



LITTLE BLUE RESEARCH CASE STUDY

Developing a social impact assessment – a scoping exercise

Client: Leading food and agriculture business

Client size: 80,000+ employees

Little Blue Research undertook a scoping assessment for a leading food and agriculture business to set out the steps required to undertake a social capital assessment for its cotton supply chain in Africa

Service: Impact & dependency

Capital: SOCIAL | HUMAN

Assessment location: Africa

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Case study details

Client need

The client requested technical support to scope a project identifying possible next steps to better understand their material social impacts of cotton production in Africa. This project provided an opportunity for the client to identify data needed to value the social impact across the product's value-chain.

The project included detailed impact mapping, research and analysis of the client's currently available data and additional data needs.

The challenge

- Identifying social impacts and dependencies of the cotton supply chain.
- Identifying inputs and projects that have a social impact across the supply chain.
- Reviewing current data collection and identifying relevant data gaps for social impact assessment.
- Producing a detailed summary of social impact indicators, examples of required detail and caveats.
- Conducting research into health impact, farmer training valuation, and, disease and medical treatment valuation.
- Valuing health impacts relating to provision of hospital services.



Outputs and results

- ✓ Detailed impact mapping for key impact areas of the cotton supply chain.
- ✓ Social impact data gap analysis summary.
- ✓ Final scoping report document detailing recommendations and next steps for a future social capital assessment.
- ✓ Implementing pilot approaches and developing case studies relating to pilot valuation data for farmer training, health impact and interest rate savings for microfinance associated with supply chain management for cotton production in Africa.

What happened next

This is the start of the client's social impact journey, which has already been extended to include the development of health valuation and case studies.

This scoping assessment provided an initial indicative approach for undertaking a social valuation for aspects of the cotton supply chain in Africa. The proposed methods now need to be refined and data collection enhanced in future.



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