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Smallholder Sustainability
Upscaling Programme

STRENGTHENING THE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF A PEANUT AND SUGARCANE COOPERATIVE IN PERU



CONTEXT

Peru's diverse geography made of mountains, rainforest and coastline fuels a dynamic agriculture sector, vital to its economy and rural employment. The country is a top global exporter of quinoa, asparagus, blueberries, and avocados, and a major producer of coffee, grapes, and mangoes. Coastal regions excel in high-value crops, while the Andes grow potatoes, corn, and quinoa. The Amazon supports tropical fruits, cocoa, and coffee. Agricultural exports have boomed thanks to free trade agreements and global demand. Challenges include climate change, water scarcity, and limited access to technology for small farmers. Yet, Peru's agriculture sector keeps expanding, merging tradition with innovation to stay competitive worldwide.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

CAES Piura is a cooperative of small-scale producers whose main aim is to market the organic produce that its 271 members grow and process in various districts in the mountains of Piura. While also active in the sugarcane value chain, the cooperative is Peru's sole exporter of organic peanuts to France and Spain. It has recently been experiencing a solid growth, rising from 150 tonnes in 2024 to around 450 tonnes sold by the end of 2025, thereby strengthening the region's competitiveness in terms of industrial volume and sustainability. Peanut production in the high Andean region of Piura follows two growing seasons linked to rainfall patterns: a winter season relying on rain-fed cultivation of purple peanuts, and a summer season using irrigation for red peanuts.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The objective is to support the sustainability of the cooperative by strengthening its operational performance and optimise its capacity to generate revenues.

The expected results of the project are:

- Develop a strategic plan for the period 2026-2029 and implement manual of operations and responsibilities.
- Conduct a profitability analysis by product between peanut and sugarcane.
- Integrate 100 new peanut farmers with the objective to increase production of peanuts from 455 tonnes to 2000 tonnes.

PRIORITY TOPICS

- Environment and climate change
- Food security and improved nutrition
- Gender equality
- Fair agrifood systems

IMPACT INVESTOR

Sidi Solidarité Internationale
pour le Développement
et l'Investissement

BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Cooperativa Agraria Ecológica y Solidaria de Piura (CAES) (cooperative) – Peru, serving 271 smallholder farmers

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Peanut, sugarcane

STARTING DATE

August 2026

DURATION

9 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET

€14,435
Including €11,548 (80%)
contribution from SSNUP



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