

# Welcome to the Louis Dreyfus Foundation Activity Report 2020

[Discover our activities in 2020](#) 



MESSAGE FROM  
OUR PRESIDENT



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LOUIS DREYFUS  
FOUNDATION



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Discover our work in 2020 to empower farming families and rural communities around the world, towards more sustainable agriculture and increased food security.

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# Message from Our President

Although the scale of devastation caused by Covid-19 is still unknown, as the pandemic continues to affect lives and livelihoods worldwide, that 2020 was an unprecedented year, and that the pandemic threatens food security and nutrition is beyond doubt.

In a 2020 report<sup>1</sup>, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimated that Covid-19 impacts may add between 83 and 132 million people to the number of undernourished people in the world, which already stood at 690 million in 2019, showing a resurgence of hunger in the world even without the sanitary crisis.

**By restricting smallholder farmers' access to markets – both to buy food and sell produce – supply chain disruptions caused by the pandemic have had grave consequences and put millions of livelihoods at risk, especially among already vulnerable populations.**

And without coordinated global action, in the longer term, the combined economic and health impacts of Covid-19, and the possibility of a global recession, could disrupt food systems with a severity and scale unseen for more than half a century.

**The world, therefore, faces a global food emergency unless immediate action is taken.**

1. FAO. 2020. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*.  
2. Sarah K. Lowder, Marco V. Sánchez, Raffaele Bertini, *Which farms feed the world and has farmland become more concentrated?*  
3. FAO. 2016. *Increasing the resilience of agricultural livelihoods*. Rome.  
4. FAO. 2017. *The future of food and agriculture – Trends and challenges*. Rome

*“2020 was an unprecedented year, with the pandemic threatening food security for many and jeopardizing the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. In this context, the Foundation’s efforts were more relevant and necessary than ever.”*

The FAO’s report also suggests that addressing low productivity in food production could help combat food insecurity by increasing food supplies, reducing food prices and increasing incomes, especially for vulnerable family farmers and smallholder producers.

Although family farms are estimated to produce up to 80% of the world’s food<sup>2</sup>, most cannot make a living from their land due to a lack of knowledge and equipment, and limited access to markets. As a result, many of the 2.5 billion people living off the food and agriculture sector worldwide<sup>3</sup>, of which 700 million live in smallholder farming communities, live in extreme poverty<sup>4</sup>.

In this context, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation’s efforts to combat food insecurity and improve farmers’ resilience are more relevant and necessary than ever, supporting farming communities affected by the pandemic to recover or maintain their production systems, and ensure their long-term welfare.

**Created in 2013 with the aim of combating hunger, malnutrition and poverty around the world, the Foundation has since worked to fulfill its mission by promoting sustainable agriculture and empowering smallholder farming communities in developing countries.**

As I reflect on our work, I am more than ever convinced that sharing knowledge and resources with farmers, and giving them opportunities to observe, learn and adapt, is not only the key to a sustainable future for these communities, but also for the rest of the world, in the long term.

**In 2020, the Foundation successfully delivered 17 projects that reached more than 11,300 farmers and over 500 students, thereby improving the livelihoods of more than 60,000 indirect beneficiaries. I am pleased with and proud of these results, especially in light of the additional logistics challenges posed by global lockdowns and safety restrictions.**



Through our projects, we continued to contribute to the global development agenda set by the United Nations through its Sustainable Development Goals, working hand in hand with our partners in the field to combat poverty and hunger, give many young people education opportunities and create the conditions for greater equality, healthier lives and a better future.

The Foundation’s accomplishments owe a lot to the many Louis Dreyfus Company employees supporting our projects worldwide. I cannot overemphasize the invaluable contribution they make by pledging their expertise and experience to help improve the livelihoods of vulnerable farming communities around the globe. I send each of them, and all our other partners, my warmest thanks.

**MARGARITA LOUIS-DREYFUS**  
PRESIDENT, LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

1. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

2. EMPLOYING AND EMPOWERING WOMEN FARMERS

3. TRAINING FUTURE GENERATIONS

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# About the Louis Dreyfus Foundation



## Our Vision

To help fight hunger and poverty by bringing sustainable solutions to smallholder farmers.



## Our Mission

To improve food security through sustainable micro-farming, education, community empowerment and environmental preservation.



## Working hand in hand with Louis Dreyfus Company

The involvement of Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC) employees in the work of the Foundation, as experts and volunteers, allows our projects to benefit from their market knowledge, agronomy expertise and networks. Their contributions are key to the fulfillment of our project goals and help to maximize our positive impact.

## PRIORITIES AND COMMITMENTS



### Context

We support rural areas that are vulnerable to food insecurity and climate change, where we see significant potential to develop small-scale agricultural projects, to improve soil quality or access to water.



### Location

We prioritize projects in areas where LDC has an established presence, to leverage networks and expertise, and to encourage employee involvement and volunteering.



### Partnerships

We select our partners with great care, choosing to work alongside those who demonstrate expertise, reliability, a thorough understanding of the local environment and resources, a proven track-record in managing projects related to food security, as well as strong ethics and a vision aligned with our own.

NAKAHA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE



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# Our Work in 2020

## *The year in review, with our General Manager*

### IMPACT SINCE 2013

-  **45** projects
-  **123,000+** farmers involved
-  **562,000+** indirect beneficiaries
-  **1,107,000+** trees planted
-  **1,200+** students supported
-  **591** entrepreneurs supported

*"In the challenging environment of 2020, we continued our work to build agile and resilient food systems for farmers and their families."*



Despite the difficulties presented by the Covid-19 crisis in 2020, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation pursued its mission to improve food security through sustainable micro-farming and education, contributing to the resilience of smallholder farming communities around the world.

Micro-farming continues to be the Foundation's strategic priority, and we committed 65% of available funds to related projects in 2020, to help build or improve the productivity of smallholder farmers, and strengthen local value chains for various crops, such as coffee, rice, palm, maize and vegetables. Our projects have resulted in better yields, improved productivity and higher incomes, thus creating tangible benefits for farming families and their local communities.

Education is also an important pillar of the Foundation's work, to which we allocated 21% of resources in 2020.

We currently support four educational projects that help local youth to develop entrepreneurial skills and rural communities to achieve self-sufficiency – a vital condition for sustainable development in rural areas. We also act through our scholarship programs, which support talented graduate students from developing countries with the potential to be leaders in sustainable development, by giving them access to top quality education.

In response to the operational challenges posed by the pandemic, we worked closely with our partners to adapt our projects to new conditions and restrictions, for the safety of all participants. By doing so, I am happy to report that we were able to resume our activities in most countries where we operate, continuing to support thousands of smallholder farmers, launching four new projects in 2020, and extending our support to eight existing initiatives.



AKURE, NIGERIA



WEST LAMPUNG, INDONESIA



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## Our Work in 2020

*A recap of the year with the General Manager continued*


**17 PROJECTS,**  
**REACHING MORE**  
**THAN**  
**11,300 FARMERS**  
**AND MORE THAN**  
**500 STUDENTS**

*"In response to the operational challenges posed by the pandemic, we worked closely with our partners to adapt our projects to new conditions and restrictions, for the safety of all participants."*

Our efforts continued to focus on rolling out our operational model, which aims to maximize impacts by creating true ecosystems at a local level and capitalizing on the synergies generated.

We made significant progress with this approach in Côte d'Ivoire, where our four projects are now interconnected and will benefit from the collective knowledge of all our partners, including the World Food Programme, Fert and FairMatch Support, longtime partners of the Foundation.

Also through concerted efforts, a group of smallholder palm farmers in Indonesia became the world's first cooperative to achieve certification under the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's Independent Smallholder Standard.

[Discover more](#) 

In China, our educational 'Future change-maker' project won the 2020 Corporate Social Responsibility China Education Award for two categories: 'Youth Impact' and 'Best Sustainable Development'.

Our work has been recognized and endorsed at national and international levels, and has benefited tens of thousands of people worldwide.

We have much to be proud of, thanks largely to the exceptional commitment of all our partners, including many Louis Dreyfus Company employees around the world, to all of whom I send my heartfelt thanks.

As mentioned by our President, today's crisis makes the Foundation's work more essential and urgent than ever. Building on our 2020 achievements, we plan to continue our work on existing projects for maximum impact in micro-farming, agroforestry, climate resilience and education.

Through continued collaboration, a commitment to share knowledge, tools and capabilities with farmers, and a focus on empowering communities to achieve self-sufficiency, I hope we can achieve and report similarly encouraging results for 2021 and beyond.

**ROBERT SERPOLLET**  
GENERAL MANAGER,  
LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

## FOUNDATION RESPONSE TO COVID-19

In addition to the many recurring challenges they face, smallholder farmers are being profoundly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Restrictions and measures implemented to contain the virus are limiting farmers' ability to sell their produce and purchase food, non-food items and production inputs.

In these times of unprecedented economic and health challenges, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation remains committed to providing continued support and financial assistance to our partners and project beneficiaries, by:

- **Adapting our project activities** to meet the most urgent needs and protect the health and safety of all beneficiaries.
- **Extending project timelines** and offering maximum flexibility to our partners.
- **Converting existing grants into direct support** to buy sanitation kits for farmers and their families.
- **Offering extra financial support and triggering response funds** for existing and former partners.
- **Organizing awareness campaigns with the help of local partners**, to disseminate reliable information about the virus and suitable preventative measures.



WEST LAMPUNG, INDONESIA



# The Year in Highlights



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## LDF OXFORD ALUMNI WEBINAR

On November 25, 2020, 50 Oxford scholars and alumni participated in the webinar organized by the Foundation, which showcased the significant difference made by Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarship alumni in their regions and countries of origin. The webinar highlighted the work that alumni have engaged in over the past seven years, and provided insights into future food security and sustainable farming impacts. Attending alumni discussed the role of central banks, governments and NGOs in supporting smallholder farmers, the importance of education in giving rural communities a greater sense of citizenship, and the crucial relationship between nature and society.



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## CSR AWARD IN CHINA

In October 2020, the Sustainable Agriculture Future Change Maker project run by the Foundation in China won the 2020 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) China Education Awards in the 'Youth Impact' and 'Best Sustainable Development' categories. This project aims to develop the knowledge and skills of 200 university students over a period of three years, and encourage them to become active in the agricultural sector and promote more sustainable production methods that will benefit the environment, public health and the sector's productivity in the long term.



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## 2ND EDITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CONTEST IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The Foundation ran the second edition of its agricultural contest in Côte d'Ivoire in 2020, following the success of the first in 2019. On October 15, 2020, we announced three winners: entrepreneurs selected based on their innovative projects, which demonstrated economic benefits for rural communities, significant potential for job creation and promotion of women's inclusion. The award ceremony took place in compliance with Covid-19 restrictions and social distancing.



## LEARNING THROUGH THEATER IN UGANDA

15 theater plays were organized in communities where the Foundation is rolling out agroforestry and coffee training. Designed to be interactive and reflect farmers' daily lives, theater is a powerful tool to raise awareness about the consequences of deforestation and the need to replant trees, often with a much greater impact than traditional training programs. Farmers who attended the plays showed great enthusiasm for re-planting, and local authorities made land available to set up tree nurseries and mobilized rural communities to engage in tree planting.



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## RSPO CERTIFICATION FOR SMALLHOLDERS IN INDONESIA

A group of 30 independent smallholder farmers in South Sumatra, Indonesia became the first farming cooperative in the world to be certified under the newly adopted Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's (RSPO) standard for independent smallholder producers, with the Foundation's support. As part of their strategy to improve production quantity and quality, and as a prerequisite to comply with the RSPO standards, cooperative members participated in Palm Oil Best Management Practices training. They were successfully audited and awarded the RSPO certification, allowing them to trade 40% of their production under the sustainable label and receive a corresponding premium for sustainably sourced palm oil.

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# Success Stories

## Meet our farmer and student beneficiaries

### LAVI DEVI

SMALLHOLDER FARMER, HIGOTIA VILLAGE, RAJASTHAN, INDIA



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#### REINFORCED CLIMATE RESILIENCE

"Thanks to the project, we received support to build a water pond on our field, which holds enough water to irrigate our 1.5-hectare plot of land twice a year. Before, we relied solely on rain to irrigate our land. We could only produce pearl millet during the rainy season, and could not grow any crops during the dry season. This year, we used water from the pond to cultivate mustard and chickpeas. Now we have become more resilient."

Lavi is a beneficiary of our project empowering women farmers in India

### IDA ROSIDA

COFFEE SMALLHOLDER FARMER, TRIBUDI SYUKUR VILLAGE, WEST LAMPUNG, INDONESIA



[Discover more](#)

#### IMPROVED FARM MANAGEMENT

"Last year, I participated in the training provided by the Foundation because I wanted to improve my knowledge of coffee farming and earn additional income for my family, as my farm is suffering from climate change and my coffee yield has decreased. Thanks to the training, I now have access to information about coffee quality and farm management. I have implemented all the recommendations I was given to become a successful farmer!"

Ida is benefitting from our sustainable coffee program in Indonesia

### ROSA MAYOL

SMALLHOLDER POULTRY PRODUCER, GENERAL PINEDO, EL CHACO, ARGENTINA



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#### STARTING A SMALL AGRIBUSINESS

"On my farm, I raise and fatten organic chickens, which are more rustic, resist high temperatures and adapt very well to this area. Also, they taste like home-bred country chickens and my clients always ask me for those. Because of the flood, I lost all my animals and crops, but with the Foundation's financial help and the team's support, I was able to get ahead and now have a small flock of 80 organic chickens again. This year, I am going to continue and work hard so that my farm can get bigger!"

Rosa is a beneficiary of our family farming project in Argentina

### MAMAN YEO

SMALLHOLDER FARMER GROUP PRESIDENT, ZEMOGOKAHA VILLAGE, PORO REGION, CÔTE D'IVOIRE



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#### DIVERSIFYING PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

"In our village, we did not use to eat zucchini or cucumbers. We thought they were only for those living in the city – the rich people. Thanks to the Foundation's project, we now understand the nutritious benefits of eating a variety of vegetables. Our group now grows rice and corn during the rainy season, and cucumbers, zucchini and okra in the off-season. These vegetables are not easy to find at the market, which is an opportunity and represents an additional source of income for us."

Maman is benefiting from our project to transform rural communities through empowering women farmers in Côte d'Ivoire



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# Success Stories *continued*

## Meet our farmer and student beneficiaries

### ALY BAYAGO

2ND YEAR STUDENT AT CFAR,  
M'BENGUE, PORO REGION,  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

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#### BECOMING A MODERN FARMER

"Prior to studying at CFAR, I was a delivery boy. It was my father, who is a farmer, who heard about CFAR – and since I like working with him, I decided to join the school. At first, training and living at the school was difficult, but now CFAR feels like home. I like the mix of theoretical and practical training, and the fact that the trainers are always available to help us. I have also realized how important it is to know about production management and productivity. After graduation, I want to specialize in chicken breeding and would like to have my own farm. My father is already helping me to find some land."

Aly is studying in the Agricultural training center of Niofoin (CFAR) supported by LDF

### RODOLFO GONZALES GALARZA

2018 GRADUATE FROM THE  
AGRI-SCHOOL IN COCHABAMBA,  
BOLIVIA

Discover more 




#### DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

"Originally from a farming family, I started my studies at the agricultural school to gain knowledge on modern farming and develop entrepreneurship skills. After graduation, with the support of my wife, we started our business and we are currently producing vegetables, flowers and agricultural inputs such as seeds and bio-fertilizers. When developing my project, I put into action all the agricultural training I got at the school to ensure my project's profitability and improved yields. To achieve this, I also introduced improvements into the water irrigation system and constructed a water pond equipped with the geomembrane. My school financially supported me to realize these improvements by allocating the credit from its revolving fund dedicated to students' and graduates' support."

Rodolfo is a graduate of the Cochabamba agricultural vocational school supported by LDF

### CATHERINE NYANJALA & JOEL KAGHALHAMIRE,

COFFEE SMALLHOLDER FARMERS,  
RWENZORI MOUNTAINS, UGANDA

Discover more 




#### IMPROVED COFFEE PRODUCTION

"Since joining the project in 2019, we have both learned a lot about coffee rejuvenation and agroforestry methods. For instance, we started to plant banana trees giving temporary shade for coffee and vanilla plants on our plot of land, which is now always cool and better adapted to dry spells. We also use bananas for food. Instead of fertilizers, we now produce our own compost, which is better for our land and helps us reduce production costs. We started to notice changes in our coffee yields: weight per bag of coffee is increasing, a sign that the cherries grew larger."

Catherine and Joel benefited from our agroforestry project in Uganda

### TEREFE TEMAMO

SMALLHOLDER FARMER, HODA  
VILLAGE, SNNP REGION, ETHIOPIA

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#### LAND AND SOIL CONSERVATION

"I have a tiny steep parcel of land that suffers from severe degradation and poor soil quality. The project helped me to construct the anti-erosive structures planted with fodder grasses. Over time, this helped to create terraces protecting the land. We use the fodder grasses to feed the cattle and now spend less money on forage. I also introduced leguminous species that have significantly improved the soil fertility and the health of my animals and milk production, as these grasses fix nitrogen and are rich in protein, which is good for animals. I am pretty impressed with the results: 10m of hedges bring more than 20kg of fresh fodder per cut!"

Terefe is a beneficiary of our Farmers' Resilience project in Ethiopia



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## Strategic focus

# Tackling yield gaps for palm in Indonesia and rice in Côte d'Ivoire



**DENNY TURINO**  
FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTOR AND  
PALM OIL SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER  
AT LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY:

*"We contribute to the development of an inclusive value chain and sustainable palm oil production systems of smallholder farmers to increase their income and boost economic activity and growth in rural communities."*

**20%**  
AVERAGE  
INCREASE  
IN PALM OIL  
YIELD AND  
INCOME  
EXPECTED



## WHY

Independent smallholders often face low crop productivity, mainly as a result of limited access to information, technical assistance and training.

In **INDONESIA**, the productivity of small-scale palm farms is estimated to be 35%<sup>5</sup> below that of a plantation applying good agricultural practices.

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, yields are negatively impacted by lack of quality seeds and other production inputs, adequate equipment, limited mechanization and poor post-harvest handling.

<sup>5</sup> SNV's data, 2017

## OUR ACTIONS

### Sustainable palm oil project

**PRODUCT:** Palm

**LOCATIONS:** South Sumatra and Lampung provinces, Indonesia

**DURATION:** 2019-22

**PARTNER:** SNV

**BENEFICIARIES:** 1,013



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### Enhancing rice production

**PRODUCT:** Rice

**LOCATION:** Boundiali, northern Côte d'Ivoire

**DURATION:** 2018-21

**PARTNER:** FairMatch Support

**BENEFICIARIES:** 3,054



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## Strategic focus

# Tackling yield gaps for palm in Indonesia and rice in Côte d'Ivoire continued

### WHAT

The projects aim to help smallholders improve their production yields through access to information, technology and quality agricultural inputs.

In **INDONESIA**, the project run in partnership with SNV focuses on assisting independent smallholder farmers in achieving certification through the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).

**76%**  
INCREASE IN  
RICE YIELDS  
OBSERVED  
IN CÔTE  
D'IVOIRE

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, the project run in partnership with FairMatch Support helped smallholders transition from subsistence to small-scale commercial farming, by giving them market access through the implementation of a sustainable supply chain.

### HOW

The project in **INDONESIA** focuses on providing training in better management practices to help farmers improve the yields of existing plantations while minimizing deforestation, by selecting high yield tree varieties.

Setting up cooperatives helps to improve efficiency and create economies of scale, thanks to financial and organizational management training, effective supply chains and facilitated communication on sustainability standards. Lastly, group sustainability certification and internal control systems are designed so that smallholders are better prepared to achieve certification, thus gaining access to markets.


In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, the project provided agricultural support and training to improve crop productivity and quality.


10 organizations received cooperative training so that they could play a pivotal role in professionalizing the rice sector through better access to finance, improved seed access and mechanization. The project also aimed to build a more integrated supply chain by connecting producers with local processors, and by coaching farmers with regard to contracts, logistics and volume negotiation for better access to markets.

## RESULTS AND IMPACT


In **INDONESIA**, the project led to RSPO certification for a first cooperative in July 2020, guaranteeing that no project beneficiaries are involved in deforestation.


 **1,013**  
farmers trained

 **51**  
training sessions / workshops

 **20%**  
on average expected increase in yield and income

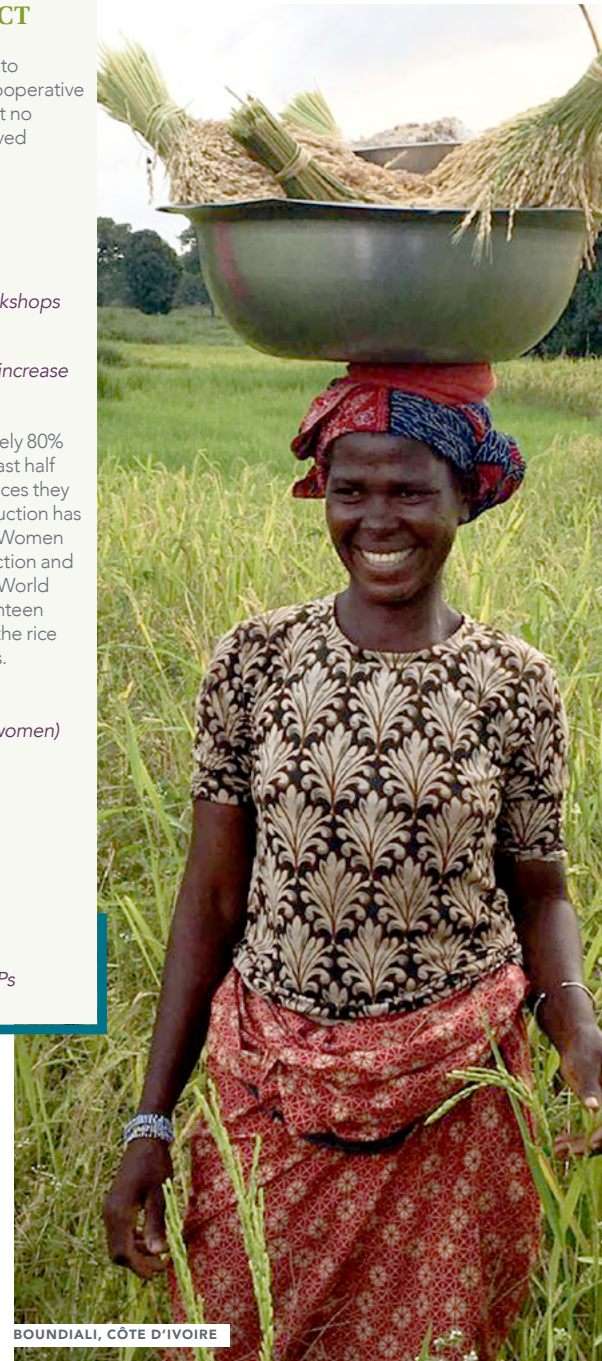
In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, approximately 80% of farmers have adopted at least half of the good agricultural practices they were trained in, and rice production has seen a 76% increase in yields. Women groups improved their production and revenues, and supported the World Food Programme's school canteen program by donating 50% of the rice produced on communal fields.

 **3,054**  
farmers trained (43% women)

 **+76%**  
productivity increase vs baseline

 **80%**  
cooperatives with improved practices

 **42%** of farmers applying 75-100% GAPs



BOUNDIALI, CÔTE D'IVOIRE



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## Strategic focus

# Promoting Family Farming



**LAURA THAVONAT**  
FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTOR  
AND ORIENTATION MANAGER  
FOR ARGENTINA AT  
LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY:

*"We help farmers to diversify food crops, sharing knowledge on good nutritional practices that can contribute to healthier, more balanced diets in farming communities."*

**112**  
FARMING  
FAMILIES  
SUPPORTED



## WHY

In the poorest regions of Brazil and Argentina, families' livelihoods depend mainly on farming, yet smallholder farmers lack financial resources and training to improve their yields and diversify their production, impairing food security, revenue generation and health conditions.

In **BRAZIL'S** Tapajós river region, the population lives off farming but lacks financial resources to improve production, as well as basic health, education and sanitation facilities.

In El Chaco, **ARGENTINA**, smallholder producers have limited to no access to credit and technical training, and struggle to be self-sufficient.

The Covid-19 pandemic has made family farms even more vulnerable, exacerbating an already fragile socio-economic situation.

## OUR ACTIONS

### Family farming in the Brazilian Amazon

**PRODUCTS:** Livestock, artisanal aquaculture, horticulture, manioc

**LOCATION:** Tapajós river region, Brazil

**DURATION:** 2018-2021

**PARTNER:** Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM)

**BENEFICIARIES:** 197 family members



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### Enhancing family production in El Chaco

**PRODUCTS:** Livestock, horticulture

**LOCATION:** El Chaco, Argentina

**DURATION:** 2019-2021

**PARTNER:** Fundación "Aquí es"

**BENEFICIARIES:** over 200 family members



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# Strategic focus

## Promoting Family Farming

### continued

#### WHAT

The projects focus on improving family incomes and living conditions through technical assistance, provision of equipment and training related to production and health matters.

Microcredit is also part of the project in **ARGENTINA**, as a way to empower smallholder farmers and help them start or improve production.

**7**  
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS DEVELOPED IN BRAZIL

#### SUSANA RAC

FUNDACIÓN "AQUÍ ES":

"This is a very important project for this farming community in El Chaco, as it helps to develop the production capacities of small farmers and improve their production infrastructure, which are both key for the sustainable future of these families."

Discover more about Fundación "Aquí es" [↗](#)

#### HOW

In **BRAZIL**, technical assistance and provision of agricultural inputs and equipment allow farming families to strengthen their production.

The project focuses on empowering farming families, who work alongside technicians to renovate and construct production facilities. Assistance on farm economics and cost management is also provided.

In **ARGENTINA**, the emphasis is on training farmers on topics related to production, helping them to adopt more efficient production methods and develop management and financial skills, while families receive training on personal care and hygiene by doctors, nutritionists and nurses.

#### RESULTS AND IMPACT


In **BRAZIL** the project allows for the diversification of production and crops cultivated by farmers, including artisanal fishing, sheep and poultry breeding, and the production of manioc flour and its by-products, and horticulture. The involvement of families alongside technicians in renovating the facilities contributes to building a sense of ownership for the project.

 **59**  
families supported

 **202**  
individual training sessions organized

In **ARGENTINA** farmers have started to become more independent in managing their production and improving yields. 70% achieved significant progress in production sales and generated additional income. Families underwent medical check-ups and vaccination, were informed about family violence and conflict mitigation, and in some cases are accompanied by professional psychologists.

 **56**  
families supported

 **28**  
individual or small group training sessions organized

 **70%**  
of families generated additional income



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# Strategic focus

## Sustainability Through Agroforestry



**CHARLOTTE GUIBBAUD NAVAUD**  
FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTOR AND  
COFFEE SUSTAINABLE COORDINATOR  
FOR ASIA & AFRICA AT  
LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY:

*"Focused on regions where agriculture is affected by poor soils and degraded ecosystems, our work supports farmers by training them on sustainable agricultural and agroforestry practices to combat climate change, regenerate ecosystems and ultimately increase the production."*

**22.7%**  
COFFEE  
PRODUCTIVITY  
INCREASE IN  
INDONESIA



### WHY

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the world's forests have shrunk by about 20%, while in Sumatra, Indonesia, 50% of the tropical rainforest has disappeared<sup>6</sup>.

In **SUMATRA** as in the Sidama Region of **ETHIOPIA** and the Rwenzori mountains of **UGANDA**, coffee is a significant source of revenue.

Combined with over-exploitation of soils and unsustainable agricultural practices such as full-sun coffee growing and overuse of chemical inputs, deforestation contributes to land degradation, exacerbates the impacts of climate change, decreases coffee yields and ultimately leaves farmers in a very vulnerable position.

### OUR ACTIONS

#### Agroforestry and Coffee Rejuvenation Program

**PRODUCT:** Coffee  
**LOCATION:** Sumatra Island, Indonesia  
**DURATION:** Ongoing since 2014  
**PARTNER:** PUR Projet  
**BENEFICIARIES:** 14,800 farmers



[Discover more](#)

#### East Africa Sustainable Coffee Program

**PRODUCT:** Coffee  
**LOCATIONS:** Sidama region, Ethiopia and Rwenzori mountains, Uganda  
**DURATION:** Ongoing since 2015  
**PARTNER:** PUR Projet  
**BENEFICIARIES:** 4,200 farmers



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6. PUR Projet's data, 2017

# Strategic focus Sustainability Through Agroforestry *continued*

## WHAT

These projects aim to promote sustainable farming practices amongst coffee smallholders, to increase yields and incomes through agroforestry and training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).

Agroforestry helps to preserve and regenerate the coffee ecosystem, while improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers thanks to revenue diversification.

**223,183**  
TREES  
PLANTED  
IN 2020

### NADINE STUEBER

PROGRAM OFFICER, PUR PROJET:

*“Every part of a tree helps restore the ecosystem. The leaves protect the soil from heavy rains and wind, thereby reducing soil erosion. The roots help the soil to absorb more water during heavy rains, while preventing nitrates from being washed off. The soil structure is also stabilized by the tree’s deep root system, helping to prevent landslides.”*

[Discover more about PUR Projet](#)

## HOW

The projects focus on helping farmers to plant fruit, timber and shade trees.

This has multiple benefits: shading coffee trees to protect them from the sun, helping restore biodiversity and increasing resilience to climate change impacts. **Tree planting also provides additional revenue streams and food sources for farmers**, contributing to improved diets and greater food security.

The projects also address farmers’ lack of knowledge on sustainable agricultural practices for coffee, thanks to a comprehensive training curriculum covering topics from land preparation to post-harvest practices. GAP training helps farmers to become more resilient to climate change, improve their coffee yields and quality, and ultimately increase their revenues. In **ETHIOPIA**, agroforestry and GAP training were complemented by the construction of efficient cookstoves to reduce wood consumption.

## RESULTS AND IMPACT

In **INDONESIA**, the impact study highlighted farmers’ high level of knowledge on coffee sustainability practices and acute perception of the benefits of applying GAPs and agroforestry at their farms. Following project implementation, coffee yields increased by 22.7%.

**450**  
farmers trained on GAPs

**110,000**  
trees planted by 539 farmers

**13,614 t**  
CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration potential

In **ETHIOPIA** improved cooking stoves implemented reduced fuelwood consumption by 54%, led to income savings of up to 21% and allowed women to save up to 4 hours daily, as they spend less time looking for wood and can cook quicker.

**43,183**  
trees planted by 437 farmers

**100**  
improved cookstoves constructed

**7,851 t**  
CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration potential

In **UGANDA** the project implemented 4 community nurseries, which already supplied 30,000 tree seedlings for farmers in 2020, and registered the record low mortality rate of 11% for trees planted in 2018 and 2019.

**401**  
farmers trained on GAPs

**70,000**  
trees planted by 517 farmers

**15,556 t**  
CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration potential



RWENZORI MOUNTAINS, UGANDA [Discover more](#)

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## Strategic focus

# Empowering Women Farmers



### WHY

Women smallholder farmers play a vital role in agricultural production and represent more than 40% of the agricultural workforce in developing countries<sup>7</sup>.

Yet they are disadvantaged compared to men, in terms of access to economic resources, and most particularly land. This limits their ability to produce food and generate revenue, hindering their families' food security, health and access to education.

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, women smallholders own less than 10% of available land though they account for 90% of the agricultural workforce<sup>8</sup>. Here and in **INDIA'S** Rajasthan region, this situation is exacerbated by limited access to inputs and reliable sources of water, and by the prevailing patriarchal culture.

7. International Labour Organization, 2019

8. WFP, 2019



**VIVEK SARASWAT**  
FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTOR AND HEAD OF OPERATIONS  
FOR INDIA AT LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY:

*"We support the most vulnerable smallholder women farmers through technical assistance and training on good agricultural practices, in order to boost their productivity, crop quality and incomes sustainably. As a result of our activities, women earn more income which enables them to change their social status and be more involved in decision-making in a society where women are marginalized."*

**22%**  
PRODUCTIVITY  
INCREASE  
OBSERVED  
IN INDIA

### OUR ACTIONS

#### Enhancing food security and income of women farmers

**PRODUCTS:** Grains and vegetables

**LOCATION:** Tonk district, Rajasthan, India

**DURATION:** 2020-2021

**PARTNER:** Centre for microFinance (CmF)

**BENEFICIARIES:** 4,000 women farmers



[Discover more](#)

#### Transforming rural communities by empowering women

**PRODUCTS:** Grains and vegetables

**LOCATION:** Northern Côte d'Ivoire

**DURATION:** 2019-2021

**PARTNER:** World Food Programme (WFP)

**BENEFICIARIES:** 2,289 women farmers



[Discover more](#)



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# Strategic focus Empowering Women Farmers *continued*

## WHAT


These projects focus on empowering women by training them in good agricultural practices, helping them to gain confidence, access land and participate in decision-making, and ultimately achieve greater food security and increased incomes.

**3,367**  
WOMEN  
SUPPORTED  
IN 2020 IN  
INDIA AND  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

### VIPIN GUPTA

FOUNDATION AGENT AND CEO FOR INDIA  
AT LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY:

*"Rural women in India – and across the globe – are the backbone of agriculture and the guardians of household food security in their communities. They are vital contributors to sustainable and robust supply chains as smallholder farmers."*

Discover more 

## HOW

In **INDIA**, the project supports the creation of women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of 10 to 20 women, to facilitate access to credit for group members, as SHGs are connected with banks and receive training on finance literacy.

The project also strives to improve the agricultural knowledge and production skills of women smallholder farmers, with a focus on low-cost, preferably organic methods, water harvesting and crop diversification.

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, the project aims to give women improved access to land, train them on climate-smart agricultural practices and provide them with inputs and equipment for crop harvesting and storage.

Facilitating supply of food to school canteens and improving post-harvest handling are also important pillars of the project.

## RESULTS AND IMPACT

In **INDIA**, the project built 5 water harvesting systems and resulted in the creation of 20 SHGs with access to credit. 2,354 farmers were trained in good agricultural practices, and 500 on bio-compost production. More than 200 started cultivating vegetables. As a result, farmers' incomes increased by at least 18.5% and productivity by 22%, while food security also improved.

 **2,354**  
farmers supported  
(100% women)

 **1,190ha**  
of crops farmed

 **22%**  
productivity increase

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, farmer groups improved their capacity to grow quality, diversified and nutritious local crops, for both consumption and sale. Processing and marketing capabilities were also strengthened to limit post-harvest losses and increase revenues. Farmer groups were also able to supply 20 local school canteens with 15 tons of food, feeding more than 4,700 children.

 **2,289**  
beneficiaries

 **733 t**  
of crops produced

 **20**  
school canteens supplied  
by farmer groups



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Strategic focus

# Training Future Generations



**ROBERT SERPOLLET**  
GENERAL MANAGER,  
LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION:

*"Determined to promote an inclusive learning environment and give young women access to opportunities in farming, our agricultural vocational schools earmark a minimum 30% of school places for female students."*

**30%+**  
FEMALE  
STUDENTS

[Discover more](#)



## WHY

With strong economic growth and insufficient opportunities in the country's manufacturing and service industries, the participation of youth in agriculture is a key challenge in Côte d'Ivoire, where youths from rural areas are increasingly leaving their villages due to a lack of work and future prospects.

Despite agriculture being a key pillar of the Ivorian economy, agricultural training is scarce and young adults lack support for agricultural projects.

In **BOLIVIA'S** Cochabamba valley, where 95% of the population lives off subsistence farming<sup>9</sup>, poverty is rampant, and illiteracy and limited access to vocational training hinder opportunities for young people to sustain themselves.

<sup>9</sup> Fundación Cristo Vive's data

## OUR ACTIONS

### Agricultural training center of Niofoin (CFAR)

**LOCATION:** Niofoin, Côte d'Ivoire  
**DURATION:** 2019-2024  
**PARTNER:** Fert  
**BENEFICIARIES:** 180 students



[Discover more](#)

### Cochabamba agricultural vocational school

**LOCATION:** Bella Vista, Bolivia  
**DURATION:** 2016-2022  
**PARTNER:** Fundación Cristo Vive  
**BENEFICIARIES:** 249 students



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# Strategic focus

## Training Future Generations

### continued

#### WHAT

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, the Foundation helped to establish the agricultural training center of Niofoin (CFAR) to train future generations of farmers on sustainable and innovative agricultural methods, contribute to the development of the agricultural sector and thus create the conditions for sustainable livelihoods.

In **BOLIVIA**, the Foundation supports Cochabamba Agricultural School, which offers a technical education program in agriculture.

**429**  
STUDENTS  
TO BE  
SUPPORTED  
BY 2024

**CINTIA SORO**  
DIRECTOR OF THE CFAR:

*"The center is a real opportunity for these young people. Our education program provides a different perspective on farming and trains young people in modern agriculture."*

[Discover more about CFAR](#)

#### HOW

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, 60 students (including 22 girls) are following a two-year program combining theoretical and practical agricultural training but also general education such as economics, agronomy, mathematics and computer science and nutrition, hygiene and health matters.

Students also have access to an educational farm that serves as a demonstration site for food crops and pig, sheep and broiler breeding. This allows students to acquire the multidisciplinary competences and skills required for successful farming, including crop and livestock management, and mitigation of technical and market risks that could hinder the farm's sustainability.

Students are supported throughout the curriculum by a pedagogical team of four trainers, and a person in charge of post-training support facilitates graduates' self-employment and development of agricultural activities through technical assistance, development of leadership skills and facilitation of connections with service providers.

In **BOLIVIA**, the school focuses on practical knowledge and skills to encourage entrepreneurship, and created a revolving fund to help recent graduates set up their agricultural business.

#### RESULTS AND IMPACT

In **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**, 60 students studied at the school in 2020. The project registered a 100% attendance rate, with a drop-out rate of only 6%. 30 students also completed an internship, in line with targets.

**60**  
students  
(30% of whom female)

**100%**  
attendance rate

In **BOLIVIA**, Cochabamba Agricultural School is recognized by the country's education authorities as delivering a certificate equivalent to an academic diploma. In 2020, the institution trained 79 students.

**57**  
students  
(65% of whom female)

**91%**  
of graduates now work  
in agriculture



CÔTE D'IVOIRE [Discover more](#)



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## Strategic focus

# Addressing Pressing Emergencies



In 2020, Burkina Faso continued to face an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, with over 3.5 million people in need of urgent assistance, of whom 1 million were forcefully displaced.

Over 20,000 schools closed as a result of the Covid-19 crisis, and over 2,000 remained closed due to growing insecurity in the country. The risk of a lost generation receiving no formal education and facing malnutrition requires emergency action.

In this context, the Foundation contributed funding to the World Food Programme's Emergency School Feeding program. Despite adverse conditions, the program provided emergency aid to 37,800 children, and the Foundation's contribution financed over 100 metric tons of corn soya blend, vegetable oil and rice for 25,000 children, helping to reduce malnutrition.

In ETHIOPIA, several regions have been hit by a disastrous desert locust plague which has destroyed crops, pasture and grassland, and the population faces high levels of food insecurity as a result.

The United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization is involved in supporting the Ethiopian government and providing assistance to 70,000 households in affected areas, including 6,100 in the Amhara region, 900 of whom were supported by the Foundation's contribution. Funding seed packages for farmers helped to mitigate food insecurity, while cash contributions supported farmers' immediate needs and provided a financial cushion in difficult economic conditions, exacerbated by Covid-19. Beneficiaries also received training on good agricultural practices and cash utilization.

[Discover more](#)



CAMBODIA was severely hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, which direly affected its two main industries: tourism and textiles.

Many Cambodians lost their only source of revenue, a particularly devastating situation in poor, rural parts of the country, where the population faces unemployment, food shortages and rising food prices. The Foundation helped to finance Smiling Gecko Cambodia's emergency support program supporting 300 farming families (representing 1,200 children and 600 adults), supplying them with food, sanitation kits and medical care. 900 food packages including vegetables, fish, meat, rice and soap were distributed to cover needs for a period of three months, and medical checks-up were performed.

[Discover more](#)

27,000  
PEOPLE  
RECEIVED  
LDF-  
SUPPORTED  
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FOOD  
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WFP

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# Partnership with Louis Dreyfus Company

Our projects are implemented in close collaboration with Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC), and benefit from the local knowledge, technical expertise and management skills of LDC employees.

The support of LDC's network of experts and volunteers was essential to the smooth operation and success of Foundation's projects in 2020, in a particularly challenging context.

Thank you to all the contributors!

## EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

**ANNE ADHIAMBO HYIMO**  
Junior Trader, Uganda

**SAMUEL BANYENZAKI**  
Agronomist, Uganda

**KARIM BARSOUM**  
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Coffee Sustainability Coordinator for Asia and Africa, Indonesia

**VIPIN GUPTA**  
Foundation Agent and Country CEO, India

**JOYCE JIAO**  
Foundation Agent and Head of Corporate Affairs for North Asia, China

**RUBENS MARQUES**  
Foundation Agent and Country CEO, Indonesia

**VIVEK SARASWAT**  
Country Head of Operations, India

**DESMOND SIMARMATA**  
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**MUHAMMAD TAUFIQURAHMAN**  
Agronomist, Indonesia

**ROBERTUS TRIHASTOAJI**  
Agronomist, Indonesia

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Agronomist, Colombia

**TATIANA DER**  
Financial Manager, Brazil

**MAYARA GOMES**  
Sustainability Coordinator, Brazil

**GUSTAVO HORACIO RANOVSKY**  
International Execution Manager for Latin America, Argentina

**FERNANDA MARQUES**  
Trainee, Brazil

**MURILO PARADA**  
Foundation Agent and Head of North Latin America Region, Brazil

**DAMIEN ROY**  
Foundation Agent and Regional Head of Operations and IT, USA

**PALOMA SILVA**  
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**LAURA THAVONAT**  
Origination Manager, Argentina

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International Execution Specialist, Argentina

**LUIS ZUBIZARRETA**  
Foundation Agent and Head of Corporate Affairs for South & West Latin America, Argentina



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# Governance

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is a company foundation operating under French law, with its registered office based in Paris.

## The Board

The Board takes all decisions in the interest of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation. The Board members approve the endowment budget, assess programs and projects, validate the Foundation's strategy and oversee all of its efforts and activities.

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### MRS. MARGARITA LOUIS-DREYFUS

- President, Louis Dreyfus Foundation
- Chairperson of the Supervisory Board, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.
- Non-Executive Chairperson of the Supervisory Board, Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

#### MR. JEAN-PIERRE BECHTER

- Supervisory Board member, Dassault Group
- Board member, Le Figaro

#### MR. MEHDI EL GLAOU

- Supervisory Board member, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V. and Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

#### MRS. FRANZISKA HILDEBRAND ALBERTI

- Partner, P&O Personnel and Organisational Development
- Board member, Fundación Cristo Vive Switzerland

#### MR. MAURICE KREFT

- Executive Board member, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V. and Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

- Former Board member, European Forest Resources Group

#### MRS. YULIA LEVIN

- Supervisory Board member, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.
- Former Board member, European Forest Resources Group

## The Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee advises the Board on projects that the Foundation could support. Members are individuals selected for their experience and their ability to take the Foundation forward.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### DR. ALOK ADHOLEYA

- Senior Director, Sustainable Agriculture Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

#### MR. ERIK ANDERSON

- Former CEO North America and former Senior Platform Head Grains & Macro, Louis Dreyfus Company

#### DR. CHRISTOPHER GIBBS

- Independent consultant in agriculture and rural development
- Former staff member of the Ford Foundation, the Aga Khan Foundation and the World Bank

#### DR. PETER HAZELL

- Independent researcher
- Former Director of the Development Strategy and Governance Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- Visiting Professor, Imperial College London (2005-2012)

#### MRS. SARAH HOBSON

- Executive Director, West Marin Fund
- Former Head of Strategic Grantmaking and Movement Building, Global Fund for Women

#### PR. GILLES TRYSTRAM

- Director General, AgroParisTech

#### MR. ROBERT SERPOLLET

- General Manager, Louis Dreyfus Foundation



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THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION



# 2020 Financial Information

## Summarized statement of income and expenditure

From 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

	€ At 31/12/2020	€ At 31/12/2019
<b>INCOMES (LEGACIES AND GIFTS)</b>	<b>3,722,142</b>	<b>3,888,115</b>
Grants paid for projects and envelopes voted in 2020	986,244	1,193,276
Grants to be paid for projects and envelopes voted in 2020	2,432,406	2,327,505
Other costs and external expenses	333,365	344,877
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,752,015</b>	<b>3,865,658</b>
<b>OPERATING RESULT</b>	<b>-29,873</b>	<b>22,457</b>
Financial income		581
Financial expenses	7,158	
<b>FINANCIAL RESULTS</b>	<b>-7,158</b>	<b>581</b>
<b>RECURRING INCOME</b>	<b>-37,031</b>	<b>23,038</b>



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# Louis Dreyfus

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## PHOTO CREDITS

- Centre for microFinance
- China Education Support Project
- FairMatch Support
- Fert
- Fundación "Aqui Es"
- Fundación Cristo Vive
- Institut européen de coopération et de développement (IECD)
- Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM)
- Louis Dreyfus Company
- PUR Projet
- SNV
- Springboard
- Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust
- World Food Programme