



Projects Committee
9th Meeting
2 March 2015
London, United Kingdom

**Executive Summaries of the final
reports for the concluded projects**

Background

This document contains the Executive Summaries of the final reports for the following concluded projects submitted by the Project Executing Agencies (see Section IV of document PJ-85/15). Copies of the full reports are available on request from the Secretariat.

Annex I: Competitive coffee enterprises programme for Guatemala and Jamaica – CFC/ICO/46 (PEA: Anacafé/CIB)

Annex II: Building capacity in coffee certification and verification for specialty coffee farmers in EAFCA Countries – CFC/ICO/45 (PEA: AFCA [Formerly: EAFCA])

Action

The Projects Committee is requested to take note of this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FINAL REPORT**COMPETITIVE COFFEE ENTERPRISES PROGRAMME FOR GUATEMALA AND JAMAICA
CFC/ICO/46****Executive summary**

The main objective of the Competitive Coffee Enterprises Programme, Guatemala – Jamaica, was to improve the competitiveness of small coffee producers in two selected regions in Guatemala (Fraijanes and Coban) and two selected regions in Jamaica (the Central and Northern regions in the Non-Blue Mountain- Lowland).

The project, executed by the National Coffee Association of Guatemala (Anacafé), was carried out between July 2010 and June 2013 and covered three components: coffee production, post-harvest and the promotion of local consumption.

**Component I: Coffee production***Seedlings*

In Guatemala, there are 344,830 coffee plants in the field, of which 50% are in production now. In Jamaica, one of the three organizations beneficiaries of the project installed a fixed production of coffee seedlings for its partners and the public in general as another source of income. In total, there are 84,500 coffee seedlings in the final field, of which 30% are in production now.

Technical assistance

The goal of this activity was to provide technical assistance to small coffee producers of the project to improve the productivity of their coffee plantations.

In Guatemala, there were pruning demonstrations and tours of observation in support of the project, with a total of 1,780 beneficiaries. Training highlighted the prevention and combat of the coffee rust (*Hemileia vastatrix*).

In the case of Jamaica, coffee producers had never received coffee production training until the project was implemented. The beneficiaries of Jamaica also received training in management and organizational strengthening.



Management of the plantation

The goal of this activity was to provide small coffee producers with the tools to renew the tissue and make phytosanitary control in their coffee plantations. Similarly, their production levels were increased, correcting the pH of the soil and making the fertilizing as necessary.

In the case of Jamaica, the project worked closely with 400 coffee producers. One of the main topics of the training was the control of snails and slugs in the coffee plantations. The activities had the participation of 135 small producers for three days. The result was successful, effective control has been achieved so far, and coffee producers have managed to save their plantations.

Component II: Post-harvest*Training*

The goal of this activity was to update post-harvest technicians of the project on new regulations for the coffee wet mill, the techniques to improve the quality of the grain by applying best practices in the coffee wet mill process. In total, 1,500 coffee producers received support through training and changes that were made in various coffee wet mill modules, in order to ensure water resources management.

Restructure of coffee wet mill modules

In Guatemala, the following benefitted different groups of coffee producers: 11 complete coffee wet mill modules, 4 wastewater treatment plants, 4 rain water catchment tanks and 6 batteries to produce organic fertilizer, among other works.

In the case of Jamaica, a complete wet mill module was established in one of the three beneficiary cooperatives.

Management of sub-products

The goal of this activity was to educate small coffee producers on the reuse of the sub-products to reduce the contamination of water sources and surrounding areas, and take advantage of them for different applications.

Component III: Promotion of local consumption*Workshops and training*

One of the goals of this component was to promote and encourage the use of a better quality coffee in selected regions of the project.

In Guatemala, a tour was given to 125 coffee producers over three days, to see new options for diversification, such as a coffee tour and use of the soil for short cycle crops, such as vegetables.

In the case of Jamaica, there was a tour to one coffee wet mill, for 147 small coffee producers. For 85% of the participants, it was the first time that they watched the entire coffee process. A 'Coffee Fest' was organized, with the goal of promoting the local consumption of coffee, in which more than 300 coffee producers participated.

The project also implemented an 'Internet Coffee Shop' in one of the cooperatives, and the necessary equipment was bought for its operation. In addition, 6 people travelled to Guatemala to receive courses on coffee preparation in the Coffee School of Anacafé (*Escuela de Café de Anacafé*).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FINAL REPORT

BUILDING CAPACITY IN COFFEE CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION FOR SPECIALTY COFFEE FARMERS IN EAFCA COUNTRIES CFC/ICO/45

Executive summary

The overall project objective was to improve the skills of farmers to meet certification and verification standards. This was premised on the rationale that farmers that receive training and skills in sustainable agricultural practices will be well equipped to produce coffee that is in compliance with the fundamental pillars of sustainability. These are social, environmental and economic sustainability. One of the drivers to these tenets of sustainability is certification and/or verification. On the other hand, the project set to train professionals¹ from the national coffee institutions in order to carry out farmer training programmes so as to ensure sustainable effects of the project. Furthermore, building capacity at institutional level entailed that farmers would have sustainable access to a cadre of professionals in certification and verification in the region.

In this regard, the project objective was divided into three broad components for ease of the implementation process. The first component was to build certification / verification capacity within national coffee institutions in the nine participating countries. The second component was training of farmers to meet compliance requirements of certification / verification requirements. The last component was building capacity of professional certifiers and verifiers in the region. All these components were embedded in project work plan for implementation over a five-year project life cycle.

Against this background, the project targeted 6,030 farmers from the Eastern African region for capacity building and training. The beneficiaries were drawn from the nine project participating countries of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Memoranda of understanding were signed with the respective countries in order to expedite the implementation of project activities. The core project activities were training of master trainers, trainer-of-trainers, certifiers / verifiers and training of farmers. The development of an IT portal was also an integral activity of the project.

¹ These are master trainers, trainer-of-trainers and certifiers / verifiers (auditors).

Project results achieved

The overall project plan was designed to train 6,030 farmers and a cadre of professionals in a five-year period. In this regard, four broad components were set in order to realize the set targets. The results show that all targets set in the broad components of the project were exceeded.

Component 1: Build certification / verification training capacity within national coffee institutions

The first component was to build certification / verification training capacity within national coffee institutions in the nine participating countries. In this regard, 36 master trainers and 90 trainer-of-trainers were targeted to be trained across the project sites. The training of this cadre of professionals exceeded the targets set earlier in the project. To this end, 45 master trainers² and 106 trainer-of-trainers³ were trained.

The sequence of training commenced with the service provider developing the training manual and centrally training of the master trainers from the nine project participating countries on the tenets of certification standards. The master trainers then proceeded to conduct training of a lower echelon of professionals known as the trainer-of-trainers in their respective countries. The trainer-of-trainers completed this sequence by training farmers in the field. From this sequence, it should be noted that the precursor to training the farmers lay in the training of the cadre of professionals, vis-a-vis, master trainers and trainer-of-trainers.

The overall project plan was designed to train 6,030 farmers and a cadre of professionals in a five-year period. In this regard, four broad components were set in order to realize the set targets. The results show that all targets set in the broad components of the project were exceeded. Detailed status of project implementation is provided.

Component 2: Training farmers in good agricultural and management practices to meet certification and verification standards

This component is the training of farmers to meet certification and verification standards. The certification standards farmers were trained on included organic certification, 4C Association, Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and Utz Certified. The project approach was to

² Additional nine (9) master trainers were trained in Ethiopia in order to cater for demand due to the expansiveness of the country bringing the overall total to 45 MTs from the 36 MTs target earlier set.

³ TOTs: Tanzania – 19, Uganda -10, Rwanda – 10, Malawi – 12, Zambia -10, Zimbabwe – 12, Ethiopia – 11, Burundi – 10 and Kenya 12 trainer-of-trainers.

target training of lead farmers in order to achieve maximum impact as each lead farmer trained on average seven other individual farmers. This approach was tailored to leverage project resources for the attainment of maximum results. The training of 6,999 lead farmers led to the training of 48,993 farmers. Therefore leveraging resources, the project impact significantly exceeded the earlier project target of 6,030 beneficiaries.

The training of both farmers and professionals in the project was based on the training manuals that were developed in the project.

It was noted during the implementation process that maximum impact would be realized if farmers trained in the project were assisted to attain certification / verification. Therefore, recommendations were made to the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) to assist some of the farmer groups that had been trained to attain certification within the confines of the project budget. In this regard, 1,500 farmers trained in the project have been verified as 4C compliant and 1,000 farmers as Fairtrade certified. An additional 4,600 farmers are in the process of being certified in Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Organic and 4C Association.

Component 3: Building capacity of professional certifiers / verifiers

The project set to train 36 certifiers and/or verifiers from the nine project countries on the myriad certification / verification standards prevalent in the region. These standards included Utz Certified, Rainforest Alliance, 4C Association, organic certification and Fairtrade. A specialized service provider⁴ in certification standards was contracted to undertake the training of certifiers and verifiers (auditors) on certification standards of Utz Certified, Organic Certification, Rainforest Alliance, 4C Association and Fairtrade. The training was undertaken in two components comprising of coffee certification standards and a lead auditor course on Quality Management Systems (QMS).

By the close of the project 39 certifiers / verifiers (auditors)⁵ had been trained by the project from the nine project participating countries. Some of these auditors are already being utilized in certification and/or verification activities within the region.

⁴ Africert Ltd from Nairobi, Kenya were contracted to undertake the training of certifiers and verifiers from the nine countries. Furthermore, QualityPlus also from Nairobi was contracted to train lead auditing and Quality Management Systems (QMS).

⁵ Total auditors trained, 37: Uganda – 6, Ethiopia – 4, Burundi – 5, Kenya – 4, Malawi – 4, Tanzania – 4, Zambia – 3, Zimbabwe – 3 and Rwanda – 4.

Sustainability of the project and exit strategy

The sustainability of the project is embedded in the functional structures of the National Coffee Institutions from the nine participating countries. The model will remain sustainable beyond the life cycle of the project in that the professionals trained in the project would remain in the institutions identified. The strategy of the Project Executing Agency (PEA) is to build more synergies with development partners in up scaling the outputs of the project. So far proposals are under consideration to upscale the certifiers / verifiers and farmers training through the TIMEA programme for exports from Africa (*TIMEA Programme – SO3 Improved Export Cap*). In this regard, it is envisaged that such collaborations will sustain and enhance the impacts of the project in the region. Other initiatives by the PEA include the virtual establishment of the AFCA Coffee Institute under which all the training and up-scaling activities will be undertaken under the Programmes Department of the African Fine Coffees Association in order to domesticate the results achieved by the programme. More funding will be sought, both internally from AFCA matching grant pool and externally from development partners, in order to roll-out the myriad activities planned henceforth. This forms part of the exit strategy from the project.

Project financial performance

The total project budget was US\$4,495,725 with contributions from the European Union (US\$1,500,000), CFC (US\$2 million including US\$1 million from the OPEC Fund for International Development) and counterpart contributions from National Coffee Institutions (US\$995,725). During the course of project implementation, the budget committed by the development partners (European Union) was reduced by US\$252,000. The implementation budget and work plan were re-cast in order to take into account this development so as to mitigate any negative impact on the project outputs.