

Café Africa

Annual Report

2020/2021



www.cafeafrica.org



Coffee and Sustainability – by John Schluter

The past twelve months have been a learning experience for us all, with difficulties in travel and new patterns of working. The global pandemic has brought great loss in many communities, and we grieve with those who have suffered. It has also exposed global supply chain vulnerabilities, further highlighted by the stranded vessel in the Suez Canal. Extreme weather events in many countries have given us frequent reminders of our fragile ecosystems and the growing threat of climate change.

Despite the turbulence, the good news for coffee producers has been consumption doing well. Although the specialty coffee sector was hit by frequent and unpredictable lockdowns, home consumption seems to have been increasing. Thus far most producers in rural areas have been spared from the worst effects of the pandemic.

As Sir David Attenborough recently remarked, the world is confronted with a more serious challenge than the pandemic: that of climate change. Sustainably and responsibly produced coffee can be positive for the environment and climate. Coffee gives us an opportunity to make a significant contribution to respecting and protecting the created order from which we have so much benefit and enjoyment, yet which we so much take for granted.

As global demand continues to grow, Africa has the potential to meet any possible supply gap. The land, labour and water are there. Café Africa's approach is to see a country's system as a whole, to draw on and develop relationships, to disseminate expertise to all levels and to adapt to the particular circumstances.

Our aim is that together – farmers, governments, private enterprise – we work to improve the overall productivity of existing coffee farms and to do so on a truly sustainable basis.

Café Africa in Europe – Appointment of New Executive Director

We are very glad to announce that Jeremy Lefroy has recently joined our organisation and is taking over as Executive Director of Café Africa's work in Europe. He brings a broad experience in both coffee and finance, including 25 years in the coffee industry, of which nearly half has been spent in Tanzania. He has a profound understanding of the production, processing, finance and marketing of coffee as well as cocoa and other crops. Jeremy spent ten years up to 2019 in the UK Parliament, which included service on the International Development Committee. He will be based in the UK.

Café Africa
Uganda

Chair:
Mrs Alice Gowa
Executive Director:
Mr Reint Bakema

I. Towards Integrating Coffee-Extension Services (TICS)

TICS tests a cost-effective model to increase coffee-specific extension outreach using the public Unified National Agricultural Extension Service delivery system. This is supported by the work of private coffee agents at community level.

The model employed was to set up Coffee Community-Based Facilitators (CCBFs) with coffee demonstration fields and a structured training programme.

For the benefits to continue after the programme finishes, CCBFs would need to be motivated to continue operating as private coffee service providers. The project assumed that CCBFs would be paid for their services by commercial farmers or other organisations.

Results/Outcomes:

- The CCBFs enrolled 20 Lead Farmers (LFs) annually for a monthly half-day training session. The LFs brought along other farmers to the training, and operated as coffee extension workers for their immediate neighbours.

- The project showed the importance of coffee-specific extension to district leaders. By the end of the project, all 6 districts had made new provision in their annual budget for coffee-specific extension.
- Dialogues between the public and private sector were organised annually at district level, linking the CCBFs to private companies which had the potential to employ them to continue the coffee extension services. By the end of the project, 79% of the CCBFs had been engaged on a commercial basis.
- The average reported FAQ (Fair Average Quality) yield per tree was 580 grams. This was 280 grams above the baseline, and 180 grams above the target per tree.





Ms Adrien Natakunda, the Rubirizi Coffee Queen

Popularly known as the Rubirizi District Coffee Queen, Ms Adrien Natakunda (31) is one of the 30 DECP (District Coffee Extension Project)-trained Coffee Community-Based Facilitators (CCBFs) in Uganda. After the DCEP training delivered by Café Africa Uganda, she upgraded her coffee farm, and became a CCBF for the JDE-funded TICS programme.

Adrien has since been involved in training farmers on coffee, using the on-farm hands-on practical training approach, in Uganda known as 'Yiga Ng'Okola'.

"My rehabilitated coffee garden serves as a community demo, and the hands-on practical training approach taught by DCEP, use of local language during

training and matching the training sessions with the coffee calendar, has made me a popular CCBF in Rubirizi."

The TICS programme continued to provide her advice through WhatsApp during the COVID lockdown, which opened her eyes to the wealth of good coffee information available on the internet.

Adrien is now engaged by the Government of Uganda as a coffee service provider. Her district fame as a practical farmer/coffee advisor, earned her a contract with Great Lakes Coffee Company Ltd, as Coffee Farm Inspector for Rubirizi District.

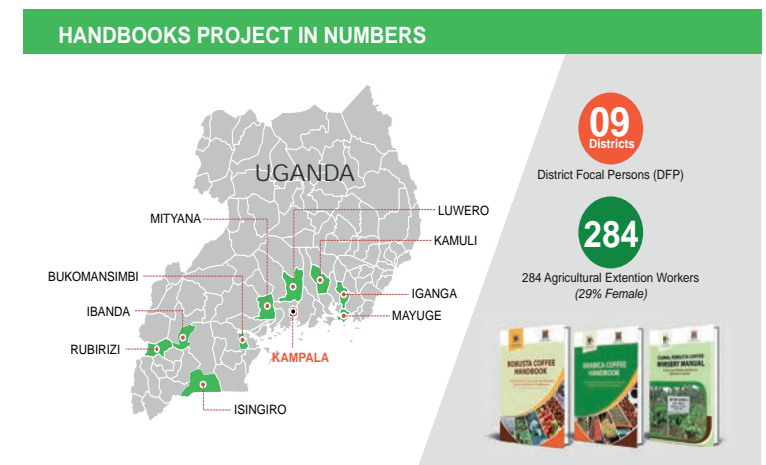
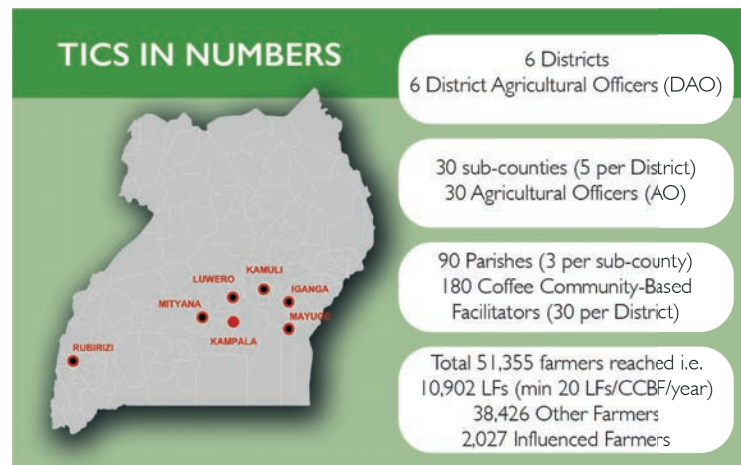
2. Popularising and disseminating updated coffee handbooks in Uganda 2019-2020

- In 2017-2018 the UCDA (Uganda Coffee Development Authority) undertook to update the Coffee Production Handbooks that had existed since 2008.
- The new draft handbooks then needed to be turned into more easily-accessible hard copy and digital formats, and to become known and used by public and private coffee extension services in the districts.
- Late in 2018 Café Africa Uganda approached UTZ-Rainforest Alliance (UTZ-RA) to assist in popularising the new Coffee Production Handbooks.



Results/Outcomes:

- Training sessions were used to test the suitability of the handbooks and produce recommendations for improvements and wider distribution.
- Trainees successfully passed on knowledge to the farmers
- Electronic copies of the handbooks were uploaded to three national-level institutional websites so that as many people as possible had access to them.
- Hard copies of the Robusta coffee handbooks were distributed to all the 284 trained AEWs (Agricultural Extension Workers)



3. Support to the National Coffee Steering Committee (NCSC) and District Coffee Shows

- A typical coffee show brings together farmers with representatives from central and local government, nursery operators, agro-input dealers, agro-processors, traders, projects and Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOSs) and banks. They share latest knowledge, ideas, successes and challenges in coffee and agriculture.
- Coffee shows are organised by a District Coffee Steering Committee (DCSC).
- On behalf of the NCSC, Café Africa Uganda coordinates the annual schedule for coffee shows and supports DCSCs in event planning and mobilisation of resources.
- After the pandemic started, a COVID-19 customised conceptual plan was designed and shared with the 12 coffee show districts. The aim was for the shows to be COVID-proof.

- social distancing, hand washing/ sanitising and masks*
- temperature measurement at entry*
- a maximum number of 100 participants at a time into the venue*
- only prerecorded speeches on public address system*
- no catering services*

Results/Outcomes:

- With the support of aBi (agricultural Business initiative) and UCDA, Café Africa Uganda successfully organised 43 coffee shows in the period 2019 -2021.
- The use of the virtual platform Zoom provided the opportunity to reach out to more Uganda Coffee Platform members outside the NCSC.
- Farmers were able to learn and share the latest coffee-specific knowledge on Renovation and Rehabilitation (R&R), climate change adaptation, control of pests and diseases control and proper use of fertiliser among others. This was done through demonstration plots and interactive activities.
- Farmers made contact with reputable inputs and service providers.

4. Strengthening Coffee Seedling Survival (SCSS) project

- The coffee sub sector was given the task of distributing 300 million seedlings per year for 3 years (2016/7, 2017/8 and 2018/19).
- Field assessment showed that about 42% of supplied seedlings survive, with the lowest survival rates in Western Uganda, (Findings from the report on the joint assessment of the survival rate of the coffee seedling planted in September-November 2015 and March-May 2016 seasons).
- At a cost of UGX 500/seedling (approx. 14 USC/seedling) this would in theory amount to a loss to the Government of Uganda (GoU) of several millions of dollars a year.

It is against this background that Café Africa Uganda sought partnership with UTZ-RA to implement the coffee seedling survival project in the districts of Isingiro and Ibanda.

Results/Outcomes:

- Improved farmers' preparation for receipt of coffee seedlings; 116 trainees trained (19% female)
 - Development of a training guide for nursery operators*
 - Farmers were helped to acquire planting materials from UCDA-certified nursery operators only*



- 100% of the project beneficiaries adopted the 3 Good Agricultural Practices that are critical for seedling survival*

- Strengthened stakeholder coordination in the seedling distribution system
 - The 2 participating districts were helped to coordinate key stakeholders, e.g. nursery operators, OWC (Office of Wealth Creation), AOs (Agricultural Officers), Parish Chiefs, CCBFs (Coffee Community-Based Facilitators) and farmers.*
 - 60 demonstration plots were established - 17 female managed - each with 100 trees.*
- The project proved that with good coordination and proper farmer training and preparation, it is clear that coffee planting and replanting can be done successfully and effectively. **The outcome of a 97% seedling survival rate is evidence of this.**



Chair:
Mr Noel Yatera
Executive Secretary:
Ms Dafrosa Sanga

General Learning and Lessons

- The use of SMS triggered and motivated farmers to seek practical support from AOs and CCBFs
- SMS and WhatsApp complement on-the-ground training – but connectivity and cost are a limiting factor.
- On the ground training and demonstrations are still critical to get the messages across.
- The individual, less formal field training sessions were more engaging than the pre-COVID formal training.
- Coffee Shows as communication channels play a vital role as a critical tool in modernising coffee cultivation.
- There are motivated and smart coffee growers in rural areas who are willing and able to train fellow farmers in coffee agronomy.
- A more flexible system that responds quickly to farmers' questions, crop issues, or things they have heard through other channels is preferred.
- Neglected or poorly managed crops can show the biggest gains in productivity through R&R.

- Resource constraints in the Districts hamper the development of services and appointment of AOs and CCBFs.
- The respect in which CCBFs are held is critical in farmers taking up the advice and information and support offered.
- The role of the CCBF system in its various forms (e.g. Parish Coffee Development Advisors) is being recognised by the GoU as a valuable contribution to the extension service.
- The use of counterfeit agricultural inputs is still a challenge; the coffee shows help to promote genuine inputs.

Coffee Platform Virtual Meetings

- Like everywhere else in the world, the pandemic pushed Café Africa Uganda - as the secretariat of the Uganda Coffee Platform - to find new ways of keeping Platform members engaged.
- From April 2020 to April 2021, eleven Zoom meetings were held. Attendance increased from the usual 17 representatives of member organisations to an average of 35 participants (with 50 being the highest-ever recorded number). New attendees have been exporters, roasters, traders, and farmers.

Since its establishment in 2009, Café Africa Tanzania (CATZ) has been working towards increasing coffee production, with the ultimate purpose of improving the livelihoods of small-scale coffee farmers in Tanzania.

To reach its objectives, the organisation forged a strong collaboration with both public and private stakeholders in the coffee sector. It uses an evidence-based approach through multi-stakeholders' engagement. Its work has included the following:

- More than ten years of uninterrupted support of the Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB) in organizing the National Coffee Conference (NCC) including the transition to virtual platforms during the Covid-19 Pandemic of 2020.
- Serving in the Secretariat of the National Coffee Steering Committee (NCSC).
- The development of updated Coffee Profiles for 52 coffee producing districts. This facilitates evidence-based interventions.
- Supporting TCB in the development of the National

Strategy for the Development of the Coffee Industry (both in the 2011-2021 plan and the follow-up strategy for the period from 2020 to 2025).

- A member of the Management Committee of the Tanzania Coffee Association since 2010 and providing its secretariat.
- Member of the Agricultural Non-State Actors' Forum (ANSAF) since 2011.

Since April 2020, CATZ has been registered as a non-governmental organization (NGO).





Sustainability Projects

1. Rejuvenation of Coffee Production in Kagera-Tanzania (JDE funded Project)

Café Africa Tanzania and JDE (Jacobs Douwe Egberts) are implementing a project entitled: "Sustainable Rejuvenation of Coffee Production in Western Tanzania". Café Africa Tanzania signed MoUs with the KCU and KDCU Cooperative Unions (which each bring together 250 AMCOSs (Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies) across the entire region) and with the Regional Authority (Regional Administrative Secretary) TCB and Institute (TaCRI).

The stakeholder model combines different experiences and resources, creating inclusion, shared ownership and sustainability.

Preparation for the 5-year project (2019 to 2024) began in the final months of 2019, with implementation from January 2020. The project has completed its pilot stage (first year). Overall it aims to impact 22,250 farmers in the region.

The objectives for 2020 were:

1. To establish coffee seedling nurseries to produce 300,000 improved seedlings per year at cooperative level.
2. To train 40 young people to assist with stumping and gradual replacement of coffee trees.
3. To provide sustainable coffee curriculum (National Sustainability Curriculum - NSC) training to 160 extension officers at district, ward, and cooperative levels.
4. To carry out advocacy and dialogue to promote good, stable coffee policies in the western zone.

Achievements in 2020:

- Despite COVID restrictions during the year, we were able to make a positive start to this project from April 2020.
- 160 officers (62 females; 98 males) trained as Trainers, including Lead Farmers, Ward and District Levels Extension Officers, using the National Sustainability Curriculum and resulting in certification.
- 40 youths (22 females; 18 males) from 4 districts were trained (out of 220 who were identified and applied) in the coffee sustainability curriculum.
- Identification and establishment of 147 demonstration plots for stumping and outreach training.
- Establishment of 4 nurseries, multiplication of 249,520 seedlings (83.2% of the total yearly target) which were distributed to 182,503 farmers.
- Through outreach training sessions, we reached 6,881 farmers (5,912 male, 969 female) - approximately 31% of the total 5-year project target.
- Cordial relationship with the Government and other implementing partners
- 147 demonstration plots were established and provided with 50 seedlings each, together with farmyard manure and bundles of mulch.
- 91,252 coffee trees were stumped
- Continuous management of demonstration plots and outreach training carried out by the trained extension officers.

Nursery	Produced	Distributed	District
Maruku	163,270	125,192	Bukoba
Ibwera	26,000	17,981	Bukoba
Biiirabo	22,250	11,523	Muleba
Kishoju	38,000	27,807	Karagwe
Total	249,520	182,503	

Table 1; Summary of seedling production/distribution

2. Coffee Development Project (CODE-P) in the Southern Regions of Tanzania (EU-Agri-Connect-funded project)

Café Africa Tanzania is one of the five partners in the CODE-P EU Agri-Connect Project in the Southern regions of Tanzania. The lead partner is Vi Agroforestry. The EU provides 80% of the budget, with the remaining 20% provided by the Swedish Development Agency SIDA through Vi Agroforestry.

CODE-P is a four-year project aimed at strengthening smallholder coffee cooperatives to support the production, processing and trade of coffee. It also seeks to stimulate trade-led economic growth by strengthening the competitiveness of Smallholder Coffee Farmers (SHFs), promoting investment and job creation along the coffee value chain.

The main objective of CODE-P is to contribute towards inclusive and sustainable development of the coffee value chain for enhanced incomes and improved nutrition status of 24,000 SHF (14,400 women and 9,600 men between the age 18 and 35 years) in six districts of three regions: Ruvuma (Mbinga and Nyasa), Mbeya (Mbeya and Rungwe), and Songwe (Ileje and Mbozi).

Outcomes in 2020:

1. Training to increase incomes from improved post harvest, processing capacities, and market and financial services linkages.

- Post-harvest crop management - 2,443 farmers
- Value addition (processing, packaging, collective marketing) - 150 farmers.
- Gender mainstreaming in the coffee business – 226 farmers.
- Financial Services Linkages – 102 farmers, 23 government officers, 5 financial institutions
- Formation of Villages Savings and Lending Associations (VSLAs) – 2,347 farmers. This resulted in 85 VSLAs being formed with 1,953 members.

2. Supporting the rehabilitation of Central Pulping Units (CPU)

- Development of CPU selection criteria for rehabilitation through engagement with 69 stakeholders from government, farmers and the private sector.
- Identification of CPUs to be rehabilitated per district, in the project area, by CODE-P.
- Rehabilitation preparations initiated.

3. Training cooperatives in gender mainstreaming.

- Training 137 young and 89 older coffee farmers as well as 2 Coffee Inspectors and 16 Extension Officers
- Community Development Officers used this opportunity to support the coffee farmers to form farmers' groups which will benefit from 10% of the budget allocated for women, young people and people with disabilities.





Advocacy and Sector Updates

Café Africa Tanzania's main objective has been to bring all actors together using the multi-stakeholder approach. This is to ensure a vibrant coffee sector and platform in Tanzania.

In 2020, the coffee stakeholders' main focus was on revising the National Coffee Sector Strategy for the next five years. This was especially important for accommodating new policies and changes since 2018.

Café Africa Tanzania coordinated the process, which was facilitated under the Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB) as the chair of the National Coffee Steering Committee. The strategy will be launched/endorsed at the coming National Coffee Conference 2021.



Café Africa

République

Démocratique

du Congo

Chair:

Mr T Kembola

Executive Director:

Mr K K Kamungele

Background

Café Africa in the République Démocratique du Congo (CARDC) promotes the rehabilitation of coffee in the RDC where there was previously flourishing production.

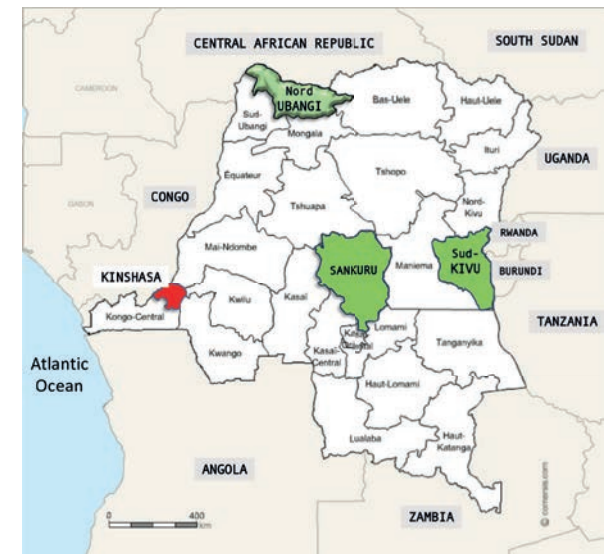
Since 2009 CARDC has promoted public-private partnership among stakeholders and created opportunities for exploring solutions to the challenges facing the industry. This resulted in the development and submission to the government of the RDC National Coffee Strategy in 2010.

and techniques for production of high quality coffee. Participants included Lead Farmers, Extension Services Agents, and Cooperative Leaders in the Kalehe and Kabare territories of the South Kivu Province. Under the same programme, CARDC conducted a scoping mission (2018) and a Market Feasibility Study (2019) to determine the extent to which

During 2013-2015 we implemented the European Union-funded Aidcom Coffee Project, which included the creation of nurseries, dissemination of plants, and the monitoring of producers in 4 coffee producing provinces.

Coffeelands Project

From September 2017, at the request of the Coffeelands programme of the Catholic Relief Service (CRS), CARDC organised training on sustainable practices





coffee represents a potential income-generating activity for the communities living at the outskirts of the Salonga National Park, in the Sankuru Province.. Access and service provision are major challenges, but there is good potential for restoring production and improving rural livelihoods in this traditional growing area.

Karawa Coffee Project

Since 2018 CARDC has been implementing the Karawa Coffee Project (KCP), led by Pascal Luzonzo. The Project is described as “A Sustainable Development of Coffee Production and Marketing with Small-Holder Farmers in the Karawa Region, Nord-Ubangi, NW RD Congo”.

The project aims to work with about 2,000 small-holder farmers around Karawa, in north-west RDC to enhance the productivity of their existing coffee, and to intensify their growing of coffee and food crops for local market supply. The aim is to improve small-holder incomes and livelihoods on a long-term basis. This will be achieved in part through training in good agricultural practices, and in part by organising the farmers into a cooperative or association in order to

provide long-term support to farmers for extension and other services, and to safeguard farmers’ interests in the marketing of their crops.

The project is funded by the Paul Carlson Partnership, a medical mission ministry of the Chicago-based Evangelical Covenant Church, and is carried out in the Covenant Church of Congo (CEUM) intervention area. A generous grant is funding the project for a four-year period from 2018 to 2021.

The project was officially launched in December 2017 and in February 2018 it commenced with:

- Identification of producers
- Training of agronomists in GAP
- Initial formation of a producers association
- Construction of seedbeds, propagators, and nurseries.

Activities in 2018 and 2019 comprised following up and monitoring the different

tasks specified in the project timeline. The global pandemic of 2020 meant disruption to our plans and to our work up-country, especially as flights to and from the capital, Kinshasa were cut off. However we managed to continue the training sessions, monitoring and follow up of the plantations. By the end of the year we had the following results:

- Phase I (KCP1): 1,304 Producers; 705,477 Coffee Trees; 681 ha
- Phase II (KCP2): 882 Producers; 484,657 Coffee Trees; 441 ha

Overall, KCP has trained 2,185 registered producers who have planted 1,190,134 productive Robusta Coffee Trees. The total surface area planted is 1,122 hectares. At the moment we have started the process of formalising the farmers associations and grouping them into a cooperative.

Predicted harvests (subject to climate conditions) are:

- 2021: 300 tons (estimated value \$300,000)
- 2022: 600 tons (estimated value \$600,000)

This demonstrates how the project is already beginning to improve incomes and livelihoods for farmers in Karawa.



Direct from Ubangi, RDC, to Illinois, USA

Internal factors

Strengths

- Availability of suitable land for expansion of coffee production
- Good and diverse agro-ecology that favours coffee production.
- Availability of high-yield, improved coffee varieties
- Presence of institutions supportive of technology development
- Good infrastructure such as rural roads and electricity
- Readiness of stakeholders to support development of the coffee industry
- Presence of both mild Arabica and Robusta coffee that fetch a premium price in the world market
- Uniqueness of cup profile
- Uniqueness of coffee -growing areas

Weaknesses

- Poor post-harvest management practices
- Large utilisation of poor processing facilities among smallholder farmers (e.g. home-based manual pulping and hulling machines)
- Inadequate capital in most of the AMCOs and cooperatives that cannot purchase/own enough coffee processing units (CPUs/ hulling machines)
- Limited financial resources among AMCOs and cooperatives for the purchase of CPUs
- Inadequate expertise to manage and operate CPUs in some of the AMCOs and cooperatives
- Production of low coffee quality
- Poor extension services
- Use of low-yielding old coffee trees
- Low coffee production
- Insufficient skilled extension officers
- Poor marketing systems
- Poor coordination of stakeholders within the industry
- Lack of market information
- Low level of local consumption of coffee
- Limited awareness and utilisation of coffee-related products
- Lack of incentives to promote attraction of youth and women in coffee production and marketing
- Low promotion and branding of Tanzanian coffee

Opportunities

- Growing demand for coffee in the world market
- Availability of land for coffee expansion in new areas where coffee has not been traditionally grown
- Presence of a large number of youth and women who can be engaged in coffee production
- Willingness of the Government to support the coffee industry
- Existence of training institutions for technology development, both national and international
- Willingness of Development Partners to support coffee industry activities
- Availability of diversity of coffee uses such as fertilisers, textiles, cookies, coffee premix, cake, etc.
- Availability of a large population for local consumption of coffee

Challenges

- Climate change effects such as drought
- Incidences of pests and diseases
- Unpredictable policies and directives
- Price fluctuation in the world market

External factors

Vision

Café Africa was founded to work with Africa's coffee industry to find ways to restore Africa's coffee production to its former level in world markets. We envision an Africa coffee sector that is inclusive, productive and beneficial for the long term for all those involved.

Objectives

Café Africa teams in République Démocratique du Congo, Uganda and Tanzania support national platforms working on critical industry topics. We also support the coordination of work on issues integrated into national institutions, to achieve an improved coffee production system.

We have a particular focus on rekindling interest in the coffee sector among young people for whom it provides opportunities for jobs and livelihoods. The coffee industry can contribute towards reaching these Sustainable Development Goals. Café Africa is committed to supporting this work.

Grateful Thanks

We are grateful to all our partners and donors who have supported and made possible our work, and in particular to: Jacobs Douwe Egberts (JDE); IDH Sustainable Coffee Program, Netherlands; aBI Trust, Uganda; Rainforest Alliance-UTZ; European Union; Swedish International Development Agency; as well as private donors.

CAFÉ AFRICA

Our Vision, Mission and Objectives

www.cafeafrica.org

Mission

Our mission is to be a catalyst for change and growth on local and national levels in Africa's coffee industry by proposing transformative policies and practices for the benefit of the coffee sector as a whole. We seek to build cooperation that reflects knowledge, capacity and willingness to share created value.



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Where We Are

