

# Fair News

COLOMBIA



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From the soil to the market

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**Climate-Smart and Resilient Future**

One of the most valuable lessons in business is understanding that wisdom multiplies when we listen to those who know the most. That philosophy—asking, learning, and building on collective knowledge—has guided Daabon for decades and has been especially present during the 15 years I have been leading the Group.

Today, in a world where predicting the weather is almost as difficult as predicting the geopolitical landscape—with unilateral tariffs and global tensions reshaping markets—resilience is not optional; it is the starting point. And for us, that resilience is born from a deep commitment to sustainability, understood first through organic principles and now through regenerative practices.

This year, we celebrate a significant milestone: Daabon marks 15 years as an RSPO member and certified company, a recognition that reaffirms our commitment to responsible production, transparency, and respect for the land and the communities. This journey has strengthened our conviction that sustainability is not just a concept; it is the soul of our operation.

Looking back, I feel only gratitude. Gratitude for my parents, for the foundations they gave us—principles, values, and an example of family unity that continues to guide us; gratitude for my wife, my brothers, and for my children and nieces and nephews, the new generation that is now actively involved in the day-to-day life of the organization. I am also grateful to our team members, whose discipline, talent, and commitment make everything we are possible, and of course, to our clients, with whom we have built relationships that go far beyond business.

Our expansion and consolidation over these 15 years is the result of doing things right: with rigor, with principles, and with the conviction that a company focused on contributing solutions to the world and to humanity is always on the right path. That vision is fully aligned with Daabon's deepest purpose: working for planetary health and proving that sustainability can be the engine of solid, coherent, and long-lasting business growth.

This approach becomes tangible in our regenerative agriculture practices, where we understand soil as a living organism that must be nurtured and restored. Today, we use biomass more efficiently as a source of renewable energy and as nourishment for our crops. Technologies such as biochar allow us to capture CO<sub>2</sub>, improve soil structure, and strengthen the resilience of our production systems against climate change. These advancements align us with an agricultural



*Manuel Julián Dávila, CEO Daabon Group*

model capable of regenerating ecosystems and offering real solutions to the environmental challenges of the 21st century.

We firmly believe that becoming better is what will allow us to continue growing. That is why today we speak not only of sustainability, but of regeneration: restoring soils, protecting water, promoting agricultural practices that give back more than they take, and creating value chains that generate meaningful and lasting well-being. That is the heart of Climate Smart & Resilience: anticipating, adapting, and innovating with purpose.

What lies ahead for Daabon fills me with peace and hope. The new generation—educated at some of the world's most prestigious universities and recognized with the highest distinctions—already demonstrates its capacity for leadership, its judgment, and its commitment. Knowing that they are now an active part of the Group's future is a guarantee

**“Sustainability is not just a concept; it is the soul of our operation”**

not only of stability, but of growth. The future is bright because they are already building it.

Fifteen years have passed very quickly. And to show just a small snapshot of this recent history, the last five years are enough: a period that reflects how we must act, adapt, and move forward.

If these years have taught us anything, it is that resilience is built day by day, and that the path toward climate-smart agriculture demands consistency, coherence, and long-term vision.

At Daabon, we will continue betting on exactly that: being better in order to become greater, positively transforming our surroundings, and proving that a sustainable, regenerative, and human business model is not only possible—but necessary—for the next 500 years of Santa Marta and of the world.



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**Production Vice President**

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# 15 Years of Sustainable Leadership: Daabon Group's RSPO Journey

*Carolina Torrado, Sustainability Director*

Fifteen years ago, in 2010, the Daabon Group marked a milestone for Colombia and the global palm oil industry by obtaining RSPO certification for the mill and supply base of C.I. TEQUENDAMA S.A.S., becoming the first certified palm oil company in Latin America and the second worldwide. That same year, the Group also achieved RSPO Supply Chain Certification, ensuring full traceability of palm oil from the field to the final customer.

This achievement was not an endpoint, but rather the consolidation of a way of doing business aligned with the Group's mission and vision: producing responsibly while protecting ecosystems, communities, and the future of food.

The journey began even earlier. In 2004, Daabon joined the RSPO as a member, aligning with the Roundtable's mission to promote the production and use of sustainable, deforestation-free palm oil that respects human rights.

In 2010, RSPO certification for C.I. TEQUENDAMA S.A.S. demonstrated that Daabon's corporate vision—rooted in integrity, respect, sustainability, and innovation—is fully aligned with the highest international standards. In 2017, RSPO NEXT certification for the same unit raised the bar even further, incorporating more demanding voluntary criteria related to deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, and labor rights.

Sustainable growth continued with RSPO certification of the mill and supply base of PALMA Y TRABAJO S.A.S. in 2018 and was consolidated in 2024 with the certification of PALMAS DE SAN ALBERTO S.A.S. This progress reflects a corporate strategy that integrates all agroindustrial operations under a shared purpose: contributing to the health of the planet through traceable, inclusive, and responsible value chains.

Today, after 15 years of RSPO certification, the Daabon Group reaffirms its commitment to remain a global benchmark in sustainable palm oil production, working hand in hand with partners, communities, and customers to transform the sector through transparency and coherence.



“In 2004, Daabon joined the RSPO as a member, aligning with the Roundtable's mission to promote the production and use of sustainable, deforestation-free palm oil that respects human rights”

“This achievement was not an endpoint, but rather the consolidation of a way of doing business aligned with the Group's mission and vision”

15  
YEARS  
RSPO CERTIFICATION



# Daabon is Proud to Become a Strategic Partner of the **Seed Oil Free Alliance**



**Esther Meima, Sales Director North America**

In 2025, the U.S. President established the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Commission to assess what the White House calls “America’s escalating health crisis, with an initial focus on childhood chronic diseases.” The Commission’s findings classify industrial fats from refined seed oils as “**ultra-processed fats**” that “**contribute to an imbalanced omega-6/omega-3 ratio, a topic of ongoing research for its potential role in inflammation.**”

While the Commission’s findings are controversial within the scientific community and the food industry, they reflect a growing movement in North America against ultra-processed foods.

For example, the State of Louisiana passed a law stating: “In food Service, any establishment that cooks or prepares food using seed oil must display a disclaimer on the menu or other clearly visible location that informs consumers about the potential presence of seed oil in the food.” Seed oils listed in the law include canola (rapeseed), corn, cottonseed, grapeseed, rice bran, safflower, soybean, and sunflower oil.

**“ Research shows that palm olein, the liquid fraction of palm fruit oil, produces significantly fewer harmful byproducts than common seed oils during repeated frying cycles ”**

Food Business News also reported on an International Food Information Council (IFIC) study showing that 28 percent of Americans avoid seed oils, and among those, more than six in ten believe seed oils are “more processed,” fueling their association with ultra-processed foods.

Concerns around seed oils relate to heat-induced degradation that promotes oxidative stress in the body and inflammation. Palm oil, however, offers a different fatty acid structure that resists oxidation. Roughly 50 percent saturated, 40 percent monounsaturated, and only 10 percent polyunsaturated, it maintains stability during extended high-temperature use. Research shows that palm olein, the liquid fraction of palm fruit oil, produces significantly fewer harmful byproducts than common seed oils during repeated frying cycles. The result is longer fry life, cleaner flavor, and improved consistency in finished products.

And because Daabon’s palm oil is certified sustainable (benefiting both people and the planet), it represents a healthy and responsible alternative for high-performing fats and oils in a variety of applications. With several product offerings available in large volumes, Daabon is ready to respond to this growing trend.

In order to support the use of our ingredients in seed-oil-free food production, Daabon proudly became a strategic partner of the Seed Oil Free Alliance in 2025, a third-party certifying organization behind the world’s first Seed Oil Free Certified® Seal for qualifying food and consumer products. Seed Oil Free Certified® products meet rigorous standards for avoiding seed oils, backed by documentation, auditing, and independent lab testing of added oils and refined fats.

Supporting the Seed Oil Free Alliance in its mission to expand seed-oil-free food options through trust, transparency, and education is an advisory panel of public health and nutrition experts, led by Dr. Andrew Weil.

More information about the Seed Oil Free Alliance can be found at [seedoilfreecertified.com](http://seedoilfreecertified.com).

**Sources:**

*The Heat Is On Seed Oils | Food Business News*

*The MAHA Report | The White House*

*Louisiana Law Targets Sweeteners, Seed Oils and Colors | Food Business News*



# Ten Years of Consistency and Transparency: Daabon's ESG Leadership in SPOTT 2025

**Carolina Torrado, Sustainability Director**

The 2025 edition of SPOTT (Sustainability Policy Transparency Toolkit) once again assessed the transparency of ESG policies among 100 palm oil producers, processors, and traders. The sector average reached 49.5% (up from 48.2% in 2024), signaling progress while also highlighting persistent gaps between leaders and laggards. Daabon remained in the global Top 5 with an overall score of 96.4%, reaffirming a conviction that guides our daily work: transparency and sustainability are not slogans, they are the way we operate.

SPOTT evaluates the verifiable disclosure of ESG policies and practices within the palm oil sector. Since the launch of these assessments in 2014, and since Daabon began participating in 2015, our efforts have focused on backing every commitment with public, traceable evidence. Today, this work is reflected in strong performance across all three pillars —Environmental, Social, and Governance— and throughout the entire value chain: cultivation, extraction, refining, and commercialization.

**“Daabon remained in the global Top 5 with an overall score of 96.4%, reaffirming a conviction that guides our daily work: transparency and sustainability are not slogans, they are the way we operate”**

Company	Rank	Total score	Change	Total Indicators
SD Guthrie Bhd (previou...	1	97.5%	+2.7	191
United Plantations Bhd	=2	97.1%	+1.1	184
R.E.A. Holdings plc	=2	97.1%	+5.6	172
<b>Daabon Group</b>	4	96.4%	-1.0	182
Dharma Satya Nusantar...	5	95.7%	+4.7	173



### What does this mean?

- **For employees**, it confirms that daily work builds reputation and long-term value, supported by clear, measurable, and auditable standards.
- **For shareholders and financial institutions**, it sends strong signals of rigorous ESG risk management, disciplined compliance, and sustainable long-term value creation.
- **For customers and suppliers**, it provides confidence grounded in traceability, regulatory compliance, and continuous improvement.

Looking ahead to 2026, the revision of the SPOTT methodology opens a new

phase of innovation and alignment for the sector. For Daabon, it represents an opportunity to strengthen measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems, deepen georeferenced traceability, and expand documented progress in carbon neutrality, biodiversity conservation, and labor relations, entering the next cycle with reinforced indicators.

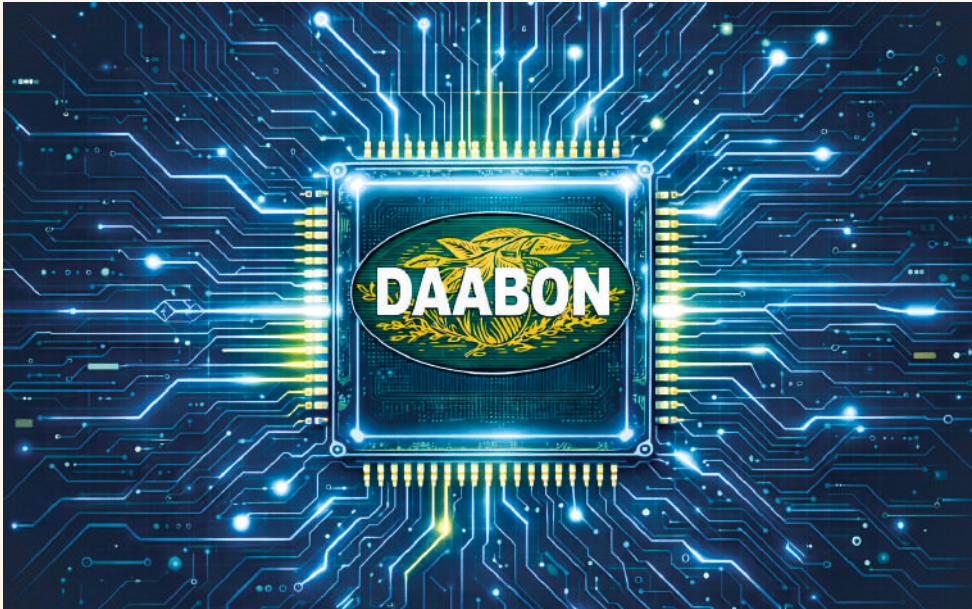
In conclusion, with performance that places us among the world's best and a consistent track record since 2015, 2025 confirms Daabon as a global benchmark for transparency and sustainability. Our commitment is to continue raising the bar, turn transparency into a competitive advantage, strengthen long-term partnerships, and contribute — with the same level of excellence— to an agroindustry that creates economic, social, and environmental value. This is how we honor our title: ten years of consistency and an ESG leadership that is consolidated in SPOTT 2025.



# From Data to Living Knowledge:

## Intelligent Ecosystems and Advanced Automation at the Daabon Group

Technology and Innovation Department, Daabon Group



At Daabon, we have learned that the value of data does not depend on how much we collect, but on our ability to turn it into decisions. For years, we have automated, connected, and digitalized our processes; however, the truly transformative change began when we succeeded in getting the data to speak to us.

From the Technology and Innovation Department, we have built the first intelligent assistants that integrate directly with plant operating systems, areas, and processes. Through Node-RED and OpenAI's APIs, our flows can analyze trends, interpret variables, and generate automated operational summaries. In other words: our plants are already in conversation with artificial intelligence.

These advancements have allowed us to take solid steps toward an ecosystem where every variable, every piece of equipment, and every process contributes to continuous learning. AI is not just a technological project—it is a vision. We aim to build our own industrial intelligence, developed in-house, trained on our operations, and aligned with our sustainability philosophy.

Today, we already have the foundations: structured prompts, lightweight assistants in Node-RED that connect real data to AI to generate reports and diagnostics and, above all, a comprehensive plan that will turn this knowledge into a system that learns, predicts, and recommends. The next step will be a platform that combines our operational data, technical knowledge, and plant procedures to create a collective intelligence across our industrial operations. It will not replace the operator—it will amplify their expertise,

“Our long-term vision is clear: to expand this system to strategic crops such as banana and coffee, consolidating it as a transversal agricultural planning platform for the entire Group”

providing precise information, context, and projections that support decision-making.

At Daabon, artificial intelligence is not an end in itself. It is a tool that enables us to better fulfill what has always defined us: sustainability, efficiency, and respect for people. Every data flow analyzed with AI represents an opportunity to optimize energy use, improve product quality, or enhance operational safety. The objective is clear: produce better—with less impact and more shared knowledge.

Our operators are no longer simple task executors; they are now mentors to the system, teaching it with every action. In this way, AI does not replace humans—it learns from them and multiplies their capabilities.

### Intelligent Document Automation in Service of Compliance

As part of our digital transformation strategy, we developed an advanced automation system that comprehensively manages the filing of electronic invoices and the acknowledgments required by DIAN. This solution identifies pending invoices, downloads and organizes electronic documents, uploads the

corresponding supporting files to CADI, and automatically generates the acknowledgment of receipt, verification, and acceptance directly on our technology provider's platform.

All of this ensures compliance with the established documentary workflow while significantly reducing operational workload.

Additionally, the bots incorporate a monitoring module that coordinates, audits, and oversees each stage of the process, ensuring continuity, traceability, and accuracy in execution.

### Integrated Agricultural Budgeting Software: A New Planning Pillar

Another key development this year is our integrated crop budgeting software, implemented in its first phase for palm and built in close collaboration with the Cost and Budget Department.

The tool centralizes and manages all agricultural tasks performed in the field—pollination, fertilization, irrigation, pruning, fruit harvesting, among others—using inputs such as an updated farm census, production data, and extractor operating hours.

Based on this information and a defined technical formulation, the system generates an automatic, detailed, and fully supported projection of the next year's budget, breaking down workforce, materials, and service requirements.

Our long-term vision is clear: to expand this system to strategic crops such as banana and coffee, consolidating it as a transversal agricultural planning platform for the entire Group.

What we have achieved so far—integrating Node-RED with OpenAI, automating critical document workflows, standardizing prompts, developing strategic software, and preparing the first recommendation models—is only the first stage of a much broader vision.

In the coming months, we will move toward deploying a modular industrial intelligence system capable of connecting all the Group's plants, learning from each process, and delivering predictive and prescriptive reports.

Our goal is that, in the near future, each plant will be able to explain itself: understand its condition, anticipate deviations, and recommend actions in real time.

The future of AI at Daabon will not come from outside. We are building it from within—step by step, data by data, decision by decision. And that future has already begun.

# Planetary Health in Action:

## Where we Are Today With our Corporate Emissions Footprint

**Felipe Guerrero, Corporate Vice President**

At Daabon we are a family business with a very simple commitment to explain and very demanding to fulfill: produce food and ingredients with an eye on the future, and leave a better –and more transparent – company than the one we receive. Therefore, within our ambitious Planetary Health strategy that includes carbon neutrality by 2030, Today, we want to share a concrete advance: we now have a consolidated and traceable inventory of our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions footprint.

In this first cut, our Scope 1 + Scope 2 emissions total approximately 43.1 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year. Of that total, Scope 1 represents about 92% (~39.8 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and Scope 2 8% (~3.3 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This proportion is important because it gives us strategic clarity: much of the reduction will not come only from “buying better energy,” but from expanding processes and practices of agriculture and the industry that we currently do in Daabon.

**When we look at the total Scope 1 + 2, the footprint is concentrated as follows:**

- Farms: ~28.4 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e (~66% of the total)
- Industrial cluster: ~10.8 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e (~25%)
- Extraction Mill: ~3.9 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e (~9%)

In agriculture, the main factor is not electricity: it is the N<sub>2</sub>O associated with fertilization. That component alone adds up to about 24.6 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e on farms, which confirms a reality of the sector: the “heart” of agricultural decarbonization is in nutrient efficiency, soils and productivity.

“Today, we already have a consolidated and traceable inventory of our Corporate Footprint of Scope 1 and 2”



In addition, to follow up rigorously, we are already calculating a baseline of intensity: with an approximate annual production of 250,000 tons of fresh fruit bunches (FFB) on farms, our average Scope 1 + 2 footprint is equivalent to ~115 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per ton of FFB. This indicator – and its evolution – will be part of how we will be accountable.

**Organic and conventional: two profiles, the same measurement discipline**

A point that is worth highlighting carefully: within the ~28 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e of Scope 1 on farms, approximately 18 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub>e correspond to conventional agriculture. The rest corresponds to organic management.

We do not present it to “declare a winner.” We present it because they are systems with different dynamics: in conventional systems, the mineral fertilization profile and its effect on N<sub>2</sub>O usually weigh more; in organic systems, the sources and timing of nutrient release change. A complete reading also requires looking at yields, soil practices, and efficiency per ton produced. Our commitment is to make these comparisons in a technical and transparent way, using comparable metrics (per hectare and per ton) and decisions adjusted to each reality.

**Transparency and monitoring: how we are going to meet 2030**

This inventory is supported by factors and guidelines from the GHG Protocol and IPCC and, above all, by measurable activity data (fuels, kWh, agricultural practices, and effluents). This enables traceability, auditing, and year-over-year comparability, which will be led by Meo Carbon Solutions GmbH.

The next step is to expand the inventory to include Scope 3 (inputs, transport, and logistics). The message is direct: we have already measured, we have already understood where the footprint weighs most, and now comes the most important step—execute, with discipline, and with the conviction that 2030 is built starting today.

Planting 350 trees in San Alberto Farm



# Palm-Based Versatile Solutions for the Dairy Industry

*Balachandar Selvamohan, Global Innovation Director*

Daabon's capabilities, together with the versatility of palm oil, offer dairy customers sustainable and organic options that provide unique functionality and enhanced stability. In dairy processing, palm-based fat blends improve texture, melting behavior, and shelf life in products such as spreads, ice cream, cheese, creams, and recombined milk. In animal feeding systems, rumen-protected palm fatty acids support milk yield and improve energy balance, particularly in high-producing cows.

Daabon provides specialty oils and fats for both dairy product formulations and ruminant nutrition, with options for organic certification.

**FreshPress Whiptop** is a clean-label (non-hydrogenated) vegan solution for whipping cream, offering improved overrun, reduced syneresis, and faster whipping times compared to toppings made with hydrogenated fats.

**FreshPress GPfill** contributes a creamy texture and rich mouthfeel in cooking cream formulations, with an option for organic production.

**FreshPress IceBase** enhances texture stability and crystal structure in ice

creams, helping them resist rapid melting while maintaining a clean mouthfeel.

**FreshPress IceCoat** is an organic solution for ice cream confectionery coatings, suitable for spraying, coating, and dipping ice cream bars.

**FreshPress DaaCheese** provides an organic alternative for plant-based analogue cheese makers, delivering good texture, sliceability, and flavor.

**FreshPress NH-Fill** is an excellent solution for recombined milk, offering stable foam, a creamy taste, and improved shelf life.

**FreshPress Milk Dub** is a milk fat replacer suitable for producing a variety of products, including vegan butter spreads, bakery creams, and butter blends.

**FreshPress RumenFort** is a natural fat designed for rumen feed blends. It bypasses the upper digestive tract, increasing energy availability. Its inclusion in the diet improves milk production, reproductive performance, and overall body condition. The product is fully traceable and available with an organic option for dairy farmers engaged in organic milk production.



“ Daabon provides specialty oils and fats for both dairy product formulations and ruminant nutrition, with options for organic certification ”

Variety of dairy products



# A Sustainable and Healthy Ingredient Transforming Salad Dressings and Food Coloring



*María del Pilar Noriega E., PhD, Daabon R&D and Innovation Director  
Chem. Neyder Villa and Chem. Eng. Heidi Teran*



(Figure 1) High Oleic Palm Oil Ingredient

Vitamins and minerals are essential for maintaining good health. Traditional diets across the Americas and other regions often fail to provide adequate amounts, depending on age group. In the case of vitamin A, the low consumption of its primary sources (fruits, vegetables, liver) is particularly concerning.

Vitamin A deficiency results from insufficient dietary intake to meet physiological needs, in part due to the low consumption of vitamin A-rich foods of both plant and animal origin. This deficiency may be worsened by high infection rates, especially diarrhea and measles. Hypovitaminosis A is a significant public health concern, with the most severe effects seen in young children and pregnant women in low-income regions.

Vitamin A plays a crucial role in vision, epithelial membrane maintenance, reproduction, and immunity. In the 1980s, research showed that administering vitamin A capsules could reduce infant mortality rates by up to 30%. The three main intervention strategies are:

- Dietary behavior change through communication and education,
- Periodic high-dose supplementation, and
- Food or crop fortification.

Among these, fortification holds enormous potential, yet it has been the least utilized due

to cost and technical challenges. Another difficulty is ensuring that fortified foods actually reach the populations most in need.

To address this situation, a descriptive study was conducted in Colombia — with informed consent (adults) and assent (children) — to evaluate the acceptability of a high-oleic palm oil ingredient (Figure 1), naturally rich in vitamins A and E, among nutritionists, gastronomists, and beneficiaries of nutrition programs in 2024. The results were highly satisfactory:

- More than 80% of participants rated the rice prepared with the ingredient as “I like it” or “I love it.”
- More than 66% did the same for the tomato salad.
- Over 79% expressed this positive preference for toast with the high-oleic palm oil dressing.

Importantly, the oil — naturally containing vitamins A and E — did not alter the characteristic smell or taste of the food preparations. Participants also reported no residual notes or aftertaste after consumption. The naturally colored rice cooked with the ingredient was visually appealing and well-received due to its rich color, traditional flavor, and nutritional benefits.

The key characteristics of this red palm oil are (Figure 2):

- **High-oleic palm oil:** Balanced fatty acid profile (MUFA 52.7%, PUFA 12.9%, SFA 34.4%).
- **Naturally rich in vitamins A & E:** Provides antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties and enhances absorption of fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E, K).
- **Provides natural energy:** Easily digested and absorbed; free of additives.
- Preserves the natural flavor and aroma of foods.
- **Light texture:** No unwanted residues or aftertaste.
- **Non-hydrogenated and cholesterol-free:** Supports heart health and clean-label positioning.
- **Certified quality:** RSPO, EU Organic, USDA Organic, Non-GMO Verified, Fairtrade Certified, HACCP, Regenerative Organic Certified (ROC) Gold, and Seed Oil Free Certified.
- **Sustainably produced:** Efficient land use and environmentally responsible practices.



(Figure 2) Left: OxG hybrid palm fruits (High Oleic) | Right: Elaeis guineensis palm fruits

Finally, product acceptance is a hedonic response characterized by a sustained positive attitude toward the ingredient, including aspects such as appearance, smell, aroma, texture, and taste of food or raw materials. This type of sensory analysis includes techniques designed to measure human responses to food accurately and minimize potential bias related to brand identity or external factors. Sensory evaluation remains one of the most important tools for ensuring consumer acceptance of a product.

## Acknowledgments

We appreciate the contribution of I-NOVA Soluciones Integrales in conducting the acceptance test, as well as the dedicated support of Daabon’s QA team.



(Figure 3) High Oleic Palm Oil presented in bottles

# Progress Toward SAF Production in Colombia



**Hernando Vergara G., General Manager of Sustainable Biofuels of the Caribbean S.A.**

Colombia has significant potential for the production of biofuels. Its raw materials—as well as future developments such as SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel) and Renewable Diesel (RD)—are well positioned for potential certification under ISCC EU and CORSIA. The analysis conducted as part of the ISCC consultancy shows a positive outlook for Colombian palm and its conversion into renewable fuels, particularly in terms of minimal deforestation and low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions<sup>1</sup>.

Currently, Colombia uses blends of 10% biodiesel and 10% ethanol for road transportation nationwide, B5 in large-scale mining, and B2 in marine diesel. The next steps open several possibilities: increasing existing blend levels, producing SAF—or at least LCAF (low-carbon aviation fuel)—in the short term, while ICAO grants eligibility to Colombian palm due to its strong Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) results and low ILUC (indirect land-use change). Another pathway includes the expansion of blends for maritime and river transport through marine diesel.

SAF is the most effective solution currently available for reducing emissions in the aviation sector. It is a sustainable fuel with identical properties to the kerosene used today, capable of reducing up to 80% of emissions from conventional jet fuel through blends that are easy to implement, while maintaining the same energy efficiency.

While the challenges ahead for SAF are significant, Colombia is moving in the right direction.

The country also has a strong market opportunity, both domestically and

internationally, and can leverage foreign markets through the “Book and Claim” mechanism for airlines in countries without local SAF production.

Colombia has gained nearly 20 years of experience in decarbonizing road transportation through policy, technology, and accumulated know-how. It also has some of the most competitive raw materials available—such as palm oil and sugarcane—produced without deforestation, alongside HEFA technology that has been widely tested and adopted in most operating plants worldwide.

According to Ecopetrol, Colombia markets approximately 35 kbd of fossil jet fuel: ~29 kbd in the interior of the country and ~6 kbd in the northern region, with Bogotá’s El Dorado airport accounting for nearly 65% of national consumption.

**“ SAF is the most effective solution currently available for reducing emissions in the aviation sector ”**

## Key advances in Colombia over the past year

- SAF quality standards finalized by the Ministry of Energy
- Incentive law for SAF progressing in Congress (second debate)
- CREG reviewing regulations for the establishment of SAF pricing
- Two major Colombian plantations obtained certifications related to indirect land-use impacts through productivity increases
- Ongoing ILUC study by ICAO, filed last year
- SAF Roadmap presented by Aerocivil
- According to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Colombia is expected to produce 100 million gallons of SAF by 2025: 70% via HEFA and 30% via ATJ (Alcohol to Jet)
- F-AIR: aviation sector commitment to promote SAF production and use in Colombia (before ICAO)
- Economic feasibility platform for SAF projects in Colombia presented by Aerocivil

<sup>1</sup> MEO. 21st International Palm Oil Conference, Cartagena, September 2025.



Tequendama farm nursery

- Feasibility study of ATJ-SAF for Valle del Cauca presented by the European Union, Invest Pacific, Valle del Cauca Government, and Johan Martínez

Colombia, like the rest of Latin America, has strong advantages that position it to play a significant role in SAF production: high availability of fatty acids for HEFA; status as an exporter of palm oil (over 500,000 tons expected this year); availability of used cooking oils and animal fats; abundant sugars and starches for ATJ; competitive value chains; and a mature, experienced biofuels industry with established certifications.

Successful implementation of the program will require robust governance, not only through ICAO’s international CORSIA framework, but also through a strong local regulatory system that ensures compliance, creates community benefits, generates new jobs, and

contributes to the long-awaited reduction of airspace pollution.

A particularly important milestone for the program has been the pilot production and use of biojet—non-certified SAF—by Ecopetrol through co-processing at its Cartagena refinery. The pilot used palm oil and 1% UCO, generating 34,000 barrels of biojet used by LATAM on domestic flights and 54,000 barrels of HVO incorporated into diesel blends.

It is estimated that the region could contribute up to 15% of global SAF production, considering its experience, raw material availability, degraded land, biomass, agricultural residues, UCO, and more. “Latin America has an opportunity to become a global player in SAF production and distribution due to its natural resource advantage,” says Peter Cerdá, IATA’s Regional Vice President for the Americas.

At the Daabon Group, we are ready to participate in SAF projects in Colombia, providing certified raw materials as well as extraction, refining, and logistics capabilities to support co-processing initiatives or new Greenfield plants.

“Latin America has an opportunity to become a global player in SAF production and distribution due to its natural resource advantage,” says Peter Cerdá, IATA’s Regional Vice President for the Americas.”

Guineensis palm fruit



# Characterization of Palm Oil Biomass Biochar: Energy, Stability, and Agronomic Functions

*María del Pilar Noriega E., PhD, Daabon R&D and Innovation Director  
Chem. Neyder Villa & Chem. Eng. Heidi Teran*

**B**iochar is a carbon-rich, porous material derived from a wide range of biomass or organic waste through thermochemical processes such as pyrolysis or gasification. Growing interest in biochar production from residual biomass is driven by its enhanced thermal stability, its capacity to store carbon in soils, and its agronomic functions, including nutrient and water retention. Biochar Carbon Removal (CDR) is considered a technically advanced, scalable, and permanent solution.

Palm oil production not only yields crude palm oil (CPO) and palm kernel oil (PKO), but also generates valuable by-products that support the biorefinery concept [1]. Wastewater is converted into biogas, while solid residues such as empty fruit bunches (20–23%), mesocarp fibers (10–13%), palm kernel shells (4.5–7%), and palm kernel expeller (2.3–3%) of total Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) are used for composting, biofuels, carbon materials [2], and animal feed. Percentages are reported relative to one ton of FFB.

Original Oil Palm Biomass (OPB) contains a total carbon content of approximately 45–50%, with calorific values ranging from 19.3 to 21.3 MJ/kg and low levels of sulfur, chlorine, and nitrogen, in compliance with international ISO standards [3] (Figure 1).

Laboratory analyses and semi-industrial trials of biochar production from residual OPB have demonstrated promising results.

The key characteristics of OPB biochar are summarized below (Figure 2):

Both analyses confirm high carbonization quality, with fixed carbon content exceeding 70% and low hydrogen-to-carbon (H/C) ratios, making OPB biochar highly stable and suitable for long-term carbon sequestration.

Biochar pellets also show strong energy potential, with a higher heating value (HHV) of approximately 30 MJ/kg, positioning OPB biochar as a viable solid biofuel.

From an agronomic perspective, laboratory data highlight high water holding capacity (WHC), alkaline pH, and contaminant levels within safe limits, supporting its use as a soil amendment.

Variations in ash and moisture content reflect differences in sample preparation and analytical conditions, while volatile matter and stability indicators remain consistent across samples.

Heavy metal analyses indicate low concentrations of lead, cadmium, and mercury ( $Pb < 2 \text{ mg/kg}$ ,  $Cd < 0.2 \text{ mg/kg}$ ,  $Hg < 0.07 \text{ mg/kg}$ ), meeting agronomic standards.

## Conclusion

Residual oil palm biomass (OPB) biochar demonstrates high stability, strong energy value, and significant agronomic benefits, confirming its potential for carbon sequestration, renewable energy generation, and soil improvement.

**“ Palm oil production not only yields crude palm oil (CPO) and palm kernel oil (PKO), but also generates valuable by-products that support the biorefinery concept [1] ”**



Figure 1. Pellets of Residual Oil Palm Biomass



Figure 2. Biochar Pellets of Residual Oil Palm Biomass



# Golden Crop:

## The Synergy Transforming the Agro-Industrial Future of the Daabon Group



**“ More than a project, Golden Crop represents a new way of understanding business integration: a strategy that combines financial intelligence, legal innovation, and agricultural expertise to build sustainable value ”**

**Raúl Arenas, Financial Vice President & Jesús Carreño, General Controller**

The year 2025 marked a milestone in the corporate history of the Daabon Group with the creation and implementation of a project that redefines efficiency, vertical integration, and sustainability in the agro-industrial business—where innovation is not an event, but an attitude.

From this constant drive to refine business models, optimize every link in the chain, and elevate sustainability to a new level, Golden Crop was born: an initiative that today reshapes the group’s agro-industrial integration.

The project emerged from the forward-thinking vision of our Agro-Industrial Vice President, Juan Carlos Dávila, who championed the idea of transforming the way we cultivate, process, and market our products. With the strategic leadership of the Financial Vice Presidency, headed by Raul Arenas, and the impeccable execution of the Comptroller’s Office, led by Jesus A. Carreño Granados, along with its invaluable team, Golden Crop became a tangible reality that reflects the essence of our group: innovation with purpose.

Palmas de San Alberto, a traditional benchmark in African palm cultivation, made a strategic decision: to share its biological productive asset with C.I. Tequendama S.A.S., a group company with deep operational and technical expertise in agricultural management. Through this synergy, C.I. Tequendama S.A.S. assumed responsibility

for crop operations, incorporated the harvested fruit into industrial transformation processes, and directly commercialized the resulting oil.

The result is a more agile, integrated, and fiscally efficient operational structure—one that optimizes cash flow and strengthens a cleaner, more transparent, and more competitive value chain.

But Golden Crop is not limited to a single front. Its model, successfully implemented at Palmas de San Alberto, will expand to the Puerto Wilches region, where Oleaginosas del Yuma, another of the group’s oilseed operations, will also be managed by C.I. Tequendama S.A.S. under the same principles of efficiency and operational synergy.

More than a project, Golden Crop represents a new way of understanding business integration: a strategy that combines financial intelligence, legal innovation, and agricultural expertise to build sustainable value.

Through this initiative, the Daabon Group reaffirms its leadership as a visionary organization—one capable of transforming complexity into opportunity—and stands as living proof that when talent, vision, and discipline converge, projects are born that transcend time, turning every cultivated hectare into a tangible expression of efficiency, profitability, and shared purpose.

# Palm Kernel Fractionation: Technology, Growth, and Industrial Consolidation at Daabon



**Mauricio Dávila, General Manager, Industrial Cluster**

Palm kernel fractionation is an industrial process through which crude palm kernel oil is separated into two main fractions: stearin, the solid portion with a higher melting point, and olein, the liquid portion with a lower melting point. The procedure is based on controlled cooling crystallization, where stearin crystals are formed and subsequently filtered, leaving olein as the liquid fraction.

These fractions have relevant applications in the food and cosmetic industries: stearin is used in cocoa butter substitutes, coatings, chocolates, and whipping creams, while olein is commonly found in ice creams, soaps, and personal care products.

Within our Industrial Cluster, fractionation has shown sustained growth since 2021. Between 2021 and 2023, the process recorded an average annual increase of 16%, driven by market recovery, logistical improvements, and compliance with certifications such as RSPO and organic standards that strengthen our sustainable management.

The start-up of the DAMA-6 plant—developed by Desmet and equipped with Statolizer™ technology—marked a major milestone in 2024. This controlled static crystallization technology enables



*Palm kernel processing plant*

more precise and stable dry fractionation, supported by advanced filtration systems that optimize fraction separation, reduce energy consumption, and minimize waste generation.

The commissioning of DAMA-6 led to growth of nearly 90% compared to the previous year and allowed us to increase monthly capacity by more than 100% compared to the period prior to its inauguration. For 2025, we project an additional 26% increase, further strengthening the operation and its

contribution to the cluster's portfolio. Despite this progress, the plant is currently operating at approximately 45% utilization, indicating significant room for continued growth in the coming years. This performance has been possible thanks to stronger domestic sales and the development of new products such as NH Choc and Whiptop, along with commercial support from Daabon USA and Daabon Europe.

These advances reinforce our competitiveness in the Americas and Europe—our main strategic regions—and ensure compliance with traceability standards such as EUDR. Palm kernel fractionation at Daabon remains firmly committed to operational efficiency, sustainability, and minimizing environmental impact.

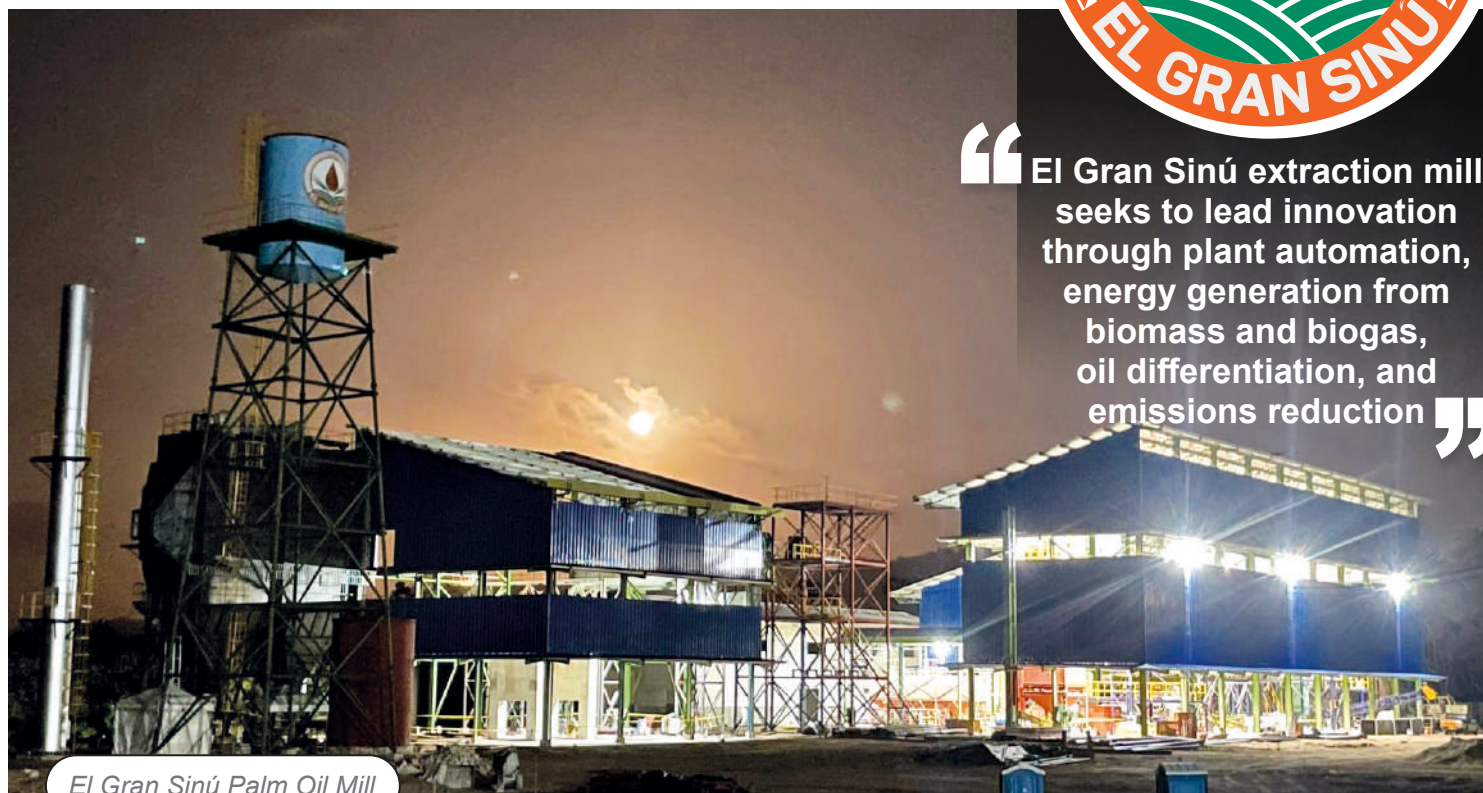
**“This performance has been possible thanks to stronger domestic sales and the development of new products such as NH Choc and Whiptop, along with commercial support from Daabon USA and Daabon Europe”**

*Caribbean Eco Soaps*



# Extraction Mill **El Gran Sinú:** Driving Agro-Industrial Growth in Córdoba

David de la Rosa Diartt, General Manager, Extraction Mill El Gran Sinú S.A.S.



El Gran Sinú Palm Oil Mill

“ El Gran Sinú extraction mill seeks to lead innovation through plant automation, energy generation from biomass and biogas, oil differentiation, and emissions reduction ”

In 2020, while the pandemic brought projects across the country to a halt, the idea of building a new extraction plant—Extractora El Gran Sinú—was born. Today, the company stands as the first agro-industrial free trade zone in Córdoba, in northern Colombia. It represents a bold commitment to the future of oil palm in the country, in a region where palm was already cultivated but lacked an agro-industrial project with an export-oriented vision.

The company is the result of an alliance between the Daabon Group and local producers who, with a private investment of nearly USD 10 million, began

operations with 4,000 linked hectares and an installed capacity of 15 tons per hour, expandable to 45 tons/hour. Its mission is grounded in sustainability, environmental stewardship, and international projection. To date, the company has generated around 80

“ 80% of the workforce comes from the company’s area of influence ”



direct jobs and expects to reach 120 at full operation. Its social commitment is also reflected in training programs for local communities, such as industrial equipment operation courses carried out in partnership with the Lorica Mayor’s Office and the SENA. Eighty percent of the workforce comes from the company’s area of influence.

Becoming the first agro-industrial free trade zone in Córdoba marks a turning point. The economic and logistical benefits are evident, aligning with the company’s ambition to reach international markets. Extraction mill seeks to lead innovation through plant automation, energy generation from biomass and biogas, oil differentiation, and emissions reduction.

The company aims to add 5,000 new hectares of certified and sustainable palm to meet international market demands, along with the development of a biogas plant and a palm kernel oil plant. Today, Extractora El Gran Sinú is more than a business project: it represents an alliance between partners and farmers who believe in Colombia, drive the development of the palm sector, and strengthen a more innovative economy.



El Gran Sinú Palm Oil Mill Workers

# Palmas de San Alberto S.A.S. **A Case of Industrial Reactivation** and Competitive Strengthening



*Sadoc Bertel, General Manager, Palma y Trabajo, Palmas de San Alberto*



*Tractor in Palmas de San Alberto Mill*

After nearly five years of inactivity, Extractora Palmas de San Alberto S.A.S. launched one of the most ambitious recovery efforts in its recent history. What was once a strategic hub for producers in the region had come to a standstill: deteriorated equipment, critical infrastructure offline, and a plant without operational personnel. Restarting it required more than investment; it demanded strategic vision, technical discipline, and the reconstruction of the human and social fabric that sustains any sustainable agroindustrial operation.

Today, Palmas de San Alberto stands as an emblematic case of industrial reactivation: a demonstration of how a plant shut down for years can become a modern, efficient, and competitive operation aligned with the demands of the contemporary palm oil sector.

**“Aware of the magnitude of the challenge, the company designed a comprehensive plan divided into three stages with short, medium, and long-term objectives”**

## **A phased plan to recover and grow**

Aware of the magnitude of the challenge, the company designed a comprehensive plan divided into three stages with short, medium, and long-term objectives.

### **Stage 1: Restart operations at 30 ton/hour**

The first milestone was to start up a 30 ton/hour production line while initiating the adaptations needed to restore the full installed capacity of 60 ton/hour. Based on a thorough technical diagnosis, this phase included:

Reconstruction and expansion of oxidation ponds

Full refurbishment of digesters, presses, clarification systems, kernel recovery, and storage

Major upgrades to the boiler and sterilization system

Modernization of electrical networks and water supply system

This stage enabled a safe and controlled reactivation, establishing the foundation for future capacity increases.



*Workers alongside palm fruit transport wagons*

“ **Palmas de San Alberto S.A.S. not only managed to reactivate a plant that had been offline for years: it rebuilt an entire industrial project. Today, it operates as a modern, sustainable industry aligned with the environmental, social, and commercial demands of the global palm oil market** ”

### Stage 2: Expansion to 40 ton/hour

As infrastructure stabilized and steam generation increased, the company moved toward enabling the second production line. Key improvements included:

- Increasing the number of cages
- Installation of a new sterilizer
- Reactivation of the second overhead crane and thresher
- Reinforcement of digestion and pressing areas

These advances made it possible to reach 40 ton/hour, consolidating operational stability and projecting a 2025 year-end goal of 184,000 tons of fruit processed, a remarkable leap from the 58,000 tons processed in eight months of 2024.

### Stage 3: The future target of 60 ton/hour

The final phase is already underway. To reach the maximum installed capacity of 60 ton/hour, the company is progressing with the full reactivation of equipment, machinery, and human talent. This scaling will require an additional increase in steam generation, including the installation of a new boiler. Once completed, the plant will operate at full capacity with high levels of efficiency, reliability, and quality.

### More than reactivating a plant: rebuilding an entire system

The magnitude of the project required intervening in all links of the production chain:

**Machinery and infrastructure:** repair, repowering, and modernization

**Logistics:** reestablishment of internal flows, fruit handling, and sterilization processes

**Environmental management:** recovery of ponds, effluent treatment, and regulatory compliance

**Human talent:** recruitment, training, and strengthening of the Daabon culture

**Territorial relations:** engagement with local producers to ensure supply

**Financial sustainability:** rigorous planning to guarantee project viability

The process involved not only technical recovery but the revitalization of the productive ecosystem that depends on the mill.

### Human talent, the silent engine of success

One of the greatest challenges was rebuilding the workforce. The region's social and labor dynamics and the shortage of experienced personnel

required an intensive training program. Over time, this effort transformed an initial period of high turnover into a stable, committed team aligned with the Daabon DNA.

A multidisciplinary technical group, dedicated 100% for nearly a year, tackled each challenge with a pragmatic, safe, results-oriented approach. Thanks to their work, the company achieved:

- Stable, efficient operation with high quality standards
- Strengthened community relations
- Secure supply through alliances with local producers
- Achievement of RSPO and organic certifications, essential for high-value international markets

The next immediate challenge is meeting the demanding international standards regarding MOSH/MOAH, 3-MCPD, and chlorides.

### A new chapter for the industry

Palmas de San Alberto S.A.S. not only managed to reactivate a plant that had been offline for years: it rebuilt an entire industrial project. Today, it operates as a modern, sustainable industry aligned with the environmental, social, and commercial demands of the global palm oil market.

Its story is a testament to resilience, technical excellence, and collective commitment: proof that with strategy and the right people, industrial reactivation can become a true reinvention.

San Alberto Palm Oil Mill





# Elogia Logística Sostenible: Infrastructure, Technology, and Sustainability for Colombia's New Logistics Era

**Victor Cabello, Vice President of Logistics and Port Operations**

The logistics sector is undergoing a profound transformation. The pressure to reduce costs, new traceability standards, the need for operational flexibility, and the progress of ESG goals are raising the bar for companies that move goods across Colombia and the region. In this context, Elogia Logística Sostenible emerges — a brand of the Daabon Group that unifies the logistics services and capabilities of seven companies with nationwide presence and coverage.

The new structure brings together, under a single corporate governance framework, Zona Franca Las Américas, Zona Franca Tayrona, Trading Services, Elogia Transporte, Superlogistics, Terlica, and Superportuaria. This integration seeks to address a key challenge affecting much of the sector: operational fragmentation. Frequently, a client must coordinate multiple operators for foreign trade, transportation, yards, warehousing, and value-added services — resulting in higher costs and loss of traceability.

The model is built on three main pillars:

- **Operational integration:** the free trade zones function as strategic hubs for storage, tax deferral, conditioning, consolidation, and cross-docking; the transportation network offers national and international coverage; and the terminals and yards are designed to absorb demand peaks.
- **Technological orchestration:** the company operates interconnected WMS and TMS platforms, EDI/API connectors, end-to-end visibility, and control dashboards with key performance indicators such as OTIF, dwell time, turnaround, and emissions per shipment.
- **Sustainability with metrics:** optimized routes, higher vehicle utilization, responsible packaging, energy efficiency, and verifiable ESG reporting are all part of the model.

The consolidation of these capabilities translates into lower costs per unit moved, shorter lead times, greater inventory visibility, and a measurable reduction in emissions. For foreign trade operations, the free trade zones enable labeling, kitting, postponement, minor repairs, and consolidation processes with fiscal and customs flexibility.

Elogia Logística Sostenible is also advancing projects to strengthen multimodal logistics in Colombia and to develop new capabilities for oversized and heavy cargo. In addition, the company is working on artificial intelligence-based solutions for route optimization, demand forecasting, and energy efficiency.

In a logistics environment that demands resilience, traceability, and sustainability, Elogia Logística Sostenible aims to position itself as one of the most relevant integrated players in the country, with a clear vision for international expansion.

Workers at Biocombustibles Sostenibles del Caribe S.A.



Liquid Bulk Terminal, Port of Santa Marta





C.I. La Samaria Banana Crops

## La Samaria Consolidates a Key Year of Growth in Organic Banana Production

### C.I. La Samaria Team

During 2025, La Samaria consolidated a pivotal year for the production and commercialization of organic bananas, supported by the collective efforts of our entire team. Each achievement reflects the coordination between field personnel, administrative areas, logistics, and the commercial team, ensuring high standards of quality, food safety, and sustainability.

One of the most significant advances was the performance of bagging volumes, which in 2025 reached some of the highest peaks recorded over the past ten years, demonstrating agronomic stability, operational efficiency, and production planning aligned with international demand. In parallel, sales results were driven by brand management and fruit optimization programs that strengthened selection, classification, and utilization, reducing losses and consolidating stable volumes.

In 2025, La Samaria achieved new international certifications, including Naturland and Regenerative Organic Certified, implemented new palletizing formats with 21 pallets per-container, and recorded a significant increase in sales to the United States, consolidating this market as a strategic destination.

Building on these achievements, the outlook for 2026 is to reach production levels higher than those of 2025, supported by continuous improvement, stronger teamwork, and the ongoing optimization of productive and logistical processes. In this way, La Samaria continues to position itself as a reliable supplier of organic bananas to international markets.

“ In 2025, La Samaria achieved new international certifications, including Naturland and Regenerative Organic Certified, implemented new palletizing formats with 21 pallets per-container, and recorded a significant increase in sales to the United States ”



Regenerative Organic Certified



Naturland



# Daabon's Higher Oleic Palm Oil Offers Superior Performance

*Esther Meima, Sales Director North America*

Daabon is introducing American Palm Oil (AMPO), a natural non-GMO hybrid of the standard African palm and a native Latin American variety. AMPO has a higher oleic content than standard palm oil, making it an excellent option for a wide range of liquid vegetable oil applications.

Marketed as HOPO (High Oleic Palm Oil) in Europe, AMPO's unique properties ensure excellent results.

### High Performance

AMPO has a balanced fatty acid profile: more than 50% oleic acid, 33% saturated fatty acids (SFAs), and just 12% polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs). This composition gives it high oxidative stability, enabling superior frying performance and longer shelf life compared to other oils.

It is also significantly lower in saturated fat than standard African palm oil or coconut oil, making it a more direct substitute for liquid oils. AMPO's high smoke point allows it to withstand prolonged heat exposure and deliver a longer fry life (with less oil absorption) than other common frying oils.

Additionally, AMPO's stability and neutral flavor ensure clean taste profiles, and its long ingredient shelf life supports reliable production planning.

### Health Benefits

AMPO is lower in PUFAs, which are suspected to contribute to inflammation. When used for frying, AMPO also generates fewer polar compounds than other oils. Polar compounds form during thermal degradation and may pose health risks.

AMPO is allergen free (e.g., no peanuts, soy, or coconut) and all-natural for a clean ingredient label. Its inherent heat stability means there is no need for additives such as TBHQ. It is also naturally non-GMO, trans-fat free, and non-hydrogenated.

**AMPO has a balanced fatty acid profile: more than 50% oleic acid, 33% saturated fatty acids (SFAs), and just 12% polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs). This composition gives it high oxidative stability, enabling superior frying performance**

### Price Competitive

Thanks to its long fry life and lower fat absorption, AMPO offers better value per pound than other frying oils. It is also far more affordable than seed-oil-free alternatives such as avocado or olive oil.

### Efficient Land Use And Sustainability

By 2050, global demand for vegetable oils is expected to increase by 80 million metric tons. AMPO can help meet this need using only a fraction of the land required by other vegetable oils, due to its significantly higher yields. AMPO produces roughly 8.5 metric tons of oil per hectare, compared with about 0.45 metric tons for soybean oil.

It also supports greater biodiversity per hectare than seed oils, partly because AMPO farms keep the land undisturbed for more than 30 years.

Daabon is globally recognized for leadership in traceability and transparency based on RSPO standards, and its focus on reducing carbon emissions supports a lower carbon footprint for finished products.

### Consistency Of Supply

Like standard African palm, AMPO is a tropical crop harvested continuously throughout the year. In contrast, oils such as soy, canola, and sunflower are more vulnerable to seasonal failures or poor harvest cycles, which can tighten supply.

### Community Empowerment

The American Palm relies on human labor for pollination and harvesting, allowing Daabon to generate thousands of jobs in local communities. AMPO creates more employment opportunities than most oil crops, and many pollinator roles are held by women, strengthening household income and community resilience.

AMPO is a sustainable, versatile, high-performing oil that appeals to companies seeking reliable supply with a smaller carbon footprint. It is an excellent alternative to seed oils not only for frying but also for applications such as sauces, mayonnaise, dips, spreads, and soft doughs.

AMPO Palm oil plantations



# High Performance Frying Oil Launch in Japan

David Rincón, Managing Director Daabon Japan



**High Performance Frying Oil is made from 100% hybrid palm olein, not a blended oil. It comes directly from C.I. Tequendama to preserve product integrity and maintain price competitiveness**

CIIE Shanghai Trade Show 2025

For the Japanese market, we have chosen the name High Performance Frying Oil instead of AMPO or HOPO. This terminology aligns with expectations for premium oil supply and reflects the positioning we aim to establish. The product represents Daabon Japan’s most significant short- to mid-term challenge, following the gradual success of organic and conventional palm shortenings in recent years.

High Performance Frying Oil is made from 100% hybrid palm olein, not a blended oil. It comes directly from C.I. Tequendama to preserve product integrity and maintain price competitiveness. Certified JAS Organic, RSPO, Kosher, Halal, and more, it targets the premium frying segment currently dominated by conventional palm super olein and various seed oils.

The product is cost-effective because the price gap with regular frying oils is relatively small compared to the difference between our other palm derivatives and Southeast Asian alternatives. Additionally, several restaurants have already validated its superior performance, durability, and neutral taste compared to traditional seed oils.



Our initial goal was to supply high-end Japanese restaurants. However, we found that traditional dishes like tempura and tonkatsu experienced noticeable flavor changes—a critical issue for local chefs. To address this, we are expanding our focus to international cuisine, opening new opportunities.

### Key targets include:

- Organic potato growers who can add value by using organic-certified oil in frozen potato production.
- Korea’s powerful fried chicken industry, already familiar with palm olein as a frying medium.
- China—the largest and most challenging market—where we aim to introduce our oil in 2026.

Regarding distribution, we are building a network beyond the channels used for RBD and shortenings. While these products have established niches in bakery and frying, High Performance Frying Oil offers a superior solution for deep frying.

Finally, knowledge sharing across Daabon Group offices worldwide will be essential at this early stage and will support Daabon Japan in achieving its ambitious goals.



Organic Mountain High performance frying oil

# Daabon Australia **Completes Refinery Expansion and Laboratory Upgrade**

**“The completion of these projects results in better supply security and faster service for customers in ANZ, while positioning Daabon to meet growing demand in Asia-Pacific”**

**Sergio Correa, Managing Director  
 Daabon Australia**

Daabon Australia has completed a major investment to expand the capacity and capabilities of its refinery. This milestone strengthens the company’s position in the Australian and New Zealand markets and supports continued growth across the Asia-Pacific region.

The project was driven by a commitment to sustainability and innovation. The refinery now operates with advanced technology that improves efficiency, reduces energy use, and lowers carbon emissions. These upgrades form part of Daabon’s global mission to build a cleaner and more responsible supply chain. Each improvement was designed to protect the environment while delivering the highest quality products to customers.

Alongside the refinery expansion, the company invested in new laboratory equipment to enhance food safety controls and improve the monitoring and mitigation of risks in oils. Strengthening laboratory capabilities provides even greater assurance of quality and safety—an essential requirement for customers and partners.

Storage capacity has also been increased with the installation of new tanks for refined oils. This addition improves inventory management, enhances responsiveness to customer needs, and ensures consistent supply. It is another step toward building a robust and reliable operation that supports customer growth.

The completion of these projects results in better supply security and faster service

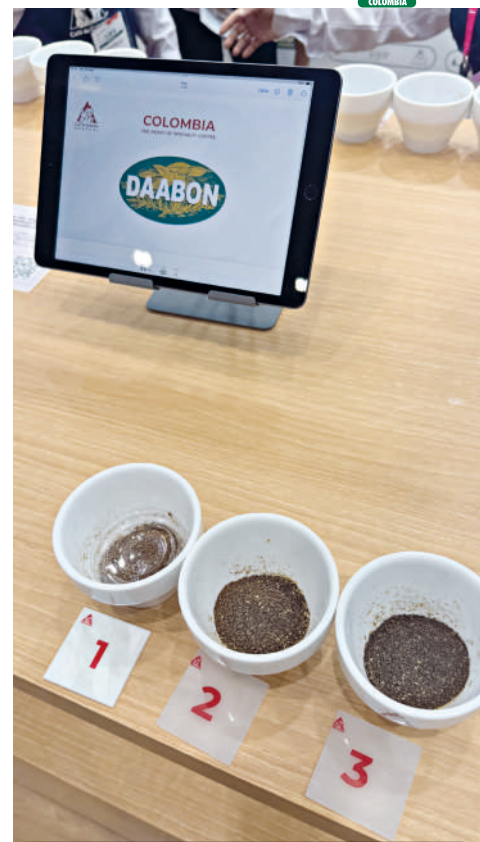


*Refinery, Daabon Australia*

for customers in ANZ, while positioning Daabon to meet growing demand in Asia-Pacific with confidence and consistency. Australia’s strategic location provides a unique advantage as a gateway to Asia, and these improvements will help strengthen partnerships across the region.

For Daabon, sustainability is not just a goal—it is a core principle. This investment reflects the company’s commitment to developing solutions that help customers achieve their own sustainability targets while ensuring food safety and maintaining the highest quality standards. Together with its partners, Daabon continues to build a future where growth and responsibility go hand in hand.





Organic Colombian coffee micro-lots showcased to Japanese roasters

# Daabon Japan Returns to the Green Coffee Bean Business

David Rincón, Managing Director Daabon Japan

Daabon Organic Japan last participated in the green coffee bean business in 2013. In 2025, we proudly resumed sales of high-quality, organic, single-estate micro-lots from Tolima Farm, offering them directly to premium roasters in Tokyo and Osaka.

This initiative complements our established and competitive processed coffee business, where Organic Mountain continues to hold a strong position in the Japanese retail market. Thanks to our collaboration with Ecobio, the guidance of our advisors, and the vision of Daabon Japan’s Directors, we began direct sales to Japanese roasters in just six months.

The beans deliver exceptional cup scores, featuring the nutty and dark-chocolate aromas, and the citrus-fruity, well-balanced profile characteristic of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta coffees—not to mention their organic and sustainable origin.

Japan’s roasting industry is world-class, driven by elite, young, and dynamic professionals who are redefining global coffee standards. Experts agree that Japan is one of the most demanding coffee markets in the world, where tradition, trust, uncompromising quality, and competitive pricing all converge.

Meanwhile, Colombia is repositioning itself as a premium origin, offering specialty varieties from emerging regions and improved cost competitiveness—although logistics remain a challenge when exporting to Asia.

The Daabon Japan team is committed to deepening its understanding of this fascinating industry in order to strengthen its role as a reliable supplier. Beyond Ecobio beans, we aim to add value through direct market presence and product development, including roasted beans and drip coffee, all fully aligned with our 2024–2028 Business Plan.

“ Colombia is repositioning itself as a premium origin, offering specialty varieties from emerging regions and improved cost competitiveness—although logistics remain a challenge when exporting to Asia ”

# New Offices & Show Kitchen

Manuel Alberto Dávila, Managing  
Director Daabon Europe

“Founded in 2001 as Daabon Deutschland to serve Northern Europe, the company later evolved into Daabon Europa as its presence and responsibilities expanded across the continent”

Live culinary preparation in the show kitchen at our new Europe offices



Daabon Europe's New Offices

Daabon is proud to announce the opening of its new European headquarters in Pulheim, Germany, located at Otto-Lilienthal-Strasse 6. This modern three-floor building—featuring a stunning vertical garden and an innovative show kitchen for food applications—marks a significant milestone in Daabon’s long-standing commitment to the European market.

Founded in 2001 as Daabon Deutschland to serve Northern Europe, the company later evolved into Daabon Europa as its presence and responsibilities expanded across the continent. Today, Europe stands as the Daabon Group’s second-largest export market, a testament to decades of dedication and collaboration.

The construction of our own offices on our own land represents the fulfillment of the vision of our late founder, Alberto Dávila, who dreamed of establishing permanent roots and assets in Europe. With great pride and gratitude, we invite our key stakeholders—whose support has made this achievement possible—to visit us and experience firsthand what organic palm can bring to the kitchen: from breads and cookies to chocolates, fries, schnitzels, ice creams, mayonnaise, and more.





# Cocoa Butter Alternatives for the UK Market

*Manuel Alberto Dávila, Managing Director Daabon Europe*

The UK cocoa butter substitute (CBS) and cocoa butter equivalent (CBE) market is steadily expanding, driven by cost pressures, clean-label trends, and the strength of the confectionery sector. Manufacturers increasingly use palm kernel oil, palm oil, shea butter, and other specialty vegetable fats to partially replace cocoa butter in chocolate coatings, biscuits, bakery fillings, and ice cream. This approach helps stabilise input costs and improve melting behaviour, while maintaining consumer-acceptable texture and flavour.

Sustainability has become a central factor in purchasing decisions, as brands face growing pressure to demonstrate certified, deforestation-free palm oil and responsibly sourced shea. This has prompted closer collaboration with global fat processors and NGOs. At the same time, UK consumers are scrutinising ingredient lists more closely, favouring non-hydrogenated, low-trans-fat formulations.

While premium chocolatiers continue to rely heavily on pure cocoa butter, mid-market and private-label products commonly incorporate CBS to balance quality and affordability. Post-Brexit trade arrangements and currency fluctuations continue to influence raw material pricing, making efficient cocoa butter substitution a key strategic lever for UK food manufacturers.

*If you are interested in improving your chocolate manufacturing, please contact our Daabon UK team for support in optimising formulations and reducing cocoa butter costs.*

*Or come meet us at the following European trade shows:*

Date	Show	Location
10–13 February	Biofach	Nuremberg
3 June	Food Matters Live	London
22 September	Food Matters Live	Rotterdam
17–19 November	Food Ingredients Europe	Frankfurt



# Supply Chain Optimization:

## Flexitanks and Sustainability at Daabon Do Brasil LTDA

*Daniel Arenas, Administrative Director, Daabon Brazil*

In 2025, Daabon Do Brasil LTDA began bulk deliveries in flexitanks directly to customers, significantly strengthening our relationship with clients in Brazil. This initiative has enabled a continuous flow of monthly deliveries, designed to ensure that customers receive their products on the requested dates, thereby reducing the impact of potential disruptions related to product availability.

To ensure the effectiveness of this service, we established an agreement with our logistics partner in Varginha, Minas Gerais (Porto Seco Sul de Minas), where containers are stored. This logistical approach allows us to maintain a steady supply and optimize delivery times. Once a shipment is prepared, the flexitanks are transported to a heating point, ensuring that the product arrives in ideal conditions for unloading at the customer’s facility.

The process continues with delivery to the customer’s factory and the proper unloading of the flexitank. After emptying, a sustainable disposal method is implemented for the packaging used, in line with our environmental and social responsibility policies. Finally, the empty container is returned to the port, maintaining an efficient and well-managed delivery cycle.

This service has not only improved the reliability of our operations but has also proven to be an effective solution for our customers, who can rely on a consistent supply of high-quality products. Through this optimized logistics model, Daabon Do Brasil LTDA reaffirms its commitment to customer satisfaction and sustainability across all operations.

**“ To ensure the effectiveness of this service, we established an agreement with our logistics partner in Varginha, Minas Gerais (Porto Seco Sul de Minas), where containers are stored ”**



# Soapworks Receives Award for **25 Years** of the Soap-Aid Initiative



**Brian Cumming, Managing Director Soapworks**

Soapworks is committed to reducing waste wherever possible. By repurposing waste soap and surplus discontinued products, these materials can be transformed into bars for people in need due to poverty, famine, or natural disasters.

Twenty-five years ago, Soapworks launched the Soap Aid initiative in collaboration with Glasgow the Caring City—a global health and hygiene partnership that promotes safe handwashing and personal care as a way to overcome illness during crises. Through this collaboration, bar soaps are sent to vulnerable communities not only in Glasgow, but also across the UK and internationally, including support provided to displaced people on the Colombian–Venezuelan border in 2019. This initiative provides essential access to basic hygiene for those most in need and plays a crucial role in preventing the spread of disease. This became especially important with the rise of viral epidemics impacting lives around the world.

Soapworks was honored to receive an award from Glasgow the Caring City for 25 years of outstanding partnership and dedication to global health and human welfare. This recognition highlights an initiative that is fully aligned with the core values of both Daabon and Soapworks.

## Soapworks Wins Knowledge Transfer Partnership Award

Double Bubble... Soapworks was recognized in two categories at the recent Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) Awards in Manchester, UK.

Soapworks is delighted to share that—in partnership with Daabon, the University of Glasgow, and the West of Scotland KTP Centre—they received two awards during the special 50th anniversary edition of the annual event.

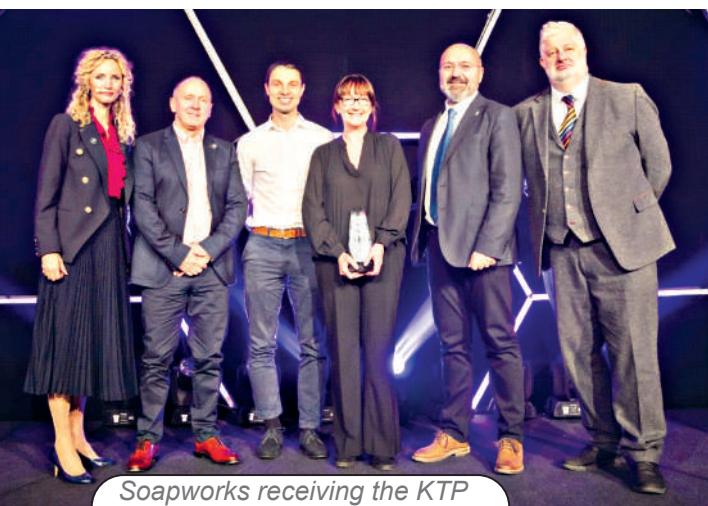
The KTP Awards celebrate innovative and high-impact collaborations between universities, businesses, and graduates across the UK. By nurturing fresh talent and combining it with resources and expertise, these partnerships enable groundbreaking innovations and ideas. The project also allowed Daabon and Soapworks to file several patent applications in the UK and internationally. Recognizing this exceptional collaboration with the University of Glasgow, the team received the prestigious Technical Excellence Award.



*The Soapworks team proudly recognised with the Glasgow the Caring City Awards*



“ Soapworks extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who supported, believed in, and worked tirelessly on this project from its conception to its successful delivery ”



*Soapworks receiving the KTP Technical Excellence Award*

Soapworks’ KTP Associate, Dr. Simeon Skopalik, PhD, CEng, was also honored with the Future Leaders Award, highlighting the outstanding talent involved in the program. Both awards demonstrate how mutually beneficial partnerships between industry and academia can deliver remarkable achievements.

Soapworks extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who supported, believed in, and worked tirelessly on this project from its conception to its successful delivery.

### Special thanks to:

- Soapworks’ parent group, Daabon, for believing in the project and its potential, and to María del Pilar Noriega, Daabon Group Innovation Director, for her invaluable guidance.
- All Soapworks colleagues who contributed to the project, and to Claire Smart for leading it internally.



# Mexico: A Strategic Market for Sustainable Growth

*Alfonso Abondano, Projects Vice President & Hernando Vergara F., General Director Daabon Mexico*

Mexico has emerged as one of the most attractive and dynamic markets in Latin America for the oils and fats industry. Its diversified industrial base, growing demand for high-quality and sustainable solutions, and strategic position in the region make it a natural market for Daabon's continued international expansion.

As part of our long-term vision, we have initiated a structured approach to better understand the country's industrial landscape and identify where our capabilities can generate meaningful value. Early insights confirm a strong alignment between Mexico's evolving needs and Daabon's experience in developing responsible, high-performance solutions for the food and personal care sectors.

Our exploration is focused on building strong relationships, strengthening collaboration with local industries, and ensuring that any future presence in the market reflects our commitment to operational excellence, sustainability,

**“As part of our long-term vision, we have initiated a structured approach to better understand the country's industrial landscape and identify where our capabilities can generate meaningful value”**

and service reliability. We believe that contributing to the competitiveness and innovation of the sectors we serve is essential to fostering long-term growth.

Initial interactions with industry stakeholders have been positive and encouraging. Companies in Mexico are increasingly interested in partners who can bring responsible practices, technical expertise, and a collaborative mindset to support their development. These early signals reinforce our confidence that Mexico represents a promising market with long-term potential.

As the project moves forward, our efforts will remain centered on understanding customer needs, contributing to sustainable industrial development, and ensuring that every step we take aligns with Daabon's values.

*Daabon Colombia Industrial Cluster*





# Building the Future of Work at Daabon

**Natalia Dávila & Enrique Méndez, HR team Daabon**

Human talent remains at the heart of Daabon. That is why, in a context shaped by technology, artificial intelligence, and new ways of working, we are committed to new approaches to leadership and people development, aligned with the current and future challenges of the business.

In response to this environment, the Human Development team strengthened its diagnostic tools through surveys, 360° assessments, and active listening spaces. Based on these insights, opportunities for improvement in leadership practices were identified, giving rise to training pathways that reflect Daabon’s commitment to modern, conscious leadership prepared for today’s market challenges.

The first stage of this journey was the ELISA Pathway, a training program focused on Leadership, Strategy, Sustainability, and Accountability. With the guidance of Dr. Alejandro Sanín, a psychologist with a PhD in Work and Organizational Psychology, training sessions were designed around creative thinking, stress and tension management, assertive communication, and conflict management. This program laid the foundation for a leadership culture aligned with Daabon’s values and focused on sustainable growth.

Later this year, we partnered with Crack the Code, a company specializing in technology education, to launch the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Pathway. This program introduced our leaders to the responsible and practical use of AI, exploring real-world applications in operations, data analysis, and decision-making. It concluded with applied projects addressing real Daabon challenges, demonstrating AI’s potential as a strategic ally for industrial evolution.

As part of this initiative, participants were asked about the future impact of artificial intelligence on their areas of work. Some of their reflections included:

*“It will help predict failures and behaviors, allowing us to anticipate issues and improve our practices.”*

**Ana Martínez, Director of Innovation and Industrial Development**

*“It will enable us to interpret data beyond past events, identifying improvements, efficiencies, and projecting strategic scenarios.”*

**Jesús Carreño, General Controller**

Building on these experiences, the third stage of this learning journey integrated the best of the previous two pathways. The SER-IA Pathway, focused on leading from being in the digital era, combined human skills such as purpose-driven leadership, self-awareness, and productivity with concepts of digital transformation and applied AI. This stage consolidated a balanced leadership vision, ready to respond to increasingly dynamic environments.

Through these initiatives, we trained approximately 300 leaders across all work centers, strengthening their ability to lead with vision, adapt to digital transformation, and actively contribute to the future of the Daabon Group.

In a constantly evolving market, we reaffirm our commitment to human talent development. We believe in leadership where technology complements humanity, where every collaborator has the tools to grow and contribute, and where our culture remains the foundation for staying relevant, competitive, and sustainable.



“Through these initiatives, we trained approximately 300 leaders across all work centers, strengthening their ability to lead with vision, adapt to digital transformation, and actively contribute to the future of the Daabon Group”

# New Developments in Daabon's Social Management

Patricia Apreza, Head of Social Responsibility

In Santa Marta, the Por Nuestras Niñas Project strengthened the self-esteem, self-perception, and personal development of 45 girls and adolescents in vulnerable situations, while also incorporating productive training for participants over 14 years old



Con el Fogón Prendido Project



EcoCalles Divertidas Project

“**Con el Fogón Prendido. The purpose of this project has been to rescue productive traditions and promote access to fresh foods—mainly vegetables—grown in home gardens and community spaces**”

The year 2025 was a period of strengthening for Daabon Group’s social management. Some projects advanced to new stages thanks to greater empowerment among beneficiaries, while others expanded to neighboring communities.

**Con el Fogón Prendido.**

The purpose of this project has been to rescue productive traditions and promote access to fresh foods—mainly vegetables—grown in home gardens and community spaces. It also led to the creation of school gardens as open classrooms for environmental awareness and education for children and adolescents.

**Con el Fogón Prendido** has benefited a total of 1,100 students and 69 families across several regions of the country. The initiatives include gardens, pickling processes developed by students, and more advanced activities such as broiler chicken raising and the creation of a collective savings unit, supported by institutions such as SENA.

**Bienestar en la familia** offers tools to help families become protective environments, especially for children, adolescents, and women. It has been implemented at CDI Emmanuel, in communities in Cesar and Norte de Santander, and within the company Palma y Trabajo, benefiting mothers, students, and company collaborators.

In Santa Marta, the **Por Nuestras Niñas** Project strengthened the self-esteem, self-perception, and personal development of 45 girls and adolescents in vulnerable situations, while also incorporating productive training for participants over 14 years old.

**Jóvenes Más Emprendedores** supported the creation of school-based productive units—craft workshops and a small bakery—in institutions located in the Pescaíto neighborhood of Santa Marta, promoting the entrepreneurial culture established by the Ministry of Education’s Entrepreneurship Law.

The purpose for 2026 is to strengthen the achievements of recent years and continue growing with the people, which is our principal guideline.



# Daabon Celebrates Santa Marta's 500 Years: A Legacy of History, Culture, and Pride

Juliana Dávila, Global Communications Officer



*"Children of the Sun", by Marco Rubio.  
First place, Orgullo Samario Contest*

In 2025, Santa Marta celebrated five centuries of history since its founding on July 29, 1525, by Rodrigo de Bastidas. Half a millennium of culture, identity, and natural beauty was commemorated through multiple initiatives that highlighted the importance of this land for Colombia and the world.

With more than one hundred years of history in the region, the Daabon Group joined this celebration by reaffirming its commitment to sustainable development, heritage preservation, and the strengthening of Samarian pride.

### Commitment to Santa Marta's Progress

Over the past decades, Daabon has built a legacy that reflects its ongoing commitment to the economic, cultural, and sustainable development of Santa Marta. From its family roots to its international growth, the Group has been a key ally in the region's transformation,

promoting innovation, dignified employment, and respect for the natural environment that surrounds it.

The 500-year celebrations and the Sea Festival revived the Samarian spirit like never before, reinforcing the sense of belonging and pride in a city that continues to inspire both locals and visitors. Daabon joined this celebration, reaffirming its purpose of continuing to grow alongside the city where it was born.

Santa Marta's 500th anniversary was not only a tribute to its history, but also an opportunity to reaffirm Daabon's commitment to the city that inspired its mission: cultivating the future from the heart of the Colombian Caribbean.

### El Morro: A Symbol of History, Identity, and Nostalgia

In partnership with the University of Magdalena, Daabon took part in the

illumination of El Morro, one of the most iconic landmarks of the Samarian bay. This project not only enhanced the landscape, but also became a symbol of unity between past, present, and future—an act of collective memory for the people of Santa Marta. It stands as a reminder that Colombia's oldest city is not only celebrating 500 years, but also reconnecting with its deepest roots: its history, its people, and its Caribbean spirit.



LA CIUDAD DEL ORIGEN



*Orgullo Samario Photography Contest Awards Ceremony*

### Santa Marta Pride: The Essence of a City Captured in Images

As part of the commemorative activities, Daabon led the seventh edition of the “Orgullo Samario” Photography Contest, an initiative that has sought since its inception to strengthen local identity and highlight regional talent.

The awards ceremony took place at the Santa Marta International Marina, where the finalists shared their vision of the city through images that reflected its culture, its people, its landscapes, and above all, the photographic talent of the Samarian community.

“ Santa Marta’s 500th anniversary was not only a tribute to its history, but also an opportunity to reaffirm Daabon’s commitment to the city that inspired its mission: cultivating the future from the heart of the Colombian Caribbean ”



*Santa Marta: 500 Years of History, Identity, and Territory*

# Trade Shows 2026



Biofach 2025

Dates	Event	Location	Office
Feb 10–13	Biofach	Nuremberg, Germany	Daabon Europe
Mar 3	Southern Cal Supplier Night IFT	Anaheim, CA, USA	Daabon USA
Mar 3–6	Expo West	Anaheim, CA, USA	Daabon USA
Mar 10–13	Foodex	Tokyo, Japan	Daabon Japan
Mar 16–18	NIOP Conference	Scottsdale, AZ, USA	Daabon USA
Mar 29–31	SNX 2026 (Snaxpo)	Dallas, TX, USA	Daabon USA
May 14	CIFST Quebec	Quebec, Canada	Daabon USA
May 18–19	Sweets & Snacks Supplier Showcase	Las Vegas, NV, USA	Daabon USA
Jun 3	Food Matters Live	London, UK	Daabon Europe
Jun 7–9	IDDBA	Orlando, FL, USA	Daabon USA
Jun 9–12	Alimentec	Bogotá, Colombia	Daabon Colombia
Jun 24–26	NYSCC	New York City, NY, USA	Daabon USA
Jul 12–15	IFT	Chicago, IL, USA	Daabon USA
Sep 14–16	OTA Conference	Washington, DC, USA	Daabon USA
Sep 22	Food Matters Live	Rotterdam, Netherlands	Daabon Europe
Oct 14–17	SCAJ	Tokyo, Japan	Daabon Japan
Oct 28–30	Supply Side Global	Las Vegas, NV, USA	Daabon USA
Nov 5–10	CIIE	Shanghai, China	Daabon Australia
Nov 5	Chicago Section IFT Suppliers Night	Rosemont, IL, USA	Daabon USA
Nov (TBC)	CIFST Supplier's Night	Canada	Daabon USA
Nov 16	PLMA	Rosemont, IL, USA	Daabon USA
Nov 17–19	Food Ingredients Europe	Frankfurt, Germany	Daabon Europe



Expo West 2025



Expo West 2025



21st International Oil Palm Conference



Foodex Japan 2025



21st International Oil Palm Conference

# Path to



# Neutrality



BIO SUISSE  
ORGANIC

