



## Coffee Innovation Fund – Kenya

Supporting innovative and scalable solutions to increase profitability and market access of small-holder coffee farmers

### Coffee value chain automation, capacity, and efficiency enhancement

Kenya is a well-established coffee origin; however, the sector is experiencing challenges, especially Farmers' Cooperative Societies. These are farmer aggregation entities responsible for the collection, processing & marketing of coffee on behalf of its farmer members. In the last decade, the role and effectiveness of farmer cooperative societies to serve the interests of farmers have diminished due to lack of adequate information technology tools to capture data & generate key business insights. Furthermore, tackling climate change requires new, innovative approaches to sustain the production & processing of high-quality coffee

#### Overcoming challenges through education and infrastructure investment

Othaya Farmers Cooperative Society was established in 1956. To date it is one of the biggest coffee cooperative societies in the region, known for producing high quality Arabica coffee. However, the cooperative faces the same challenges of most other cooperatives in the country. The cooperative seeks to digitalize its commercial operation through a centralized information management system that ranges from collection of production data to sales and accounting. The cooperative operates seventeen wet mills where it processes the coffee collected from farmers. To tackle the effects of climate change, the cooperative seeks to install solar dryers to dry parchment coffee consistently and evenly, despite unpredictable rainfall patterns. Lastly, the cooperative plans to train its staff and selected group of farmers in climate change resilient production and processing techniques to sustain the production of high-quality coffee.



#### Project overview

Term: April 2022 – March 2023  
Region: Kenya  
Partner: Othaya Farmers' Cooperative Society  
Volume: EUR 50,000 (Supported by the fund)  
EUR 103,000 (total volume)

#### Goals

- ❖ Develop and integrate 1 farmer digital management system targeting 10,000 coffee farmers
- ❖ Improve parchment quality by 40% through use of new solar dryer technology
- ❖ Train 10,000 farmers on quality coffee production and 10 society's management on good governance

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Implemented by:



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