



Cooperation and value-chain upgrade of NTFPs: learning lessons for *Bactris guineensis* in Colombia

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1. Context

- **Non-timber Forest Products (NTFP)** in bioeconomy (BE) strategies → Socio-biodiversity BE
- This is the case of ***Bactris guineensis* (L.) H.E. Moore**:
 - **Most important fruit-yielding** native palm in the Caribbean region of Colombia (Casas et al., 2013).
 - Its **multipurpose applications** in diverse bioeconomy sectors have been identified (Rojas et al., 2022).



2. Problem

- Scope of value addition (VA) remains limited in the global south.
- *B. guineensis*: underutilised potential in Colombia's BE (Rojas et al., 2022).



3. Hypothesis

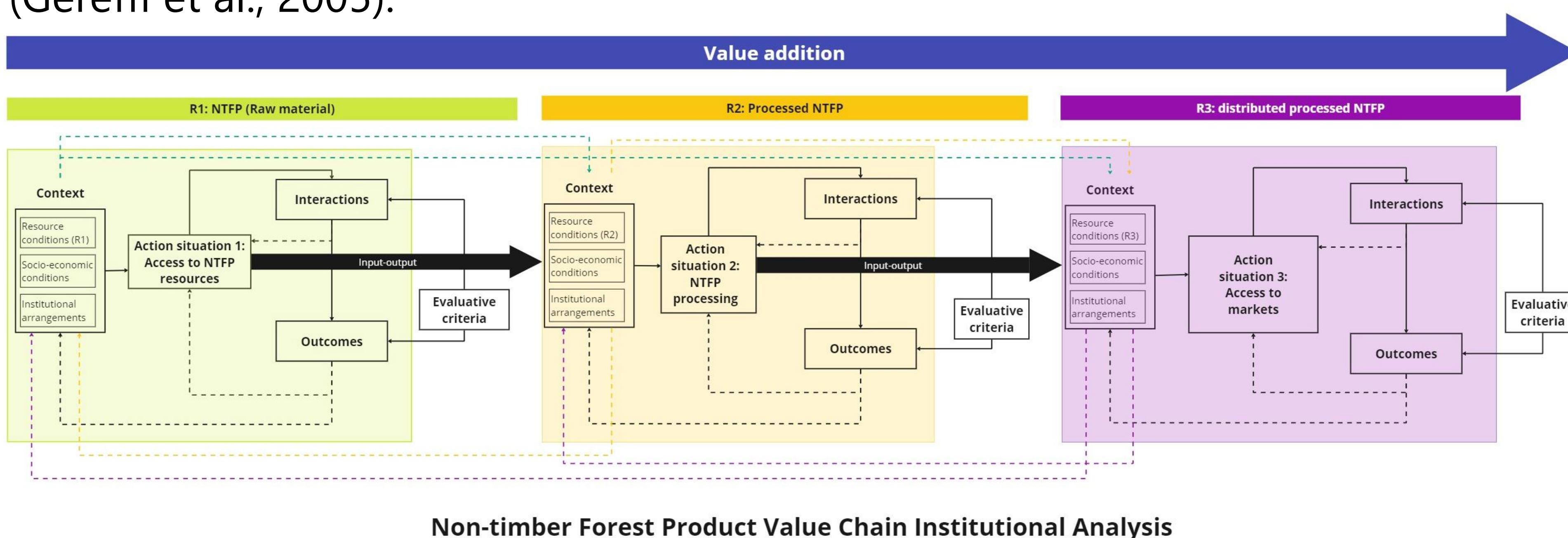
key factor influencing VA → cooperation and integration among actors, which is heavily dependent on the institutional setting (Meinhold & Darr, 2019).

4. Aim

Propose *B. guineensis* upgrade strategies that foster rural development pathways by comparing institutional arrangements that enable cooperation towards more value-added (processing and partnership development) in established NTFP value chains.

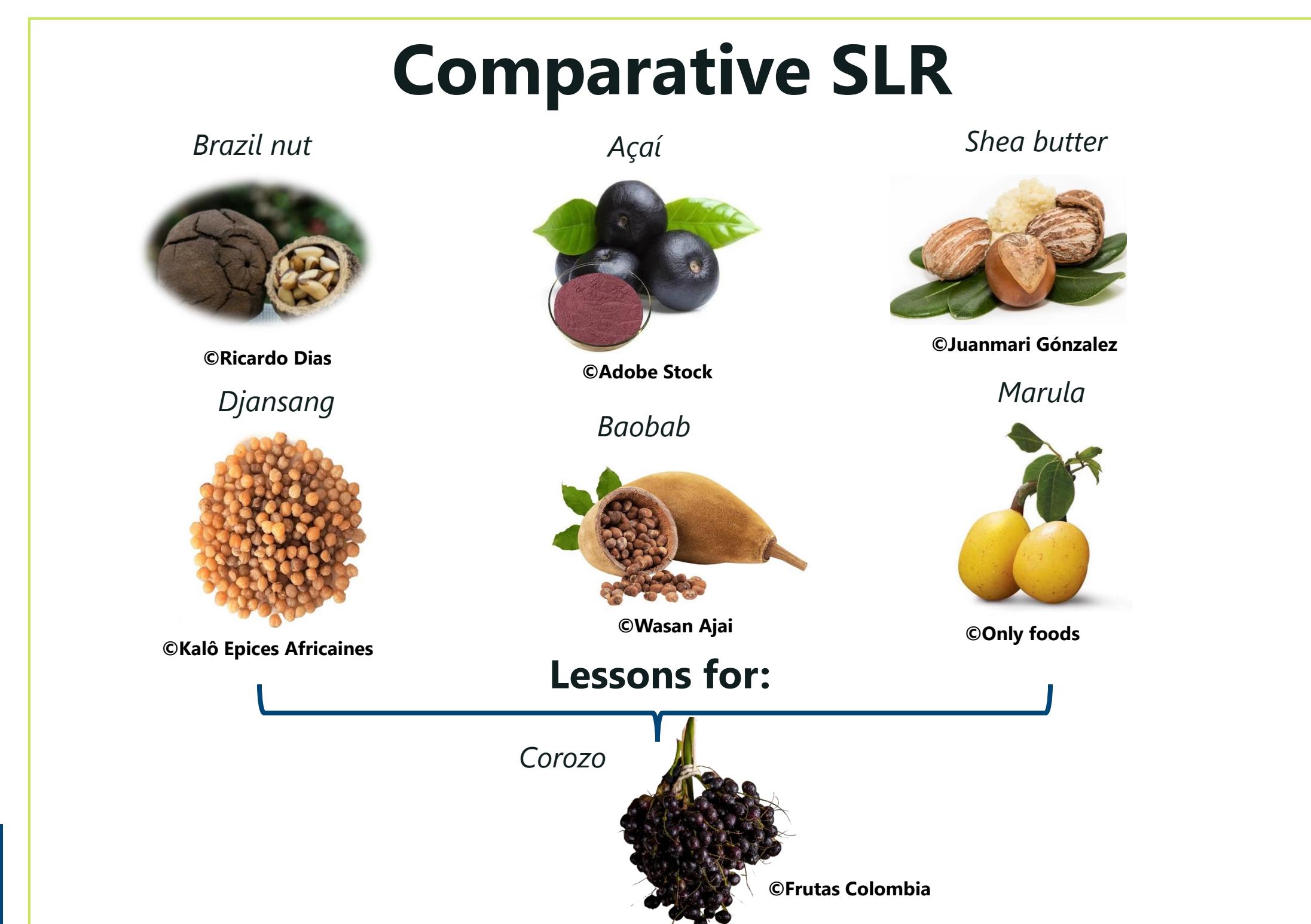
5. Framework

A novel framework is proposed by integrating the **Institutional Analysis and Development framework** (Ostrom, 2011) with the **Value Chain analysis** (Gereffi et al., 2005).



6. Methodology

Apply the adapted framework to established NTFP value chains in tropical and subtropical regions with a high degree of commercialization.



7. Expected results

- **Identify** and compare success and failure factors regarding institutional arrangements and their influence on VA, providing a blueprint for upgrading *B. guineensis* VC in Colombia.
- **Confirm** that a bricolage and plural institutional arrangements govern NTFP value chains.
- **Reveal** that more effective arrangements recognize the complex, dynamic, adaptive, and multi-level interplay between social-ecological aspects and are tailored to context-specific conditions.
- **Support** decision-makers and stakeholders by identifying value-addition factors from an institutional perspective and integrating socio-ecological aspects that influence NTFP VCs in socio-biodiverse BE.



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