuming...



So there are good reasons to support shea collectors... but how to?



Cooperative organisation

Together, stronger



Empowerment and capacity building

Financial literacy, best practices



Collective storage capacity

Making traceability and price negotiation possible



Collective tools

Fetching, transporting and processing faster and better



Under the *Shea gets greener!* project, SFC is supporting 30 shea nuts and butter cooperatives in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali.

In 2022-2024:

Brought more than 17,000 collectors into new or existing shea

>21,000 trainings delivered

>50 new warehouses built

>40 modern kernel and shea butter processing centers



How to translate these actions into measurable impact

Under the *Transform* program, Nitidæ & The SFC are monitoring the performances of both collectors and butter production cooperatives in terms of



Working conditions

- Work time per kg of product
- Ardousness perception, producer satisfaction
- Exposure to smoke (particulate matter)

Livelihoods

- Income per producer
- Contribution to the collective development

Environment

- Water consumption
- Water pollution
- Fuel use → CO₂ footprint
- Biodiversity – forest cover



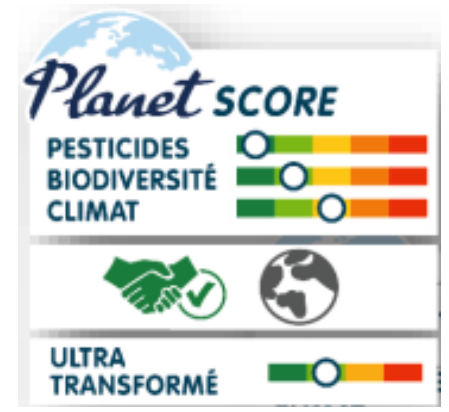
The **aim** is to establish an in-house monitoring standard, allowing to compare improvements at cooperative level such as

- Better working conditions
- Higher productivity
- Higher income
- Lower production cost
- Lower CO₂ footprint
- Preservation of natural resources





The SHEE standard



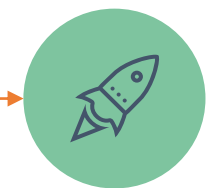
Measuring



Compiling



Reporting



Sharing impact

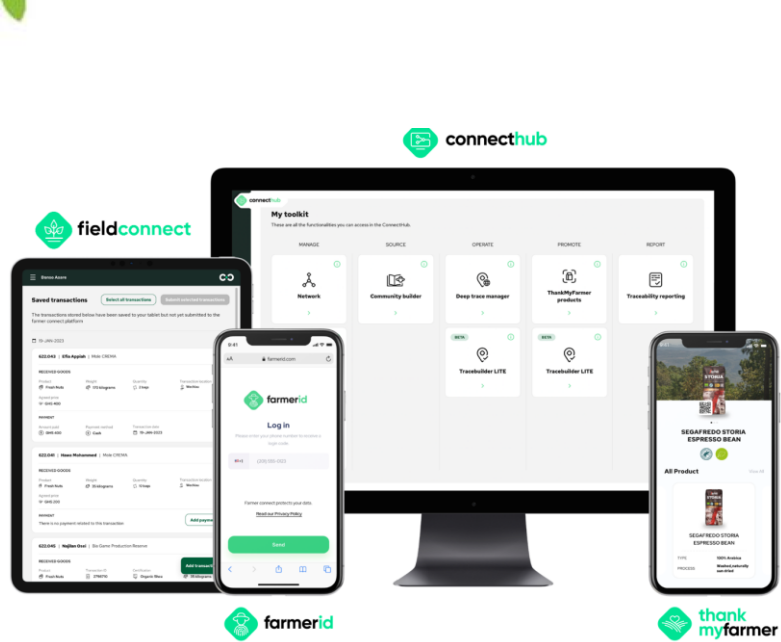
SHEE impact indicators

- Social
- Health
- Environmental
- Economic

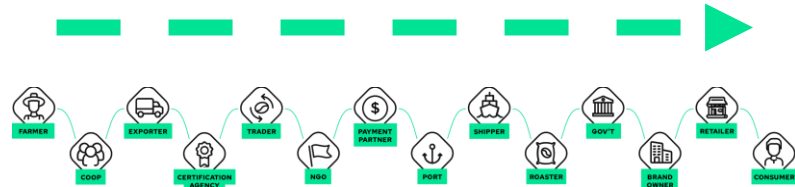
- With cooperatives (continuous improvement)
- With buyers (compliance, EU-CSR, monetizing impact)
- With final consumers (inputs to the emerging eco-labels)



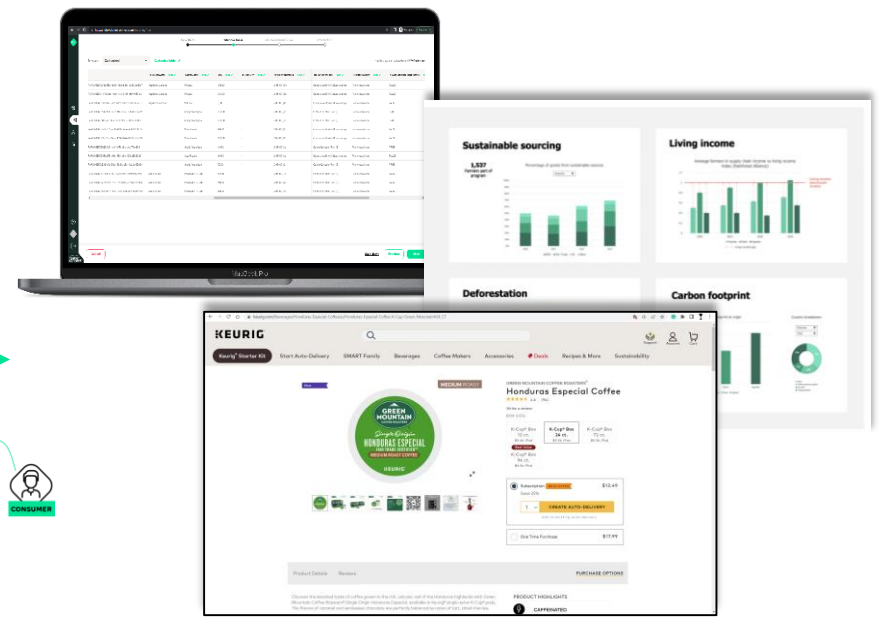
TRACEABILITY FROM COLLECTOR TO CONSUMER



Data in: upload / entry across all relevant stakeholders / upstream coverage all the way to the farm where needed.



Blockchain-based traces across complex supply chains. Enable **trust** across different entities.



Data out: consolidation and **reporting** for analysis or **dashboards**, ability to integrate into **external systems** via APIs.



Thank you



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