



## Grupo Nutresa

Grupo Nutresa is a food processing company with a long-standing commitment to sustainability, having been listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for six consecutive years. They are based in Colombia and are considered a key player in the Latin American market, with 45 production plants, 45,000 employees and more than one million clients.

They consider sustainable development as their overriding management framework, with the aim of ensuring their economic model goes hand-in-hand with social development that benefits their various stakeholders and in harmony with the environment

“We work, convinced that every positive change towards sustainable goals that is generated together with a person, a family or a community reaches a wider environment, thus forming an increasingly stronger chain, because only when it is understood that the power to push for changes resides in each of us, is when we make “A Future Together” possible”.

In 2014, Grupo Nutresa identified six strategic priorities in sustainability and has backed this up both through involvement in collaborative development projects and through its core business practices. With a direct presence in 14 countries, Grupo Nutresa has put in place numerous initiatives to reduce the environmental impact of its plants, work with local farmers and suppliers, and provide business opportunities targeted at women and small vendors.

### Case Study: Improving coffee processing

In 2013, Grupo Nutresa launched a four year project to work with small farmers on improving coffee processing practices. Based on the realization that small farmers did not have enough income to invest in improvements to their farms and equipment, Nutresa partnered with a coffee growers' cooperative to improve infrastructure for coffee processing.

Eligible members were provided with assistance in the form of materials destined for specific, time-constrained projects on their farms. It was found that once initial assistance was provided, many beneficiaries were able

to continue to develop projects beyond the initial scope thanks to the help provided by the cooperative.

Of the 1,540 cooperative members, 1,135 were beneficiaries of this program, including all 26 female members.

The project allowed for better coffee processing, while also improving the lifestyle and skills of local suppliers. It proved to be a mutually beneficial partnership which has been helping to support sustainable development while supporting Nutresa's core business practice.