

Project title : CLIMATE SMART CASHEW - Agronomic tests on the Biochar benefits in Mozambique

Project place	Project cost	Role in the project	Technical and financial sponsors	Dates
Mozambique	21 000 USD	Coordination	ETG - Export Trading Group, Africa Agriculture and Trade Investment Fund - AATIF, Norwegian University of Life Sciences - NMBU	December 2023 - December 2025

Project's goals and results

Main goals

Assess the benefits of Biochar application on the growth and mortality of cashew seedlings during the plantation of a new cashew orchard, as well as on the productivity of annual food crop (cassava) cultivated in association with new cashew trees. The biochar is made from the carbonization of cashew nut shells

Specific objectives

SO1. Definition and implementation of an experimental protocol in a farming environment, on sandy soils with 4 treatments for cassava (control, biochar, biochar + NPK, NPK) and 4 treatments for cashew seedlings (control, biochar, biochar + EM [®]™, EM [®]™). EM are a combination of beneficial micro-organisms: bacteria, yeasts, fungi.

SO2. Evaluate the impact of biochar on water retention and the effect of combining biochar with mineral fertilisers and with the addition of microorganisms in the soil on the mortality and growth of cashew trees and on cassava production.

Beneficiaries

Results

R1. Implementation of the protocol on 4 plots of 0.5 ha

R2. Comparison of cashew tree mortality and growth according to the different treatments

R3. Comparison of cassava production according to the different treatments

Activities

A1. Definition and drafting of the protocol with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences

A2. Implementation and monitoring of the experiment

A3. Analysing the results and creating training materials on this basis