



Miller Center

for Social Entrepreneurship

Name of social enterprise: NUCAFE (The National Union of Coffee Agribusinesses and Farm Enterprises)

Mission statement: To establish a sustainable market-driven system of coffee farmer enterprises and organizations, which are empowered to increase their household incomes through enhanced entrepreneurship and innovation.

Webpage: <http://www.nucafe.org/>

GSBI 2016 business plan presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OpzxnVk7mY>

Headquarters: Kampala, Uganda

Location(s) of research: Uganda

Prior GSBF action research projects

2018 <https://www.millersocent.org/portfolio/nucafe/>

2019 <https://www.millersocent.org/portfolio/nucafe-2/>

Regardless of the pandemic, the fellowship will run in 2021. We have designed 2021 action research projects to be conducted via remote engagement (e.g., via Zoom) without the immersive component of travel to the field. All applicants should enter and proceed through the application process with the assumption that no international field placements are currently planned. For more information, please attend a GSBF info session.

Background: The National Union of Coffee Agribusinesses and Farm Enterprises (NUCAFE) established a Farmer Ownership Model that builds the capacity of farmers to own their coffee through the value chain. This allows them to remain in charge of their own affairs and be responsible for their own actions but work in partnership with other stakeholders as facilitators. NUCAFE advances its mission by teaching the Farmer Ownership Model, which economically empowers smallholder farmers, and helps them foster gender-inclusive and climate-smart agriculture. NUCAFE hosted Global Social Benefit Fellows in 2018 and 2019, and has mentored Catholic Sisters in launching their own coffee social enterprises, as part of the Sisters Blended Value Project (see <https://www.millersocent.org/sisters-blended-value-project/>). NUCAFE has requested Miller Center's help in designing, revising and elaborating its training curriculum to reach beyond the coffee value chain, and beyond Uganda. It is launching a training center as a regional agro-entrepreneurial training hub, and is strengthening its curriculum to help youth and women to become more employable and to launch their own enterprises.

The challenge: To work collaboratively with NUCAFE to review, revise, improve, and evaluate its training program.

Action research products needed:

1. A curriculum training tool kit that fosters agro-ecological and gender inclusive entrepreneurship-led rural prosperity.

Student skills needed: Curriculum design, learning assessment, cross-cultural interviewing skills, sustainable agriculture, and excellence in writing.

Keywords: entrepreneurship training materials, sustainable agriculture, coffee as a global commodity, farmer field schools, farmer training.

