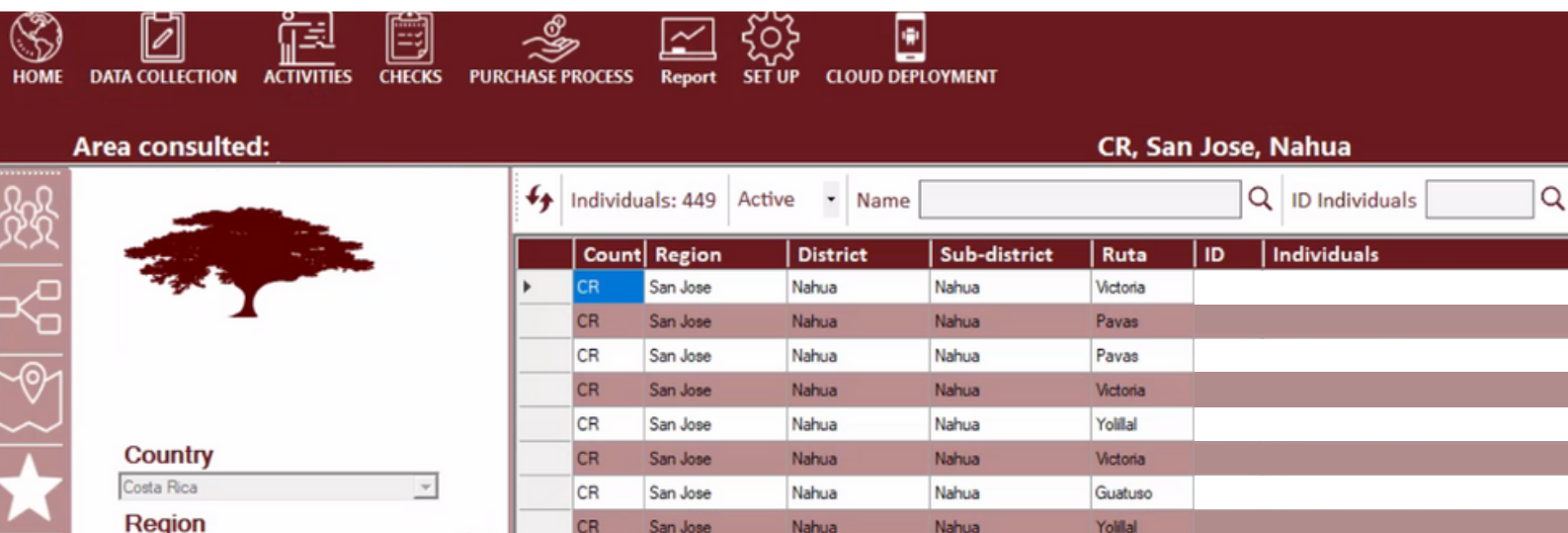


# COCOA TECH BRIDGE

Project partners: Läderach, Farmstrong Foundation, Nahua Cacao & Chocolate  
Co-financed by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)



April 2019 - December 2021

Together with its projects partners, Läderach has developed a reliable mobile application, the Cocoa Tech Bridge, which aims to enhance traceability in the cocoa value chain.

Farmers who register in the tool receive an ID card, allowing a clear identification. The ID card facilitates information collection as the code is scanned or the number typed in, respectively (depending on the reading device) and linked to the farmer profile, created at the backend of the app. The tool allows to digitally trace to cocoa procurement, processing and shipment from origin to Switzerland.

The cocoa is loaded into containers and shipped to the warehouse of Läderach (Switzerland) AG in Amsterdam. One container holds 12.5 metric tons and consists of multiple batches from several buying routes. The batches are marked with a unique code allowing identification and the granularity of traceability is not changed.

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS & LESSONS LEARNED

- Over the course of the project, information of 291 farmers has been collected through the app.
- A big achievement which facilitates the implementation of the app is that it **works off-grid**. The gathered information is stored on the phone until the users reach a network, from where the information is uploaded to the cloud.
- The Cocoa Tech Bridge is a working tool, which requires a certain degree of training. Therefore, **trainings and guidelines are needed** for those users who are collecting information and doing the transaction, as well as training of users who are accessing the aggregated information, running analytics, and deriving conclusion.
- Collecting and processing the baseline information amounts to a big workload. However, this workload significantly reduces within the day-to-day use of the app.
- The **question of ownership and privacy of the farmer information** should be raised. The use of the information should be handled sensible and in accordance with the owner. This topic cannot be tackled by companies alone and should be gazette into legislation with government bodies.
- Using a single application for covering a vertical supply chain proved to be challenging. Different companies use different tools tailored to their supply chain management, value streams, capacity and needs. Therefore, the question arises about the practicability of a "one-size-fits-all" solution. Therefore, it should be explored how to channel information through an interconnective interface that can read and share information.